

Echoneews

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Sallah: How And Where To Get Cheaper Ram

By Rasaq Adebayo

Sacrificing ram at Sallah is an Islamic injunction observed over the years. But this year, there is a twist in the story. Ram sellers are raising the prices beyond the purses of buyers. The reason: the withdrawal of subsidy from petroleum products and increase in the cost of petrol has increased the cost of transporting the rams four or five times over. Our correspondents who went around to know the prices of rams and their various sizes gathered that the cost of rams had hit the roofs. While the buyers were

incapacitated, the ram sellers kept lamenting over the cost of fuel and transportation, which led to astronomical increases in the prices of rams. For instance, a medium size ram was sold at about N180,000, while the big ones went for as high as N450,000, though there were smaller ones which were sold for about N120,000. Most of the rams were brought from the Northern part of the country to the southern part where more sales are recorded. Speaking to ECHONEWS, a ram seller, who simply gave his name as Garba at the popular ram market in

Oke-Afa, Isolo lamented that there were low sales due to the high cost of rams at the market. He noted that they recorded low patronage compared to last year when Muslims, despite the high cost of rams, still purchased to some extent to celebrate. He said: "The cost of rams has gone up so high even from where we brought them. And this is caused by the high cost of petrol. We all know that since President Bola Tinubu announced the removal of fuel subsidy, the petrol price has gone too high and this has affected every other thing. "Though the prices of the rams are a big challenge this year compared to

previous years, not only rams, the cost of goods and services keeps rising throughout the country. "The prices of these rams five years ago were comparatively low, the small rams were as low as N25,000, while the medium was N50,000. Last year, the cost was also high but not as high as this year. When our correspondent visited some points of sales of cattle and rams, it was discovered that some rams were sold for N400,000, while there was a cow that went for N2 million. One of the cattle sellers at Kara cattle market, Isheri-Olofin along Lagos-Ibadan Expressway,

Badamosi Haruna said the soaring cost was a direct reflection of the economic situation in the country. He also blamed the economic situation on the fuel subsidy removal by the federal government. He said: "Though the government has done well by removing the subsidy, the economy has been affected and I think it would rebound very soon. "I don't know if subsidy removal should really be blamed for this, but what I know is that everything is costly now. Anything you go to the market to buy now is 'costly'. Asked if there security challenges in buying rams in the North and

bringing them to Lagos, he replied: "We only go to the North to buy at the market; enter the vehicle and bring the rams here. We don't go to villages. It is only when you begin to go into those villages that you can talk of insecurity." To beat the high cost of ram, a staff member of Radio Nigeria (Bond FM), Alhaji Taareed Abdullahi said one should have bought the ram a month before the festival, "the price would be cheaper then than when the festival is close. I bought a ram for N120,000 a month ago for one of my bosses; when I wanted to get the same size as the ram last week, it cost me N180,000.



Sallah: How And Where To Get Cheaper Ram

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"I think the way one can get the ram cheaper is to buy before the festival is closer; normally, everything costs more during the festival period. That is what we are used to in Nigeria.

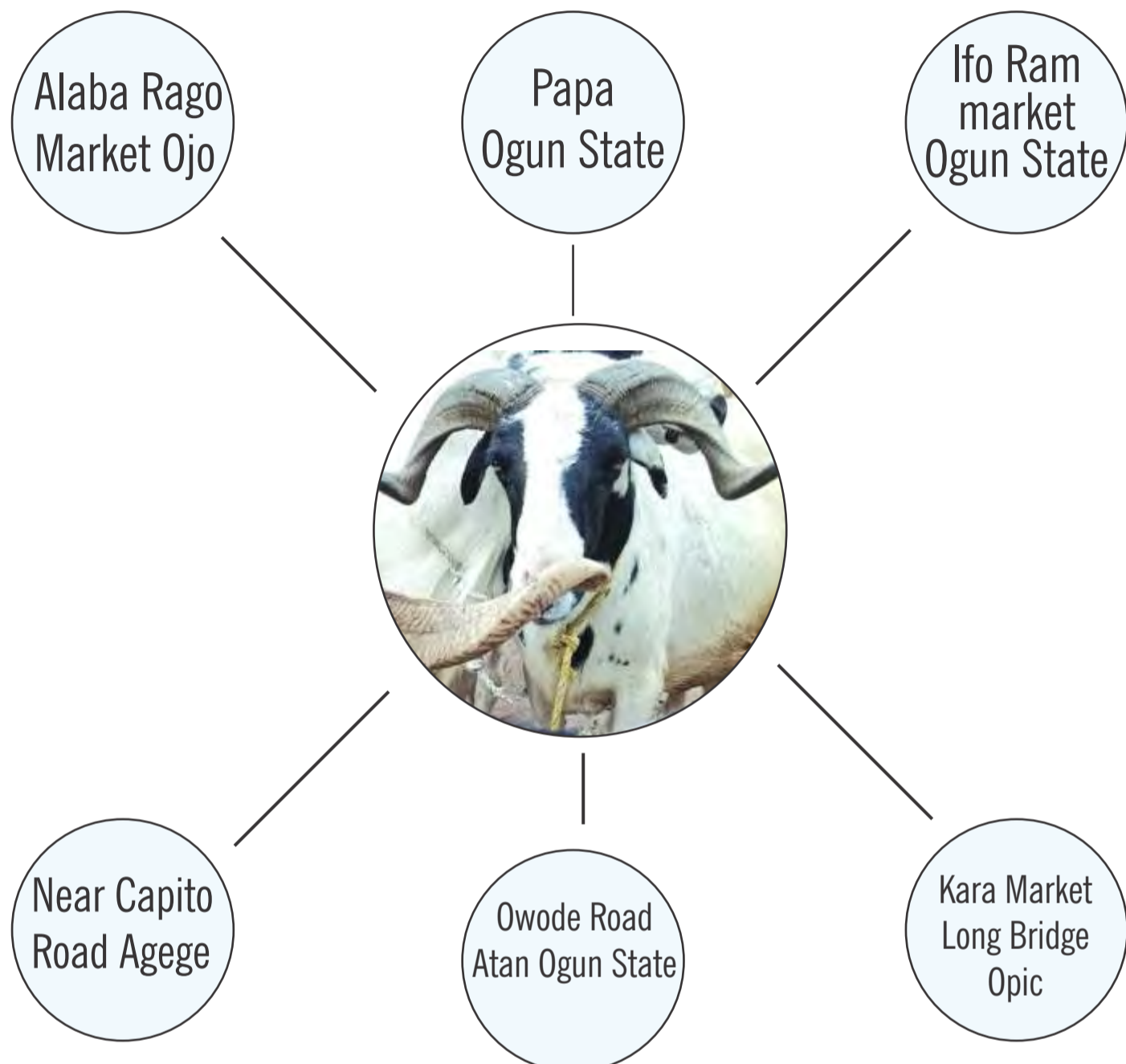
"The situation will only abate if the government can regulate the economy and introduce price control. Though the issue of subsidy removal makes things more expensive, we really need it. The federal government led by President Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu has taken the right step towards stopping the cabals that eat up the subsidy at the expense of all Nigerians"

Meanwhile, ECHONEWS visited some points where the cost is relatively cheaper and affordable.

One of the places where one can get the ram at a moderate price is Capitol Road in Agege. At the place, a medium size ram which is sold at about N130,000 elsewhere could be purchased at the rate of N110,000 to N120,000 depending on one's bargaining acumen.

Other places where readers can get cheaper rams include Atan Ota in Ogun State, Alaba Rago, Ifo Ogun State, and Papa, also in Ogun State.

In those markets, one can get at least about 15% lesser than what is being sold by those retailers in the city.



ECHONEWS Managing Editor, Rasheed Obe, who visited some of the places also confirmed that the rams are relatively cheaper in those selling points compared to some other places.

"If you can go to Ifo or Papa in Ogun State, or Atan, you will get rams cheaper in those places," he stated.

Obe said the strategy to get rams at cheaper rate for the Hausa cattle sellers is to go with cash.

"The Hausas deal with cash, if you have

your cash, you can buy a N140,000 worth of ram at just N110,000. So not do transfer to them, go with cash if you want to get it cheaper, that is the strategy that works with the Hausas. Then the rams are cheaper at those markets because they sell at whistles prices compared to those who do the business to make money only during the festival period. So, for you to get cheaper rams, it is advisable to go to the markets where they have plenty of rams

for sale," he advised. While the buyers bemoan the high cost of rams, travelers cried out over increasing transportation fares. The high cost of transport may hinder so many Muslims from traveling to their home towns for the Sallah festivities. Jeleel Ashafa, a resident of Alakuko in Lagos told ECHONEWS that he could not go to his Odeomu town in Osun State for the festival due to the cost of transportation.

"Last year, I spent

N30,000 to transport me and my wife with three children to my town and another N30,000 back to Lagos, making N60,000 because we hired a car. I don't want to bother myself this year because we won't spend less than N120,000 to and fro.

"We are celebrating here in Lagos. I have told my wife and children I don't have money to travel this year. We will stay here and celebrate with whatever we have."

"If I'm taking my car

home for the festival, I won't spend less than N50,000 on fuel. So, I can't risk that, my salary has not been increased, we are still waiting for the palliative promised by the federal government," Mr. Ibrahim Abdullahi, a civil servant said.

Transporters are also known for hiking fares during festivals as passengers are forced to pay three times the usual fares. This may also restrict many Muslims from traveling home for the Ileya festival this year.

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The Lagos State Government has advised members of the public interested in purchasing homes from the State Government to steer clear of dubious individuals who parade themselves as property agents engaged by the State Government.

This counsel was given by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Housing, Mr. Kamar Olowoshago during a briefing held today in Alausa, Ikeja.

Olowoshago said, "The attention of the Lagos State Government has been drawn to unscrupulous activities of some organisations who parade themselves as agents engaged by the State Government to sell/lease/rent housing units in Lagos State Government-owned Housing Estates thereby defrauding unsuspecting individuals".

The Permanent Secretary further said some of these false agents deploy fliers and social media adverts with claims of being in partnership with the State Ministry of Housing and the intention of luring unsuspecting individuals into purchasing

Beware of Fake Property Agents, Lagos Govt Warns Residents

Story By Kunle Awosiyan

nonexistent properties.

He, therefore, appealed to the general public to be cautious, stressing that the Lagos State Government has not appointed or empowered any individual or organisation to sell, lease

or rent out housing units on its behalf.

Olowoshago advised Lagosians who want to outrightly purchase housing units to visit the Estate Department of the Ministry of Housing located at Block 3, Secretariat, Alausa while directing those interested

in allocation, Mortgage or Rent-to-Own Scheme to visit the Lagos State Mortgage Board at NECA House, Plot A2 Hakeem Balogun Way, Alausa CBD, Ikeja.

Olowoshago also stated that any individual seeking to purchase homes from existing

allottees should verify or authenticate the ownership of the homes and obtain the Certify True Copy of the original letter of allocation at the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Housing, Block 3, Second floor, Secretariat, Alausa. He emphasised that the

Lagos State Government will in no way be liable for any loss incurred through the patronage of such fraudsters or impostors. He, however, warned that any individual or organisation caught impersonating the State Government would be prosecuted.



Lagos housing scheme

Queens Club Lauds DSVVA Over Mentorship Session at Ikeja Electric

Members of the Queen's Club Meet and Greet Mentorship programme for students have commended the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) for organizing mentorship session for them.

One of the Queens, Miss Idahosa Jennifer, a pupil of Babs Fafunwa Millenium Senior Grammar School, Ojodu lauded the Lagos DSVVA and the opportunity to meet and be inspired by different mentors, assuring that the take-home would be shared with their peers. The agency organized its second Queen's Club Meet and Greet Mentorship programme for students with a visit to the office of Chief Executive Officer of Ikeja Electric, Folake Soetan.

The event which is an initiative established by the



Queens Club members at Ikeja Electric

agency to further ensure the sustainability and continuity of the Queens Club Initiative, has already increased from 300 to 1800 members across schools in the State.

Speaking at the occasion, the Executive Secretary of DSVVA, Lola Vivour-Adeniyi said the Agency sought to

partner with trailblazers in their respective sectors and prominent members of the society who are committed to child empowerment and community development to have students who are members of the Queen's Club mentored and positively impacted.

The Chief Executive Officer

of Ikeja Electric, Folake Soetan hosted members of the Queen's Club of Ojodu Junior High School, Ojodu Junior Grammar School and Babs Fafunwa Millenium Senior Grammar School for a one-day interactive mentorship session which took place at the Conference Room of

the Ikeja Electric Office at Alausa Ikeja.

Folake Soetan as the Mentor for the Day charged the girls to be the best by being committed and driven to achieve their goals. She stressed the need to possess a learning and open Spirit, believe in themselves, and imbibe

and cultivate a turn-around personality.

She also spoke about the various issues women face in their careers and shared relevant tips on how to surmount these challenges.

Emphasising that the girls should press on towards their goal irrespective of challenges as these form the ladder in their quest for the golden fleece, Soetan lauded the State Government for its commitment to the Girl-Child and the DSVVA for implementing programmes such as the mentorship to sustain the initiative for a greater future with more women impacting their world.

Though it was a meet and greet between the mentor and members of the Queen's Club, also present were Matrons from the concerned Schools.

Domestic and Sexual Violence: DSVVA, NBA Set Day Aside To Sensitise Lagos Residents

The Nigeria Bar Association, Ikeja branch in collaboration with the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has set a day aside to sensitise residents of Ogba on Domestic and Sexual Violence activities in the area. The Chairman of NBA Ikeja Branch, Seyi Olawumi Esq, who was represented by the Chairman, Planning Committee, NBA, Ikeja Law Week 2023, Olatunde Adejuyigbe (SAN) said the NBA would support the State Government and the Lagos DSVVA in its resolve to end the SGBV menace in the State.

This is in commemoration of the Ikeja Branch Law Week 2023, themed "The Nigerian Lawyer: Earning Wealth and Keeping Fit in Challenging Times".

Speaking at the event, the Executive Secretary of DSVVA, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi said the collaboration with the Nigeria Bar Association was a good development as it has become crucial for all hands to be on deck with the increase in SGBV cases and other forms of abuse in the State.

She explained that the awareness campaign, tagged: "Together We Can End Domestic And Sexual Violence", was aimed at sensitising the public on the menace of Sexual and Domestic Violence, the reporting and referral pathways, as

well as encouraging citizens to take action by breaking the culture of silence and reporting cases to the Agency.

While maintaining that the rise in issues relating to SGBV connotes that victims and survivors are speaking up, Vivour-Adeniyi called on all and sundry to ensure that the awareness of all forms of violence should be intensified among the general public.

Residents of Ogba and Ikeja where the campaign was held lauded the efforts of



DSVVA, NBA at a rally to sensitise Lagos residents

the team and were receptive to the initiative as it allowed

them to share their experiences and concerns on issues

relating to SGBV as well as obtain a direct and immediate

response and legal advice on pertinent issues.

Bayelsa Due Process Bureau Applauds Lagos Procurement Agency

The Lagos State Public Procurement Agency has been commended for the giant milestones it has attained in the public procurement process by a team of officials of Bayelsa State Due Process Bureau, who were on a two-day study tour to the Agency. Speaking on behalf of the 15-man delegation, the Director-General of the Due Process Bureau, Bayelsa State, Mr. Aaron Timiye, pointed out that the Lagos State Public Procurement Agency was identified as "one of the leading sub-national public procurement agencies in Nigeria, especially in the expansion of citizens' participation in public procurement processes, disclosure of procurement information, capacity building and many more, to promote good governance and public confidence" in the management of public resources.

Mr. Timiye added that it was the achievements of the Lagos State Public



Bayelsa state team lead with the Director-General, Lagos State Public Procurement Agency, Mr. Fatai Idowu Onafowote (Right)

Procurement Agency that inspired and informed the decision of the Bayelsa State delegation to embark on the study tour to Lagos to learn from the experience of the Agency in public procurement regulation and identify possible areas of collaboration between the two bodies.

While welcoming the visiting Bayelsa delegation, the Director-General, Lagos State Public Procurement Agency, Mr. Fatai Idowu Onafowote, emphasised the

need for regular interaction and collaboration among regulatory public procurement agencies both within and outside the country.

Mr. Onafowote pointed out that knowledge and experience sharing among regulatory public procurement bodies would facilitate the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge and the evolvement of creative ideas and strategies that could further enhance the public procurement

system of the States of the Federation and even beyond. The Director-General added that the management was ready to make presentations and give tips on some of the practical steps taken by the Agency and the Lagos State Government that have been effective.

"I believe your Bureau will find the tips useful. And if the ideas are working for Lagos, they will surely work for Bayelsa. All that is needed is the will and the determination which I

believe you have demonstrated by embarking on the long journey to Lagos", Mr. Onafowote noted.

He further pointed out that strict adherence to the implementation of the Law setting up the Agency enables the Agency to conduct the public procurement process and the business of the Government transparently.

The Director-General also attributed the modest achievements of the Agency to the commitment of a well-trained crop of procurement personnel in the State, the synergy forged with key stakeholders as well as the unwavering commitment and support of the State Government to the Agency. During the two-day study tour, officials of the Lagos State Public Procurement Agency made presentations on the Procurement process, the Lagos State Public Procurement Law and Regulations, Monitoring, Contractor Registration and the e-Procurement system.

Hamzat Lauds Morayo Afolabi-Brown's Book, "Becoming The Queen of Talk TV"



Lagos deputy governor, Femi Hamzat with other Personalities at the book launch

Lagos State Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat has stressed the need for Nigerians to be courageous, have the ability to process information and put their thoughts, views and experiences through books for the good and development of society. The Deputy Governor gave the advice at the 10th Anniversary of Morayo Afolabi-Brown on TV and the Launch of her book titled "Becoming the Queen of Talk TV" held at the Harbour Point Event Centre, Victoria Island Lagos. Dr. Hamzat stated one of the things that are actually missing

in recent times is the ability for people to share their thoughts and experiences in life, adding that a lot of people have done great things in life and such good things should be documented for posterity and others to learn from and emulate. He said, "We amplify the worst things in our lives in Nigeria, but we should also amplify good things when they are done and should be documented". He applauded the author on how she has sustained her show for 10 years and not necessarily streamlining it on a particular category but spreading it to gather different angles and views to make it enjoyable to

all. While commending and congratulating the celebrant for her accomplishment and ability for putting her thoughts together, Hamzat advised the Nigerian youths to emulate her by being humble despite their successes, stressing that success does not mean a lack of humility, as both virtues co-habitate. "I just hope that others can follow in her footsteps and understand that success does not mean lack of humility because you must combine humility with success", he said. The Deputy Governor went further to extol some of her personal traits that have endeared

her to a great number of people in the decade, saying the celebrant is very cultural, respectful and well-behaved which propelled her into the limelight. Earlier in her remarks, the former Lagos State Commissioner for Education, Mrs. Folasade Adefisayo described the author as a strong, beautiful, kind and compassionate woman who through her show has given women in the country a voice. Mrs. Adefisayo said Morayo Afolabi-Brown from her childhood has exhibited great leadership skills, intelligence and compassion which have made her what she is today.

Citizen's Gate: Respond in "Real-Time" To All Complaints, PS Tells MDAs

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Civic Engagement (OCE), Engr. Abiola Kosegbe has called on ministries, departments and agencies of the government to always respond in real time, complaints by citizens of the state. She said this will part of the Lagos State Government's efforts to promote transparency, citizen participation and efficient service delivery to all residents. She explained about the need to service the public when the Office of Civic Engagement has met with the officials of the Ministry of Transportation and all its Agencies on the upgraded Citizens Gate 2.0 Application. In her address at the meeting held recently at the Ministry of Transportation in Alausa, Ikeja, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Civic Engagement (OCE), Engr. Abiola Kosegbe said communication is paramount for the seamless implementation of any government policy or intervention and called for the urgent need for MDAs to respond in "real-time" to all complaints, inquiries and suggestions by the citizens. She enjoined all Accounting Officers in the Ministry/Agencies to acquaint themselves with the Citizens Gate 2.0 Application to bridge the communication gap between Lagos State

Government and its citizens. Kosegbe pointed out the need to leverage the large reach of the Ministry of Transportation and its Agencies in propagating the upgraded Citizens Gate 2.0 Application on their various platforms. She reiterated that all Ministries, Departments and Agencies are expected to take control of their Citizens Gate 2.0 Application, stating that this is the motive behind OCE meeting with the MDAs to increase their awareness and get prompt feedback so that the process can become more compact and seamless. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transportation, Engr. Abdulhafis Toriola expressed his appreciation to Engr. Kosegbe for the meeting, assuring her of his full support in spreading the Citizens Gate Application on the Ministry's various platforms. Representatives of Agencies under MOT present at the meeting include Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Lagos State Drivers' Institute (LASDRI), Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA), Lagos State Ferry Service, (LAGferry), Motor Vehicle Administration Agency (MVAA), Vehicle Inspection Services (VIS) and Lagos State Parking Authority (LASPA).



Place Our Interns on Salary Grade Level 07, Provost LASCON Tells Govt



Student nurses at the hospital

Story By Kunle Awosiyun

The Provost of Lagos State College of Nursing, Igando LASCON, Mrs. Oyefunso Orenuga has pleaded with the government hire and place on Salary Grade Level 07 her students during their one-year internship programme done in the fifth year of the study duration.

She made the call when the Permanent Secretary Lagos State Primary Health Care Board (PHCB), Dr. Ibrahim Mustapha visited the college.

The Provost, therefore, appealed to the Permanent Secretary to use his good offices to ensure that the Education Units, Preceptors Units, Demonstration Rooms and Electronic Medical Records (EMR – which the students can access to get data on patients) are provided at the community levels as these are also part of the requirement for the accreditation of its HND programme by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).

She also informed the Board that community posting should be residential, joining the

Board to provide accommodation for the students on community posts to enable them to partake in the morning and afternoon shifts. Presently, it is difficult for the College to convey the students running two shifts daily as done in the past.

Orenuga also suggested that the students should be encouraged to participate in the immunisation programme and palpation under guidance during their clinical experience at the ante-natal clinics both at the state and community levels.

She informed the gathering that the increase in the yearly intake of Students is not under the purview of the College but the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), who approves the number of streams to be admitted yearly based on the capability of the Institution to meet up with the statutory requirement for the resource verification.

Orenuga further stressed that the ratio of the students to the lecturers, standard ICT equipment, demonstration room that is fully equipped with state-of-art mannequins and so on will have to be put in

place to get the much-needed accreditation.

The Provost of LASCON, Mrs. Oyefunso Orenuga appreciated the Permanent Secretary for the collaboration between the College and the Board, pledging to ensure that their relationship is maintained to achieve all goals and objectives.

Reacting, Lagos State Primary Health Care Board (PHCB), Dr. Ibrahim Mustapha commended the Provost, Mrs. Oyefunso Orenuga and the Management team of the Lagos State College of Nursing, Igando for inculcating the best behaviour in students which is always being demonstrated during their community posting.

Mustapha gave the commendation at the stakeholders' meeting held recently with the management of the College on the need to collaborate with the Board towards fulfilling the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) requirements for the accreditation of LASCON's HND programme.

He stated that he had received several reports from preceptors on the behaviours and

performances of the College's interns during their clinical posting at the community level, just as he implored the management to continue to maintain its cordial relationship with PHCB in order to fulfill the accreditation requirements and achieve the set goals of the Health sector as set out in the T.H.E.M.E.S agenda of the State Government.

Dr. Mustapha reiterated the commitment of the Board to ensure that all requests by LASCON are looked into and the Governor's approval is sought to that effect. He promised to continue supporting the College to achieve its set goals and objectives.

The Director, Nursing Services of the Board, Mrs. Olasunbo Oresanya also commended the Provost and the Management of LASCON for the giant strides recorded by the College in terms of development and in line with the evolution of the Nursing profession across the globe.

All Management Staff of the College and Primary Healthcare Board were also in attendance at the meeting.

Okada Operation: Lagos Engages SITECH To Digitally Register Commercial Motorcycles, Tricycles

In order to stem the surge of threat to lives and property in the areas of the State where activities of commercial motorcycles popularly known as okada have not been restricted and banned, the Lagos State Government, in collaboration with SIITECH Consulting Limited, is set to begin the digital registration of the Motorcycles (Okada) and Tricycles (Keke Maruwa).

Lagos State Government had banned operations of commercial motorcycles in 10 Local Government Areas (LGAs) and 15 Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) in the State.

However, there are suburbs where okada operation is still going on, which according to the government must be effectively regulated to stem criminality.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transportation, Engr. Abdulhafiz Toriola made this known today in Gbagada at a Stakeholders' engagement meeting and launch of the digital application organised for Motorcycle and Tricycle Unions in the State, adding that the move should not be seen as authentication of motorcycles as a viable means of commercial passenger transportation. Toriola, who was represented by the Director of Transport Operations in the Ministry, Engr. Olasunkanmi Ojowuro, emphasised that the importance and impact of the digital registration are to enhance the security and safety of lives and property through thorough regulation and efficiency capacity for operators and the community, hence the engagement of Messrs. SIITECH.

Explaining the digital capturing process, the Permanent Secretary stated that all important

information will be properly documented and accessible to relevant stakeholders to enable greater transparency in managing and reducing the potential of operators in criminal activities across the State.

The Permanent Secretary, therefore, urged commercial motorcycle and tricycle operators to cooperate with SIITECH and other relevant authorities to ensure a seamless process at the designated centres in the Local Government Areas not yet covered by the ban.

Also speaking, the Chairman of Lagos State Parks and Garages Committee (LASPG), Comrade Musiliu Akinsanya assured that the State Government will always support processes that will enhance safety and security in the State.

Akinsanya, who was represented by the State Secretary of LASPG, Comrade Lemboye Olayiwola, urged its members to make themselves available in areas covered by the registration for a smooth process, which he said, will be done at zonal levels. He also noted that the Committee will continue to enlighten and educate its members on the need to key into the initiative.

Representative of SIITECH Mr. Tijani Pekis reiterated that digital registration of operators is the way to go while soliciting the cooperation of operators. He added that the process will help solve the problem of mushroom operators springing up rapidly in the State.

Also present at the stakeholders' engagement were the Lagos State Chairmen of Tricycle and Motorcycle Operators, Alhaji Kamoli Bakare and Mr. Azeez Owosheni respectively.

Sexual And Domestic Violence: WAPA proposes Stiffer Punishment For Offenders

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

The Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) has vowed to enforce stiffer measures in calling perpetrators of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence to order through the use of new laws and policies across all strata of the State. The Permanent Secretary of WAPA, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo made this known in her address to a team from Niras International Consulting, a multi-disciplinary Engineering Consultancy, who paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry. She explained that it has become expedient to domesticate the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration, which takes Social Inclusion and Gender Parity as its focal point. The Permanent Secretary explained that the Ministry's policies, programmes And activities are focused on providing a safe space for women, as well as empowering them for financial independence towards becoming contributors to the socio-economic development of Lagos State. Kalesanwo stated that Mr. Governor, who doubles as a #HeforShe Sexual and Gender-Based Champion, understands the crucial and central roles that women

play in shaping society, hence, the reason for the improved T.H.E.M.E.S PLUS agenda. She said, "Every Department and Unit in WAPA is running with the vision of Mr. Governor, which is based on the understanding that when you empower a woman, you empower a nation, therefore, he is very receptive to all initiatives designed for women self-actualisation and empowerment". "Mr. Governor has

made this clear with the new agenda which will act as a road map for his second term in Office. Now plans are underway to ensure that perpetrators and arbitrators are fully punished within the ambit of the law on issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence" She said. The Permanent Secretary urged the unemployed or underemployed to take advantage of the 20 Skills Acquisition Centres across the State, which offer various Tuition-free

Vocations for a duration of six to 12 months, while also stating that the Ministry offers Four-week short-term vocational training, whereby, beneficiaries are equipped with certificates and starter packs ranging from Wig-Making and Hair-Braiding, Make-Up and Gele-Tying, Tie and Dye, Catering and Confectionaries, Garments Stoning, Pomade-Making, Insecticide and Stove Wick, Ankara Craft and Interior

Decorations, amongst others". While reiterating the need to be open on issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Kalesanwo explained that victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) should be encouraged to speak up and speak out against any form of abuse, this will help them in their journey to full recovery. She implored every member of each community members to desist from stigmatising victims and survivors,

stressing that they should rather encourage them to speak out and also take all necessary actions required. The Team lead and Expert at the Human Rights - Based Approach (HRBA), Mr. Mark Mcginty revealed that the visit was to enable the European Union, comprising the United Nations Spotlight Initiative, to make informed decisions that will aid the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls by 2030.

The Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary of Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye has been honoured with Excellence in Leadership Award by Nollyfans Entertainment Media in recognition of her sterling qualities and achievements in Public Service. Nollyfans Entertainment Media also recognised 13 other staff and students of Education District II in various categories with different awards at the event. Receiving her award at the ceremony held at Lagos Airport Hotel, Ikeja, Mrs. Adekanye thanked Nollyfans Entertainment Media for the recognition, stating that the Awards were in recognition of the giant strides that the District has been making in the Education sector in line with the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus agenda of Lagos State Governor. Dedicating the award to the entire staff of Education District II, the Tutor-General promised that she would not rest on her oars in ensuring that the District continually produces the best

Tutor-General of Education District II Bags 2023 Excellence Award In Leadership



Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary of Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye receiving her award

students in examinations across the State. The TG/PS also appreciated the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu for providing an enabling environment for teaching and learning in Lagos. The Founder of Nollyfans Achievements Awards, Mr. Steven Akpors disclosed that the Awards ceremony was designed to celebrate excellence,

productivity, impacts and achievement of great icons across Africa with reputable works in various areas of life. Akpors revealed that Adekanye was bestowed with the Award in recognition of her outstanding feats in leadership, excellence and impactful contribution to the Lagos State Ministry of Education as a seasoned

Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary of Repute. Winners at the ceremony, which was attended by Professionals, Achievers and Icons in various aspects of life, include Mrs. Yetunde Jinmi-Ahisu, who got the Best Principal Award while the Best Director Award in the Education sector went to Mrs. Taibat Odukoya Abiodun. Other recipients were Mrs. Abiodun

Aderonke Ibiyemi, Mrs. Helen Oluwafolakemi Adejwon, Mrs. Osundeko Idowu Omotola and Mr. Akindele Adesola Akinbode, who emerged unparalleled Teachers of Repute. A Student of Eva Adelaja Girls Junior Secondary School, Miss Ojewunmi Yetunde Alao emerged Best Student in General Knowledge.

Sanwo-Olu's New Cabinet: Lagos Assembly Draws The Line

Trouble may be brewing between the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the Speaker of the state House of Assembly, Honourable Mudashiru Obasa as the government gradually rolls into a new four-year-tenure.

At present, a lot of politicking is going underground about who and who will form the next Lagos State Executive Council.

Last week, the state governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu inaugurated his chief of staff, Tayo Ayinde and his deputy, Gboyega Soyawo. He also swore-in the secretary to the state government, Bimbola Salu-Hudeyin.

As the public awaits those that will form Sanwo-Olu's larger cabinet, the appointments and consequent approval of commissioners, special advisers, personal assistants and technical assistants by the assembly may not be a smooth ride as it was in the past.

Towards the end of the ninth assembly, the legislature stopped the salaries of some unconfirmed Sanwo-Olu's appointees for lacking its approval. The decision by the lawmakers marked the beginning of hostility between the executive and the legislative arms of the government.

As a matter of fact, some members of the executive who were nursing the ambition of returning for the second term never wanted the assembly speaker, Hon. Mudashiru Obasa to be re-elected, sensing that with him in the seat, they might not scale the screening.

It was gathered that the state governor, Sanwo-Olu himself was not happy with Obasa's decision at the time and would not mind that a new speaker emerged that can give his appointees pat on the back.

However, the plan to upstage Obasa with Hon. Abiodun Tobun representing Epe constituency could not



Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu



Honourable Mudashiru Obasa

work as the former speaker was returned for the third term about two weeks ago. Of course, the state governor denied having a special candidate for the speakership position and that he was looking forward to a symbiotic relationship with the assembly for the next four years.

This, he may not get as there are plans by the leadership of the assembly to thoroughly screen every of Sanwo-Olu's nominees for the cabinet and non-cabinet position of the state executive council.

A source told our correspondent that the house of assembly had drawn the line and would be strict with the screening of Sanwo-Olu's nominees. This, according to investigation will make the governor to sit up.

"There are some criteria that the lawmakers overlook in the screening. This won't happen again. This is not to frustrate the government but to ensure that the right people are in the right position," the source said.

Recall that the state assembly ordered the

withdrawal of letters given to some government appointees who took up jobs without being screened for confirmation by the legislature during the first term of Sanwo-Olu.

The house ordered the halting of salaries and remunerations enjoyed by the appointees and summoned the Head of Service, Mr Hakeem Muri-Okunola; the Accountant-General of the state, Dr Abiodun Muritala; and then former state's Commissioner for Establishment, Mrs Ajibola Ponnle, over the issue.

In a statement, tagged "In a 'Matter of Urgent Public Importance' brought before the House by Honourable Noheem Adams, Deputy Majority Leader, the lawmakers lamented the increasing situation where supposed nominees of the governor continue to work without being screened and confirmed by the House in his first term.

It took the speaker, Mudashiru Obasa, who presided at the sitting at the time to persuade his colleagues to be less strict with the appointees even though he agreed with the

lawmakers that appointments of that nature without recourse to the House amounted to infractions.

The Speaker was quoted as saying, "I quite agree with all of you that the failure of such nominees to appear is an infraction or violation of the laws of this House, especially as it relates to the MDAs, most of which were established by the laws of this House."

Echonews learnt that the era of "take a bow" by nominees had since passed away and that Sanwo-Olu should be ready to present his best aides whose resumes can scale through the assembly's screening. Obasa as a speaker has no problem, he overlooks some things, yet somebody sponsored some lawmakers to gang up against him, according to a close ally of the speaker.

Notwithstanding that the assembly had already passed a total of N1.8 trillion (1,768,014,155,285) as the budget for 2023 with the Speaker, Mudashiru Obasa, thanking the lawmakers for their collective sacrifice and the swiftness with

which the Appropriation Bill was handled, there is still much to be settled between the executive and the legislative arms.

Mr Obasa, who presided over the plenary, said the passion with which the lawmakers processed the bill for passage showed their love for the progress of Lagos State yet he was surprised that somebody was plotting against his reelection.

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu had in October 2022 presented the sum of N1.69 trillion 'budget of continuity' to the House but the assembly had to jack it up to about N1.8 trillion too enable the government carry out some projects.

While receiving the proposal from the governor, Mr Obasa had urged that the 2023 budget "should have more human face, be targeted at reducing poverty and improving the welfare of the residents of the state as part of the THEMES agenda of the administration."

The house is waiting to see the nominees who are going to implement the budget with their proposals, which must be in line with the laws of the

state. Nevertheless, the governor had said during the inauguration of the 10th assembly that his administration would maintain a peaceful relationship with the new house.

Sanwo-Olu said he had stood neutral in the selection process and that his interest was in how he could work together, irrespective of who is the speaker to fulfill the shared responsibilities to the people of Lagos state.

He urged the 10th Assembly to ensure cooperation, dialogue, and mutual respect with the executive arm, for a 'Greater Lagos Rising'.

According to him, the executive and the legislature are partners in this democratic journey, and the shared goal is to create a Lagos where everyone thrives, where opportunities abound, and where cultural diversity propels all forward.

"I stand ready to work with the 10th assembly, collaborating to drive impactful policies, and fostering an environment where the hopes and dreams of every Lagos residents can be realised.

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REMARKS BY SENATOR MUKHAIL ADETOKUNBO ABIRU, FCA AT THE VALEDICTORY SESSION OF THE NINTH SENATE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023



Senator Adetokunbo Abiru

It is with mixed feelings but gratitude to almighty God who has given those of us present here today the privilege to witness the end of this journey that was started 2019 (which I joined in December, 2020), that I make the following remarks today at the valedictory session of the 9th senate. Mixed feelings for the reason that friendships and excellent working relationships forged over the last four years are coming to an end. I am however comforted by the fact that we came here as the representatives of our people and faced difficult and challenging times but are all leaving with our heads held high because I make bold to say that we as a Senate, and the National Assembly as an institution, have succeeded in carrying out our responsibilities. As this 9th Senate comes to an end today, I can say again without

any form of equivocation that we have met and exceeded all expectations, both of ourselves, constituents and the Nigerian public. The pieces of legislation we passed in some critical sectors and areas affecting the daily lives of our people will remain a benchmark for future Assemblies. We collaborated, worked harmoniously together and across party lines in spite of our differences to break many barriers and succeeded with many firsts. These firsts include the restoration of the national annual budget to the January to December cycle which has made the nation's fiscal plans more predictable and boosted the confidence of local and foreign investors in our economy. There is yet another innovation that has been entrenched in the country's financial system by the Ninth

Assembly. This has to do with the practice of approving the Finance Bill side by side the Appropriation Bill. The Finance Act provides the support base for an effective implementation of the Appropriation Act through some major reforms in fiscal policies of the government. For twenty years, the National Assembly had attempted reforming the petroleum industry without much success. The 9th Assembly prioritized the Bill in its legislative agenda and worked closely with the Executive to secure passage and assent. This historic achievement of the National Assembly means that Nigeria now has legal, governance, regulatory and fiscal frameworks for the petroleum industry that would promote optimal utilization of the country's abundant oil and gas resources. The CAMA 2020 Act,

which represents a landmark achievement in the 9th Senate is also remarkable because it represents the first time in thirty years that this law has been updated. The Act introduces measures to ensure efficiency in the registration and regulation of corporate vehicles, reduce the compliance burden of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), enhance transparency and stakeholders' engagement in corporate vehicles and, overall, promote a more friendly business climate. This 9th Senate also passed the Finance Act (2020) successfully amended 17 key aspects of the extant laws including seven existing tax laws. The FA 2020 which came into effect from 1 January 2021 compliments the 2021 Federal Government's Budget of Economic Recovery and

Resilience. Other high impact legislations which were passed into law include: The Nigeria Startup Act, 2022 which provides the legal and institutional framework for the development and operation of startups in Nigeria, positioning the Nigerian startup ecosystem as the leading digital hub in Africa and fostering the development of technology-related talent in the country. The Deep Offshore and Inland Basin Production Sharing Contract (Amendment) Act 2019, gives effect to fiscal incentives given to Oil and Gas companies operating in the Deep Offshore and Inland Basin areas under production sharing contracts between the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) or other companies holding oil prospecting licenses (OPL) or oil mining leases (OML) and

various petroleum exploration and production companies. Another significant area of achievement and accomplishment is the role of the Senate and indeed the National Assembly in the success of the last general elections. Much has been said about the performance of INEC and its success in conducting a free, fair and credible election, but people tend to forget the roles we played in that success, WE WERE THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THAT SUCCESS as we provided the framework for all that happened. This was done through the new Electoral Act of 2022 which provided a legal framework that empowered the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to determine the mode of voting and transmission of results as well as to review declaration of election results made under duress.

REMARKS BY SENATOR MUKHAIL ADETOKUNBO ABIRU, FCA AT THE VALEDICTORY SESSION OF THE NINTH SENATE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

It legalized the use of technology in elections; redefined over-voting and mandated INEC to take "reasonable steps" to provide support to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) during voting.

The new Act also alters the timelines for the conduct of elections and creates new time frames for political parties to fulfill various requirements and activities concerning nomination of candidates for elections.

The 9th Senate also successfully passed some Constitutional amendment bills which amongst others were targeted at:

ensuring financial independence of State Houses of Assembly and State Judiciary;

Ensuring that the President and Governors submit the names of persons nominated as ministers or commissioners within 60 days of taking the oath of office for confirmation by the Senate or State House of Assembly; and for related matters.

Enabling states generate, transmit, and distribute electricity in areas covered by the national grid; and for related matters;

Excluding the period of intervening events in the computation of time for determining pre-election matters petitions;

Changing prisons to correctional service and re-designate correctional service in the concurrent list; and moving item "railway" from the exclusive legislative

list to the concurrent list;

Ensuring the deletion of the reference to the provisions of the Criminal Code, Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Act, Criminal Procedure Code or Evidence Act; and for related matters.

In the last 4 years, the National Assembly provided legislative support and framework for the realisation of the last administration's unwavering commitment to improving security, transforming the nation's economy and modernising infrastructure across the length and breadth of this country.

May I use this opportunity to extend to all our Senators who are not returning for the 10th Assembly, my best wishes in their personal endeavours. I hope that we will all continue to keep in touch.

I would also like to use this opportunity to urge the Senators-elect of the 10th National Assembly to be determined to be more effective in carrying out the constitutional responsibilities of oversight for the purposes of ensuring that public policies are implemented in accordance with the legislative intent of good governance and public accountability. This will curb the persistent cases of poor administration, under performance, corruption, fiscal indiscipline, lack of accountability and arbitrariness in government MDAs (ministries,



Senator Adetokunbo Abiru

departments and agencies) that happened in the life of the 9th Senate. The consequences of these are public disillusionment and less confidence in the National Assembly. In addition, the 10th Assembly should also look closely at enacting high impact legislations that will address the challenges being faced by an over bloated public service, inconsistent and ineffective fiscal and monetary policies, the subsidy regime and appropriate palliatives, blockage of leakages in revenue, management of our huge deficit, as well as creating better enabling environment for youth empowerment, the growth of MSMEs and

the utilization and deployment of digital skills for wealth creation.

Let me specially thank all distinguished Senators for the support granted me and the courtesies that have been extended to me and my constituency since my assumption of office in December, 2022. I am particularly grateful for the overwhelming support of my colleagues for my Copyright bill and my motion on the urgent need for the rehabilitation of the Ikorodu-Sagamu and Ikorodu-Itokin Epe roads to further bridge the infrastructural gap and enhance economic growth in Nigeria.

While the Copyright bill which has been

signed into law repealed the Copyright Act Cap. C28, LFN 2004 and enact the Copyright Act, 2021 to provide a holistic review of the policy and legal framework for the effective regulation, protection and administration of copyright in Nigeria in line with global best practices, the motion on the urgent need for the rehabilitation of the Ikorodu-Sagamu and Ikorodu-Itokin Epe roads has led to the provision of further funding for both projects and significant work is ongoing on both roads. For these we are eternally grateful. My profound gratitude also goes to my constituents who have entrusted me with this onerous responsibility and mandate. I likewise

most sincerely thank the leaders of the All Progressives Congress and all the members of our party for their unflinching support.

I cannot conclude these remarks without specially appreciating my wife Feyisola and my kids who have borne the full brunt of my absence from home as a result of this call to national service.

My hope and prayer is that the achievements of the 9th Senate will set the tone for the work of the 10th Senate.

God bless you all and May God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Senator Mukhail Adetokunbo Abiru, FCA (Lagos East Senatorial District)

Club 70s Epe Celebrates 20th Anniversary, Inducts New Members

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Club 70's Epe members cut cake in celebration of its 20th anniversary

Club 70s of Epe has last week celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Present at the event was member Lagos State House of Assembly representing Epe Constituency I, Hon. Abiodun Tobun, and High Chief Olawale Mogaji, the Otun Balogun of Epe Kingdom who urged members of the club to ensure that unity and togetherness remain their watchword. Tobun, who was a special guest, gave the advised, urging the members to allow the spirit of nationalism and unity to reflect in their social activities in the club to promote peaceful co-existence in the community.

The lawmaker noted

that after 20 years of coming into existence, the club has come of age.

He said the Club Seventies Epe is the engine room to propel the Epe community to achieve all-round development.

He stressed that the activities of the club instilled a spirit of unity and peaceful co-existence among youths from different backgrounds in the community.

Chief Olawale Mogaji, the Otun Balogun of the Epe kingdom who chaired the programme said the club had contributed immensely to the socio-economic development of the Epe community in enhancing unity.

He said the club has been a great builder of all positive development in the community.

Mogaji added that the 20th-anniversary programme was timely.

"This is because it comes at a time when the unity of the community is paramount. The primary aim is to promote national cohesion and unity among members of the community's ethnic nationalities.

"For the club to give back to the community is a good omen to the unity of the Epe community," he said.

The Otun Balogun of Epe Kingdom thanked the club management for the vision they have embarked upon to further unite all sons and

daughters of the Epe Division mindless of the diverse traditions and heritages.

He said: "I must sincerely thank the gesture of the club to honour some of us and I also pray that the people of the division will reciprocate the gestures."

Dr. Hassan Sanuth, Director, Ministry of Environment in Lagos State advised members of the club to see themselves as one and indivisible entity for proper growth and steady development in the division

"With this, I believe that the sky is the starting point."

Also, Mr. Kolapo Adediran Wasiu, Deputy Director, Legislative Department, Lagos State House of Assembly, made a frantic call for unity among the club members.

"It is marvelous to see this set of people being

together for 20 years. A Yoruba adage will always have it that a group of people can't be together for twenty (20) years. But this has been proved wrong. It's great to see this happening."

During the inauguration of new executives, the outgoing president of the club, DM Ibrahim Adesegun Sanuth was excited about a successful and seamless handing over to the new president. Sanuth advised the incoming administration to continue with the legacies of the previous administrations and the laid-down procedures and regulations.

"I'm very happy with the level of progress so far since 20 years ago. It has not been easy getting to this point. We can do more and better.

"The incoming regime must be proactive and

understand the situation on the ground. Our commitment/ coming together is not only to socialize and help co-members but to also provide support for the people of the community and the state at large.

"I must also register my sincere appreciation to all and sundry who are here to honour our invitation. Thank you all," he said.

In his remarks, the newly inaugurated president of the club, MD Adelaja Hassan pledged to further unite the club the more.

Hassan said the 20th-anniversary programme included the presentation of merit awards to various individuals who have registered names in the development of Epe and the state at large.

The club also gave awards to different categories of individuals.

The awardees include Engr. Adeniyi Kemi Ogunsanya, Engr. Kola Balogun, Barr. Rotimi Sheriff Seriki, Mr. Olanrewaju Ahmed, and Chief Al-Bashir Bolanle Mogaji among others.

Atlantic Hall Donates Furniture To School

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Atlantic Hall Club, Poka-Epe has donated some furniture and educational materials to a government-owned school, Pobuna Secondary School, Epe.

The gesture was sponsored by The Atlantic Hall Community Service Club.

Speaking while handing over some of the gifts to the school on Wednesday including 40 newly constructed wooden desks and benches, and 40 packs of writing materials (books, pens, maths sets and others).

Club Coordinator, Mr. Abdulfattah Adejumo, emphasised that Nigerian youths should be actively engaged with world-class educational facilities and manpower. He said: "The

government, both at the state and federal levels, should give education a substantive priority. No nation develops above its education, both public and private."

He also advised schools with the wherewithal to assist other struggling schools around them with educational resources.

"We rise by lifting others. Schools with substantive resources should extend their arms to those in need. In the long run, we all exist in the same globe."

Vice Principal, Student Affairs and Admissions, Ngozi Emezue, revealed that the school worked in conjunction with Ezer Charity Foundation for Women, headed by Mr. Chukwuma Nnemeka.

She said: "Pobuna School is one of our

adopted public secondary schools that we work closely with. We've done some work there in the past by helping with the library and some other projects that the students have done in the past. Going to Pobuna wasn't something we accidentally stumbled on, it's something we thought through because it's one of our adopted public secondary schools."

The Principal of Pobuna Senior Secondary School, Epe, Aboderin Abisoye, said: "As a Principal of the school when I saw the furniture given to us by Atlantic Community Service Club, I was very glad and excited. This gesture also gladdens the hearts of our staff, students, parents, and old students that heard about it. This is highly appreciated because our major need presently is furniture."

Finebricks Properties Creates Additional 150 Landlords

By Nurudeen Adebayo

To address the increasing housing deficit in Lagos State, Finebricks Properties and Investments Limited said it has concluded the allocation of one of its new 'site and service' apartments, Ile Ola Phase 3.

Ile Ola Phase 3 is in Ketu, Epe with major landmarks like Sinoma Sea Port, Grace Polytechnic, Government College, Ile Ola 1 & 2, Omoluabi Estate, Lagos State Food Systems & Security Hub, amongst others.

During the allocation ceremony held recently, the CEO of the company, Deji Adeoye, emphasised the significance of the event.

He said: "We promised perimeter fencing, well-connected roads, and immediate allocation, and today we have delivered.

"All our properties at

Finebricks are registered, free from every encumbrance, and with the necessary documentation, ensuring our clients are safeguarded from any legal disputes or land-related disputes. As a forward-thinking organisation, all our estates are built with the 'Go-Green Initiative' in mind."

The real estate expert reiterated the importance of owning a property in Epe.

"If you don't currently own a property in Epe, it is time to acquire one. And if you already have one, consider expanding your portfolio," he advised.

Radiating joy following the presentation of their property documents, one of the new landowners said: "I am absolutely thrilled! If I had more funds, I would invest in more properties. From the moment I made the payment until today when I received my allocation, Finebricks has kept every single promise. I am particularly pleased with the location I have been allocated."

Another satisfied client confirmed that his expectations had been surpassed, stating that "Investing here is truly a great decision. I am ecstatic to see that my hard-earned money is yielding substantial value."



Lekki Worldwide Investments Collaborates With Ibeju-Lekki, Pan Atlantic University On Human Capital Development

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Hon. Olowa and his council members inspecting the flooded areas of Ibeju-Lekki

The Lekki Worldwide Investment Limited quest for capacity building and Human Capital Development for Ibeju-Lekki residents got another boost with the tour mission to Accra Technical Training Centre in Ghana by the Investment team led by its Director, Mrs. Yemisi Olusanya, and accompanied by representatives of PAN Atlantic University and

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government. This tour was borne out of the corporate social responsibility of Lekki Worldwide and its commitment to build a Training Centre to develop the Technical skill sets required for indigenes and residents of Ibeju-Lekki to compete favourably and fill the capacity gaps noticed within the free zone and beyond. According to the organisation, the

choice of Accra Technical Training Centre is a result of the centre's rich history, dynamic curriculum, and recorded success story across the Ghana industrial landscape. "This tour is shaping out to be a continuous exchange programme that will last till Lekki Worldwide achieves the dream of delivering the Training Centre for the benefits of Ibeju-Lekki indigene and residents," Olusanya said.

Flooding: Ibeju-Lekki LG Moves Round Affected Communities

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. (Engr.) Abdullahi Sesan Olowa has ordered the council workers to move to other communities that are affected by floods in continuation of the dredging exercise embarked upon by the council last week. The chairman alongside council officials moved around communities prone to the hazard to inspect the level of work done in those areas. He also met with the Community Development Associations (CDAs) of Igando and Ayeteju which are adjoining communities that have benefitted from the dredging exercise. Residents of both areas, who were appreciative of the council's interventions on preventive measures

provided to curb flooding and clogging of drains, appealed to the chairman to proffer a permanent solution to the environmental decadence within the area. The team also moved to Elesekan and Bogije communities following complaints by residents of the erection of illegal structures on water channels which compounds flooding. To effect sanity and prevent reoccurrences of inadequate dumping of refuse and other environmental menaces in this axis, the Environmental Services Department of the Local Government served some abatement notices to the culprit with a promise to take stiffer actions if complaints are not

treated accordingly. Olowa, while addressing residents of the communities, reiterated the commitment of the Local Government to be on alert to the yearnings of its people if environmental rules are followed to prevent man-made crises as observed during his previous and recent tour of communities. He also applauded the communities resulting in self-help as palliatives in their areas and promised that his administration's goodwill will be extended to them in due course. So far, places deflooded by the local government include Gbetu, Igando, Ayeteju, and Baba-Adisa with areas like Losoro, Ofinran, and many more to follow.

Olowa Orientates Beneficiaries of STEM Project As Training Begins

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The recently launched Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Project has commenced training for the 40 outstanding beneficiaries presented by Ibeju-Lekki Local Government in partnership with Pan Atlantic University (PAU). The educational project is an approach to learning and development which presents an avenue to integrate core Science students to acquire more creative, critical analysis, and problem-solving skills. The project which is part of the extra coaching classes organised for Ibeju-Lekki Science students by the council chairman in the last two years is said to be in fulfillment of his administration's social service agenda on education. The chairman visited

the Pan Atlantic University, the venue of the training to orientate beneficiaries on the need to embrace the rare opportunity provided by the Pan Atlantic University. "They are not only investing in the future of our children, but they have also done so much in elevating the educational standard of our wards as well as key into the agenda of our dear local government.

"For this, the good people of our council area appreciate the Vice Chancellor Management and all Staff of the citadel of learning," he said. The STEM Project co-managed by the Local Government and Pan Atlantic University is seen as strengthening future collaborations with Lagos State Science Research and Innovation Council (LASSRIC) and the State at large.



Hon Sesan Olowa, Chairman Ibeju Lekki LCDA

Obawole Gets First Public School

By Edith Igbokwe

Members of various Community Development Associations (CDAs) and the generality of the people residing in the Obawole area of the Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government have expressed a great joy as they got the first government-owned school in their community.

The project facilitated by the former member, House of Representatives, Hon. James Adisa Owolabi was officially handed over to the Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB) to commence the admission process.

The people of the Obawole community witnessed the climax of the magnificent community project in the history of the semi-urban area with a dense population and well over 35 Community Development Associations (CDAs).

The headmistress of the school, Mrs. Ajose, was elated at the new educational edifice and thanked the facilitator for his immense impact on the people.

She received all the textbooks and notebooks on behalf of the school with gratitude to the former MHR.

The CDC chairman, Pastor Samuel Opajobi also acknowledged the commitment of Hon.

Owolabi whom he referred to as a 'Silent Achiever'.

He reiterated that the Obawole community will forever be grateful to him.

"The success of today started like a dream. All glory to God Almighty for this fulfillment, all thanks to Hon. Owolabi for putting a smile on the faces of the people," he said.

It was gathered that Obawole Community Primary School got a new name, Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government Model Primary School Obawole, and has restored the hope of the poor and low-income earners in the community.

It was also noted that the educational edifice

is the first of its kind in Ifako-Ijaiye with a standard architectural design of an educational facility with 12 large classrooms, 16 well-equipped toilets, two well-furnished administrative offices with reception, and very spacious lawns.

Ifako-Ijaiye All Progressives Congress (APC) party chairman, Deacon Banjo Omole, who represented Hon. Owolabi at the event, expressed Owolabi's delight in the official commissioning of the community primary school that is meant to address the unassailable need of the people of Obawole in particular and Ifako-Ijaiye in general.

"It is no doubt a happy day for the people of Obawole and a happy day for the Ifako-Ijaiye federal constituency for this epoch-making event."

It was gathered that the Obawole community has been yearning for the establishment of primary school from time immemorial, even before the creation of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government in 1996.

"The craving for a government-owned primary school had been an age-long wish of the people. This is due to the non-



Owolabi primary School commissioning

existence of a public elementary school for children within the community to attend and be nurtured educationally."

The newly commissioned Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government Model Primary School began in 2008 when the local government acquired a piece of land in Ndike to build the first community school in the area.

At a point in time, the dream was just like a mirage as neither the local government nor other stakeholders in the community could build the school on the virgin land until sometime in June 2021 when a request letter was submitted to the Constituency office of Hon. Owolabi for his intervention by the Community Development Committee (CDC), Ifako-Ijaiye ably led by Pastor Samuel Opajobi.

Barely three months

later, the survey of the land was done, and site measurement for the architectural design commenced almost immediately.

Thereafter, Hon. Owolabi undertook all the necessary lobbies and approached different agencies of government for the fulfillment of establishing the school.

Owolabi gave resounding kudos to the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Her Excellency, Adejoke Orelope Adefulire for the actualisation of the dream.

She used her office to make this school project a reality and other remarkable impacts in various parts of Nigeria, particularly South-west Nigeria.

The impressive representation of Hon. Owolabi between 2019 and 2023 at the green chambers representing the Ifako-Ijaiye Federal Constituency is worthy of commendation.

Opajobi Appreciates CDC Members 'Support For Husband

By Edith Igbokwe

The wife of the chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Community Development Committee (CDC), Deaconess Osho Opajobi has appreciated committee members for the support given to her husband, Pastor Samuel Opajobi during his last birthday.

Mrs. Ipajobi expressed her family's deepest appreciation to the executives and all members of the CDC for the support given to her husband since he assumed the position of the chairman of the CDC. She prayed that God Almighty would continue to strengthen all the community leaders in their quests to develop their respective Community Development Associations (CDAs). The CDC chairman's wife gave the appreciation during the committee's monthly meeting preceded over by her husband.

discussed pertinent issues affecting the community ranging from security, renewal of registration by the CDAs, and other vital issues with other members.

The council Head of the Agriculture and Social Services Department, Mrs. Omolabake Oyafunke gave feedback on the visitation of the department to all the registered CDAs in Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government.

While giving a brief report on the department's observation and assessment, she stated that some of the CDAs visited were doing well and that their performances were satisfactory.

She, however, expressed her dissatisfaction with the delivery of some CDAs and urged them to improve their performances.

Also, she encouraged all the CDAs to make the execution of community projects a priority.

Thereafter, the CDC chairman and his wife cut the birthday cake with other June birthday celebrants as they were celebrated with birthday songs.

The meeting ended in an ecstatic mood as the audience was excited to celebrate the foremost community man in Ifako-Ijaiye and other notable personalities.

Ojokoro Council Members Applaud Chairman, Tijani's New Academic Achievement

By Edith Igbokwe

The Executive members and staff of Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have congratulated the council chairman, Hon. Hammed Tijani (HID) on the completion of his Master's Degree at the Lagos State University (LASU).

They gave the congratulatory message after the June monthly council meeting. The council boss in his



Ojokoro Council members with Hon. Tijani

response appreciated the executive members, staff of the council, and the entire constituent members for their support and prayers along.

He further urged them to continue to pursue their dreams and heart desires, noting that nobody can stop anyone from attaining success in life.

"Keep moving, if you can run or walk, and if you can't; make sure you are crawling because nobody is going to stop you from achievements if you don't stop yourself."

Why I Visited My Pry School In Lagos - Osimhen

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Victor Osimhen and some students of the school

Nigerian professional footballer and Seria A Napoli club striker, Victor Osimhen, has revealed the reason why he visited his primary school in the Oregun area of Ikeja, Lagos. According to him, he cannot forget his primary school which is the foundation for whatever he has become. He revealed this in a post on his Instagram page. Osimhen who lived in Olusosun, a small neighborhood near Oregun attended Olusosun Primary

School in the Ikeja area of the state. The striker went to his former classroom, saw his old teacher, and took pictures with the present students of the school. He wrote: "Oregun, thank you for the warm welcome. I sincerely

appreciate all the love and support." Meanwhile, one of his supporters on the post said: "It is always so lovely for one not to forget his root no matter the height one has attained in life. No doubt this will bring so much inspiration to those younger ones."

Groups Organise Seminar For Students On Menace of Cultism, Drugs Abuse

By Edith Igbokwe

Hundreds of students in Ifako-Ijaiye benefited from a workshop on the menace of cultism and drug abuse organised by Crime Prevention Partners (CPP) in collaboration with Tag International and Cleen Foundation.

The workshop was tagged "Community Roles in Tackling Cultism and Drug Abuse Menace in Ifako-Ijaiye".

It was well attended by individuals from all walks of life; government functionaries, security personnel, students, youth organisations, and international organisations amongst others.

The event showcased the graduation ceremony of students who were rehabilitated from cultism and drug addiction and integrated back into society as productive elements.

They now engage in carpentry works and other beneficial ventures that make them patriotic and productive citizens.

According to the Chairman of CPP, Mr. Jude Esq, the objectives of the campaign and workshop is to sensitize members of the public on the dangers and adverse effects of drug abuse and cultism and to reawaken the consciousness of parents and guardians on the present reality of

cultism and drug abuse in the community.

Others include promoting, planning, and organising sustainable programmes for the youths to raise their social, economic, and moral standards for the future.

The Chairman, Police Campaign Against Cultism and Drug Abuse (POCACOV), Mr. Henry Bassey sensitised the audience to the consequences of the subject matter and emphasised that deliberate action should be taken to curb the spread in the communities.

He urged the students to be careful of the persons they choose as friends, saying friends are responsible for the initiation of their fellow friends into cultism and illicit drug addiction.

In addition, he counseled the adults and parents on ensuring adequate monitoring of their wards as their responsibility on them. He noted that parenting goes beyond feeding and payment of school fees.

He revealed that studies have shown that most parents now lack the proper attention on the movement of their children and the kind of friends they flock with.

He, therefore, emphasised the urgent need for more attention from homes

on monitoring and inculcating moral values in the children.

In the same vein, Unit Secretary of PCRC Lagos Command, Mr. Fredrick Thomas spoke extensively on the pragmatic approaches to managing cultism and drug abuse in the communities.

He stated that as long as bad deeds are going on in society daily, there can never be an end to cultism or illicit drug but the vices can be managed reasonably in such a way that there would be a significant reduction in cultism, drug abuse, and other vices.

He identified fear of survival and peer pressure as major causes of the scourge in society.

He, therefore, counseled the students to have self-belief and develop their self-esteem to resist any undue influence coming from their peers.

He advised students to take action on self-discipline and be conscious of the consequences of their actions as it would go a long way in building their self-resistance against the menace of cultism and drug abuse.

He further emphasised the major role of the family system and community in ensuring adequate orientation and perfect upbringing of a child as against the endless hope of the government as the solution to all problems in society.

He enjoined members

of the public to collaborate and cooperate with the police authority towards making the community a haven as the police can not perform their roles effectively if the people don't work harmoniously with them.

The chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat (UAH) admonished the students on choosing humble and obedient individuals as friends and must eschew undue peer influence.

He encouraged the security personnel to keep discharging their duties with utmost trust and diligence.

He called on parents to reawaken the traditional culture and moral values, which are gradually eroding in society today if they must make the community to be free of crimes.

The Oba-elect of Iju-Ogundimu, Prince Gbolahan Ogundimu commended CPP and their partners for their laudable efforts in organizing such a beneficial programme and their awesome intervention towards ensuring that the society is free of crimes and vices.

He thereafter called on government institutions for decisive action on curbing crimes and social vices as the traditional institution is trying its best as the custodian of the culture and tradition of the people.

He assured the audience that they would never rest on their oars.

Painter bags life imprisonment for defiling neighbour's daughter

By Nurudeen Adebayo



An Ikeja Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Court have sentenced a painter, Sunday Ajibade, to life imprisonment for defiling a 14-year-old daughter of his neighbour.

Justice Abiola Soladoye held that the prosecution had proved beyond a reasonable doubt, the charge of defilement against Ajibade, a resident of Abule-Egba in Lagos.

Soladoye also held that the court found the survivor's evidence straight, neat, and uncontroversial as she identified the defendant, who sent her to bring his torn clothing from the room and hurriedly followed her, pulled out a knife, threatened her, and forcefully had sex with her.

According to Soladoye, the defendant is a pathological liar who

feeds on the innocence of the survivor.

"The survivor told this court that she went to sew a piece of cloth at her neighbour's house, who is a tailor when the defendant beckoned on her to help him bring his torn clothing from his room.

"She said that as soon as she entered his room, the defendant ran after her, pulled out a knife, pointed same at her, threatened to kill her if she told anyone what he was about to do to her, and forcefully had canal knowledge of her.

"The survivor said she saw blood on her clothes when she got home and reported it to her mother when she came back from the market.

According to the prosecution, the offence violated Section 137 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

LAHA Member, Adebisi Commends LASU Record Breaker, Miss Yusuf

By Edith Igbokwe

Member of Lagos State House of Assembly representing Ojo Constituency I, Comrade Ege Adebisi has congratulated Lagos State University (LASU) Law graduate, Miss Aminat Yusuf who broke the record of

having a 5.0 CGPA after 40 years.

Adebisi stated that Miss Yusuf is an inspiration for everyone around as he wished her all the best in all her future endeavours.

According to him, great performance is never luck, it takes a

lot of focus, heart, and work, saying her outstanding performance speaks of her competence and zeal.

"Dear world-class students from our prestigious Lagos State University (LASU) Ojo, Lagos State, I congratulate you as you

are about to start another journey of life.

"You did it even though it was tough but nothing stopped you from achieving what you desired.

"You fought to excel, so, there is no challenge out there that you cannot win over."



Chairman sesan during the visit to the flooding site

Iba LCDA Sets Up Task Force C'mmtt On Traffic

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has set up a task force committee to tackle the issues of traffic gridlock at Alaba Rago Market along Badagry Expressway. This, according to the chairman, is to create available parking space for trucks, rams, and cows for the forthcoming Ileya celebration to avoid inconveniences to other drivers, riders, and road users.

The task force committee is chaired by Supervisor for Special Duties, Iba LCDA, Hon. Muibi Alagbo.

Other members include Mr. Adekola Babatunde (Secretary), Hon. Makinde Kazeem (member), Hon. Shamsideen Hassan (member), Deacon Oluwatosin Akinosi (Market Master member), Hon. Hassan Mustapha (Supervisor for Environment member), Mustapha Nurudeen (C.O LNSC Iba), transport Union representative, Haruna Jubril (J. boy), Abdul Muhammad and Hon. Adeganbi Taiwo.

The Secretary to Local Government (SLG),

Hon. Taiwo Adeganbi stood in for the council chairman as he addressed different market units and union members of the market.

He enjoined them to cooperate and work with the committee on the traffic rules of Lagos State and to ensure that no parking of motorcycles, trucks, or buses along the newly constructed Badagry express road. He also told the marketers to warn their members to desist from trading on the roadside and walkways which he posited as the main cause of heavy traffic along the road.

He, therefore, appreciated the team, the security forces, and the Seriki cabinet as he reiterated that all have to put in their efforts to achieve the goal, saying the State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has entrusted the task to the Iba LCDA chairman.

The committee also has as members the DPO of Ojo Police Station, the DPO of Okokomaiko Police Station, and the Zebra of LASTMA (Area 17 Okokomaiko).

The chairman of the task force committee swung into immediate action with members of the Nigeria Police Force, Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), and Lagos State Neighborhood Service Corps (LNSC) to pass a warning message to the traders at the market.

The committee appeal to all defaulters to put things to other before the law enforcement agencies will melt out appropriate sanction on them.

AdebuLe'll Perform Excellently, Iba Council Chairman Assures Constituents

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril has assured the residents of Lagos West Senatorial District that their newly elected Senator, Dr. Mrs. Idiat Adebulu would do better for the constituency.

According to him, Lagos West is about to witness another wonderful era of leadership par excellence with Adebulu as their senator.

He reiterated that Iba LCDA and Ojo Federal Constituency is the luckiest area to have



Dr. Idiat Adebulu

produced the newly sworn-In Senator to represent them.

He assured them that Lagos West as a whole will not regret the mandate given to Senator Adebulu to represent them.

He then prayed that the Almighty Lord guide, protect, strengthen, and bestow upon Adebulu (Mama West) the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding to perform excellently well in the new task.

Obasa Celebrates Awardees At LASU's Convocation

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Speaker of the Lagos House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa has pledged to continue his support to the Lagos State University (LASU).

Obasa made the promise on Thursday as the institution marked its 40th anniversary and 26th convocation ceremony.

According to Obasa, "the 40th anniversary of the Lagos State University (LASU), which coincides with the institution's 26th convocation has come with a lot of testimonies, one of which is that 282 finished with first-class honours for the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 academic sessions.

"This record is good news and further

encourages those of us in government to do more to put the institution on the enviable pedestal.

"As I join graduands and celebrate with prominent Nigerians who were awarded honorary Doctorates, I also got the assurances that LASU, our LASU, will attain that position we all envisage for it.

"To this end, I am happy to have performed the soil turning off the proposed edifice by HRM. Oba Saheed Ademola Elegushi, Kusenla III, for the benefit of the students.

"Congratulations, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire, HRM. Oba Saheed Ademola Elegushi, Kusenla III, HRM. Oba (Dr) Sulaiman Adeshina Raji, Ashadel, Dr. (MRS.) Claudiana



Speaker Obasa with Awardees at Lasu's Convocation

Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu and other awardees.

"I particularly congratulate Aminat Yusuf, who broke the record as the best-

graduating student with a cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 5.0, first in the 40 years history of the institution. LASU continues to create stars."

Ikorodu LG Organises First Farm Fair

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In a quest to promote agricultural activities, setting the spotlight on nourishment, Ikorodu Local Government has organised its first-ever farm fair at the council secretariat.

The programme highlighted the significance of consuming safe foods to nurture healthy living.

Majorly captioning sales of farm products at cheaper and subsidised prices in an

overture, the fair offered families a profitable medium to stock their homes ahead of the Ileya celebration.

At the venue, a vendor session was provided for sales of Catfish, bags of Rice, Palm Oil,

Vegetables, and other consumable products from 9 am to 6 pm daily.

The farm fair, spearheaded by Ikorodu Local Government, was in partnership with the United Apex Farmers in Ikorodu.



Ikorodu Farm Fair Activities

Council Leader Congratulates Agbaje Over PhD Degree

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Agbaje as an outstanding leader, whose quest to accumulate intellectual capacity knows no limitation, adding that Dr. Agbaje reflects zeal, professionalism, and passion, an indicator of an extraordinary Nigerian.

He said: "Because he has never stopped learning, his evolution over the years comprehends no impediments.

"I want to congratulate my leader, Dr. Agbaje, and I wish him more affluent advancement ahead, academically and administrative-wise.

"Continue to surge higher sir, congratulations!"

The council leader of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Adebawale Adebola, has extended his heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Yekini Nurudeen Agbaje 'Nero', for bagging a doctorate in Educational

Management.

Agbaje was among the PhD graduates who graduated from the Lagos State University (LASU) last week.

Adebawale, in his message, cited Dr.

Youths Laud Romoke Ogunlana For Bagging First Class Result

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The youths under the umbrella of the Igbogbo Youth Coalition (IYC) have commended one of them, Miss Romoke Ogunlana, who graduated with distinction for her academic achievement.

Romoke graduated with a 4.52 CGPA from the Department of Education Management, Faculty of Education, Lagos State University

(LASU).

IYC, in a statement, said the achievement of Romoke, who is the General Secretary of the Igbogbo Students' Union (ISU), attests to the abundant excellence in the ancient kingdom.

The youth umbrella body said the First Class graduate played a pivotal role in the success of its educational programme for secondary school students in Igbogbo, describing the feat she achieved as something

others must emulate.

"Igbogbo Youth Coalition is particularly proud of the academic scholar as she remains a dedicated member of the coalition, her role in the career-building project across secondary schools in Igbogbo gave the programme the resounding success it recorded.

"Romoke joins the league of first-class graduates from Igbogbo as well as another strong reference figure worth of admiration and emulation," the statement read.

IDEA Assures Residents Charging Govt Over Abandoned Projects

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Igbogbo Development Association (IDEA) has calmed the residents of the Igbogbo area of Ikorodu as they charged the government with abandoned projects in the community.

The leadership of the Association

assured the residents that the projects would be completed, stating that the community leaders have been working towards ensuring that their demands from the government are met.

The General Secretary of IDEA, Engr. Jelili Oduntan disclosed that the leadership has been working with the Adeboruwa of Igbogbo, His Royal Majesty, Oba (Barr.) Semiudeen Orimadegun Kasali, and the Adeboruwa in-Council, on the state of roads and other facilities in Igbogbo.

The IDEA Secretary commended the Igbogbo

Youth Coalition (IYC) for initiating a press conference to call the attention of the Governor of Lagos State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, to the affected roads and facilities for immediate intervention.

He explained that Adeboruwa had summoned a meeting with the officials of HiTech, the construction company handling the construction of the Igbogbo/Bola Ahmed Tinubu road.

"I want to commend the Igbogbo Youth Coalition for this initiative. It is an important one and we appreciate the way and manner that they organised themselves.

"We are in liaison with the Oba-in-Council and other associations to move Igbogbo forward. We are not keeping quiet on the issue of structural stagnation that we are experiencing now in Igbogbo. We joined

Kabiyesi in a meeting with the HiTech Managing Director, General Manager, and its Engineers, where we let them know how residents are feeling.

"The Kabiyesi invited them to the palace and we expressed our dissatisfaction over the stagnant state of the Ahmed Bola Tinubu road. The construction of the Igbogbo/Bayeku road is also going at a snail's speed, and Oreta/Offin road is not getting any attention", Engr. Oduntan said.

While thanking Rep. Babajimi Benson, the representative of the Ikorodu Federal Constituency, for his intervention in road construction and rehabilitation, especially in Igbogbo/Bayeku LCDA, Engr. Oduntan called on the state government to be alive to its responsibilities.

"We are appealing to the state government over the roads. Today's press conference is very significant and we will keep appealing to those in government," he

said.

Engr. Oduntan also revealed that the founder of the KICC, Pastor Mathew Ashimolowo, who has scheduled a crusade in Igbogbo later this year, has also intervened on the Igbogbo stadium and the Bola Tinubu road.

"The Founder of the KICC, Pastor Mathew Ashimolowo, told the Kabiyesi and the Adeboruwa-in-Council, when he visited on Friday in preparation for his Church's crusade in November, that he had visited the Igbogbo Stadium and that after seeing the state of the stadium, he went to the Governor who assured him that the stadium will be completed before September this year," Oduntan revealed.

He emphasised the state of roads in Igbogbo, which the governor also assured him that they are looking into.

"I can assure you that we are doing so many things

and very soon, they will materialise," he assured.

Reacting to the issue of IDEA leadership overstaying their tenure in office as raised by the IYC members, Oduntan explained that the executives are still in office to see to the logical conclusion of some important things which cannot be abandoned.

He said this year's Igbogbo Day will hold on the newly acquired land for the proposed Igbogbo town hall.

"Truly, the current IDEA executive's tenure has lapsed, but there are certain things that the group is doing and trying to see to its conclusion before they quit. If they leave at this stage, it will be as if we are going back on the progress and achievements that we have made so far.

"On the issue of the Igbogbo Town Hall, we can boast that we have gotten three acres of land and some of you that are close to us can attest to that. Before we

could get that land, it was indeed sleepless nights and appeals to families and the company that acquired the said land.

"I can assure you that the next Igbogbo Day will hold on the land acquired for the town hall."

Also speaking, Mr. Babatunde Afuwape, IDEA chieftain, commended the youths whom he described as the future of Igbogbo.

He also assured that efforts are ongoing to address many of their concerns.

"On the issue of the Igbogbo Town Hall, we can boast that we have gotten three acres of land and some of you that are close to us can attest to that. Before we could get that land, it was indeed sleepless nights and appeals to families and the company that acquired the said land.

"I can assure you that the next Igbogbo Day will hold on the land acquired for the town hall," he said.

Kosofe LG Leaders Commended for Empowering Widows

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Hon. Osinowo and his cabinet members

The Coordinator of the Progressives Window Initiative in Kosofe, Mrs. Edu Adetoun has expressed her gratitude to the Member of the House of Assembly representing Kosofe constituency I, Hon. Sanni Okanlawon, and Kosofe Local Government chairman, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe for their efforts in

empowering the widows in the constituency in commemoration of International Widow's Day, observed annually on June 23. The Day serves as a reminder of the hardships faced by women who endure exploitation, deprivation, and persecution following

the death of their husbands.

In an exclusive interview with ECHONEWS, Adetoun shared her heartfelt appreciation for being alive and acknowledged the support she has received so far as one of the widows.

Expressing her gratitude, she said: "I give glory to Almighty God for keeping me alive and I am also

thankful that Hon. Sanni Okanlawon was reelected to his seat."

She emphasised the instrumental role played by the lawmaker and the council chairman as well as Engr. Abiodun Owokoya, popularly known as Abbey Cheche, in the Progressives Window Initiative of Lagos State.

She prayed for the

trio, asking that God meet all their needs and bless them abundantly for their generosity.

She further appealed to the Lagos State Government, Kosofe Local Government Chairman, Members of the State and National Assemblies, and other public stakeholders to empower widows through various means.

Recognising the profound impact of losing a loved one, Adetoun stressed the importance of the public's involvement in assisting vulnerable and economically disadvantaged widows. She called for support in areas such as healthcare, material resources, spiritual guidance, and financial aid, urging everyone to treat widows with dignity.

Kosofe LG Secures Top Spot in Lagos Debate Competition

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Lagos Debate Competition, organised by LGNA International in collaboration with the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) and supported by the Ireland Ambassador to Nigeria, has reached its semi-final stage.

The recent event witnessed intense battles of words as teams from various

Local Government Education Authorities (LGEAs) vied for the coveted top positions. In a remarkable display of wit and eloquence, Agege and Kosofe LGEAs emerged as the frontrunners, securing first and second positions respectively, during the gripping semi-final rounds.

The competition, focused on the theme "This House Believes That Nigeria Security System Is Porous," pushed

participants to showcase their research, analytical skills, and public speaking abilities.

Agege and Kosofe will now face off in a thrilling debate contest, where they will passionately argue their perspectives on the chosen topic, "Irish Culture and Traditions Are Good Enough for Nigerians to Imitate".

The Lagos Debate Competition sets itself

apart from others by not only offering substantial cash prizes and material rewards to the overall winner but also providing a unique opportunity. The triumphant team will be granted an enriching experience—a five-day visit to Dublin, Ireland—during the second batch of the LGNA study tour scheduled for August. This invaluable international exposure promises to broaden their horizons and foster cultural exchange.

Agboyi Ketu LCDA Mourns Late Environment Supervisor, Peter Bamisaye

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Agboyi Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) came together on Wednesday to bid farewell to the late Supervisor for Environment, Hon. Peter Bamisaye, who passed away on June 1, 2023.

The Christian wake-keep, attended by the council chairman, Hon. Dele Oshinowo, alongside his cabinet members and the political class, served as a tribute to the late grassroots politician. The event was attended by a multitude of individuals including friends, family members, colleagues, and associates of the late Hon. Peter Bamisaye.

As they gathered to honour his memory, they spoke warmly of his character, describing him as a mature

peacemaker who fostered openness and harmony in his interactions with others.

His ability to connect with people from all walks of life was highlighted, emphasising his commitment to tolerance, respect, forgiveness, and love.

Oshinowo, in his tribute, praised the late supervisor's integrity and honorable nature as he acknowledged that Bamisaye saw no distinctions based on colour or creed, but rather believed in the inherent capacity of humanity to coexist in peace and unity.

He lamented the loss of Bamisaye's expertise in maintaining a stable political equilibrium in his administration, noting that his absence would be deeply felt.

Kosofe Residents Demand Equipment for Newly Commissioned Healthcare Center

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Residents of Kosofe Federal Constituency have appealed to the Federal Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies for equipment to be provided for an 80-bed Primary Healthcare Center (PHC) building that was commissioned without proper equipment in Kosofe, Lagos.

The facility, which was facilitated through the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals by former House of Representatives Committee Chairman on Sustainable Development Goals, Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye, was officially handed over to the Lagos State government during the commissioning

ceremony.

During the handover, Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye had openly urged Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, who was represented at the occasion by former Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi, to equip and manage the facility.

The initiative received a commendation from Hon. Ademola Sikiru Adekoya Alebiosu, the Lagos State People's Democratic Party Ex-Officio, who acknowledged Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye for his efforts in identifying and facilitating the critical life-saving project.

However, one of the members of the community, Hon. Alebiosu criticised the contractor for building

the hospital without essential features such as fencing and interlocking, and most importantly, for failing to equip the facility.

Alebiosu appealed to the relevant federal ministries, departments, and agencies to provide the necessary equipment to complete the project.

He stated that similar projects facilitated by former Speaker, Hon. Femi Gbajabiamilla, and other lawmakers across the state had been fully equipped.

He questioned why the Kosofe facility was left as an ordinary building without the required medical equipment as he emphasised the importance of equipping the PHC to ensure effective healthcare services for

the people of Kosofe.

In a related development, it was discovered that the immediate past Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamilla, had facilitated the construction of a fully equipped three-storey building hospital named Femi Gbajabiamilla General Hospital in Surulere.

The hospital, located at N1, Iyuna Street, has been equipped with two ambulances to respond to medical emergencies through the emergency medical services (EMS).

Before the commissioning of the 80-bed PHC in Kosofe, the Lagos State House of Assembly House Committee on Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs) had inspected the facility. However, the details of their report have not been made public.

GH Sensitises Students on Sickle Cell Anaemia

By Edith Igbokwe

In commemoration of 2023 World Sickle Cell Day, the General Hospital, Alimosho organised an awareness campaign at the Igando Community High School to sensitise the students to know more about the disease and how to care for those who are suffering from it.

The Medical Director of Alimosho General Hospital, Dr. Ayodapo Soyinka, who was represented by the Director of Clinical Services and Training, Dr. Jane Bakare, addressed the students on the theme "Shine the Light on Sickle Cell Disease."

Dr. Soyinka reiterated the essence of the annual event and the



Community high School students on sickle cell sensitization programme

need to deepen students' knowledge about the disease.

He declared that the event was to create proper awareness of Sickle Cell disease,

emphasising the ultimate need for early Genotype testing, disease management, and support.

Consultant and Head of the Haematology

Department in the Hospital, Dr. Adebukola Orolu, said World Sickle Cell Day is designed to enlighten the general public about Sickle Cell Disease as a public health concern.

She added that Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited chronic blood disorder that causes rigid red blood cells with abnormal sickle shape, decreases the

red cell flexibility, and causes blockage of blood flow and oxygen from reaching all parts of the body, thereby causing various sickle cell disease complications.

She advocated Genotype testing for intending couples and early testing in newborns, saying that 10-40% of the Nigerian population carries the sickle cell gene, with an estimated 150,000 children born every year with sickle cell anaemia.

The Haematologist informed that the theme for the year's event recognises awareness of what the disease is, means of transmission, and ways of preventing the spread of the disease, just as she affirmed that early diagnosis of sickle cell disease in newborns and the importance of supportive caregivers

and zero stigmatisation of sickle cell sufferers are important in tackling the disease.

Meanwhile, the Chief Matron in charge of the Hospital's Sickle Cell Patients, Mrs. Muibat Akinbobola educated the students on the care of Sickle Cell Patients commonly referred to as Warriors, underscored the importance of daily intake of adequate water, fruits, and food rich in protein, non-exposure to mosquito bites, The Head of the Dietetics and Nutrition Department, Mrs. Oludayo Sowoolu-Coates, reaffirmed the need for a healthy diet, portion control, and the essence of proper planning of meals as part of the management of Sickle Cell Disease.

The highlight of the event was an organised genotype screening, testimonies from Sickle Cell Warriors, games, and gifts presented to participating students.

Second Phase Of Official Car Presentation to Alimosho LG Councillors, SAs

By Edith Igbokwe



Second phase of Alimosho Official Car Presentation

Chairman of the Alimosho Local Government, Hon. Sulaimon Jelili has doled out another official cars to councilors who were yet to receive theirs for duty efficiency. Earlier on June 5, six councilors received official cars from the chairman, while the remaining councilors,

Supervisor and Special Advisers got theirs later. While the councilors received Toyota Corolla, the Supervisors, and SAs were each given a Toyota Highlander SUV. The Leader of the House in the council area, Hon. Ahmed Obadina, and others were presented with official vehicles to

enhance service delivery. Alimosho Local Government All Progressives Congress (APC) Party Chairman, Hon. Tosin Fatoki, on behalf of the council chairman at a special ceremony in the local government secretariat presented the car gift to beneficiaries..

Igando Ikotun LCDA Celebrates New Lagos SSG's Appointment

By Edith Igbokwe

The entire Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA) under the authority of the chairman, Comrade Lasisi Akinsanya held a thanksgiving ceremony in honour of the newly appointed Secretary to the Lagos State Government (SSG), Barr. Bimbola Salu-

Hundeyin.

During the event held at the council area, Akinsanya congratulated the SSG while expressing his joy that an indigene of the council has been recognised as a show of gratitude for the Igando-Ikotun LCDA's contribution to the overall development of Lagos State.

The event featured

relations, friends, associates, politicians, traditional rulers, religious leaders, well-wishers, and admirers of Bar. Bimbola Salu-Hundeyin.

Bimbola Salu-Hundeyin appreciated every member of the council area, declaring that she was grateful to the entire community for their love, trust, and prayerful support.



Igando Ikotun LCDA celebrating Salu- Hundeyin

LG Gives Roadside Traders 72 Hours To Vacate

By Edith Igbokwe

The authorities of Amuwo-Odofin LG, the Federal Housing Authority, Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, and the Lagos State Government have given a 72-hour notice to the roadside trader in Amuwo-Odofin axis to vacate the spaces. The authorities said they have decided to restore sanity in the community by cracking



Roadside stalls in Amuwo-Odofin

down on roadside trading as they were concerned about the high rate of stalls and shops that have sprung up on the walkways, and roadsides in the local council area. According to reports, massive crackdown, demolition, and removal of shops, stalls, kiosks, and roadside vendors that

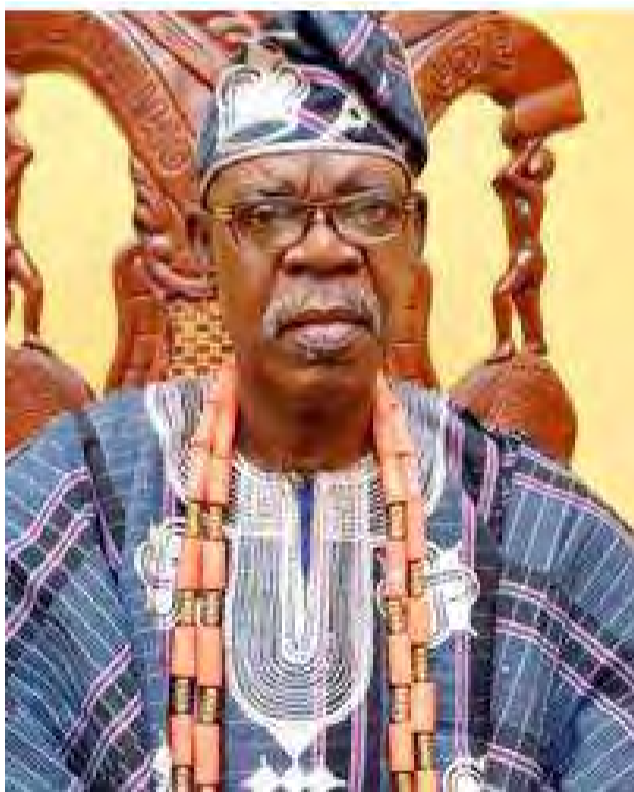
have occupied the walkway will be in progress in the Amuwo-Odofin community. There has been a general notice in circulation that prohibits illegal street trading, encroachment and sales of cars on green zones, walkways, vehicle service lanes, bicycle

lanes, and illegal structures within the local government area. To ensure this exercise is successful, the concerned authorities have mandated security agencies such as LASTMA, KIA, and the Police to ensure its success while a 72 hours notice was said to have been given to those concerned.

Amuwo-Odofin Community Mourns Monarch, Olayemi

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents and the community of Amuwo-Odofin have mourned the demise of their monarch, the Alamuwo of Kuje Amuwo Kingdom, Oba Isaac Owolabi Olayemi. Community members, friends, family send tributes to the palace and on social media platforms. He was fondly known as Baba Kuje Amuwo, Oba Olayemi JP. According to tributes, Oba Olayemi was not just a monarch but a royal father to many and a philanthropist. He was the chairman of Arometa Security Company Ltd and



Late Monarch, Owolabi Olayemi

served the Amuwo kingdom for over 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Olori Dorothy

Olayemi, children, Faith Olayemi, Abisoye Olayemi, Prince Gbade and grandchildren.

Former LAHA Aspirant Urges Stakeholders To Cooperation For Development

By Edith Igbokwe

All Progressives Congress (APC) aspirant for the Lagos House of Assembly in Amuwo-Odofin Constituency I in the last general elections, Hon. Folorunso Olaitan (Ola Western) has called on community stakeholders to cooperate for the development of Amuwo Odofin community. He said: "It's time to start reviewing our individual performances in a bid to remain focused on attaining our set goals and targets for the year. "We will remain weary of the issues that threaten the smooth sailing of development as a community. We suffer environmental



Hon. Folorunso Olaitan degradation, pressure on our roads, indiscriminate parkings causing

traffic congestion, insecurity, and various forms of hardship due to the said activities.

"Addressing these vexed issues will take the efforts of all stakeholders working in synergy.

"The local authorities, the security operatives, residents Associations, business community, leaders of thoughts and others must rise to this occasion.

"We need the sanity of our environment to live peacefully, and maximize our potentials."

Gbenga Adeyinka's 'LaffmattazzUnityTour') Moves To Epe

Veteran comedian, Gbenga Adeyinka has moved his "LaffmattazzUnityTour" to Epe. It is an effort to make this year's Ileya season to be a memorable one for the people of Epe

and environ as the city will host the veteran comedian on 29 June (a day after Ileya). The high octane comedy and music show, which will be held at Jubilee Chalets Epe, will parade popular entertainers like Small Doctor, Kolade Onanuga, Koffi Da Guru,

Omo Baba, Bash, Dr Smile, MC Ajele and Mekoyo to mention a few, while DJ Vinnie will be on the wheel-of-steel. The Epe edition of Laffmattazz Unity Tour is tagged 'Idan Gangan is coming', a strong indication that it will be

a mother of all shows. It is sponsored by Maltina, Goldberg, and Ace Bitters, with support from Eleganza Industries. For close to two decades, Laffmattazz with Gbenga Adeyinka & Friends has been touring South West

states in Nigeria. The show holds in at least five different states every year. Laffmattazz, which has been dubbed a laugh therapy for Nigerians, has consistently been sold out, with high-profile performances from the country's best entertainers.

Lagata Uk Foundation Donates Solar Light To Ejigbo Police Station, Empowers Youths

By Rasaan Adebayo

A Non-Governmental Organisation, Lagata Uk Foundation, has donated solar lights to Ejigbo Divisional Police Station to aid the security architecture of the community. According to the Foundation, the feature

was necessary to support the police in securing the community.

Answering questions on why choosing the police station for such a project instead of communities, the CEO of the Foundation, Mr. Idowu Adebawo explained that the project was given to

the police station to power the station and relieve it of wasting money on fuel to power their generator on daily basis.

"As part of an effort in developing the communities since we all know that the government can't do it all alone, we approached the DPO of

Ejigbo Divisional Police Station on how we can work together to make sure the insecurity of our community is stronger. We got to know that the station itself needed to be powered and we realised that the way we could support the police is to give them solar light instead of buying them a generator which they will still have to look for money to buy fuel.

"We can't embark on a streetlight project for the community for now because of the huge money it requires, we may consider that later but now, we need to start from here. Solar light is too expensive but we have to do it for the station to make sure the police who secure us are not in the darkness.

"Team Lagata UK Foundation in its determination to ensure a better atmosphere and conduciveness of working environment for the Nigeria Police in Ejigbo constructed a solar light system to light up Ejigbo Police station.

"As a foundation, we have a series of

programmes for the youths which we are commencing next week," he explained.

According to him, the Foundation is organising an inter-ward football competition to unite the youths across Ejigbo LCDA.

He started that part of the programmes lined up for the community includes a football challenge taking place between June 26 and July 2; health awareness screening with free eyeglasses coming up on June 30; the celebration of Oke-Afa Day 2023 as well as Ram competition which is scheduled to take place on July 9.

To come up with the programme, Adebawo said the Foundation had met with the ruling political party and the community stakeholders in the community for collaboration to bring the youths together for the development of Ejigbo LCDA.

He said: "To bring back the unity we enjoyed back, to forestall peace and harmony among ourselves as Nigerians and most especially youths, our organisation, Team Lagata UK Foundation has decided to come up with different

programmes that will bring together residents of Ejigbo and Lagosians at large.

"My team and I decided to contribute our quota to the development of Ejigbo and Lagos State by implementing the efforts of governments within our communities."

Also speaking, Hon. Dele Adeyeye said the Foundation is coming between the youths and the government to bridge the gap that exists between the two.

He said the Foundation is making an effort to bring the youths closer to the government for their involvement in governance and also trying to empower the youths through sports.

The All Progressives Congress (APC) was chairman (Ifoshi ward), Hon. Semiu Adeogun, who is known as the Chair of Chairs, said the government will collaborate with the Foundation to empower the youths. According to him, what the Foundation is doing is commendable, noting that the activities especially the football competition would promote unity among the youths across the council area.

Again, Ejigbo Monarch Disregards Council Authority, Dares Obe

By Rasaan Adebayo



Alhaji Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello (Obe) and Oba Morufu Adekunle Adisa Ojoola

The rift between the traditional ruler in Ejigbo, the Ojon of Ejigbo land, His Royal Majesty, Oba Morufu Adekunle Adisa Ojoola, and the local council Chairman, Alhaji Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello (Obe) may have deepened as the monarch has continued to disregard the local government's directive. The monarch has declared that he has nothing to do with the local council under the administration of Alhaji Bello.

This was revealed when the council chairman met with heads of indigenous families to dialogue on revenue matters of the council.

During the meeting, the council boss related the circular from the Ministry of Local Governments and Community Affairs, directing all the Executive Chairmen to meet with royal fathers of their respective LGs/LCDAs, in respect of the installation and ratification of

chieftaincy title for their records and to streamline the process.

In response, the monarch, through the Chieftaincy Officer, Mr. Lasisi Idris, said he has distanced himself from the local council under the leadership of Obe, while also requesting an apology letter from the council chairman for the allegations leveled against him.

However, the council chairman in a statement said: "This is a clear disregard for the current administration of the local council and also a disregard for the directive of the state government at large, therefore the Kabiyesi has dared the state government."

Obe said that he has not at any time sent the indigenous family heads to intervene in the matter between the Kabiyesi and the council, "simply because it is an official matter and not a personal one."

He reiterated that the

administration of the market and motor park is the prerogative of the Local Government LCDA, and not of the Kabiyesi as it was enshrined in the state government guideline vis a vis the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended.

He explained further that the responsibilities and duties of the Kabiyesi are clearly stated in the local government administrative guideline and that the administration of market and motor parks is not part of the monarch's responsibilities.

Recall that the dispute between the Ejigbo Council Chairman and the traditional ruler started when the Kabiyesi laid claim that he owns the market and motor parks. After a series of alleged threats from the Kabiyesi, the chairman reported to the state government and other security agencies.

Furthermore, the council boss has said that any allegation leveled against the Kabiyesi as contained in the letter to the state government is with empirical evidence and that henceforth, the local government will publish all the agreements with the Kabiyesi and the palace chiefs at the state level and IGP's office in Abuja, in the dailies for public consumption.

He then advised the Kabiyesi to seek redress at the law court rather than asking for a letter of apology.

Oloyede Presents Pipe Borne Water To Mafoluku Residents

By Saheed Afolabi

The residents of Mafoluku were surprised as the council chairman, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede presented them a pipe borne water.

Oloyede said the water project was given to the community after they approached him during the road rehabilitation exercise for a clean source of water as the community lacked a basic one.

He said the project was also part of his campaign promises to make available social amenities for the benefit of the residents. The council chairman said his administration will continue to provide more basic infrastructural amenities for the people.

He said: "This water project for the Mukandasi residents is part of fulfilling our campaign promises. As

you can see, we just concluded the total rehabilitation of the street using paving stones.

"We will continue to do more for the benefit of our people, this is the promise we made with them and we will never stop at nothing in ensuring we fulfill the promises."

Residents of the street rained blessings on the executive chairman for ending their decades-long water scarcity.

Bamigboye Doles Out Foodstuffs To Residents

By Saheed Afolabi



Mushin residents collecting their food packages

As part of last week distributed activities to celebrate his monthly 'Food for All' programme, the chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, Papa Ajao (Ward B) area of Mushin,

witnessed a massive turnout of beneficiaries who came to receive the free food items from staff of the Agriculture and Social Services department of Mushin Local Government. Distributing the items

on behalf of the chairman, the Supervisor for Agriculture and Social Services, Mr. Shakiru Oyefolu, with Supervisor for Youth, Sports, and Social

Development, Mr. Tunji Okelola, and Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture, Rural and Social Development in the legislative arm, Hon. Rilwan Amoo, appealed to the people to be patient with the new government, disclosing that plans were ongoing to cushion the effect of subsidy removal on the masses. They thanked members of the community for their support during the last general elections and assured them of better

days ahead in Mushin, Lagos State, and Nigeria as a whole. Some of the beneficiaries who spoke during the exercise thanked Bamigboye and members of his team for the kind gesture, especially at this crucial time. They prayed for the success of the chairman in his administration and life endeavours. The monthly 'Food for All' programme, which is an initiative of Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, is rotated across the 10 wards in Mushin of which many homes and families have benefited.

Banjo Lays Foundation Blocks Of Ikorodu North Legislative Chambers, Multipurpose Hall, Customary Court Building

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The chairman of Ikorodu North LCDA, Builder Deola Banjo has laid the foundation blocks of a multipurpose building that would house Ikorodu North legislative chamber and offices, a multipurpose hall, and a customary court. The project housed by the council secretariat, Eweye, Isiu, and handled by Becks and Vicks Nigeria Ltd is expected to be completed in five months. The council chairman, during the block-laying ceremony, said: "This project when completed would

resolve some of our challenges in the previous years. Our councilors would now have a comfortable working environment. We can then boast of a customary court to resolve some of our domestic matters and a befitting hall to host our official events. I am already anticipating the relief this project would bring to the day-to-day administration of Ikorodu North LCDA." The event was witnessed by the Vice Chairman, Hon. Ameen Apanishile; SLG, Mr. Niyi Odugbesi; Council Manager, Mr. Babington; Supervisory councilors and other council officials.

LASUSTECH Mgt Dances To Students' Tune, Reviews Certificate Processing Fees, Others For Polytechnic Graduates

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The management of the Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) has succumbed to the pleas of the outgoing student of Lagos State Polytechnic (LASPOTECH) to review downward the fees charged by the school for certificate processing and other fees to be paid before the certificate could be issued to them. The school had earlier increased the fees from N5,000 to N30,000, which the student sled by their Students Union Government had rejected and severely complained about. Following their complaints, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor, and the Chairman of the Polytechnic Council intervened and reviewed

the controversial fees downward. With the review, the graduating students are now to pay N10,000 instead of N30,000 for certificate processing. For transcript processing within Lagos, the payment is now N4,000 instead of the initial N2,000, and for locations outside Lagos, the student will pay N8,000 instead of

the initial N4,000, and N30,000 instead of the initial N15,000 for a location outside the country. The Reference letter, Proficiency in English Language, and replacement of lost receipt will now attract a fee of N2,000 each instead of the initial N1,000. In another development, the management of the



University has expressed dismay at the violation of the University dress code by students of the institution.

It would be recalled that the management had earlier set rules and regulations guiding the dress code for students of the university. It was discovered that the rules were not effective as they were not implemented by the security personnel.

The management, therefore, ordered the chief security officer to effect due compliance with the university's rules on indecent dressing and movement of vehicles particularly into the campuses. The management directed the security personnel to henceforth disallow students that are not properly dressed to access the university premises and the classrooms.

Lions Club Donates ICT Centre To School in Somolu



The Lions Club members experiencing the ICT center built by them

The Lion's Club International has donated an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) centre to a public school in Somolu LGA.

The project was donated by the Club during its 2022/2023 Lion's

service year to Ogudu Junior Grammar School in Lagos Education District 2. The Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary of Education District 2, Mrs. Anike Adekanye during the project handing over,

said the project is complementing the efforts of Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu's THEMES agenda.

Noting that the ICT Center donation is a testament to the imperative of Public-

Private Partnership, Adekanye expressed her satisfaction towards Lion's Club International, urging the club not to relent on its selfless service to humanity.

She commended the school principal, Mrs. Foluke Omisakin for her dedication to rapid school development while charging the students on positive usage of the facility, vowing for strict monitoring.

The Lion's Club International District 404B2 Governor, Aare Lekan Owolabi, stated that the project is an uncommon world-class one.

He noted that the Club

is an association of volunteers who work towards service to humanity and put smiles on people's faces.

Owolabi congratulated the beneficiary of the project while enjoining the school management on its maintenance.

On his part, the Ikeja Unique Lion's Club president, Lion Wilkey Francis, disclosed that the project was embarked upon after the needs assessment was carried out in the school, stating that the government cannot do it alone, and that support is needed from stakeholders.

Francis expressed appreciation to the Education District 2 Permanent Secretary for allowing them to be players in the education sector.

Speaking, the school principal, Mrs. Foluke Omisakin assured the donor of adequate maintenance of the project.

The high point of the event was the unveiling and handing over of the 20 computers and multimedia ICT Center to the school management.

It will be recalled that the ICT Center is the 10th in Lagos Education District 2 amongst other achievements under Mrs. Adekanye-led Education District 2.

WAPA Feeds 200 Indigent Women In Somolu

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) has identified 200 indigents and vulnerable women as recipients of free food items in Somolu Local Government Area under its Advocacy on Healthy Nutrition programme aimed at enhancing good dietary habits and healthy, qualitative lifestyles for residents.

Speaking at the distribution of the food items held recently at Ojo Square Community Hall, Bajulaye, Somolu, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo, Permanent Secretary of WAPA, stated that the importance of healthy nutrition cannot be overemphasised, especially since women have unique nutritional needs at different stages of their lives.

She said: "Women play central and crucial roles in shaping society at various levels, as such, women need to understand the significance of maintaining healthy nutrition and making sure their family and loved ones adopt good dietary habits too."

"The focus of this programme is to improve the nutritional status, reduce wastage, manage obesity or micronutrient deficiencies, as well as regulate indicators on health issues, amongst others."

The chairman of Somolu Local Government, Hon. Abdulhamed Salawu, who was represented by the Coordinator of the State Operations Coordinating Unit (SOCU) for Somolu Local Government, Mr.

Lanpejo Bolakale, expressed profound gratitude to WAPA for its unwavering commitments towards the welfare of women, particularly those at the grassroots.

Also speaking, a Health Educator, Mrs. Tinuola Afeniforo enlightened the participants on how to properly cook meals and the importance of a balanced diet as a tool for preventing diseases and sicknesses.

She said: "Balanced meals in the right proportions can make a big difference in your body, by building strong immunities against diseases and sicknesses and leaving you healthy and strong."

"I urge you all, to balance your daily dietary values with portions of protein, carbohydrates, and essential vitamins using our local crops."

LP Rep Promises To Partner Sanwo-Olu For Isolo, Ejigbo Development



Hon. Barr. Okey-Joe

The lawmaker representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II in the House of Representatives, Hon. Barr. Okey-Joe has revealed his plans for his constituency with Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

The lawmaker, who was elected under the platform of the Labour Party (LP) said he would not hesitate to reach out to the Lagos State government and partner with it, stressing that political differences won't be a barrier to delivering the dividends of democracy to the citizens.

He said: "Once you are elected to serve, you're no longer in

partisan politics. All we need is governance and governance has to work. Even though we are coming from different political parties, the most important thing is what constituency projects you are bringing to your constituents.

"After the inauguration, we discussed with the Governor of Lagos State and I told him that we are ready for a strategic partnership that will promote Lagos State even though we are from different political parties.

"Whatever programme that we want to push from Abuja which will be for the common

interest of Lagosians, I'm available to do it. We won't compromise our position as Labour Party legislators.

On his plan to fulfill his campaign promises, he said: "I have mapped out roads for construction and rehabilitation. If you go to my constituency, we commissioned eight roads in December last year, done by individuals.

"The ones in the Okota axis were individually built as well. For those that fall under category B of the roads, I will take them to the state governor and tell him, "These are the roads that need your attention. All the roads built in the Greenfield estate were done by the landlords. All the roads built in the Canal estate were done by the landlords. At the back of Century Hotel, all the roads constructed there were done by the landlords."

He added: "We also have some bad roads in the Ejigbo area of my constituency. We will list the roads that need attention, and the drains as well. I will forward them to the Governor. I won't say that I won't approach him for infrastructure development because he is from a different political party."

Ahmed Musa Donates Learning Materials To School Kids

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria senior national team captain, Ahmed Musa has donated hundreds of learning materials to school kids in Plateau State.

School bags and thousands of books were given to the students of the M&S International School in

Jos by Musa which was witnessed by the school management. Reacting to his philanthropic gesture, the Super Eagles record appearance holder said he donated the learning materials to encourage the leaders of tomorrow as he urged other wealthy individuals in the country to support

and aid the course of providing learning materials to students to brighten their future.

"Visited one of my newly opened schools today to spread the magic of books and learning, donated quite several textbooks to encourage our leaders of tomorrow.

"It's incredible how education can shape young minds and



Ahem Musa Learning Kits

empower our future generation. Let's inspire and encourage every parent out there to prioritize their child's education! Together, we can create a brighter tomorrow."

The Super Eagles skipper had earlier built the M&S International School in Jos last year and named it after his parents Musa and Sarah.

NFF Sets Up Normalisation Committee In Nasarawa

By Saheed Afolabi



NFF Normalization Committee

The Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) has set up a Normalization Committee in Nasarawa State charged with the mandate to establish peace in the Solid Minerals state football. The NFF General Secretary, Mohammed Sanusi revealed that the reasons for the establishment of the Normalization Committee in Nasarawa is to allow the round leather game to thrive in the state and create a peaceful and encouraging atmosphere for lovers of football games. "Nasarawa State Football Association is a critical stakeholder in the structure of administration of football in Nigeria and the President of the NFF is firm against anything or anyone that will destabilize its proper functioning.

"This is why the President said there should be an independent Committee to treat all the wranglings within the State Football Association to enable it to function properly." According to the NFF, the Normalisation Committee will be saddled with the responsibility of the Football Association and conduct elections in the state FA and the local council areas. The Normalisation Committee inaugurated by the Glass House are Hon. Aliyu Bello (Chairman), Hon. Kwanta Yakubu (Vice Chairman), Hon. Othman Bala Adam (Member), Adamu Ibrahim Shigafarta (Member) and Sule Ishaku Yepwi (Member). Nasarawa State Ministry of Youth and Sports will nominate the secretary

of the committee. After inaugurating the Normalisation Committee, the Permanent Secretary of the Nasarawa State Ministry of Youth and Sports, Barrister Isaac Danladi congratulated the committee members and promise them unwavering support from the state government to accomplish the task

FIFA World Cup: Desire Oparanozie Confident Of Falcons Success

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigerian forward, Desire Oparanozie is optimistic the team will attain success at the FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

The Super Falcons will be making its tenth appearance at the biggest women's football tournament in the World.

The Wuhan Jiangnan University striker said the Canadians possess a good team but the Falcons are capable of defeating them by putting in more work. "Canada is a top team and the good thing is we have played them a couple of times and we know them very well. "All the time that we have played against them we've had something positive to go home with irrespective of the result. Having them in our group is not bad, it just means we are



Desire Oparanozie

going to put in more work and devise a means to come out on top this time because the last time we were in the same group with them at a World Cup they came out on top. "This time we will have to change that and we have the information needed to beat them and we are playing them in our first which is very vital

for us if we are going to get to the next round."

The Randy Waldrum tutored side will start their campaign at the ninth edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup against Canada on July 21.

The Super Falcons are grouped in group B alongside the Republic of Ireland, Canada, and co-host, Australia.

Liberia President, Weah Impressed With Osimhen Qualities

By Saheed Afolabi

The Liberia President, George Weah has been blown away by the qualities that Victor Osimhen possesses. President Weah was blown away by Osimhen's performance against Sierra Leone as the Napoli forward scored a brace in the game. Astonished by the

performance of the 24-year-old Super Eagles forward, former World and African player of the year, Weah classified him as a player that possesses all the qualities of a striker.

"That is what I call a striker. Good positioning always. Very athletic and knows where to be each time the ball is coming. He is



Osimhen

so strong and a fighter par excellence.

The Liberia President had sent a personal congratulatory message to Osimhen following a fascinating

season in the Italian Serie A where he netted 25 goals to win the Golden Boot and the Scudetto title.

The Nigerian's goal poacher tops the goal scorers chart for the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers with seven goals in five matches.

After notching 17 goals in 25 appearances, Osimhen is on course to break the 35-goal record of the Nigeria national team set by the late Rashidi Yekini.