



Lagos Convicts 20 Rapists in one month



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No fewer than 20 sexual offenders were arraigned in Lagos courts with about 16 of them convicted in Lagos in the last 30 days.

Echnews judiciary correspondent who monitored the court proceedings recorded the prosecution and eventual freedom and conviction of the sexual offence suspects.

This came as Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) also published names of five sex offenders convicted over sexual offence. Between April and May, our correspondent compiled the judgments across magistrates, Domestic and Sexual offence court and high courts in the state where about 30 suspects were arraigned and some convicted.

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) on April 29, 2024, stated that five offenders, all male, were convicted to life imprisonment for defilement of minors.

The offenders: Adam Farouk, Blessing Okon, Adewale Ibitoye, Siakpere Ofure and Nduka Anyawu were arrested by security agencies, faced prosecution and charged to court.

Data obtained from the X page of the Lagos State Domestic & Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) reveals that nine sexual offenders have been convicted in the state between January and February 21, 2024.

For offences ranging from attempted sexual assault to defilement, Echnews gathered that one of the convicts got 14 years in prison while others got life imprisonment each.

On May 9, a middle-aged man, Joseph Gamor, a resident of Imeke area of Badagry in Lagos was arraigned at the Badagry Magistrates' Court before Magistrate Patrick Adekomaiya for allegedly defiling his 13-year-old daughter.

The Prosecutor, Insp Ayodele Adeosun, told the Magistrate that Gamor, 58 years-old, committed the offence at about 9.00.a.m at his residence.

Adeosun said that the accused whose next arraignment is

By Kunle Awosiyan & Felix Kuyinu

scheduled to come up on July 29, indecently removed the victim's clothes and forcefully had sexual intercourse with her, causing her defilement; an act which contravenes the provisions of Sections 261 and 263 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015. The court is awaiting legal advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions, DPP, to sentence the accused.

One Sikiru Oluwaseun, a painter, who pleaded guilty to raping his neighbour at Ikorodu, Lagos on the 19th, July 2021 at about 3:45 am, was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Prosecutor, Inumidun Solarin, told the court that the convict had an intention for an amorous affair with the victim, a 20-year-old new resident at the jailbird's residence.

Justice Rahman Oshodi delivering the judgement found Oluwaseun's written confessional statement submitted by the police as a clear evidence as he admitted to have raped the victim, a student of Lagos State Polytechnic, LASPOTECH, in Ikorodu.

Also, a 19-year-old Tochukwu Akalogwu, is facing prosecution in a case of defilement on a 5-year-old minor.

He committed the offence on April 3 in Badagry according to the prosecutor, SP Kehinde Ajayi who arraigned him before Ikeja Chief Magistrates' Court.

The suspect, an employee of Hope Primary School in Badagry, committed the alleged offence in the school premises and contravened the provisions of Section 137 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

Reacting, the Magistrate, Ejiro Kubeinje, said it was necessary the court return the case file to



the Director of Public Prosecutions, DPP, for legal advice, though the sitting continues on May 28.

Another incident happened in Shasha where a 17-year-old was raped by one Mojeed Oseni. Oseni is in remand at a correctional facility as pronounced by the Magistrate, Ejiro Kubeinje, at the Ikeja Magistrates' Court.

Oseni, 30, charged with unlawful penetration and defilement by the Police, was accused of committing the offence on April 3 at about 4pm at Orisunbare in Shasha.

Dele Johnson who had a minor staying with him eventually raped her in episodes of sexual assault that lasted for two years. Johnson was confined to prison for 10 years as ruled by Justice Rahman Oshodi on May 8 at the

Special Offences and Domestic Violence Court, Ikeja, Lagos.

The Judge handed down the sentence after careful consideration of the evidence presented, finding the defendant guilty on two counts of indecent treatment of a child and sexual assault, as stipulated in Sections 135, C. 17, Vol 3, and 263 C.17, Vol 3, of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

According to Justice Oshodi, the prosecution was able to present a compelling case, noting that Johnson physically assaulted the minor, Hawawu Hammed, who was living with him, by severely beating her and causing scars on her body and also sexually assaulting her before being arrested by the police.

Justice Oshodi sentenced the

defendant to seven years in jail for indecent treatment of a child and three years for sexually assaulting her. Johnson's name was registered as a sex offender in the Lagos State Sex Offender Register.

An already convicted Chukwudi Anyanwu is on a life jail term in prison sentence following a rape act on a minor. Anyanwu, 32, appeared at the Special Offences and Domestic Violence Court in Ikeja Lagos after he was accused of raping and defiling his neighbour's daughter in an incident which happened in Aguda, Surulere Lagos.

The convict, an engineer, who lived at Thomas Animashaun Street, in the area was accused by prosecutor, Inspector Rebecca Jacob, of committing the offence on May 27, 2021.

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While delivering his judgment, Justice Rahman Oshodi held that the prosecution proved the charge of defilement against the convict. Oshodi said that the evidence by the survivor was corroborated by the medical report and that of her guardian, also noting that the alibi and the issue of extortion which the convict relied on did not hold waters.

He said that the convict exploited his position of familiarity and authority to lure the survivor into his room on Children's Day and subjected her to the harrowing ordeal of sexual abuse.

The judge added that the convict's action had undoubtedly inflicted deep psychological wounds that might take a lifetime to heal.

Oshodi told the Convict: "You have shown a troubling lack of integrity and remorse throughout the proceedings and when you were confronted by the victim's guardian about the heinous act, you initially denied any wrongdoing.

He gave his ruling saying, "I hope this sentence brings some measures of closure and helps her [the victim] on the path of healing. I now sentence you, Chukwudi Anyanwu, to the mandatory life sentence under Section 137 of the Criminal Law (Supra).

In another sex offense incident, The Lagos State Offences and Domestic Court is prosecuting one Olaoluwa Fakoyede over an alleged rape of a 20-year-old lady.

Olaoluwa pleaded not guilty to the act but was countered by the prosecuting counsel, Abimbilola Abolade, who told Justice Abiola Sholadoye that the remanded suspect committed the act at Cappa in Oshodi Lagos.

The prosecutor noted that a two-count charge bordering



on conspiracy to commit rape was proffered on the 27 year-old suspect who committed the act alongside others not yet apprehended on April 23, 2020 at about 3am.

The prosecutor said that the offence contravened Sections 260 (1) and 411 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

Justice Soladoye adjourned the case to June 10 for the commencement of trial, and ordered the remand of the defendant in prison pending the hearing of his bail application.

Our Correspondent observes that at least one case that borders on sexual violence usually happens one in two days across Lagos courts.

Lagos began publishing names of offenders in 2022, eight years after it introduced the register of offenders in 2014.

In October 2022, 10 names and pictures of offenders were published and they included, one Basiru Obasekere for defilement on December 2,

2021 and later sentenced to Life in Prison; Gbenga Olanikanmi for defilement on November 30, 2021 and sentenced to Life imprisonment; Tony Akpan, defilement May 17, 2022 Life imprisonment. Others are Colinslkechukwu, Michael Olise, Michael Ahmed, Wale Isaiah, Idowu Daniel, Moses Joseph Olawale, Akin Isaac who got judgement ranging from 10 years and life in prison.

About 206 persons were convicted of sexual offences between April 2020 and April 2021, according to the Lagos State Sexual Offenders Register.

Our correspondent observed a steady increase in the number of rape cases in the state, which according to a study, "Accounts, Excuses and Apologies of Juvenile Sexual Offenders in Selected Prisons in Lagos, Nigeria" is largely due to sexual gratification that perpetrators offer to their victims as a result of the bad economy.

The study by Aborisade,

Richard A., Adeleke, Oladele A. and Shontan, Abimbola R. Department of Sociology Olabisi Onabanjo University, shows that it is evident that child sexual abuse has increased dramatically within Nigerian society in recent times in spite of government's seemingly lukewarm attitude towards addressing the scourge.

It concluded that the factors that accounts for child sexual abuse within the Nigerian social environment are multidimensional, hence, singular factorial theories that explain the phenomenon of child sexual abuse may not be able to do effective justice in exposing the cause of sexual abuse of the underage in the country. As a result, the study reinforces the need for eclectic approaches in engaging theories that effectively explain the sexual abuse of children in Nigeria. The findings of this study suggest a number of implications for policy and practice in preventing,

investigating and treating cases of child sexual abuse in the country. It argues that sexual gratification contributes to child sexual abuse, adding that the need for power and control is the dominant excuse of many offenders. "Consequently, public education campaigns should be promoted to expose the danger of providing opportunity for abusers to take advantage of young children to satisfy their sexual needs, it noted.

Reacting, the Executive Secretary, Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency, DSVA, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, said that the agency would continue to ensure that justice is served and violators are being punished.

She commended the efforts of officers of the agency, the security agencies, justices and Magistrates, parents and guardians and entire public on the fight against sexual violence in the state.

She implored victims to ensure there are reports of any case of rape and other sexual offences to the agency. She noted that the DSVA can be reached through a call to the number: 08000333333.

The agency's head said that the state will continue to publish names of offenders and the court verdict as it's a measure deployed by the state government to end the culture of impunity and also serve as a deterrence to other sex offenders.

She added that the action by the state was in line with section 42 of the Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency Law (DSVA), which permits the publication of names of sex offenders.

"This measure is one amongst many deployed by the state government to end the culture of impunity and also serve as a deterrence to other sex offenders," she had



Tecno Pledges Unwavering Support For Nigerian Movie Industry At 10th AMVCA

By Razak Adebayo

With its technological innovation, Tecno, one of the giant mobile manufacturers, as extended its support to the Nigerian movie industry as it sponsored the Best Cinematographer award. The company showed this at the 10th Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards

(AMVCA) with the display of aesthetic tech products to add glamour to the event. This category, known for its keen competition, exemplifies the dedication and artistry that define the Nigerian movie industry. The nominees for Best Cinematographer represented a spectrum of talent and creativity, each film a testament to the vibrancy of African

storytelling: LílísSoares' MamiWata, Gideon Chukwu's Blood Vessel, Over The Bridge from KC Obiajulu, Breath of Life from Ola Cardoso, Adeoluwa Owu's JagunJagun – The Warrior, AdekunleNodashAdejuyigbe's Ijobon – Chaos, Joachim Philippe's Omen. Amongst the stellar lineup of nominees, KC Obiajulu's Over The Bridge emerged

victorious, claiming the coveted title of Best Cinematographer. According to the company in a statement, this is more than just a gesture, it's a testament to its unwavering support for the entertainment sector and its relentless pursuit of greatness. "As Tecno continues to push boundaries and champion excellence, it remains

steadfast in its commitment to empowering African talent and celebrating the magic of storytelling." The 10th AMVCA was a night to remember, where Tecno's fusion of technology and creativity illuminated the path toward a brighter future for African cinema. Amidst the glitz and glamour of the red carpet, where superstars dazzled in their finest attires, Tecno's

presence was felt beyond mere aesthetics as attendees were greeted with a showcase of technological splendour at the Tecno booth, where moments of laughter and camaraderie were immortalised through the lens of innovation. As the curtains closed on the evening, Tecno reaffirmed its pledge to stop at nothing until greatness is achieved, both on-screen and beyond.

LASEMA Records 6,887 Emergency Cases in Five Years

In a proactive measure to prevent a recurrence of the March 9, 2023 Train and BRT collision at PWD Rail Station, Ikeja which left eight people dead and 85 others critically injured, the Lagos State Government through its emergency management agency, LASEMA has entered into a partnership with First Metro Infrastructure Limited (FMIL) to implement safety policy along the new Red Rail Line corridor in the State. The State Government noted that the collaboration with FMIL became necessary in view of the need to boost safety measures and improve emergency management along the Red Rail Line for the safety of the residents and the commuting public. This was disclosed today by the Commissioner for Special Duties and

Intergovernmental Relations Hon. Gbenga Oyerinde at the ongoing 2024 Ministerial Press Briefing held at the Bagauda Kaltho Press Centre, Alausa, to commemorate the first year, second term in Office of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's administration in the State. Oyerinde stated that the new partnership which would focus primarily on enhancing safety measures along the Red Rail Line was a further demonstration of the State Government's genuine commitment to the safety and well-being of both the residents and the commuting public. The Commissioner, while regretting the incident of March 9, 2023, involving the train and BRT collision at PWD, submitted that the avoidable accident was caused by the BRT driver who attempted to beat the train traffic signal and engaged in



reckless driving and eventually collided with the moving train. He noted that the new collaboration with FMIL would help to prevent a recurrence of such disaster along the red rail corridor, urging people to be more conscious of safety in all their activities, especially along railway lines. Commending the Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu led administration for prioritising the safety of lives and property of Lagsians by

investing highly in safety and security architecture and emergency apparatus, Oyerinde noted that the gesture is a demonstration of the State Government's commitment to the Government and Security Pillar of T.H.E.M.ES Plus development agenda. He added that the State Government's success story on safety and emergency had made the State a model for measuring excellence in emergency management across the country.

Oyerinde, who disclosed that the administration in

the last five years had procured a total of 62 Fire Fighting Trucks for the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service to strengthen firefighting operations in the State, also revealed that three additional fire stations are about to be completed at Ijegan-Egba, Satellite town in Amuwo Odofin LG area and Ijede, in Ijede LCDA.

In addition, the Commissioner averred that LASEMA, in the last five years of Governor Sanwo-Olu administration in the

State, had effectively handled a total of 6,887 emergencies while between January and April 2024 alone, the agency had responded to a total of 1,906 incidents, demonstrating the agency's commitment to emergency management and public safety.

According to him, the Ministry, as part of its mandate, has actively fostered partnerships with Federal, State, and Local Government agencies, as well as esteemed private sector entities and non-governmental organisations, to address pressing societal needs and foster inclusive development across the state.

Oyerinde also commended the media for their objective and investigative reporting and further urged them to continually support Governor Sanwo-Olu's reform agenda by bringing reports of the administration's various achievements to the public domain.

Career Advancement: LSPHCB Trains Community Health Workers

The Lagos State Primary Health Care Board (PHCB) has organised a Career Progression Training for Community Health Workers (CHEW) at LCCI Nurudeen Olowopopo, Ikeja. In his opening remarks at the event held recently, Dr. Abimbola Bowale, the Supervising Permanent Secretary of PHCB, highlighted the initiative as a testament to the Board's dedication to excellence in public service

delivery and the advancement of its frontline healthcare professionals. Dr. Bowale emphasised the transformative power of knowledge, stating, "Knowledge is power", and reiterated the Board's commitment to fostering excellence in public service through such training initiatives. Recognising CHEWs as essential frontline workers in promoting community health, Dr.

Bowale affirmed the Board's commitment to providing them with the necessary support and guidance to thrive in their careers. Earlier in her welcome address, Mrs. Simbiat Sanusi Alaka, Director of Community Health Services at LSPHCB, described the training as a beacon guiding CHEWs towards excellence in public service. She underscored the importance of continuous learning in the ever-evolving

healthcare landscape, emphasising its indispensable role in career development. Mrs. Sanusi Alaka noted that the training, conducted in partnership with the National Association of Community Health Workers (Lagos Chapter), aims to equip CHEWs with the knowledge, skills, and resources essential for navigating their careers effectively and making meaningful contributions to community health.

On his own part, Mr. Omotosho Samson, Chairman of the Association's Lagos State Chapter, stressed the significance of access to information in career advancement. He commended the Board for its commitment and pledged the Association's unwavering support in ensuring the improvement of service delivery by CHEWs and their continued success in their professional journeys.

Also speaking, Dr. Tope

Balogun, the Director, Planning Research and Statistics, PHCB, opined that Community Health Workers are an integral part of Primary Health Care, hence they need to step up their game and take their rightful position in the scheme of things. Facebook X LinkedIn Tumblr Pinterest Reddit VKontakte Share via Email Print Photo of oolasunkanmi2 oolasunkanmi2

LASHMA Commences Ilera Eko Quarter Two Facility Compliance Visit

The Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), in its commitment to provide quality healthcare and ensure customer satisfaction by all its Enrollees, has commenced compliance visits to the Healthcare facilities under the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS). The Permanent Secretary, LASHMA, Dr. Emmanuella Zamba, while flagging off the Quarter two facility compliance visit handled by the

Regulatory arm of LASHMA, said that the visit would also ensure that Providers fulfil the service level agreement made with LASHMA. Commending the Healthcare Providers which have been outstanding in their service delivery to ILERA EKO Enrollees, she noted that LASHMA has also received some negative feedback from the Enrollees about the way that they have been treated by Providers. Therefore, the Agency cannot fold its arms and allow its

Enrollees to continue to be disenfranchised by the Providers. Dr. Zamba said, "The Agency is constantly up on a complaint that follows a particular trend before we act". She added that the negative complaints received from Enrollees included drug unavailability, payment for covered services by the Enrollees, bad attitude and rudeness from some of the Hospital personnel. The Permanent

Secretary said that during the visits, any hospital that has a high number of complaints, will be given a Letter of warning and if such complaints continue without being checked, LASHMA, will not hesitate to sanction the Hospital in accordance with the provisions of the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS) Law. She advised Providers not to hesitate to also report to the Agency any Enrollee who is not of good conduct when visiting the Hospital. Dr. Zamba urged ILERA EKO Healthcare Providers to ensure that they capture all

utilisation by the Enrollees in their respective Hospitals because data collection is key in Health insurance. The Permanent Secretary said that the State Government would continue to support the Healthcare facilities in terms of training and capacity building to ensure the delivery of quality service to its Enrollees. She appealed to Healthcare Providers in the State who are not yet empanelled under the Lagos State Health Scheme to do so immediately so

that together, the State Government can attain Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Public and private hospitals visited so far included St. Raphael Hospital, Ikorodu, Ita Elewa Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC), Isolo General Hospital, Shomolu General Hospital, R-Jolad Hospital, Bariga, Epe General Hospital, Epe and Akoka Primary Healthcare Centre, Bee-Hees Hospital, Akowonjo, Orile Agege GH, Ifako Ijaiye GH, Epe GH and Badagry PHC, Siloan Medical Centre, Ejigbo.



Lagos State Primary Health Care Board (LSPHCB) has convened a pivotal stakeholder engagement session focused on advancing the Community Health Management Information System (CHMIS).

Participants at the event, held recently at the Ostra Events Hall in Ikeja, underscored the commitment to leveraging data and community involvement for enhanced public health outcomes.

The Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye set the tone with insightful opening remarks, emphasising the indispensable role of data collection and community engagement in bolstering healthcare efficacy.

Lagos To Advance Community Health Information Management System

By Felix Kuyinu

With a keen focus on critical issues such as neonatal mortality and malnutrition, Ogboye emphasised the importance of holistic

understanding to drive tailored solutions.

Acknowledging Lagos State's strides in healthcare, Ogboye urged stakeholders to fortify community structures, affirming

their pivotal role in sustaining long-term progress.

Reinforcing the importance of robust data systems, he encouraged active participation and constructive dialogue among attendees.

Also speaking, Supervising Permanent Secretary for Lagos State Primary Health Care Board and substantive Permanent Secretary, Health District IV, Dr. Abimbola Bowale, echoed Ogboye's sentiments.

Bowale underscored the need for comprehensive data collection beyond health facilities, emphasising CHMIS as a linchpin for agile and responsive healthcare.

"A robust CHMIS transcends technological marvel; it embodies an investment in the well-being of our transformative communities, healthcare innovation.

empowering them and charting a path towards a healthier Lagos", he remarked

The Registrar of the Lagos State Traditional Medicine Board, Mr. Babatunde Sanni Adele lauded the initiative, affirming the traditional board's steadfast support and commitment to ensuring CHMIS's resilience across the state.

The session culminated in the establishment of a dedicated Technical Working Group tasked with safeguarding CHMIS's sustainability, underscoring the collective resolve towards healthcare innovation.



The Lagos State Government has taken giant steps towards revamping the process of selling red meat in the metropolis by ensuring proper hygiene before the product gets to the final consumers.

The State Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms. Abisola Olusanya disclosed this today in Alausa at the launching of the last Mile Meat Shops and Butchers Academy.

In her address at the event held at the Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium, Alausa, Ikeja, she said that the initiative was designed to give residents confidence in what they consume while also making it look presentable with standard facilities to encourage and attract youths into the space.

The Commissioner further noted that the essence of the initiative was for residents to embrace butchery and correct the erroneous

Lagos Inaugurates Last Mile Meat Shops, Butchers Academy

impression that the profession is reserved for the unenlightened, noting that the 20 feet containers were designed as a pilot scheme for the initiative and can be easily transferred from one location to another.

According to her, each meat shop is to be manned by four youths allocated a cow slaughtered at approved government abattoirs and brought to them under hygienic conditions and processes.

She therefore called for collaboration with the private sector to enlarge the scheme, noting that they have started with 20-foot containers and hope to increase it soon to 40ft.

Going back memory lane, Ms. Olusanya explained that the initiative was part of the Lagos State Agriculture Roadmap, adding that the initial plan was to have 20 for a start but was cut to 5 in the pilot scheme.

According to her, the overhauling in the transportation sector led to the introduction of Eko Meat Van which ended the era of conveying meat through unwholesome practices.

On his part, the Chairman Lagos House of Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Hon Emmanuel Olotu commended the Ministry for introducing ideas that will bring food and comfort to the doorsteps of residents.

He urged the Butchers Association to ensure that they put into practice what they learnt during training at the Butchers Academy. The Chairman House Committee on Agriculture stressed that the Butchers must realise the fact that they are attending to over 20 million residents and should be wary of what they pass on to them.

While adding his voice, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Agriculture, Dr. Oluwarotimi Fashola said that the initiative was a quality-control measure in the state to give value for money. He assured that all the Meat Shops will sell in Kilograms by weight for uniformity purposes.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Mr. Emmanuel

Audu described the event as groundbreaking, noting that issues around meat consumption are important for human existence. He also disclosed that food safety cannot be overlooked, recalling that COVID-19 had its root in an animal market in China.

The Permanent Secretary further said that the initiative was to assist in value chains in meat distribution as safety and quality are being addressed with the launch.

Emmanuel Audu concluded that the Last Mile Meat Shops was a new dimension, especially with youth involvement in the process and hopes the project will receive full acceptance by Lagos residents.

In his goodwill message,

the Chairman, Lagos State Chapter of Butchers Association, Alhaji Kazeem Bakare thanked the Lagos State Government for initiating the project, describing it as very innovative and ideal.

According to him, the Butchers Association will embrace the new idea for the safe handling of cow meat in the state, promising that it will bring back some of the members who have left the job for Okada and Marwa.

Alhaji Kazeem Bakare urged other states in the country to embrace innovation to restore sanity to the handling of meat among their residents.

The Last Mile Meat Shops are located in Ijeh area of Dolphin Estate, Surulere and Mushin.

Hamzat Harps On Preservation of Culture

Lagos State Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat has stated that understanding our culture is crucial, as it serves as a bridge to self-discovery and empowerment.

Speaking on Sunday at the Prayer and Dedication of New Egbe Chieftaincy Palace, Lagos Island, the Deputy Governor added that culture allows us to unlock our full potential and proudly embrace our identity as Africans.

He noted that as a people it is important for us to understand our culture and language so that it won't go into extinction.

Hamzat said, "There are certain things you can't translate into English. We need to let our language be known to our children. Let our children understand that is who we are. We are not Western people. We are Africans and therefore our African culture, our African language must be pre-eminent".

Speaking further, he stated that the Lagos State government has embarked on various programmes and policies to preserve the culture, language and tradition of the people and ensure that they are passed on to the coming generations.

"We found out that a few of our children can't

even speak our language. I think that if you don't understand yourself, if you don't know yourself it is a loss. In Lagos, we are doing a lot of culture teaching and I encourage others, Igbo, Hausa and others to let our language be known, and let our children understand who we are", he stated.

While speaking on the new Chieftaincy Palace, he said it is regeneration and redevelopment from what it used to be to what it has been developed to. Hamzat stressed that regeneration is necessary in the country as the population is increasing, so there is a need for people to live in a proper and good environment.

He added that



regeneration, as we all know, is important and as we are regenerating we are improving the lives of our children for a better tomorrow.

In his remarks, the Egbe of Lagos, Chief Rafui Abayomi Olusi said the significance of the project is to provide a meeting point for the Egbe Sons and Daughters at home and abroad, provide accommodations for the local population and promote mutual understanding among

them.

He described the attendance of the Deputy Governor at the dedication of the Egbe Chieftaincy Palace as a homecoming as he is an offspring of the Egbe Chieftaincy Family.

In his word of exhortation, Imam Moshood Sanusi urged leaders and people in positions to serve with the fear of God, noting that there is no one greater than Allah.

He added that the fear of God is important to govern a nation to greatness, saying "We need to honour God because whoever honours him shall be honoured. No man is in a position because of his knowledge or understanding but by the grace of Allah that has chosen him/her to be there. It is therefore important for people in positions or leaders to serve with the fear of God and be fair to humanity".

OPLCE Sensitises Residents of Orile-Agege LCDA

As part of its mandate, the Office of Political, Legislative, and Civic Engagement has organised a one-day Quarterly Community Development Sensitization and Engagement Programme for the residents of Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area.

Speaking at the event held at the Orile-Agege Local Council Development Hall, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Political, Legislative and Civic Engagement, Dr. Afolabi Tajudeen said the Administration of Mr. Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has developed various policies and programmes that are beneficial to the citizenry and there is a need to create awareness about such policies even at the grassroots.

He added that the

engagement of residence at the community level is essential to address challenges, proffer solutions and build an all-inclusive governance that can foster growth and development in all areas.

While highlighting the features of the CitizenGate 2.0 Application, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Political, Legislative and Civic Engagement, Engr. Abiola Kosegbe said that fostering inclusive governance and advancing sustainable development at the local level can only be achieved if the citizens are civically responsible and know their rights.

She further said that the Government is engaging all possible means and creating laudable projects to give back to all tax-

payers, therefore, taking responsibility, being involved and engaging Lagos State MDAs through the CitizensGate Platform will further help to bridge the communication gap between the government and the grassroots community.

Emphasising the need to register on the ILERA-EKO Health Scheme, Kosegbe said that the people must embrace preventive measures through regular medical checks which the Ilera-Eko Health Scheme offers.

Representing the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Health Management Agency, Dr. Emmanuella Zamba, The Head of Business Development, Lagos State Health Management Agency, Mr. Rotimi Olatunji said that the Lagos State Government has put in place various health policies which

include Governor's Palliative, a free delivery health package for Pregnant Women and "Eko Sha" for vulnerable Lagosians who might not be able to pay for the Health Insurance Scheme.

He urged participants to take advantage of all this laudables initiative and register on the ILERA-EKO health Insurance Scheme as the benefits are numerous.

Mrs. Bamigboye Abimbola, Registration Officer from Lagos Resident Registration Agency (LASSRA), Orile-Agege Zonal Office explained that the Agency is saddled with the primary responsibility to create an accurate database of all Lagos residents for effective planning and resource allocation.

while highlighting the new features of the LASSRA Card, she added that the Card which combines biometric identification

with other functionalities and benefits that cut across all resident of Lagos State gives seamless access to the Government services and amenities such as payment for services at the Government hospital, Rail Transport and Lag-bus service.

The Deputy Director, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) Mr. Agboola Muyideen said that all preventive measures of the Agency are about environmental protection and that the first form of environment protection is citizens' engagement, therefore a safer environment starts with sensitisation for the general populace.

He further added that the Agency is charged with the responsibilities of protecting and improving the environment, while assisting the citizens of Lagos State to achieve a cleaner environment by providing environment-friendly solutions to various environmental

challenges.

Responding, one of the participants and Chairman, Omotoye Estate CDA, Orile-Agege, appreciated the Lagos State Government for the various projects that had been completed at various CDAs in Orile-Agege. She added that the free chest x-ray that she benefitted from is evidence that the Lagos State Government is committed to the well-being of Lagosians.

In attendance, are the Leader of the House, Hon. Wale Fayemi; Deputy Leader of the House, Hon. Toyin Akinola; Community Development Committee Chairman (CDC), Mr. H.A.K Oderinde; CDC General Secretary, Engr. S.B Hassan; CDC Treasurer Mr. A.A Daramola, Councillors and Supervisors of Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area.

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**Celebrates Nigerian
Children On Their Day**

**Happy 2024
Children's Day!**

Lagos Govt Tasks Companies on CSR

... As PTML Donates Block Of Classrooms, Others to School in Mile II

The education development and growth of students within its business environs. Commissioner for Basic & Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun has called for more intervention from corporate organisations in Lagos State to assist the government in providing adequate infrastructure to cater for the ever growing youth population.

The Commissioner stated this during the commissioning and handover ceremony of a block of classrooms and furniture at Amuwo Odofin Junior High School by the Ports and Terminal Multiservices Limited (PTML), led by the Managing Director, Mr. Ascanio Russo. He thanked the management of the company for contributing towards the welfare and

education development and growth of students within its business environs.

Alli-Balogun also used the occasion to admonish teachers and students to take ownership for the computers, over 100 pieces of furniture donated and others

The Managing Director Ports & Terminal Multiservices Limited, Mr. Ascanio Russo, in his remark, stated that the organisation embarked on major infrastructural enhancement within the schools in Mile 2 school complex with the construction of a 502-metre long and seven metre wide interlocked access road and a 50kva transformer to serve both Amuwo-Odofin Junior and Senior

School.

He further stated that the company has provided a security gate and well-finished gatehouse at the school with a 50kva transformer, a borehole and water treatment plant, 100 dual desks as well as providing tables, chairs and drawers for students and staff at all the 10 schools within mile 2 school complex.

Russo said Ports & Terminal Multiservices Limited proudly constructed and furnished the new building housing 10 classrooms with optimal learning facilities such as desks, chairs, computers and LCD televisions.

This, according to Mr Russo, is aimed at



equipping the future leaders with the tools necessary for their success during their basic and secondary education years, thereby fostering an educated workforce that is environmentally conscious to face global challenges.

The Permanent Secretary, Mr. Abayomi Abolaji thanked the management and staff of Ports & Terminal Multiservices Limited for putting gesture and encouraged the student and teachers to

make good use of the new classroom.

The Chairman, Amuwo Odofin Local Government, Engr. Valentine Buraimoh also thanked the company for their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) while imploring the organisation to do more for the benefit of the residents of Amuwo Odofin.

The Chairman of the parents forum also

thanked the government and the Ports & Terminal Multiservices Limited for the beautiful edifice that has been bestowed on the school with a promised to ensure the cooperation of parents so that the building remains in the best state.

The commissioning was witnessed by the Principals of the 10 schools in Mile 2 School Complex, parents, community leaders and youths.

Lagos Assures Employers of Quality Manpower From State Tertiary Institutions

Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Tertiary Education, has assured employers in the state of quality graduates from the state-owned tertiary institutions.

This was made known by the Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Hon. Tolani Sule when addressing a meeting of students in the state-owned tertiary institutions and employers of labour at the Lagos Students Career Expo organised

by the students and the Ministry at the University of Lagos over the weekend

The Commissioner, who was represented at the occasion by a Director in the Ministry, Kike Oduwole, said the Career Expo was an opportunity for the Ministry to hear directly from the employers of labour as critical stakeholders in the labour market on how to continually improve the quality of teaching and learning

in the state higher institutions.

According to him, the state government has invested enormous resources in manpower development, provision of facilities, infrastructure, and a good environment for students to learn and acquire skills in all its institutions.

Sule advised students to grab the EXPO opportunity to ask relevant questions from potential employers that will allow them to get jobs

and opportunities that will guide their paths to execute personal actions which will lead to career advancement programmes geared towards life progress and sustainable career goals.

The Commissioner reminded them that getting a job is daunting in this ever-challenging environment. Therefore, they must be ready to leave their comfort zone, have a penchant for innovation, and have the ability to display multicultural

competence as part of their background. This would ensure that they are separated from others in the labour market which is filled with an abundance of people applying for the same job.

He informed employers at the Expo that the current peaceful atmosphere that pervades the state government-owned institutions and the seamless academic calendar being enjoyed are testimonies to the commitment of the current administration to have world-standard tertiary institutions run in line with the best

practices to produce qualified graduates who can compete for jobs globally.

One of the organisers of the Expo, Salaam Abimbola thanked the State Government for giving quality education, assuring the participants that the event would achieve its goals of providing job opportunities for students.

The Career Expo was organised as a feedback mechanism for the Ministry from employers and to create job opportunities for students.

Lagos Inaugurates Cyber Security Project

... To Ensure Safety of Digital Infrastructure Against Potential Attacks

The Lagos State government has launched a cybersecurity project aimed at enhancing digital safety and protecting the state's infrastructure from cyberthreats.

The Honourable Commissioner for Science, Innovation and Technology Mr. Olatunbosun Alake disclosed this at the ongoing Year 2024 Ministerial Press Briefing held today at the Bagauda Kaltho Press Centre, Alausa, adding that the cybersecurity project is part of a broader strategy to improve overall security and governance within the State.

Alake said that the project involves partnerships with leading cybersecurity firms and international organisations, stressing

that the collaborations will provide the State with access to cutting-edge technologies and expertise while enhancing its capacity to defend against sophisticated cyber threats.

The Commissioner explained further that a Cybersecurity Operations Centre (CSOC) has been established to serve as the hub for monitoring, detecting, and responding to cyber threats in real time. The centre, according to him, will employ advanced technologies and a team of cybersecurity experts to ensure the state's digital infrastructure is safeguarded against potential attacks.

Alake added that the State has also established a cybersecurity council, made up of experts from both public and private

sectors, charged with the responsibility of making recommendations to the Government, planning, refinement and implementation of policies, programmes and training initiatives regarding its cybersecurity endeavours.

On data Protection Compliance Project, Alake said that the State has embarked on sensitisation and awareness workshops for all Heads of Accounts, Procurement, Planning, Legal Officers, D&HR, Medical Directors, Body of Permanent Secretaries, Cabinet members, Head of Cadres Statewide and for 43 MDAs; as well as the establishment of 70 Data Protection officers in various MDAs.

The Honourable Commissioner averred that the objectives of the data protection compliance project are to safeguard the rights of natural persons to data privacy and foster safe conduct for transactions involving the exchange of personal data; prevent manipulation of personal data and ensure that Nigerian businesses remain competitive in international trade with best practice.

Alake revealed that the Art of Technology Lagos (AOT) is an annual tech conference which brings together key technology industry stakeholders, policymakers, government officials, venture capital firms, startups, and technology talent to create policies that will drive the development of a smarter Lagos.

He said the ensuing conversations seek to drive technology and innovation outcomes, contribute to policy dimensioning, and drive the development of a smarter and more efficient Lagos.

He noted that the State has had five successful technical conferences and has made decisions that have impacted Lagos

State in irreversible ways, including the creation of a Lagos State Innovation and Technology Masterplan, Eko Open Programme and Start Up Lagos, Talent Acceleration Masterplan and funding for startups and investment in the creative economy.

Speaking on the State's MetroFibre, the Commissioner said the Project seek to achieve a 24-hour driven economy that would allow companies to operate in a safe and secure environment, thereby creating a more conducive environment for business, jobs creation, and increasing the GDP of the State. He added that the State has implemented 2,700km of unified fiber ducts across the State in Phase I, while Phase II of the project comprises an additional 3,300km of unified fibre ducts across the State.

On the Safe City Project, Alake said it also involved Building a digitised 24/7 city which would allow companies to operate in a safe and secure environment thereby creating a safer and more conducive

environment for businesses, more jobs and increasing the IGR of the State.

He said the Safe City project involves the deployment of Intelligent Video Cameras in strategic locations in the State with the execution and completion spread over points in time, in Phases I, II, and III, respectively, adding that 450 surveillance Cameras have been deployed at strategic locations across the city.

The Commissioner pointed out that the Lagos State Science Research and Innovation Council [LASRIC] plays a significant role in funding startups, research and development programmes. He added that the Council's objectives include improving services and the quality of life through research outcomes, promoting innovation awareness, managing the Research and Innovation Fund, and fostering local and international collaboration to address local and global challenges.

Alake disclosed that LASRIC has funded over 60 tech startups and over 50 researchers with over N800M grants given out.



ASSEMBLY

Lawmaker Commends Lagos Ministry For Launching Butchers Academy

By Felix Kuyinu

Member at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Emmanuel Olotu, has lauded the state's Ministry of Agriculture for taken huge steps towards refurbishing the procedure in the sales of red meat in the metropolis.

The Lawmaker commended the new measure by the Lagos State Government in rehabilitating the

process through the establishment of Mile Meat Shops alongside launching a Butcher's Academy.

Hon. Olotu, making the remark at the Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium, Alausa, Ikeja, where the launching took place, said that the reconditioning will ensure an improved proper hygiene before the product before it gets to the final

consumers.

The Legislator, Chairman Lagos House of Assembly Committee on Agriculture, noted that the reconditioning will bring food and comfort to the doorsteps of residents as part of the plans made by the administration of Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, in ensuring a significant change in the state's Agricultural sector.

While expressing delight on the development, Olotu, who represents Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency 02, urged the Butchers Association to ensure that they put into practice what they learnt during training at the Butchers Academy.

He stressed that the Butchers must realize the fact that they are attending to over 20 million residents and should be wary of what they pass on to them.



The Nigerian Bar Association, NBA, Lagos State Branch, has made a recommendation on alliance between the Nigerian legal system and its foreign counterparts.

The proposed move as discussed will help Nigeria lawyers explore and collaborate ideas with the foreign legal practitioners in order to attain credible heights in the country's judicial system.

Following resisting mandate on foreign lawyers practicing in Nigeria, as signed in the Enhanced Trade and Investment Partnership (ETIP) between Nigeria and the United Kingdom in February, the NBA has now taken a different approach. The NBA Lagos Branch President, Yakubu Maiykau, at a pre-briefing on its Law Week to be held from June 10 to 15, 2024, said the pros and cons of cross-border practice will be discussed to decide the best way forward.

Chairperson of the 2024 Law Week Planning Committee, Folashade Alli (SAN), said: "We're in an era where, with rapid

NBA To Dialogue On Nigerian, Foreign Legal System Collaboration

By Felix Kuyinu



globalisation and technological advancements, there's a need for us to think inwards and see how we can, as lawyers,

meet up with the challenges and the shift in the practice of law.

"That is why we came up with the theme:

'Charting new legal frontiers: practice of law in Nigeria, cross-border alliances and partnerships.'

"A lot of law firms have various forms of alliances, and we don't want to be left out. That's why we decided to engage and discuss these issues, as well as technological advancements such as AI and blockchain.

"By the time we interrogate all these, we should come to a consensus on the way forward."

Alli pointed that Law Week event keynote speaker will be Segun Osuntokun, a leading lawyer in the United Kingdom and Global Senior Partner at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner.

She added: "This law firm employs over 1,200 lawyers. So, we're excited to have him in Nigeria to discuss how we can adapt to the changes that have evolved worldwide in the practice of law."

"A key part of the week will be the Bar and

Bench forum where issues affecting the Judiciary, including ethics, will be discussed," continued the SAN.

"The sub-theme of the forum is: 'Enhancing legal practice and judiciary in Nigeria: collaborative strategies for reform.'

"We plan to interrogate issues that affect how we all practice law in Nigeria, including ethics, compliance with the rules of professional conduct. A whole day has been dedicated to this," she said.

NBA Lagos Branch Chairman Olabisi Mankanjuola, said that the law week, which will be held at the Harbour Point Hall on Wilmot Point Road, Victoria Island, Lagos will occur in plenary sessions on June 10 and 11 at 9 am; a Democracy Day walk, charity visits, a law clinic, elders night and movie night on June 12; a Bar and Bench day on June 13 and a Chief Judge's cocktail later in the evening.

"The law week will wind down with Young Lawyers Day/New Wig Induction and a closing party on June 14, and a family fun day/novelty match day on Saturday, June 15.

NGO Proposes Protection of Child Domestic Workers Rights

By Felix Kuyinu

An non-governmental-organization has held discussions over the installation of child domestic workers right in the society.

The group, Street Project Foundation, hinted on the recommendation at a media parley held in Magodo Lagos.

The foundation stated through its founder, Rita Okoro, that child labour is an issue in the society. Okoro stated, "Child domestic worker (CDWs) syndrome has so permeated the fabric of our society that many people are blind to its evil practices.

"According to a recent research by the United States' based Freedom Fund at the University of Chicago on Nigeria's CDWs, a staggering 88.9 per cent of Child Domestic Workers' (CDWs) violated Nigeria Labour Act.

"Roughly three out of five CDWs have a kinship relationship with households where they work, with those having such relationships less likely to receive a wage compared to those without

"A large proportion of CDWs are working long hours, leaving

them with limited time for rest, education, or social activities. Over one in three CDWs work more than 30 hours per week, and over one in five work more than 42 hours per week."

Okoro, citing Oworoshoki, Lagos as one of the communities where the NGO had made sensitization on the menace, submitted that their main objective of the society is to protect the vulnerable children from such abuses.

"We selected 25 talented youths for a three-week boot camp for its Omo Odo to

create awareness on CDWs exploitation and empowered peer allies to report arising from it. We want more awareness to be created. That is the reason we seek the assistance of the media to join hands in the battle against the menace.

The Chief Operations Officer (COO), of the Foundation, Eduvielawhe Olutimayin, stated: "The media needs to set an agenda and cast a light on the plight of CDWs who are vulnerable and often invisible.

"The media should drive meaningful

change and help to create a safer, more equitable future for all children in our nation."

Stakeholders at the event emphasized that employment of child domestic worker is illegal. Some advised the society at large to embrace the appropriate channels such as the police as under the table arrangements do tamper with the child's right.

Programme Advisor, Chika Nwabeke, who agreed that families couldn't be stopped from giving out their wards, said the NGO would continue to train its periscope on what

happens to the children behind close doors.

Nwabeke sought for government's support to eradicate the menace.

The Public Relations Officer, Federal Ministry of Labour, Khadijat Emmanuel, noted that the government's objective is regulation, urging every hand to be on deck.

She announced that the Labour Act was being reviewed, asking Nigerians to contribute to it and that amended portions would be for the betterment of society.

The Federal High Court in Lagos has remanded a blogger, Chizorom Ofoegbu, for alleged cyberbullying.

The court alleged that Ofoegbu, through a post on his social media handle "The King of the Game", defamed one clergyman identified as Ebuka Obi.

Justice Akintayo Aluko ordered the defendant's remand after he pleaded not guilty to a three-count charge of conspiracy, cyberstalking and publishing a vexatious, obnoxious piece against Obi, Spiritual Director of Zion Movement Outreach Ministry, Lagos.

One of the counts reads: "That you Chizorom Harrison Ofoegbu 'M' sometime in February 2024 at Oshodi Lagos State within the Jurisdiction of this Honorable Court did commit an illegal act to wit: defamation, when you Chizorom Harrison Ofoegbu and others now at large criminally used your social media handle 'The King of the game' made a vexatious and obnoxious publication against the person of Evang. Ebuka Obi the spiritual director of Zion Movement Outreach Ministry situate in

Blogger Remanded For Cyberbullying

By Felix Kuyinu

Lagos with the intent to annoy, exposing him to hatred, contempt and ridicule him by purporting him to be performing fake and arranged miracles and deceiving members of the public which attracted several views from third parties and by so doing, you have criminally disparaged, lowered his estimation and damaged the reputation of Evang. Ebuka Obi and his ministry before the right thinking members of the Public and you thereby committed an offence contrary to sections 373 and 374 of the Criminal Code Act, Punishable under section 375 of the Criminal Code Act.

Prosecuting counsel, DSP Peter Ajike, informed the court about the pending charge against the blogger,



which he replaced with an amended one dated April 15. In contrast, the defendant's counsel, Femi Falana (SAN), objected to the amended charge on the ground that he was not served.

However, upon being served with the amended

charge, Falana withdrew his objection and applied for a bail on his client.

Ajike objected the oral bail application saying that the court is a court of record. He prayed the judge to remand the defendant in the Nigerian Correctional Services (NCoS) custody until his bail

application is filed and determined.

Falana prayed that the court remand the defendant to the police facility, where he had been remanded for two months. He said the defendant had been in the police custody in Abuja since March.

Justice Aluko acceded to the prosecutor's submission.

He ordered that the defendant be remanded at the Correctional Centre pending the hearing and determination of his bail application.

Justice Aluko ordered that a formal bail application be filed and be heard on May 30.

The Lagos State Government, LASG, has expressed disapproval on the overcrowding status of seven correctional centres in the state.

According to the state's Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice, Femi Pedro, SAN, on Wednesday, the state made an evaluation of number of inmates in the prison centres and discovered that the centres have been overstretched by numbers of remanded and convicted persons.

Pedro stated that the centres have been overstretched by 103

LASG Deplores Overcrowding At Correctional Centres

By Felix Kuyinu

per cent, accommodating more than 9,600 inmates in excess.

The Attorney reckoned that the Badagry Custodial Centre has a capacity for 320 inmates, but 508 inmates are currently there.

Pedro added that the facilities have in total 4757 capacity but currently have 9691 persons serving different correctional terms.

The Commissioner said, "The Ikoyi Custodial Centre has a capacity for 800 inmates, but about 3311 inmates are housed there, while the Kirikiri Female Custodial Centre has a capacity for 271 inmates, but 310 inmates are living there.

"The Kirikiri Medium Custodial Centre has a capacity for 1940 inmates, but 2949 inmates are staying there, while the

Kirikiri Maximum Custodial Centre has a capacity for 1056 inmates, but 2017 inmates are housed there.

"The Oregun Correction Centre has a capacity for 120 inmates, but 88 inmates are staying there, while the Borstal Training Institute has a capacity for 250 inmates, but 507 inmates are housed there."

Giving a run down of

the offences leading to the persons remanded and convicted, Pedro continued, "About 21048 persons were arrested for stealing, while 2127 were arrested for murder and homicide.

"7044 persons were arrested for breach of peace, 406 for kidnapping-related offences, 2231 for defilement/rape/sex-related crimes, 2739 for assault, 4518 for armed robbery, 1776 for robbery-related

offences, 1191 for drug-related crimes, 2615 for unlawful society/cultism, and 1714 for a felony."

The Attorney-General further stated that the Lekki area of the state tops the locations where offences were committed, accounting for 13 per cent of the offences, followed by Ikorodu, Oshodi-Isolo, Apapa, and Ojo with 10 per cent of the offences each.

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Alaro Alumni Put Smiles To Students' Faces With Food Palliative Initiative

By Mohammed Adekola



Alaro Community High School Old Students' Association, has brought joy to the students of the junior secondary school with Food Palliative Initiative. Held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, on the school premises, the initiative exemplifies the vital role alumni associations play in the development of secondary schools, contributing furniture, writing materials, school buildings, and other logistical support. Chairman of the Alumni Association, Hon. Bola Iberu (Epe One), highlighted the importance of the initiative. "This

initiative is not just to distribute food to the students, it is meant to give them a sense of belonging and assure them that the entire members of the old students' association are supporting their journey to ensure academic excellence," he said. Hon. Iberu emphasized the association's ongoing commitment to the school's progress, mentioning their collaborative efforts with the school management to maintain peace and stability. "We have embarked on several intervention programs and collaborate with the school

management to explore technical or vocational training options for slower learners. In the senior school, we've supported the behavioural development of students by ensuring that only the best make it to SS3, which is why 52 students are currently writing the WAEC examinations," he explained. He pointed that promoting technical education helps manage the school population and maintain a serene learning environment. "The idea of exploring the technical school is an antidote to overpopulated schools, enhancing a peaceful environment devoid of

too many bad influences," he added. The principal of the school, Mrs. Oyesola, advised students to study hard and aspire to give back to the school like their predecessors. She remind them to cook the packs of noodles before eating and extended heartfelt gratitude to the donors. The students, overwhelmed by the surprise gifts, expressed their excitement and gratitude. The Head Boy and Head Girl delivered a heartwarming vote of thanks, appreciating the alumni association for their generous gesture.



Stakeholders In Epe LG Discuss Construction of Vital Roads

By Mohammed Adekola

It was a pleasurable, engaging, interactive and satisfactory moment as stakeholders in Epe Local Government Area met to discuss details of the soon-to-commence construction of Olalekan Killa/Animashaun Close, Epe, and other vital road projects The project which has a duration of six-months is an invention of the Lagos State Government under the leadership of Mr. Babajide Olushola Sanwoolu. It is also part of the 114 road construction projects being carried out across the 57 Local Governments/Local Council Development Areas simultaneously. In the words of the Chairman, she said "The construction of the roads is expected to birth transformative development as it will ensure seamless and hitch-free navigation and economic viability". While carrying out the ground-breaking and flag off ceremony, the Chairman solicited for

the support, ambience and cooperation from the residents during the construction exercise that will enable the successful completion. With high level of optimism, the Council Chairman assured the residents of quality and timely completion of the project officially contracted to A&D Design and Built Construction Nig. Ltd with a remarkable track record of seasoned engineering team, usage of quality and standard materials and exceptional innovation. Hon. Fariu Arebi, a resident and former State House of Assembly member, expressing his gratitude pledged the support and cooperation of youths/residents and assured that the contractors would go about their road construction exercise unhindered.

Foundation Advocates For Older Persons' Rights at UN Summit

By Mohammed Adekola

Age Nigeria Foundation and Thani-Oladunjoye Olde People Care Center Epe Branch (TOOPC), has called on the Nigeria Government to take a leading role at this year's Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG-A), currently ongoing at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Following the successful conclusion of the Age With Rights



Global Rally, which spanned from April 19th to May 19th, 2024, two representatives from Nigeria joined the 14th

session of the OEWG-A, which began on May 20th and will continue

until May 24th, 2024

This rally was pivotal in amplifying the voices of older campaigners across numerous Nigerian communities.

Mrs. Oluwole Oluwayemisi, Age Nigeria President highlighted in an interview the active participation of older campaigners who shared their experiences through workshops and seminars focused on two main areas accessibility, infrastructure, and habitat (including transport and housing), and

all levels to guarantee the enjoyment of all rights by older people in our society," she urged.

She averred that prominent older campaigners are representing Nigeria at the global event, ensuring that the voices of older people are heard. This direct involvement is seen as a crucial step towards influencing policies that affect their human rights. "Member states must hear from older persons. This will give them a great opportunity to be directly involved and influence the process concerning their human rights," Mrs. Yemisi noted.

Oluwayemisi underscored the necessity of a functional national movement focused on engagement and awareness following the OEWG-A in New York. "We need a functional national movement that will focus more on engagement and awareness at home after the 14th Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing OEWG-A in New York," she emphasized.

Oluwole Oluwayemisi reiterated the significance of the OEWG-A, established by the UN General Assembly in 2010, to address gaps in the human rights framework for older persons. "The objectives of the Working Group are to consider the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identify possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering the feasibility of further instruments and measures," she explained.

BADAGRY

2025 Lagos Council Elections: Badagry West LCDA Leaders Preach Peace

By Saheed Afolabi

The newly appointed Apex Leader of Badagry West LCDA, Joseph Bamgbose has urged all party leaders to unite ahead of the 2025 Local Government elections in Lagos.

Addressing the leadership of the All Progressives Congress APC, Bamgbose applauded Chief Akinsanya Sunny Ajose OON, a GAC member and Apex Leader, Badagr, for his proactive role in ensuring a smooth transition process and for ensuring peace among the leaders

Bamgbose said the primary objective of the forum is decision making and advisory roles, he however appealed to the leaders of the party to remain united and embrace

cooperation among themselves, saying that is the only way the party can move forward and achieve success

While appreciating the council chairman on his appointment, Bamgbose emphasized the need to work with the chairman to ensure a successful tenure in 2025 local government elections

Our council chairman, Hon. Gbenu is a good man with a large heart. He has been very supportive of the party, giving the necessary assistance. This is the time to pay back. He added.

Speaking, Hon. Gbenu Joseph Henugbe, Executive Chairman Badagry West LCDA applaud all the leaders present for their understanding and

support during the nomination process.

He also thanked Chief Sunny Ajose for his maturity in handling issues when it was almost getting worse.

Hon Bamgbose has proven track records and he is a complete man that can sustain the tempo from where it is presently.

"We shall continue to build our home in Badagry West."

The council chairman charges the newly constituted committees at different zones to take up their responsibility and be ready to deliver for the 2025 general elections.

Mr Abu Oriyemi, an APC State Ex Officio 1 and leader in Badagry West, said Bamgbose is a round peg in a round hole as the Apex Leader of the area, mentioning some of his political antecedents

He commended the council chairman for a job well done, noting that his administration has been very productive, bringing dividends of democracy to the people of Badagry West

"Today, we can boast of new hospital buildings, school buildings, consistent palliative measures, another administrative building ongoing in the council, several youth and women empowerment programs, and all."

He warned the leaders not to heat up the polity ahead of the local government election, advising them to guide the actions of their followers and members at different wards.

Mr Ade Agoro, a former party secretary and contender for the position of Apex Leader, advised everyone to go back to work to ensure victory for the party.

"Appointment of Apex Leader tussle has come and gone, it is in good faith that I accept the decision of the party leadership, it is only those who do not want the progress of our party that will still continue to fight for nothing."

Agoro further appealed to everyone to come back as one family to ensure unity, cooperation, and bigger success for the party.



Ikorodu Federal Lawmaker Distributes 1,000 Solar Lamps to Schools

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Ikorodu Federal Lawmaker and Chairman of the House Committee on Defence, Rep. Babajimi Benson, has facilitated the distribution of 1,000 solar lamps to 20 selected secondary schools in the Ikorodu Federal Constituency.

The distribution exercise, executed by members of Rep. Benson's iCare Foundation and delegates from SCI Altar Energy, took place early on Wednesday.

The initiative was accomplished through a partnership with SCI Altar Energy and Access Bank, with additional support from the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), the Lagos State Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Rite Foods, and Airtel.

These solar lamps were distributed as an educational intervention to assist students in lighting up their homes, enabling them to complete their assignments.

According to Rep. Benson's office, the initiative also aims to build lifelong study discipline among students, improve their school performance, promote the use of clean energy, and ensure a healthier



environment.

The beneficiary schools include Maya Community Junior Grammar School, Isiu Senior Grammar School, Community Senior Secondary School Imota, Ifelodun Junior High School Oke Agbo Imota, Gberigbe Community Senior Secondary School, Ikorodu Junior Grammar School, Elepe Senior School Elepe, Luwasa Senior High School Ijede, Abule-Eko Community Junior High School Ijede, and Yewa Senior

Grammar School Aga Ikorodu. Other schools benefiting from the initiative are Majidun Community Senior Secondary School Ikorodu, Ipakodo Senior Secondary School Ipakodo, Yewa Junior Secondary School Isawo Ikorodu, Ayangburen Junior High School Ikorodu, Odogunyan Senior Grammar School, Odokekere Community Junior Grammar School, Shamseldeen Junior Grammar School Ikorodu, Oreyo Senior School Igbogbo, Zumratul Islamiyyah

Junior Grammar School, and Keme Balogun Junior School Ibeshe.

The school administrators from across the Ikorodu division commended Rep. Babajimi Benson for his commitment to enhancing the educational sector. Mrs. Yekinni K.O from Luwasa Senior High School Ijede highlighted the critical role these solar gadgets play in supporting students' educational pursuits, especially in areas

plagued by unreliable electricity supply. She cited Rep. Benson's efforts as a strategic move to bridge educational gaps exacerbated by infrastructural deficiencies.

"The solar-powered gadgets ensure that students have a consistent and reliable light source, which is fundamental for reading, completing homework, and preparing for exams," she stated.

The initiative has also garnered praise for its

broader community benefits. By reducing the reliance on traditional, often hazardous lighting methods like kerosene lamps and candles, the solar gadgets contribute to a safer and healthier living environment.

Mr. Akinwale Olugbenga from Elepe Senior Grammar School noted that the environmental benefits of solar energy align with global sustainability goals, promoting cleaner and more renewable energy sources.

He added that the school is optimistic about the long-term benefits of Rep. Benson's efforts, expressing confidence that with continued support and expansion of similar projects, the educational landscape of Ikorodu can be significantly transformed.

SCI Altar coordinator, Mrs. Mojinyinoluwa, called the energy initiative by Rep. Benson a commitment to improving educational infrastructure and quality of life for students in his constituency.

She asserted that by leveraging partnerships with both governmental and private entities, Rep. Benson's effort exemplifies a collaborative approach to addressing local challenges and fostering community development.

Ikorodu LG Partners TeensMata Youth Hub to Enhance Adolescent Health

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, has announced a groundbreaking collaboration with the TeensMata Youth Hub.

This partnership aims to improve access to essential health services and provide life-skills training for adolescents and youths in Ikorodu through the USAID Youth-Powered Ecosystem Programme.

The announcement followed a meeting on Tuesday, where Hon. Adesina and representatives from TeensMata Youth Hub discussed the details of the initiative. The programme targets the growing urban youth population in Ikorodu, with a special focus on marginalized adolescents who are out of school, underprivileged, and facing high rates of sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancies.

A representative from TeensMata Youth Hub explained, "The initiative aims to equip youths with

the skills, social capital, and resources needed to realize their full potential. Additionally, it seeks to improve adolescent health by increasing access to voluntary family

planning services and placing these services within a broader, more holistic context of youth empowerment. This includes fostering a deeper understanding of the

challenges that adolescents face."

Hon. Adesina praised TeensMata for selecting Ikorodu Local Government for this significant initiative and

assured full support from his administration to ensure the project's successful implementation. "I appreciate your team for bringing this impactful

initiative to our local government, and I assure you of our unflinching support throughout the period of this project," said Hon. Adesina.

He also encouraged the residents of Ikorodu to engage actively with the initiative, emphasizing its potential benefits to the community. "This initiative promises to impact our society through youth counselling and referrals to multi-sectoral services, and by providing youth-friendly health providers to address issues such as gender-based violence, substance abuse, and mental health programs in selected urban areas," he added.

AGEGE

Palliative: Babatunde To Distribute N50m To Residents of Orile-Agege LCDA

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA) Chairman Babatunde has once again demonstrated his commitment to effective governance by announcing a plan to distribute 50 million naira among 500 residents of Orile-Agege.

This cash palliative initiative aims to alleviate the financial burdens experienced by community members and is the latest example of Babatunde's dedication to positively impacting the local community.



Over the past few months, more than 1,000 residents have received 100,000 naira each through this philanthropic program.

To ensure fairness, beneficiaries have been selected from all 53 Community Development Associations (CDAs) within the LCDA and include members of various community groups such as Ward Members, artisans, youths, League of Imams, Christian Association of Nigeria members, school teachers, Baales, and other residents.

Babatunde explained that this initiative was

inspired by his personal experience of starting a successful block industry business with a small amount of money in the 1990s, which eventually became his family's primary source of income.

He believes that even a small amount of financial support can lead to significant positive changes in people's lives.

The Chairman also mentioned that another round of financial support is planned for the coming months, with the aim of reaching even more community members in need.

Indomie Heroes Awards: Submission Closes June 30th

By Razak Adebayo

The online submission of entries for the 16th edition of the Indomie Heroes Awards has been scheduled to close on June, 30th, 2024.

This was revealed by Dufil Prima Foods Ltd, makers of Indomie Instant Noodles.

The submission of entries has commenced since Thursday May 9, as the company officially announced the commencement of the 16th edition of its corporate social responsibility initiative, the Indomie Heroes Awards, the nationwide search exercise that seeks to identify, recognize, celebrate, and reward the positive and heroic efforts of by children aged 15 years and below.

Held annually, the Indomie Heroes Awards has become a source of inspiration, celebrating the selflessness and bravery of young heroes across the country.

This year's edition tagged "Unsung Heroes", will feature a collection of captivating and inspiring stories from different states across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria. These commendable acts of physical, social, and intellectual bravery have often gone unnoticed and uncelebrated until Indomie introduced this innovative programme.

In a press statement, the Group Corporate Communications and Events Manager, Dufil Prima Foods Ltd, Temitope Ashiwaju, disclosed that the field



search exercise has already kicked off, while online submissions will commence today, May 9, 2024, and continue until June 30th, 2024. All entries will be subjected to a screening process and a final selection process of winners will be done by a team of credible judges. The Indomie Heroes Award is dedicated to acknowledging heroic feats achieved by Nigerian children, effectively investing in the future of our nation. Our commitment over the past 16 years as a company to positively impact the lives of our core consumers, children, remains steadfast."

According to him, Dufil Prima Foods Limited in 2008 created this unique Social Responsibility Initiative out of the need to shine the spotlight on the Nigerian Child. "This award is to recognize children who

have, against all odds, exhibited extraordinary acts of bravery in the face of danger, societal challenges which have sometimes even brought them injury.

"The award seeks to extol the exemplary accomplishments of children who have shown courage and determination in situations that ordinarily would bring fear. It is also meant to encourage excellence, rewards merit and inspire selflessness and patriotism in our youngsters," he said.

The 2024 edition of the award will feature three categories: Physical Bravery, Intellectual Bravery, and Social Bravery.

Three children will be awarded winners, with each deserving recipient receiving N1.5 million, among other rewards.

Explaining the categories, Ashiwaju said the Physical Bravery award is

for kids who have shown physical bravery in a challenging situation, and, at great personal risk, have saved lives or extensive damage to property or others by their actions. The Social Bravery award, he said, is for those who have inspired a community and have worked against social evils such as child marriage, illiteracy, environmental concerns, among others. For Intellectual Bravery category, the child nominee must have provided an innovative solution to a problem with their brilliant mind.

Ashiwaju urged parents, guardians, teachers and the public to submit inspiring stories of young heroes who they feel have demonstrated exceptional bravery. He also emphasized that in addition to the ongoing field exercise meant to ensure that the initiative covers remote areas to

encourage submissions from every corner of Nigeria, entries can be submitted through the Indomie Nigeria's website, the Indomie heroes Awards dedicated website or through calls to designated phone lines.

The award unfolds in three distinct phases. Firstly, the search commences, inviting entries and gathering compelling narratives. The second phase is the rigorous review by judges, involving fact-checking, corroborating stories, and conducting interviews with finalists, even capturing their tales through re-enactments and documentaries. The final culmination occurs at the awards ceremony in October, where the most exceptional stories are honoured, alongside runners-up receiving well-deserved recognition.

On her part, the National Coordinator for Indomie Fan Club, Karishma

Rustagi, underscored the vital role the media plays in amplifying the notable achievements of children in the society, and pointed out that by spotlighting deserving children and their remarkable deeds, the media contributes significantly to honouring the true heroes of our time.

Over the last 16 years, the Indomie Heroes Awards has produced a total of 52 winners who were rewarded with scholarships worth several millions of Naira both from the brand and well-meaning Nigerians who developed interest after hearing their stories. The award of scholarship grants has helped winners overcome certain financial constraints that may have adversely affected their educational pursuits and life goals.

Further information and submissions, should be made at: visit www.heroesofnigeria.com or www.indomie.ng

United Bank of Africa Celebrates 75 Years of Operations



By Razak Abolaji

Oliver Alawuba, the Group Managing Director of United Bank for Africa (UBA), highlighted the impressive financial stability and resilience of the bank during its 75 years of operation.

Alawuba made this statement during the UBA's 75th global press conference at its headquarters in Marina, Lagos. He credited the bank's strong strategic decisions and fundamentals for its exceptional performance, especially in the previous year, despite market challenges and economic hurdles.

"As we navigate through the ever-changing landscape, we remain committed to creating value for our shareholders and capitalizing on emerging opportunities in the market," he said.

Alawuba stated that innovation and digital transformation are at the heart of UBA's strategy for future growth and competitiveness, saying the bank would

will continue to invest in innovative products, services, and digital platforms that enhance customer experience and drive operational efficiency.

"Our commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility is strong, with initiatives focused on education, healthcare, entrepreneurship, and environmental sustainability; thus, making a concrete impact on communities across Africa," he added.

The bank's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) said:

"Looking ahead, our vision is clear – to be the role model for African Businesses. UBA is one bank, uniting Africa while connecting Africans to the World and the World to Africa. Our primary focus is to be the payment bank for Capital flows, trade and investments between Africa and the rest of the world.

"We are committed to expanding our presence, seizing growth opportunities, and delivering value to all stakeholders. Collaboration and

partnerships, as exemplified by the \$6bn S M E funding agreement signed with the African Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will be instrumental in achieving our strategic objectives.

"We are dedicated to deepening relationships with customers, employees, regulators, and other stakeholders for mutual benefit and long-term success."

Alawuba added that the milestone the bank has reached was not just a celebration of longevity, but a testament to resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to excellence that have defined UBA's journey over the decades.

"As we reflect on the significance of this epoch-making event, it is important to acknowledge that UBA means different things to different people. For some, UBA is a trusted financial partner; for others, UBA is a beacon of stability and reliability, a development partner in various local communities as well as a catalyst for African development.

"Since its inception in 1949, UBA has evolved from a modest beginning in Lagos Island to a global financial institution with a presence in 20 African countries and 4 global financial nerve centres (New York, London, Paris and Dubai).

"Today we have over 25,000 staff, over 35 million customers served through multiple channels – over 350,000 POS terminals, 2,000 ATM terminals, 1,000 Business Offices and 19.7 million Card Customers. The past 75 years have been marked by stability and excellence, pillars upon which UBA's legacy stands tall," Alawuba stated.

UBA's Group Deputy Managing Director, Muyiwa Akinyemi, said the bank operates across four continents with presence in 20 African countries, United States of America, France, United Kingdom and UAE.

In addition, Akinyemi said over the past 75 years, UBA had exemplified stability, reliability, and excellence in banking, achieving numerous

milestones and positively impacting the communities that it serves.

According to him, the bank's commitment to exceptional customer experience as well as its financial strength and resilience over the years had been key to its success.

"Our robust performance, especially over the last couple of years, underscores our sound strategies and commitment to operational excellence. UBA remains an attractive investment opportunity as it continues to deliver exceptional value to its shareholders.

"At UBA, innovation and digital transformation are at the heart of our future growth as we remain committed to enhancing the experience of our customers across all touchpoints while solidifying our position.

"We are committed to offering value that enhances the experience of our customers, while solidifying our position as a forward-thinking institution," he said.

Chairman of Mushin LG, Emmanuel Bamigboye has appealed to residents and business owners to cooperate with him as the popular Ladipo road undergoes reconstruction.

Being one of the major roads in Mushin which leads to the biggest spare parts market in West Africa, the unrelenting efforts of the Bamigboye led administration towards making the road motorable by the chairman, has finally yielded a landmark result.

While flagging off the project, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye appealed to residents along the road to cooperate with the government and contractor, as the road construction will facilitate and boost business transactions in the area.

The council boss emphasised that, the road will be constructed to accommodate free

Ladipo Road Flagoff: Bamigboye Appeals For Residents Cooperation

By Saheed Afolabi



flow of traffic and heavy duty vehicles, with the interlock paving stones which would make the road surface solid to carry the weight of heavy vehicles.

He also mentioned that the road will have solar panel street lights to aid a good lighting system for long hours of business transaction and promote trading activities late in the night.

Bamigboye however, solicited for cooperation and support from the stakeholders and residents of the community, to endure for a while as the task and funds allocated for the project is enormous but it is a project that must be executed to boost and promote economic activities in that axis.

Bamigboye used the opportunity to appeal to business owners and traders, to always pay their rates and taxes to the government in order to help the government in providing more amenities to the people.

He appreciated the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu and President Nigeria, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, for always

making funds available to them through prompt delivery of allocations which has motivated the Local Government Authorities to increase their project profiles across the state.

Before the flag-off of the project, Bamigboye and his team visited the Olu of Mushin, Oba Fatai Aileru, to brief him of the new development and the royal father

gave his blessings for the success of the project.

While pleading for the people to endure for the little period, the council boss advised that vehicle owners should maintain One-Lane parking, for easy movement along the adjoining streets, and to provide alternative routes for road users while the project is going on.

He also pleaded with leaders in the community to put up mechanisms that will cushion the effect of the project on road users as his administration is also making efforts to ensure that all the connecting roads that need urgent attention are reconstructed and rehabilitated, to make the people enjoy the dividends of democracy and good governance being offered by the ruling party (APC).



Bamigboye Charges Residents To Abstain From Environmental Pollution

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Mushin LG, Emmanuel Bamigboye has charged residents of the community to abstain from dumping refuse and other waste materials inside drainages.

The environmental team led by the HOD of Environmental Services Department, Mr.

Adekunle evacuated all the refuse dumps and other waste materials blocking the free flow of water along the water carrier channel at the Alamutu market, linking the Olumba - Olumba carnal at Akobi Crescent towards Idi Araba to link Itire and finally flow into the Apapa Oshodi trunk C.

The Bamigboye led council is not leaving any

stone unturned to avoid any flood that may destroy properties as we approach the rainy season.

"We use this opportunity to appeal to all residents of Mushin Local Government, to desist from dumping refuse and other waste materials in the drainage, as they constitute threat to lives and properties."

Olu of Mushin Commends Bamigboye Over Road Rehabilitation

Kehinde Adeleye



The Olu of Mushin, Oba Fatai Ayinla Aileru, has applauded Mushin Local Government's Executive Chairman, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, for his proactive efforts in rehabilitating Mushin roads. During a visit by Bamigboye and his team to the Oba's palace, the Kabiyesi expressed his appreciation for the Council Chairman's dedication to improving the roads in Mushin, specifically mentioning the rehabilitation of the popular Ladipo Street in Ward A, which

commenced on May 20, 2024. The Olu of Mushin acknowledged that the Council Chairman is fulfilling his responsibilities to the community and deserves recognition for his outstanding work in making Mushin's roads more accessible and motorable for the people. "I want to thank the Chairman for all the good works he has been doing since he assumed office most especially on road construction and I pray that the Almighty God will continue to bless

him and his team with wisdom and knowledge, all his aspirations in life shall be fulfilled as he fulfilling his responsibility to the people of Mushin. "As he's doing what the people want, I bless him by the ancestral power of our forefathers that he will not stumble nor fail while doing the work the people have elected him to do. "He has done many roads in Mushin which people can testify to and currently doing Ladipo road that we all have been yearning for, God will

bless him and his team for doing that," Kabiyesi said. Kabiyesi appealed to the people living around the roads repaired or currently under construction, "Please maintain the road because it is our roads, as the government is playing their part, our people need to play theirs to make those roads last longer and serve us," He added. Reacting to the Kabiyesi blessing and prayer, the Chairman thanked the Kabiyesi for the blessing and expressed appreciation for the support the king has been giving to his administration since the beginning and disclosed the reason for their visit. "We went to the Kaboyesi to inform HRH that we have gotten the approval from the state government to repair Ladipo road which we have commenced and Omodigbo road is ongoing while Balogun street has been delivered with streetlights," He said. He said, Ladipo Road has been one of the state roads his administration has been appealing to the state government for repair and thanked God as

Governor Sanwo-Olu has approved the Council request to rehabilitate it. "We are repairing the road from Chicken George Roundabout to Agege Motor Road using interlock brick stones that will be durable and strong enough for articulated vehicles to pass, light up the road with solar streetlights," He added. The Olu of Mushin stated that improving the road's lighting will boost commercial activities, reflecting Mushin's reputation as a thriving business hub. This will not only make the road safer for nighttime business activities but also encourage further growth in the area. He urged motorists and residents to cooperate with the contractor during the road rehabilitation process. Upon completion, the upgraded road will benefit several major markets along the route, including the leather and furniture market from Agege Motor Road to Iyalla

Street/Oluwole Street Junction, the printing and paper market near Balogun and Chicken George roundabout, and the Ladipo International Spare Parts market. Motorists and residents expressed their delight at the commencement of road reconstruction and praised the Council Chairman's efforts in improving Mushin's infrastructure. Mr. Tunji Ojo, a tricycle rider said, "Now, Bamigboye is working because if they are repairing the inner roads and leave a major road like Ladipo, how will their work show? so we thanked him for this, and we heard that it is going to be interlocked brick stones with solar streetlights, that is great, thank you,". Echonews reports that the road is currently undergoing removal of the Asphalt and grading it from Chicken George Roundabout to Oliyide Street Junction which the site engineer promised that the road will be delivered within the stipulated time of six months.

Mushin LG Storms Idi Oro, Clears Drainson Agege Motor Road

Kehinde Adeleye

The Environmental Sanitation Team of Mushin Local Government, led by Mr. A. Adekunle, is working to clear blocked drainage systems in the area in preparation for the upcoming rainy season. The team is focused on the Agege motor axis towards Idi Oro, specifically targeting

refuse dumps and waste materials obstructing water flow in the Alamutu market area. This initiative, under the leadership of Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, aims to prevent potential flooding and property damage during the rainy season. Echonews reports that residents of Mushin Local Government are

encouraged to avoid dumping refuse and other waste materials in the drainage system, as this poses a risk to both lives and properties. Instead, they should utilize the services of registered Lagos State PSP operators and ensure timely payment of their waste management bills to maintain efficient service.



The youths bodies in Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have set up committee to oversee the plans of the state programme ahead of them.

The National Youth Council Of Nigeria, Isolo branch, Voluntary Youths Organizations (VYOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) have gathered recently to deliberate on their quarterly management meeting.

The meeting held at the youth centre, LSPDC Estate was chaired by the Coordinator, Comrade Sikiru Akibu (Zinko).

Akibu shared update about the fast-approaching state congress among other programmes.

Members of VYOs and CBOs in attendance were set up to oversee and come up with robust plans for the

NYCN, VYO, CBOs Plan Ahead State Programme

By Edith Igbokwe



programs.

The Immediate Past Coordinator, Comrade Saliu Adewole who is the chairman of the Congress Planning Committee (CPC) of NYCN Lagos State

Chapter provided more information about the state congress.

The meeting featured discussions on the last activities of the youth body such as the Business Summit

among others as well as intense deliberation on its program for the year.

The coordinator notified the house about the support from a Member representing

Road Rehabilitation: Residentson Shongobiya StreetCommend Isolo LCDA

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area, Mr. Olasaju Adebayo is staying true to his promise of infrastructural improvements in the council area, with multiple projects underway.

The ongoing construction work on Shongobiya Street, near Osolo Way, is nearing completion, while work has commenced on Baale and Ibadan Streets in the Ilasamaja Ward.

With the completion of drainage work on both sides of the road, the contractor moved on to excavation and grading exercises on Wednesday to further advance the construction process.

Once finished, Shongobiya Street will provide an alternative route for road users seeking to avoid the usual traffic congestion at Aiye Bus-Stop, as it connects to the busy Osolo Way and Mureni Street at either end.

Echonews reports that a resident named Tunde commended the council boss for his continuous efforts in development and praised his dedication to improving the area. "I speak for all the residents on this street and I can tell you that we are all happy about this development. It gladdens our heart. It's a thing of joy that Sangobiya streets is getting rehabilitated. We used to feel that the chairman does not plan to construct this



road because you will see of all the road in the axis ours is the only one in a not-too-good condition.

"He did Mureni, Olusola Faronbi, Shonibare, Holy saviour leading to Aderinto, shodehinde and the others. Sangobiya is the only one that looks odd but we are happy now that our road is being put into better condition. We appreciate him for this development even as we look forward to the speedy completion because of rain," he

said.

A motorist, Kazeem Alao, has this to say; "This is a great development because I won't have to go through Aiye before connecting with Osolo Way, this road will be another option for me if I enter through mureni, I can now pass Sangobiya or Olusola Faronbi or Shonibare."

He went on to appeal to the chairman to see to the removal of gates at the entrance and exit of the street for seamless access for motorists.

IKEJA

Ikeja Based Academy Graduates 280 Real Estate Consultants

Kehinde Adeleye

The Academy of Proptech company, Abode Assets, certified a total of 280 real estate consultants at its 2024 graduation ceremony.

The inaugural set of graduates underwent a rigorous three-week training program at Oluwalogbon House in Ikeja, with facilitators from various industries focusing on achieving financial stability through real estate sales.

The Academy's Community Manager, Sophia James, mentioned that despite over 700 registrations for the free training, only 280 participants demonstrated proficiency and received certification after evaluations.

Abode Assets, established two years ago, aims to enable one million Africans to own, profit, and succeed in real estate, emphasizing the importance of professional ethics and integrity in the industry.

He said: "We had a sincere desire to train realtors across Nigeria to succeed. We brought a couple of speakers who came to train them on different aspects of real estate like understanding the Nigerian real estate landscape, how to be a winning realtor, understanding sales and marketing strategy, and other related subjects.

"The sessions were tactical and engaging, there were evaluations as well just to ensure that it's not about the certification alone, we wanted professionalism to be seen in the participants after the training.

There are a lot of integrity issues in the industry right now, people lying to people about properties and all of that, but we wanted to groom the right set of people about doing the right thing. That is our contribution to the sector, and the feedback has been amazing."

Oshokoya also led the launch of a product, Flex 3.0 at the graduation ceremony. He said, "Flex is our simplified property ownership scheme that allows flexible payment options for people to be able to invest in real estate with as low as N12,500 monthly.

And we just launched this in seven locations in Epe, Ikorodu, Mowe, Port Harcourt, Abuja, Ibadan and Abeokuta. We just want to democratise property ownership across Nigeria."

During the event, a panel of experienced real estate salespeople shared their stories to inspire the graduands and guests. Abode also rewarded top-performing realtors with prizes such as refrigerators, air fryers, and gas cookers.

Additionally, shopping vouchers were given to two realtors for their outstanding efforts during a promotional campaign, and one realtor received a dinner for two at the Marriott Hotel in Lagos.



Araromi Residents Applaud Kendoo's Rehabilitation Works

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents of Araromi street area of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government have commended the council chairman, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) for his efforts on drainages and road rehabilitation exercise in the environ.

Residents appreciated the fact that the rehabilitation work in the community kicked off at about two weeks ago and has now been completed on record time.

The outcome of the asphalt on the road has given the road a new facelift, now smooth for vehicular movement and easy to use.

According to one of the residents, Mrs. Joy Nwonsulo : "we are very grateful to our chairman, Kendoo for this road. Since I moved to this area over 15 years ago, this is the first time I am witnessing something like this. I say a big thank you to him."

Also commending the laudable project was a



Hon. Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede
Executive Chairman Oshodi/Isolo LC

cleric, Alfa Ayuba Ibrahim from Taofeek Elebute Central Mosque situated within

Araromi street; took his time to recite lengthy Quranic verse of prayers for the council chairman in appreciation of his



gesture. The chairman promised not to relent on the expansion of the

drainage system linking the area and the distilling of the canals, noting that when completed will

put a permanent stop to the perennial flood affecting the area for several years.

Aside expanding the drainages in area, Oloyede is also distilling the canals around the area.

Putting words to action, the drainage system at Olori is ongoing presently.

He noted to remain committed to more projects across all wards of the council for the benefit of the people.

The council chairman implored residents to take ownership of the government projects within their locality, stressing that the community members should prevent arbitrary use that could lead to early damage of such project.

While the work was ongoing, a concern community group by the name OMSE visited the site to ascertain the level of job done. The group, after its inspection, commended and appreciated the council chairman for the intervention, urging him to keep the god work on.

NYCN, VYO, CBOs Plan Ahead State Programme

By Edith Igbokwe

The youths bodies in Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have set up committee to oversee the plans of the state programme ahead of them.

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the Coordinator, Comrade Sikiru Akibu (Zinko).

Akibu shared update about the fast-approaching state congress among other programmes.

Members of VYOs and CBOs in attendance were set up to oversee and come up with robust plans for the programs.

The Immediate Past Coordinator, Comrade Saliu Adewole who is the chairman of the Congress Planning Committee (CPC) of NYCN Lagos State Chapter provided more information about the state congress.

The meeting featured discussions on the last activities of the youth body such as the Business Summit among others as well as intense deliberation on its program for the year.

The coordinator notified the house about the support from a Member representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency 2 at the Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Okey-Joe Onuakalusi for the 100 UTME Forms and free Entrepreneurial training among others extended to the youths.



Apatira Promises Educational Tools To Sijuwade School

By Saheed Afolabi



Chairman of Itire-Ikate LCDA, Dr Ahmed Apatira has stated plans to install educational services and tools to Sijuwade Nursery/Primary School, Ijeshatedo. This initiative demonstrates his administration's commitment to providing quality education and a conducive learning

environment for the children of Itire-Ikate LCDA. The renovation project aims to transform the school into a modern and well-equipped educational institution, providing students with the necessary tools and resources to succeed. The project includes the repair and replacement of damaged infrastructure, as well

as the installation of new educational facilities and materials. The project is expected to have a positive impact on the students, teachers, and the community at large. The council boss commitment to education is evident in his administration's investment in various educational initiatives

and projects. This renovation project is a testament to his dedication to providing quality education and empowering the future generation. The renovation of Sijuwade Nursery/Primary School, Ijeshatedo, is a welcome development for the community, and it is expected to have an educational impact on LCDA.

Nigerian YouTuber, Emdee Tiamiyu, Deported from UK

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian YouTuber Emdee Tiamiyu has reportedly been deported back to Nigeria by UK authorities. This development comes a few months after Tiamiyu was reportedly apprehended on charges of fraud, drawing widespread attention. Tiamiyu gained notoriety last year after a controversial interview with the BBC, where he discussed Nigerian immigrants involved in a financial scandal with the UK government. In the interview, Tiamiyu suggested that many Nigerian students exploited the student visa system to find work and migrate their families to the UK. Following the interview, Tiamiyu was accused of defrauding the UK government of £160,000. Reports indicate that he misappropriated funds intended for relocation to build a house in his home state of Ogun, Nigeria.



OSHODI ISOLO

Oshodi 2025: MC Oluomo Endorses Oloyede for Second Term

Kehinde Adeleye

The growing support for Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Chairman Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede's (Kendoo) second term bid has received a significant boost with Alhaji Musiliu Ayinde Akinsanya (MC Oluomo), former Lagos State National Union of

Road Transport Workers chairman and the union's presidential candidate, endorsing Kendoo on Tuesday. MC Oluomo signed an endorsement booklet at Alhaji Kehinde Olorunjoje's residence, an All Progressives Congress (APC) chieftain. He cited Kendoo's numerous infrastructural development



achievements within the local government as the primary reason behind his support for Kendoo's re-election, emphasizing the importance of

maintaining this progress. The endorsement occurred during an event held by Kendoo Independent Campaign Committee (KICC), a political group actively

working towards the projects. He has my council chairman's return backing and total support. I wish him best of luck." Alhaji Olorunjoje who had earlier endorsed Otunba Oloyede for second term as our second term also signed the booklet as was brought to his house by the KICC on Tuesday which was coincidental with the coming of Alhaji Akinsanya on a visit to the party through his infrastructural stalwart.

The Beautiful Dancer at 63: Happy Birthday YK Power

By Bimbo Esho

Sometimes I wonder what life was like growing up for this pretty Anikulapo Queen especially having a maverick father like the Abami Eda Fela Anikulapo Kuti.

Yeni Kuti a beautiful dancer, businesswoman, media personality, fashionista took up the mantle of fostering unity among her siblings and breaking that agelong cultural jinx or bias that lay undue preference for and importance on having male children. She has immortalized and institutionalized her father's legacy worldwide. Yeni who was a dancer for her fathers band and later her brothers Positive Force band has since time immemorial been tightly knitted to her family.

When Yeni decided to put up a yearly event tagged Felabration in commemoration of her father Fela Anikulapo Kuti little did she know

that it would grow to become an international brand and one of the most celebrated festivals in Nigeria today. Her persistence, dedication, passion and perseverance have all paved the way for her in realization of her dream.

Known and fondly called YK Power she has boldly taken the Anikulapo dynasty to its Epoch, she has raised the bar and given her father the highest regard and recognition he is so deserving in history. Fela Kuti has become an institution even in death thanks to the Felabration brand put together by Yeni Kuti, her hubby, siblings and other members of the committee.

This beautiful dancer and first child of the Afrobeat Legend Fela Kuti has made a huge impact in the entertainment industry today and deserving of a rousing applause from all of us.

Long live YK Power The Beautiful Dance



Brymo Admits Having Affair with Married Lawmaker

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Controversial artist Brymo has publicly admitted to having an affair with a married member of the Niger State House of Assembly. The musician revealed this in an audio message posted on his social media page, shedding light on a previously undisclosed chapter of his life. In the message, Brymo detailed his experiences, admitting to a hidden relationship with the female lawmaker despite her marital status. He described their interactions as more than just friendship, revealing intimate encounters between them. Brymo recounted an instance where the politician invited him to perform at her sister's wedding in Niger State. Upon his arrival, he was surprised to find another artist present at the event, whose identity he chose not to disclose. Following their alleged intimate encounters, Brymo noted that he was expected to perform for the lawmaker's husband at her request. The musician highlighted that the female politician generously compensated him for his performances both on and off stage, admitting that she paid him twice for his efforts during their rendezvous.

Lateef Adedimeji Reveals Underpayment for Lead Roles in Early Career

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian director and actor Lateef Adedimeji has revealed that he was significantly underpaid for main roles in movies as far back as 2014. Despite playing leading characters, Adedimeji disclosed that he was paid as little as N4,000 for his performances during that time. The 'Jagun Jagun' star shared these insights on the latest episode of the 'Deep Dive' podcast, hosted by comedian Teju Babyface. Reflecting on his early career, Adedimeji explained that he viewed that

period as a crucial learning experience. "If I tell people that I wasn't collecting N100,000 or N200,000 until 2015/16, a lot of people would not believe me," Adedimeji said. "Before then, the highest I collected for a lead role was either N4,000, N5,000, or N10,000. I was paid that low back in 2014 because it was more like a learning process." Adedimeji's revelation highlights the challenges and financial struggles many actors face early in their careers, even while taking on significant roles.



WTT Contender: Aruna Leads Tennis Stars To Lagos

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Award-winning actor Wale Ojo has expressed his vision for Nigeria, emphasizing his desire for Nigerians to lose interest in migrating abroad, a phenomenon popularly known as 'japa'.

In an interview with *This Day*, Ojo highlighted his enduring love for Nigeria and his aspirations for the country, despite having spent many years overseas.

"I have a lot of aspirations. Over the



years, it would have been extremely easy for me not to come to Nigeria at all. I could

easily have stayed in the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, or even

Russia. And I know I would have been okay doing what I do there. But

I love Nigeria, and I will always love Nigeria no matter what," Ojo said.

Ojo criticized the 'japa' mentality, calling it embarrassing. He noted that while Nigeria faces numerous challenges, he aims to be part of the solution to ensure that the Nigeria of his vision becomes a reality.

"My vision for Nigeria is one that encompasses a country where everybody doesn't want to 'japa'. The 'japa' mentality I think is embarrassing. I think it's unfortunate when doctors think they can go and do their stuff elsewhere, whereas when I go to the

United States or go anywhere, Nigerians are applauded for their ingenuity," the actor explained.

He stressed the importance of addressing Nigeria's problems constructively. "When you come home there are many problems, I want to be a part of the solution; I don't want to be talking about the problem, I want to be a part of the solution. I put a lot of things in place to bear the solution. If the government wants to engage with the creative industry, they need to come and talk to people like us because we have a vision for the country; we don't do 'follow-follow'."

Nabila Fash Refutes Ex-Husband Oritsefemi's Allegations

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nabila Fash, the ex-wife of Nigerian musician Oritsefemi, has broken her silence regarding the allegations leveled against her by the artist. In a recent interview, the sports journalist refuted several claims made by her ex-husband, including the assertion that she experienced 21 miscarriages during their marriage.

Previously, Oritsefemi alleged in an interview with media personality Jude Chidonwo that Nabila deceived him, accusing him of fathering children behind her back and cheating on her in their home. He further claimed that she suffered 21 miscarriages.

In response, Nabila

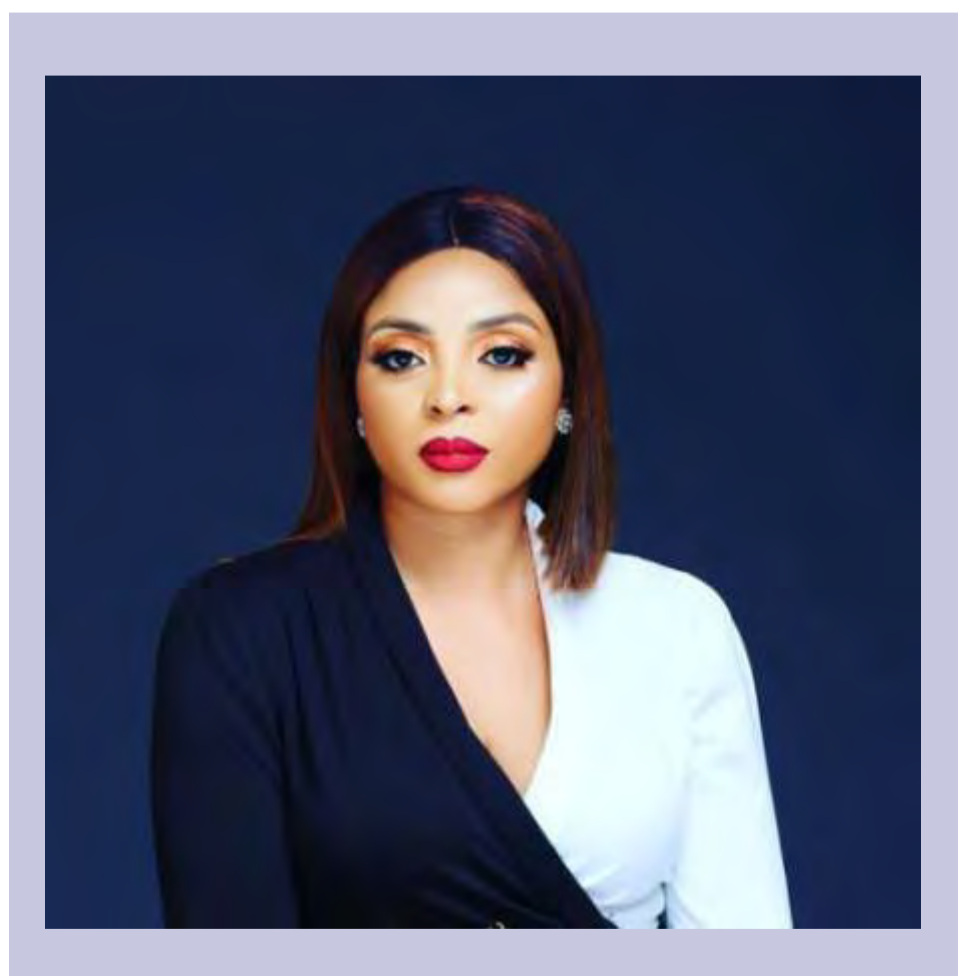
urged the public to disregard Oritsefemi's statements, calling them false. In her interview with journalist Stella Dimoko Korkus, Nabila addressed the miscarriage claim, saying, "How is it possible that I miscarried 21 times and I am still normal? How is it possible that I lost 21 children? Why the lies? Please, anyone who listened to his interview should disregard the narrative because it's not true at all."

She continued, "This is just a distraction. I am presently out of Nigeria working, so you can imagine the calls and encouraging words I have been getting. I was confused as to what was going on until it was made clear to me

what he had said. This is a distraction but a funny one because it's all lies."

Nabila also confirmed that they are officially divorced and that she is living her best life. "We are officially divorced. On March 21, 2024, our divorce pulled through. I am officially divorced and officially single, and I am happy and living my best life!" Addressing the allegation that she sent 20 friends to attack Oritsefemi, Nabila stated, "I don't even have up to 20 friends and that never happened. He is not the kind of person that anyone would attack and get away with it, so trust me that it never happened. It is a figment of his imagination."

Reflecting on her



marriage, Nabila said, "My marriage was a nightmare that I woke up from. I don't believe in running down an ex,

so I will not banter words. God has blessed me and elevated me, and I will not look back in regret. I am not angry and I am at peace. I found closure

from all the horrible things that happened. My advice to young ladies is to look before you leap because that jump might land you in deep trouble."

WTT Contender: Aruna Leads Tennis Stars To Lagos

By Saheed Afolabi



King of Africa and Nigeria hero Quadri Aruna will lead a star-studded cast for the second edition of WTT Contender Lagos.

Following the expiration of registration for the first WTT Series in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Nigerian is primed to

make his first WTT Series appearance on home soil, as this will also be a chance for the World No. 19 to try to capture his very first WTT title, having not made a run beyond the quarterfinal since 2022.

Also, among the cast is

the Brazilian Hugo Calderano, who holds a hefty WTT Series title collection and is the top seed heading to Lagos with five singles titles in the bag.

However, the Brazilian has yet to top the podium in

2024, going down in two finals so far this season.

There are plenty more stars on their way to Lagos, with Dimitrij Ovtcharov of Germany set to make a return to the city after finishing as runner's up in 2023.

It will be a return that brings a bittersweet taste, with Ovtcharov going down in the final of the event last year, losing out on the title to Zhou Qihao of China.

In the women's singles, it's all about the title defence for South Korean Shin Yubin. Having topped the podium in 2023, Yubin spearheads the lineup in this season's edition.

Lagos was one of two WTT Series wins for World No. 7 last year, and with her 2024 account currently empty, history

repeating in Nigeria will be just what the Korean is after.

India's Sreeja Akula could pose the biggest threat to Yubin's title defence when action gets going in Lagos.

Akula is in red-hot form, already taking out two WTT Feeder Series events this year. The chance to make a rapid graduation and claim a WTT Series title will not be squandered by World No. 41 as she looks to continue her rise up the global ladder.

Outside of table tennis, players and fans can experience the vibrant energy of Nigeria's largest city.

Lagos offers a rich cultural scene, with opportunities to explore the National Museum, visit the iconic Eko Atlantic City, and enjoy the lively nightlife of

Victoria Island.

For outdoor enthusiasts, the nearby beaches of Tarkwa Bay Beach and Lekki Conservation Centre provide a relaxing escape from the city's bustle.

Indulge in the local cuisine, a flavourful fusion of African and international influences, and soak up the rhythm and energy of the Lagos community.

WTT Contender Lagos 2024 is set to be staged from June 19 to 23 at Sir Molade Okoya Thomas Indoor Sports Hall and offers up a total prize pool of \$80,000 as well as 400 ITTF Table Tennis World Ranking Points for the champions.

Wazbak Queens have emerged the champions of the inaugural edition of the Ibidoyin Aina Cup 2024.

The one day tournament involving four top women's sides representing different regions in the state, saw Wazbak Queens defeat Papa Queens in the final 4-2 on penalties after the game ended 0-0 at regulation time, while Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens walloped Phoenix Queens 3-0 in the third place game to scoop away the bronze medal.

Wazbak Queens piped Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens 1-0 to reach the final while Papa Queens also defeated Phoenix Queens by the same goal margin to set up a final clash with Wazbak while Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens and Phoenix

Wazbak Queens Win Maiden Ibidoyin Aina Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

Queens settled for the third place match.

The event was to commemorate the birthday of Lawyer cum female football enthusiast, Ibidoyin Aina who is a member of the Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) women's football committee.

It attracted many important dignitaries from including the LSFA boss, Liameed Gafar amongst others. The competition which will be an annual event is conceived to support the girl child in football.

It was organized by The Bulls Sports Limited and ManuelKing Sports Marketing Limited.





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