

# Echonews

LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of Echonews Newspapers Limited

Monday 29th April - Sunday 5th May 2024

## Illegal Buildings: Lagos Draws Battle Line



P.2



**‘I Will Grow Ejigbo IGR By  
Creating A Dependable Database  
Against Leakages ’- Oduse** P.5

Fourth Mainland Bridge;  
Foreign Investors To  
Arrive This Week-Omosho P.5

Lagos Govt Clamps  
Down on Illegal Estate  
Developments in Epe P.10

Lagos To Commence Y2024  
Promotion Exercise  
For Staff of Parastatals Today P.11

Lagos Captures 26,816 Traffic Violations in Three Months P.8

Oshodi- Isolo Council To Begin Another Phase of Community Projects P.17

# Illegal Buildings: Lagos Draws Battle Line

By Kunle Awosiyan

**B**oldly written on the wall is "This house is not for sale". Part of its anterior has been converted to a beer parlour and another as food canteen. The narrow passage leads to the posterior that now serves as a brothel.

The house is located within the Ipodo community in the interior of Ikeja, the capital city of Lagos State. It is an old building but so comfortable for the occupants who have been staying there for years.

"The family wrote the inscription because of the 419 people who have been defrauding people of the plan to sell the house," the food vendor who uses one of the shops told our correspondent.

The food seller who refused to mention her name said that developers had always come around for the building but the family was not ready to sell it or lease the place. Even though the house is clean, there are signs that it has been a long time that the owner has renovated it.

There are still thousands of distressed buildings across Lagos despite the state government's urban renewal agenda ahead of the creation of a model city and of course a smart city.

In a study, "Evaluation of Sustainable Urban Renewal Strategies in an Evolving Residential District of Lagos Island,

Nigeria." by Foluke A, Bukola Adewale and Olaniyan Seun, all from Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, there is a fresh call to government to adequately implement its urban renewal policy ahead of its smart city agenda.

According to the study, which focused on Lagos Island and Tokunbo, Bamgbose, Mobolaji Bank Anthony, Campbell, Kakawa, Campos, Odunlami, Glover, Igboere, Joseph and St. Catholic Mission as its case study, it observed that most buildings in the area had not been renovated for over 10 years.

It stated that many of the occupants had stayed for more than ten years in the buildings, which validated the claim that most of them or their late parents are the owners of the buildings, or there were certain activity or reasons which had made them stayed in these buildings for that length of time. Also, many of them had chosen to remain in those buildings for that number of years because of the good locations, a suggestion that this could be for commercial activities a

However, the study lamented that some of the buildings are distressed as it called on government to upgrade them or contact the owner for planning or developmental strategies.

"The case of Lagos Island requires that

the various problems with its housing and environmental planning condition be considered. This is to give enabling platform for implementing policies, agenda, and programme for its developments, even with the continuous rise in the population of Lagos Island, which is also a global phenomenon," it stated.

According to the study, the world's population living in urban areas is forecast to rise to 75% by 2050 as against 50% in 2010 (UNHabitat III, 2015). "Due to this escalating population increase, governments are required to come up with how to create future spaces and its management for the citizens. This is the reason governments base their economic development policies on building advanced infrastructures management strategies such as smart city projects. Not only are policy makers involved in this initiative but also citizens are engaged

in the project, as their future quality of life depends on this. Lagos state is not an exception to this, as more and more people come into the state every day."

It spoke on planning for housing and setting standards for the regulation of buildings and its construction, describing it as a task that seems to have overwhelmed relevant government authorities in Nigeria.

The results of this study shows that the process of physical development in Lagos State is one that had over time witnessed various adoptions of concepts and strategies and ideas with various authors and publications propounding great ideas to foster these developments but then the implementation has been inadequate by successive administrations.

Smart city development is another area in which most cities delve into. However, in the light of this developmental



Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu

agenda, it is good to examine how cities fit into the concept of smart city, it noted.

To the experts, many houses in the area under examination do not exhibit much of smart city characteristics elements.

However, some characteristic of the

areas that exhibits activities that make for life satisfaction and happiness could aid smart city program, but others characteristics, which are negative such as low maintenance of building could hinder the implementation of smart city agenda.



# Illegal Buildings: Lagos Draws Battle Line

*Continued from page 2*

It is therefore recommended that there is need for the transformation of the city for the operation of a smart city with comprehensive urban renewal scheme.

"An assessment of the smart city initiative should cast light on current urban renewal policies and reforms which would make the implementation of smart city possible," it explained.

However, developmental efforts should add value to any existing area, especially residential areas of the city. The study results showed a mixed use dwellings for both commercial and residential activities, which has become the life style of the dwellers. In view of this, the application of smart city in Lagos Island should be done without disturbing the economic, social and the daily activities of its dwellers. This is due to the peculiarity of the area,

Echnews gathered that most property owners renovated their houses secretly to evade tax by the state government. Some of them reconstruct their buildings without government permit. This is in contrary to the state Physical Planning Permit Regulations of 2019. According to the regulation, every developer that will renovate a building must get renovation permit.

It states that no



building shall be renovated in the state or redevelopment of without Renovation Permit granted by the Authority.

It states that applicant shall be issued letter of Renovation Permit subject to satisfying certain conditions as specified in this Regulations.

It states that any person intending to renovate a building shall before carrying out such renovation, submit to the Authority an application stating the details of renovation and evidence of previous Planning Permit (if any). The process shall attract twenty-five percent (25%) of the prevailing processing fees.

In case the application is without

previous planning permit, the application shall be presented as Built subject to minimum planning standards applicable to the location. The process shall attract twenty-five percent (25%) of the prevailing processing fees.

It also states that In the event that the application does not meet the minimum standards, the applicant shall be required to comply with the minimum standards before the grant of Renovation Permit by the Authority.

Speaking, the Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide said that government would not leave any stone unturned in

dealing with anybody who had flouted its regulations.

"The government has offered 90-day amnesty programme, starting from 2nd May to 30th July 2024, to developers and building owners. This is a form of relief in the form of a waiver on penalties that usually go with condoning a building without approval, and a 5% discount on payments completed within 10 working days during the amnesty period.

"The government will be tough on buildings without Planning Permits after the expiration of the current amnesty window, opened to further ease the process," he said.

Olumide enjoined owners of all existing buildings without

Planning Permits in the State to take advantage of the amnesty initiative of the Administration of Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu to regularise their buildings so they to comply with extant Physical Planning Laws and avoid embarrassment.

Also speaking, the Special Adviser to the Governor on e-GIS and Urban Development, Dr. Olajide Babatunde explained that unapproved structures compromised planning standards in the State, and to correct this, Governor Sanwo-Olu had approved the planning permit amnesty programme to capture as many completed buildings as possible and bring

them to conformity with the required standards.

He decried a situation in which only a few existing buildings in Lagos State have Planning Permits or any form of approvals, stressing that the role of the enterprise Geographic Information Service (e-GIS) was to ensure the coordination of effective and automated lands and planning records in Lagos State.

"Achieving this aim requires working effectively with the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, and that of Science and Technology as well as the Lands Bureau and the Surveyor-General's office", he stated.

# 'I Will Grow Ejigbo IGR By Creating A Dependable Database Against Leakages'- Oduse

Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE, popularly known as, DOO, is a seasoned politician and grassroots mobiliser. He speaks to our correspondent Saheed Afolabi on his ambition to contest for chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area and his various plans to expand the scope of development in the area.

Excerpts



Q : When have you been nursing this ambition and what is motivating you to want to contest? As far as politics is concerned, it has been a long time dream coming and every victory is celebrated. where the stakes are just as high as the competition and the impact on society is immeasurable.

I Hon. Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE 'DOO' met President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, in Paris. He has been a very admirable role model to me, considering the many significant socioeconomic changes he brought to Lagos State back then. So, I discussed my interest in politics with him. To this, he responded positively and satisfactorily.

Besides, I am a philanthropist. I have done a lot of charity assistance. So, in the process of doing this, people also have been calling out for me in the community, telling me how much they want me to take up political leadership positions. And, personally, I believe I can do better.

Q: I observe you have been fraternising with political elite over the years, is anybody sponsoring you? Who is your godfather?

Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan "KOK" the Special Adviser to the Minister of Solid Mineral Resources Hon. Dele Alake. Former Commissioner for Information and Strategy, He is my Boss, my mentor, such a great leader, at all time I Hon. Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE 'DOO'

will always thank him for his leadership and for making me feel like a valued aspirant. He makes my work feel, as well he has been encouraging and making sure that the party is strengthened by giving equal playing ground to every member and aspirants, the team success and his leadership and vision are incredibly appreciated, KOK is OKAY

Distinguished Senator MAMORA Adeleke Olorunnimbe who served as the minister of Science and Technology from 2022 to 2023. He previously served as the minister of State for Health from 2019 to 2022. His my father's good friend, they both went to the same secondary school, Ijebu-Ode grammar school, He has been like a father to me in politics, Distinguished Senator ABIRU Mukhail Tokunbo, Lagos East Senatorial District in the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who is married to my Aunty, He has been a mentor to me

Q: Have you in any way attended to the needs of the people of Ejigbo perhaps through Corporate Social Responsibility or as a caregiver?

I have done through the grace of God. But with the look of things, I am going to only share the few I can remember from my recent engagements. Foremost, I make yearly donations of food stuffs to the less-privileged in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area. In my effort to see to the fact that education is accessible to the youth, I did purchase the 2023

JAMB, 2024 JAMB forms for over 60 for young secondary school leavers in the same area. Consistently, I have never stopped encouraging young and old within my reach. Annual Award for the Best Graduating Pupil Team-Mates Children School, at Power-line Rd, Orilowo, Ejigbo.

During the festive period, I made numerous donations to many, including the donations I made to a number of football clubs in the community. There is no secret that I sponsor school inter house sport as evidence of my love

Politically, I Hon. Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE 'DOO' i have also rendered individual assistance to party members in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area. I do this paramountly because I feel empowering political leaders and party excos in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area is part of building the community and facilitating effective leadership.

Q: What are you bringing to the table that you think previous administrations had not done and how will you implement it considering the allocation?

what I understand is that, once a man's passion is in something and

it has, by course of interest, become part and parcel of him, there is no going back to doubting his excellence nor the substance of what he can achieve.

Another very powerful motivation for me is coming to the realisation that, as humans, we all have common and basic needs that, if met as and when due, will not only give us peace of mind, but that it will also help us establish consistent progress in every other area of our lives. For instance, the area of security which involves ensuring the safety of the community, or education where many students will be placed on scholarships annually without discrimination, or infrastructure that will include different constructions of amenities, to name a few – all are social necessities. They must be touched.

In addition to creating empowerment within the community, I will make sure I build libraries and take steps to improve the educational facilities within the locality, provide accommodation or housing facilities to homeless individuals or people who need help, invest in

projects that will solve health issues and I will no doubt set priorities to help with the buildings of hospitals and ensuring adequate supplies, sponsor the arts and programmes that help instill moral values, increase the community engagements on internal revenue, clean up trash around the neighborhood, and many more. Others are goal planning, implementation and finally, the intermittent evaluation of my leadership character.

Recognizing the importance of entrepreneurship in driving economic growth, I will create a supportive ecosystem for young entrepreneurs.

The previous administrations have done exceedingly well up to this present administration of Hon Monsuru Obe. I am going to consolidate their achievements. Moreover, we are going to do more on sporting activities as a business, embark on sustainable business investment that will continually be a source of revenue to the LG, more road infrastructural development, equip health facilities to deliver good health care services to the , pregnant, women, young, youth and the old.

## 'I Will Grow Ejigbo IGR By Creating A Dependable Database Against Leakages"- Oduse

### Continued From Page 4

We will do more as our revenue permits

Q: How do you hope to revive the sport sector in Ejigbo\*?

Great question.

Imagine a mind that has been shaped by the intensity and passion of sports, where every move is calculated, every decision is strategic, imagine that same mind channeling its energy and driving into politics, I have always been a firm believer in the power of sports to bring communities together. That is why I started to study professional Sport management because I knew that sport can inspire and uplift individuals from all walks of life. Through various initiatives and programs. Already I have started given out footballs and sport kits to Ejigbo football clubs, and I have holds some meeting with Ejigbo Coaches to promote football in Ejigbo, all this plan will come to past when I get to the office in 2025, by God's Grace, I Hon. Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE 'D00' promised you, you will see a big difference and my impact positively in sport once I am elected as next chairman Ejigbo LCDA, I will ensure through the sport Ejigbo Lagos will be well known in Lagos and Nigeria

Q: IGR is very important to the development of an LCDA, how do you hope to increase Ejigbo IGR?

As we have known that our IGR comes mainly from levies, rates, local taxes from markets, shops, entertainment and others, we have to encourage people to pay these taxes, levies and rates.

We have to maintain a dependable database that will eliminate evasion and also make use of automation collection systems to eliminate any form of leakages.

Most importantly, we are

going to expand the tax base by creating sustainable investment that will be owned by the local government and this will be bringing in more revenue to the Local government

Q: What Contributions or development have you attracted or done to Ejigbo LCDA residents before?

My Achievements are numerous, it includes the purchase of 2023, 2024 JAMB Form for Young Secondary Leavers in Ejigbo

➤ Yearly donations of food stuffs to less privilege in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

➤ Festive period donations in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

➤ Individual assistant on party members, Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

➤ Empowerment to political leaders in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

➤ Empowerment to excos party members in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

➤ Annual Award for the Best Graduating Pupil, Team-Mates Children School, Ejigbo

➤ Empowerment football kits to some football clubs in Ejigbo

➤ Sponsor of inter house sport Ejigbo Model Pry School

➤ Sponsor of inter house sport Fadu Memorial Pry School

➤ Donations of sport kits to all the primary school pupils

The next project to all Ejigbo to benefit from Hon Prince Daniel Olusegun ODUSE 'D00'

is Health Check up, Malaria Health Check, Eye Check up, HIV Check up, Blood pressure check up, The project is coming soon.

Q: What if you are asked to step down for another aspirant, what will be your next move\*?

(Laugh) Our party is a fair party and our leaders give level playing ground to all aspirants. What this means



is that we will go through a fair selection of candidates and even before an aspirant is asked to step down, that aspirant would have known that it was done in fair spirit and in the interest of the party. Hence, we will all work for the success of the party not an individual interest, having played a progressively role and my involvement within the (TMM) Ejigbo and Ejigbo community, knowing very well that my Leader Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan, is a God fairing man

Q: Many have argued that you stay abroad and don't stay in the community to fraternise with the

grassroots, how do you intend to sort this out ahead of the primary?

I think this question contradicts your earlier question where you asserted that you have been fraternising with political elite over the years. My staying abroad as no effect, I stay abroad no doubt, I came home often and I have a very good relationship with Ejigbo grassroot, don't forget I was born and bred in Ejigbo Aigbaka, I am the son of the soil of Ejigbo, I am made in Ejigbo 'Igbaika Ward'. I come home regularly and hold meetings with the elders of our

party, members of our party, different groups in the party and even the residents of Ejigbo. I support the party in different ways, I support the party members. as son of the soil. It has been my life long dream to contribute my God's given skills, talent and knowledge to my childhood base Ejigbo LCDA. I was fully involved and physically present during the last elections. Even whenever I am not around, it is the grassroots that are championing this cause because they believe in my capability based on what I have done and what I am still doing in the party.

# Badagry General Hospital Organises Sent-Forth Ceremony For Apex Nurse

The General Hospital, Badagry, recently organised a sent-forth ceremony for one of its revered Apex Nurse, ADNS Opeoluwa Amu-Aromire on the occasion of her 60th birthday and statutory retirement from the Service of the Lagos State Government. The Medical Director/CEO, Dr. Olatunde Bakare in his remarks at the event expressed joy that the Apex Nurse is retiring meritoriously, just as he commended her for all her efforts and managerial skills in ensuring an enhanced health service delivery to the residents of Badagry and environs.

Dr. Bakare urged all other staff and her colleagues who are still in service to emulate her professionalism, work ethic, dedication and commitment to duties to sustain the excellent services to the general public that the Hospital is known for. Also speaking, the Director of Nursing Services (DNS), the Lagos State Health Service Commission, DNS Adebukola Cole thanked the Medical Director/CEO, Dr. Olatunde Bakare for making the hospital conducive for the Nurses and also appreciated the cleanliness of the hospital, describing it as the best in Lagos State.



Paying tribute to the celebrant, she recalled her good working relationship with the retiring staff during their service years at different hospitals, noting that the journey that they shared had been a delight and full of wonderful memories all through.

Earlier, the Chairman of the occasion and President of Retired Nurses Administrators, Retired DNS, Victoria Oloruntegbe said that the celebrant was a woman of prayers, of strong faith and a workaholic who did not leave any stone unturned in her assigned duties. She appealed to other Nurses to rededicate themselves to duties so that they can be invaluable assets to the hospital. Responding, Apex Nurse Opeoluwa Amu-Aromire thanked God for the day which turned out to be successful and the entire staff of General Hospital, Badagry for their unflinching support and giving her a befitting honour on her last day of service. She advised all Nurses to be humble and

work with all dedication while wishing the hospital a new tenure of peace and prosperity going forward. ADNS. Opeoluwa Amu-Aromire was born 1st April, 1964 at Ebute-Metta, Lagos State. She was employed by the Lagos State Health Service Commission on 24th December, 1991, and hailed from Odogbolu Local Government Area in Ogun State. She is happily married and blessed with children. Dignitaries who graced the occasion include the Coordinator of the School of Anaesthetic Studies Badagry, Dr. Niyi Oladapo; Coordinator of Lagos State Eye Care Team, Dr. Oluyemi Taiwo, Orile-Agege General Hospital, and the 28 Apex Nurses, among others, from other General Hospitals across the State.

# LASODA Reiterates Call For Empathy Towards People With Disabilities

The Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) has again reiterated its call for inclusivity and empathy towards persons with disabilities (PWDs). Speaking during a courtesy visit by the Managing Director of the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA), Engr. (Mrs.) Abimbola Akinajo and her team on Friday, the General Manager of LASODA, Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal emphasised the need for societal change. Mrs. Oyetunde-Lawal underscored the importance of recognising and

accommodating the diverse needs of PWDs, urging a shift beyond policy-making towards fostering a culture of empathy. She noted the diversity within the disability community, where needs vary across different categories, adding that disability conditions can range from mild to severe, including visual, hearing, physical, neurological and intellectual issues. The LASODA Boss pointed out that recognising the humanity in each individual is crucial for creating a truly inclusive environment.

Engr. Akinajo, in her remarks, said that the purpose of the visit was to facilitate a better relationship between both agencies and expressed LAMATA's commitment to collaborating with the LASODA. Applauding LASODA's holistic perspective on disability issues, she assured that together, they can both explore avenues that will enhance service delivery and promote inclusivity within Lagos State. Her words, "We are here to deliberate on ways to ensure better collaboration with LASODA to create an all-encompassing



transportation system in Lagos State. "Your holistic view of disability groups will undoubtedly assist us in our quest for inclusivity. LAMATA welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with LASODA to achieve this goal", Engr. Akinajo stated. The visit was concluded with the presentation of a compendium of LAMATA's activities and cowry cards for Persons with Disabilities, symbolising a step forward in the journey towards a more inclusive society.

# LASBCA Trains Officials Towards Seamless Take-Off of Certified Accreditors Programme

As part of efforts to ensure a seamless take-off of the Lagos State Certified Accreditors Programme (CAP), the Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA), has commenced rigorous integrated training for its officials stationed across all districts, divisions and departments. Speaking at the programme, the Special Adviser to the Governor on e-GIS and Urban Development, Dr. Olajide Babatunde explained that the main reason for the partnership which has been in the pipeline since 2021 is basically for zero tolerance to building collapses through robust monitoring and inspection of all ongoing constructions in the State as the

government cannot do the job alone.

He noted that Lagos is blessed with large numbers of professionals in the built environment who are ready to bring in their expertise and capacity to ensure that buildings in the state are constructed to meet international standards.

Dr. Babatunde had before now emphasised that for the seamless take-off of the Accredited Certifiers Programme to be achieved, various orientation workshops and training will be organised for government officials as well as successful consortium and individual professionals that met the criteria of becoming a Certified



Accreditor.

Welcoming participants to the in-house training programme, the General Manager of the Agency, Arc. Gbolahan Oki, represented by the Agency's Secretary, Mrs. Omolara disclosed that the training held at LASBCA Auditorium in Ikeja will be in batches and is being facilitated by seasoned professionals in the built industry.

According to him, it is divided into different modules meant to acquaint officials across LASBCA formations with the workings, practicality and understanding of the CAP/LASBCA programme synergy and processes.

The synergy, themed: "Certified Accreditors Programme" is aimed at strengthening the

capacity of government officials to monitor and enforce building regulations in the state. The Certified Accredited Programme (CAP) which is expected to commence soon is designed to engage Consultants who will act as Certified Accreditors in the built environment to complement the activities of Government Officials in screening of

Drawings, Stage Inspections and monitoring activities for compliance with the Lagos State Building Control Regulations in line with Government policy of making Lagos sustainable, resilient and attractive to businesses through Physical Planning and Urban Development.

Recall that the Certified Accreditors Programme was birthed by the recommendation of the Government White Paper on the Report of the Lagos State Tribunal on the collapsed 21-Floor structure at 44 B, C, D Gerrard Road, Ikoyi – Lagos, which recommended a synergy between the Public and Private sector in the built industry.

# NBTE Approves New Course For Lagos Cooperative College

The Lagos State Cooperative College (LASCOCO) has secured provisional accreditation approval from the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) to commence the National Diploma programme in Computer science.

The Board also granted full accreditation to two other National Diploma Programmes at the College, namely: Cooperative Economics and Management as well as Micro Finance and Enterprise Development.

Approvals for all the programmes were disclosed at the end of the National Board for Technical Education

Accreditation and Resource Inspection Team's visitation to the College at Oko-Oba, Agege, Lagos between the 18th - 21st April, 2024.

Addressing the delegation during the visit, the Provost of the College, Mr. Akorede Ojomu said that after the Panel's last visit to the College in September, 2021, which resulted in the granting of interim accreditation for two National Diploma programmes, the State Government has continued to upgrade facilities at the College.

Ojomu stated that the Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration is

working to match the realities and demands of the 21st-century educational system and ensured that the Lagos State Cooperative College became the preferred destination for cooperative education in the country.

He averred that the college recruited additional experienced teaching staff, constructed an additional building complex that houses lecture halls, a larger sick bay, library extension, computer laboratory, consumer shop, as well as offices and conveniences for the staff and students towards accommodating the increase in student



population as well as comply with the resource requirements of the NBTE for all programmes.

In her remarks, Dr. Kubura Jaro, Deputy Director, Specialised Institution Division, NBTE, commended the Lagos State Government's support for the College in providing qualitative education to the

populace. She said, "To ask for additional programmes within the space of three years is a sign of good development and management. Sincerely, my appreciation and gratitude goes to the state government for providing additional infrastructure and manpower to the College".

According to her, the accreditation exercise is a systematic review of education programmes to ensure that standard of education and infrastructures are being maintained.

She added that the National Board for Technical Education and all Intuitions across the country are partners in progress

# Lagos Captures 26,816 Traffic Violations in Three Months

The Lagos State Government has vowed to intensify enforcement exercises on curbing the illegal activities of fake enforcement officials across the State.

The State Commissioner for Transportation, Mr. Oluwaseun Osiyemi disclosed this today during the 2024 Ministerial Press Briefing held at the Bagauda Kaltho Press Centre, Alausa-Ikeja, adding that the Ministry, through its task force team, would continue its sting operations in different areas of the State until impersonation of officials is eradicated.

He cautioned against revealing more details on the Ministry's enforcement operations and Strategy, so as not to compromise its effectiveness and success, as the impostors will devise new methods to avoid been apprehended in order to continue with their nefarious activities.

Speaking further, Mr. Osiyemi also explained that the recently introduced Traffic Management Solution Device (TMS) has successfully captured 26,816 real-time traffic infringements in the last three months, making traffic enforcement more efficient and effective.

The Commissioner also disclosed a plan by the State Government to take transportation to the next level, through the launch of 2,000 new mass transit buses powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)

under a Public-Private-Partnership arrangement with investors, assuring that the State Government's commitment to public transportation is to promote an efficient inter-modal transport system that provides viable options for its citizens.

According to him, to effectively fulfill the daily transportation needs of nearly 25 million commuters within Lagos State, a series of strategic initiatives have consistently served as instruments pivotal in



advancing the first pillar of the THEMES Plus development agenda, noting that there will be an expansion of infrastructure within the metropolis with the development of the Deep Sea Port in Badagry and construction of the Fourth Mainland bridge expected to commence soon.

Pointing out the renewed effort of the Government towards making transportation in the

State, seamless for commuters. The Commissioner also confirmed that a private operator/ investor will, in the month of June, launch 250 new Electric powered (EV) Cabs to improve transportation in the State while protecting the environment from carbon emissions.

Earlier, the Commissioner for Information and Strategy Mr. Gbenga Omotoso described the

importance of the Transportation Sector to the economy of Lagos State and the well-being of the Citizens.

Also speaking, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa stressed that the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) is the only body backed by Law to carry out enforcement and management traffic in the State, noting that Local

Governments are not authorised by law to apprehend motorists who commit traffic infractions.

Giwa also urged members of the public to avoid negotiating fines on the road with enforcement officers to avoid being victims of impostors.

Debunking the claim that fake enforcement officers apprehended last week around the Cele area

work for the Ministry of Transportation, the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Olawale Musa confirmed that many of them are mere impostors.

Musa further urged members of the public to report any misdemeanour or illegal activity of any Enforcement Officer to the Ministry via the provided hotlines: 09020009000 and 09020004000, assuring that every complaint will be addressed promptly.



FATTI

RENTAL SERVICES





**Tables • Chairs • Canopies • Drums**

- 1 Plot Canopy
- 12 X 20 Canopy
- 1/2 Plot Festival Canopy
- Bridal Canopy
- 20X40 Festival Canopy
- Banquet Tables
- 15 X 30 Festival Canopy
- Normal Tables & Chairs

📍 21 Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo Lagos

☎ +234 802 905 4032



# Tourism Development: Lagos Govt Supports Annual Ebi Festival In Epe

As part of promoting indigenous festivals, culture and tradition for the development of Lagos tourism, arts and culture, the Lagos State Government has supported the celebration of the Ebi Festival in the Epe area of the State.

The Special Adviser on Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Idris Aregbe, ably represented at the event by the Chief Executive Officer, Lagos State Council for Arts and Culture, Mr. Idowu Johnson, who led some officials to witness the celebration recently, said that the involvement of the Ministry was in furtherance of preserving the culture and heritage of the people of Epe and its



environs.

He expressed the willingness of the State Government to continue to support the Ebi festival because of its viability to sustain the peace already being enjoyed by the people of Epe and also advance the progress of the ancient town.

He stated that the intention of the

Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture is to be more involved in the annual celebration to bring the festival up to international standards and use it as a means of attracting more foreign tourists to the State.

The Oloja of Epe Kingdom, Oba Kamorudeen Animashaun, during an

interview on the importance and benefits of the Ebi festival, commended the involvement of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture in the programme. He appreciated the support of the State Government in ensuring the successful hosting of the festival in

the past few years, saying that the Government's involvement served as a source of encouragement for the organisers of the annual festival.

The Monarch affirmed the recognition that the festival had received both within and outside the country on

promoting harmony, unity and peace within Epe environs as well as progress and prosperity for the indigenous people of Epe home and in the Diaspora. He, however, pleaded for more government support towards the revival of other customs, culture and heritage of their forefathers in the Epe Kingdom and festivals of the people of Epe in general.

The Oloja stressed that the government must intervene in salvaging the various cultural norms and practices from going into extinction and the festival does not discriminate or segregate the sexes, stressing that both have specific roles to play during the festival. He described the event as a friendly cultural festival that everyone can come to the Epe kingdom to celebrate with the people.

# Women In Sports: Lagos Govt Restates Commitment To Girl Child Development

The Director-General, Lagos State Sports Commission (LSSC), Lekan Fatodu has restated the commitment of the government to use the instrumentality of sports to drive the development of the girl-child and women.

He made the statement at a Press Briefing organised to herald the pilot edition of the National Association of Women In Sports (NAWIS) Games, held recently at the Mobolaji Johnson Sports Centre, Rowe Park, Yaba, Lagos.

Fatodu, who was represented at the event by the Head, Sports Facilities, Deji Aladegbemi, expressed his satisfaction with NAWIS for choosing the state of the aquatic splendour as the host city, adding that the Games will receive unwavering support and necessary aid from the Commission through the Associations during the event.

In his words, "We are taking sports in Lagos to another level. We will ensure that our athletes' welfare is

well taken care of and our coaches are given the right platform to improve on their capacity to deliver and to ensure that Lagos is back on top where it used to be".

He commended NAWIS's intervention in the sports ecosystem in regards to girl-child and women growth using sports to drive inclusion while offering them a platform to live their dreams, adding that it speaks to the Association's indelible footprints throughout their existence as an organisation.

The Director-General

further stated that the support will not stop and will continue to scale up to ensure that Lagos is always ready, in terms of sports development.

In her remarks, the National President of NAWIS, Prof. Mariam Adefunke Suleiman stated that the Association in Lagos State, has come to stay. Owing to its activities of giving helping hands, nurturing, growing and developing girls and women in sports who have the desire to achieve or carry their profession to a greater height.

Professor Mariam

averted that NAWIS helps in scouting for talents, assists with the development of sports potentials and contributes to the overall development of sports adding that it also serves as an avenue for federations to prepare their players for future tournaments. Tayo Popoola, President of NAWIS, Lagos State Chapter, reiterated the readiness of the Association to provide an enabling environment for the pilot edition of the multi-sports event to celebrate the uniqueness of the girl-

child and women.

She said the NAWIS Games was designed to identify talents and women that can make the country proud, stressing that it is also an opportunity to engage the minds of the people for something meaningful while its positive contribution to athletes' career progression is inevitable. Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Cricket, Basketball, Sitting Volleyball, Badminton, and Handball are the approved sports for the pilot edition of NAWIS Games 2024 which kicked off on Thursday.

# Lagos Govt Clamps Down on Illegal Estate Developments in Epe

The Lagos State Government has clamped down on illegal estate developments in the Epe corridor of the State.

Acting on a State Executive Council directive, the Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide recently led a special joint exercise to the axis where erring estate developers were served notices and requested to come forward to the relevant authorities to perfect their documents.

He said that under no circumstances should any developer go ahead and start the development of estates without obtaining

layout approval, Planning Permit, and Fencing Permit as may be required, adding that these requirements were to ensure the attainment of organised, livable and sustainable built environment.

He explained that the layout approval was required for the proper arrangement of the estate to give room for appropriate services and infrastructure while the planning permit addressed the planning requirements on individual plots in the estate.

He urged property uptakers and buyers to be weary of investing in estates without approval to avoid needless embarrassment from



government officials or the risk of losing their property or investment to demolition as some of the estates springing up in the axis, especially those that might be encroaching on committed lands, were not approvable. To avoid any ugly situation, he advised developers and buyers into estates to access the

Planning Information service of the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, for adequate information on the approvable development, details of the zoning arrangement and the height approval order for a given location.

The Permanent Secretary, Office of

Physical Planning, Engr. Oluwole Sotire said that the staff of the Office of Physical Planning were always ready to guide developers through the process, urging them to ensure that they get all required approvals before embarking on any project.

The General Manager, Lagos State Physical Planning Permit

Authority (LASPPPA), Tpl. Kehinde Oshinaike implored property owners and developers to seize the opportunity provided by the 90-day Amnesty period on the Planning Permit for completed buildings to regularise their developments by obtaining Planning Permits on their existing buildings.

Areas visited by the exercise include Alaro City, Okorisan, Igboju, Molajoye, Shaala, Ketu, and Epe, where notices were served on estate developments such as Patriot Bay Estate, Smart City Estate, the Legend and Hilton Royal Garden. Others are Greenland Estate, Legacy City, Isinmi Lagos, Dominion City, Topview Estate and Ibi Alafia, among others.

# Agoro Assures Association of Lagos Civil Servants With Disabilities of Govt Support

Agoro Assures Association of Lagos Civil Servants With Disabilities of Govt Support Agoro stated this today in his office at Alausa, Ikeja, when he received members of the Association of Lagos State Civil Servants with Disabilities who paid him a courtesy visit.

He maintained that since its inception, it has been the policy of the State Government to cater for the welfare and well-being of the entire workforce, saying that people with disabilities were not left out as they

are special people. "The State Government is doing all it can, to ensure that there is preferential treatment for people with disabilities to be at par with other public servants", he said.

Agoro reaffirmed that people with disabilities will not be left out in the area of Staff training, welfare and other incentives that would be beneficial to public servants in the State.

Earlier in his address, the Chairman of the Association, Mr. Lukman Salami

expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Association to the Head of Service for being resilient in tackling all welfare related issues of staff in the State.

He stated that the Association remains grateful to the State for the enactment of the Lagos State Special Peoples Law 2010, as well as the establishment of the Lagos State Office of Disability Affairs (LASODA).

Government officials present during the visit include the Permanent Secretary, Public



Service Office, Mrs. 'Sunkanmi Oyegbola and her counterpart in the Civil Service Commission, Mr. Bode Obadina.

Members of the visiting team include the Vice Chairman, Lagos State Association of Civil Servants With Disabilities, Mr. Batula Olasehindemi; the

Secretary, Mr. Ademiluyi Adebowale; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Babatunde Safiu and the Publicity Secretary, Mr. Sanusi Hakeem.

# Fourth Mainland Bridge; Foreign Investors To Arrive This Week-Omotoso

... Says Mode of Funding for Lekki Airport, Fourth Mainland Bridge to be Revealed Soon

The Honourable Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso has said that foreign investors will arrive this week to deliberate on the mode and sources of funding for the Fourth Mainland Bridge and the Lekki Airport. Omotoso said projects are positioned to change the economy of the State. He noted that the Lekki Corridor, with the sprawling estate development and other projects such as the Lekki Free Trade Zone, Dangote Refinery, and Lekki Deep Sea Port, is no doubt the new face of Lagos. The investment and human traffic attracted to the zone have made the construction of a new Airport inevitable as the Murtala Muhammed Airport alone can no longer serve the State



effectively. He averred that the construction of the Fourth Mainland Bridge as alternative exit route from that axis to the mainland is also a project conceived to address an envisaged human and traffic congestion which the Lekki-Expressway will not be able to contain in the near future. The commissioner said that the Redline Rail

from Agbado to Iddo will commence a test run this week. He disclosed this at a Press Briefing organised to announce the commencement of the 2024 Ministerial Press briefing by the State's Ministries, Directorates and Agencies. The event is an annual programme where members of the State Executive Council render accounts of stewardship to

Lagosians. According to the Commissioner, the event tagged: "Year 2024 Ministerial Press Briefing", is scheduled to fully kick off at the Bagauda Kaltho Press Centre on Wednesday, 23rd April and will end on Tuesday, 28th May, 2024. Omotoso said that for a period of two months, various interest groups and stakeholders will be

invited to take a ride on the train to have a feel of the service the mode of transportation will render on the corridor. Responding to an inquiry on the state of the roads leading to the Redline train terminal, the Commissioner noted that the train was part of the intermodal transportation system and as such connecting roads to rail and ferry facilities will be fixed for easy access. The food security initiative of the State, according to him, is on track with the Ounje Eko intervention programme (discount weekly market), Fresh Food Agro-Hub at Idi-Oro and the constitution of a welfare committee, amongst others, will ensure that no Lagosian goes to bed hungry. The Imota Rice Mill, he revealed, is also fully operational even though

insufficient rice paddy was hampering it to produce at full capacity. He condemned the attitude of produce buyers who rebag the Eko rice in bags branded with foreign producers' labels thereby making Eko Rice less visible in the market. The Commissioner explained that the Ministerial Press Briefing will serve as a platform for the Heads of various Ministries to inform the Public on achievements and efforts to deliver the mandate of the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu Administration and dividends of democracy to Lagosians as embedded in the developmental pillar of the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda.

# Lagos Govt To Commence Y2024 Promotion Exercise For Staff of Parastatals Today

The Lagos State Government will commence the Year 2024 promotion exercise for officers on Grade Level 01-16 for officers in all parastatal organisations as well as officers on Grade Level 01-05 at the mainstream civil service under the Revised Structured Training Programme. A statement issued by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of



Establishments and Training, Mrs. Olubusola Abidakun said the promotion

exercise will commence on Monday, 29th April, 2024 and end on Wednesday, 9th May,

2024. The exercise will be held simultaneously at the Public Service Staff Development Centre, Magodo and the Women Development Centre Agege, Lagos. She explained that there would be a daily training session for Officers on Grade Level 07-16 which will run from Monday to Friday except on Wednesday at the PSSDC, Magodo.

Abidakun stated further that two training sessions would be held daily from 29th April to 8th May, 2024 at the Women Development Centre for officers on Grade Level 01-05 from both the main civil service and parastatal organisations on one hand and Neighbourhood Officers on Grade Level 06-09 on the other.

The Permanent Secretary, therefore, urged eligible officers to obtain their Revised Structure Training Identification Slips from the Director of Administration and Human Resources of their respective Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), adding that it is a prerequisite for registration for the programme.

# Tomorrow is looking good for Lagos.

Better living in a smarter city.  
This is the Lagos your tax is building.

**Play your part. Pay your tax!**



## Lagos State Internal Revenue Service

The Good Shepherd Building, Block H, Plot H1, Central Business District, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos State.  
Email: [etaxinfo@lirs.net](mailto:etaxinfo@lirs.net), [info@lirs.gov.ng](mailto:info@lirs.gov.ng) Tel: 0700-CALL-LIRS (0700 2255 5477)

[www.lirs.gov.ng](http://www.lirs.gov.ng) [@lirsgovng](https://twitter.com/lirsgovng) [lirsgovng](https://www.facebook.com/lirsgovng) [lirsgovng](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) You Tube [lirsgovng](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



# Court Orders Arrest Of Land-Grabber In Lagos

By Felix Kuyinu

The Federal High Court in Lagos has ordered the arrest of an alleged land-grabber identified as MorufOwonla in a felony trial profeced on them. Justice Adenike Coker at the court issued a bench warrant for the arrest Owonla popularly known as

Kaka Morooof alongside other perpetrators in the act. The defendants, who have been absent for court trial were alleged to have invaded the hotel of a businessman, Hassan Alli, with the intent to deprive him access to his property. The gang were also

alleged to have carted away building materials worth N30 million after forcing entry into the landed property situated at No 34, Faguson Osagie Street, Lagos. Justice Coker, during the sitting on Wednesday, disclosed that the Directorate of Public Prosecution, DPP, Babajide Martins, had

filed an eight-count charge against MoroofoWonla, Olu-Aminu Yemisi Abdulaziz and Ganiyu Aminu over alleged conspiracy to commit a felony. The court also disclosed that the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Lawal Pedro, SAN, had directed the

matter be forwarded to Restorative Justice to see if a resolution could be achieved. Responding to her submission, the complainant's counsel, Imran Shitta-Bey, informed the court that on January 17, the complainant received a letter from the AG to attend an Alternative Dispute Resolutions,

ADR, meeting and was surprised to see the fugitive defendants, MoroofoWonla and others in attendance, which indicates that the DPP knew how to invite and present the defendants for trial. Following speeches at the proceedings, the case wwa adjourned till May 13, 2023.

## Daughter Conspires With Kidnappers, Demands N2m Ransom From Father

By Felix Kuyinu

A female teenager has been arrested for planning a kidnap act and demanding the sum of N2m from her father. The arrestee, Cynthia Okere, alongside six others were arranged at the Badagry Magistrates' Court for conniving to commit the act at Ijanikin area, Lagos State. The police arraigned the heptad on a three - count charge of felony, kidnapping and demand of ransom. The defendants : Cynthia Okere (14), Caleb Amutie (13), Joshua Amutie (13),Z

Blessing Amutie (22), Uche Amutie (25), Mustapha Asimiyu (24) and Gafar Tijani (24) pleaded not guilty to the charges. But the prosecutor, Inspector Ayodele Adeosun, told the court that the accused gang committed the offences on March 6 at Iyana-Era, Ijanikin area of Lagos. Adeosun said that the defendants allegedly conspired to demand the sum of N2 million from one Moses Okere who is the father of the first defendant as ransom. The prosecutor said the litigants planned with Okeke to use the

kidnapping act to collect money from her father. The offences, according to him, contravened Sections 411, 172 (1) (2) and 172 (3) of the Criminal Laws of Lagos, 2015. The Magistrate, Patrick Adekomaiya, granted the defendants bail in the sum of N500,000 each with two sureties in like sum. He said that the first three defendants who are less than 18 years of age should be taken to Oregun Juvenile Corrective Home in Lagos or any similar place for custody. Adekomaiya adjourned the case till May 5.

## ASSEMBLY

Inside the Lagos State House of Assembly Corner - KNOW YOUR LAWMAKER

Focus - Hon. Olawale Sulaimon (Member representing Amuwo-Odofin Constituency 02)

By Felix Kuyinu

Hon. Olawale Sulaimon, an indigene of Lagos State is an existing lawmaker at the 10th Legislative Assembly dating back to year 2023. He was also a member during the 9th Assembly which spanned from 2019 to 2023. He was born on 27th February, 1971 in Ikorodu, Lagos State.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

The lawmaker had a First School Leaving Certificate education as a student of Salvation Army Primary School in Ikaare, Amuwo-Odofin, Lagos. Later on, he proceeded for his Secondary School education being a student of Unity Grammar School, also in Ikaare. Hon. Sulaimon bagged a B.Sc in Political Science while being a student of the Lagos State University, LASU,



in Ojo, Lagos. He furthered more at the University of Abuja and obtained a Master's Degree and PHD in International Relations. The legislator also had a stint at the National Institute of Legislative Studies, Abuja.

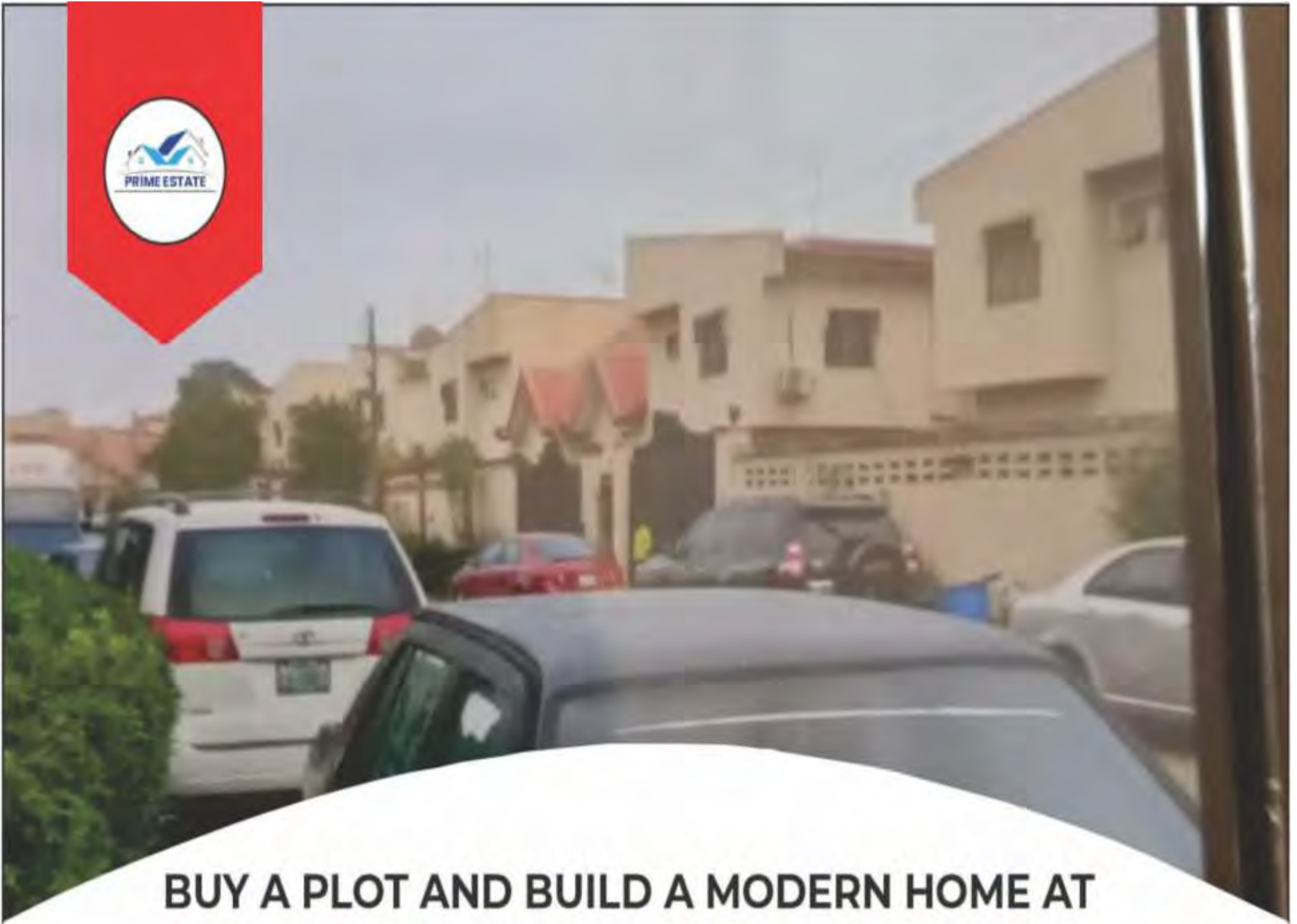
### WORK EXPERIENCE

The House member, before heading for politics, was an employee at Ojolowo Technical Company Limited, Alasia, Oshodi Lagos as a Marketing Representative. He proceeded to Panabiz

International Limited and worked as a Marketing Consultant and Public Relations Practitioner.

### POLITICAL CAREER

Hon. Sulaimon became a Ward Secretary in Amuwo-Odofin. He got the nod to become the All Progressive Congress party candidate in the House Assembly election in year 2018. He won and remains the Constituency representative till date. He is married and loves reading and swimming.



BUY A PLOT AND BUILD A MODERN HOME AT

# PRIME ESTATE

ILE IFE

Notable Landmark/Proximity

Toll Gate, Ife/Ibadan Road

## Special Offer

300sqm #6,300,000

450sqm #9,500,000

All Payments to:

Wellwall Construction Company Ltd.

[www.wellwallconstruction.com](http://www.wellwallconstruction.com)



GATED RESIDENTIAL

ESTATE

24/7 SECURITY

PERIMETER FENCE

ROAD NETWORK

CHILDREN PLAYGROUND

RECREATION CORNER

# Ikeja Pearl Lions Support Anifowose Primary School

Kehinde Adeleye

Learn pads and environmental instruments have been donated to Anifowose Nursery and Primary School in Ikeja, Lagos, by the Ikeja Pearl Lions Club District 404 B2, Nigeria, led by Lion Mrs. Temisanren Opadele, as part of their efforts to support the government, provide humanitarian services, and strengthen communities.

The Club also provided prepared meals to the less fortunate residents of Ikeja.

Prof. Emmanuel Fagbohun PJMF, NLCF, District Governor Lion Club, was present at the ceremony. Chairperson Lion Kemisola Afuye, MJF, NLCF, Region 7. Chairperson of Zone 7A, Lion Yetunde

Balogun, MJF, NLCF. The Ikeja Pearl Lions Club has two members on its board of directors: Lion Bose Uwadia, PJMF, NLCF. Lion Mbang Gabriel PJMF, NLCF, as well as club participants.

During his remarks, District Governor Lion Prof. Emmanuel Fagbohun commended Ikeja Pearl for carrying out one of the club's main initiatives and thanked the club's members and President, Mrs. Temisanren Opadele, for deeming fit to donate to the underprivileged in the community.

According to Lion Temisanren Opadele, the President of the Ikeja Pearl Lions Club 23/24 LSY, the club has been contributing significantly to the school in the past and



felt it was appropriate to contact the head of school to discuss their needs.

She stated that Learning Pads are necessary for the Nursery Children, and to God's glory, the project was completed today.

She believes that the Learn Pads initiative is

crucial because it helps kids enhance their critical thinking, writing, and communication skills. There's no better time to teach pupils this than right now, as the expression goes, "catch them while they're young."

The group anticipates

achieving even more for Anifowose Nursery and Primary School in future

Mrs. Christina Awe, the head teacher, thanked the club for staying in the building at all times and assured them that they would make good use of the learning pads

and other resources.

The train then went to Adekunle Fajuyi Ikeja, Lagos, where the District Governor and President gave water and cooked meals to the area's most disadvantaged residents. They also officially opened the school's sick bay and renovated Ikeja Primary School as part of their Region project.

# Lion Opadele Receives Pillar Of Support Award

Kehinde Adeleye

In acknowledgment and gratitude for her outstanding support of region 7 of the club in Lagos, Lion Temisanren Opadele, President of the Ikeja Pearl Lions Club District 404 B2 Nigeria, receives the pillar of support award. Opadele is known for her heart of goodness.

The event, titled "Commissioning of various projects and interactive session with clubs in the region," was attended by the District Governor, Lion Prof.

Dayo Fagbohun PMJF, NLCF, District 404B2 Lion Olukemi Eribake MJF, NLCF, District Administrator, Lion Olanike Fagbile NLCF, Zone 7A Chairperson, Lion Yetunde Balogun, Zone 7B Chairperson, Lion Olufemi Sowande NLCF, Club Presidents, and other Lion members within the Region.

In her acceptance speech, Lion Temisanren Opadele, President of the Ikeja



Pearl Lions Club, thanked Zone 7A

Chairperson Lion Yetunde Balogun and

Region Chairperson Lion Kemisola Afuye for

considering her deserving of the award. She also stated that the reward for hard work is more work, which she will continue to accomplish with the help of her club members.

The commissioning of the Sick Bay at Ikeja Primary School, a Region 7 initiative (Ikeja Pearl is located in that Region), was the event's high point. The District Governor and District Administrator led an interactive session with several clubs in the region, and it went well.

# Ogijo Community Embarks on Transformation Journey

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Ogijo, a once overlooked suburban area in Ikorodu, has emerged from the shadows of neglect to embark on a transformative journey of development.

Long plagued by poor infrastructure and a lack of basic amenities, the community is now witnessing a resurgence that promises to redefine its future.

Formerly known primarily as farmland for the Ikorodu people, Ogijo has undergone a significant evolution in recent years. With the emergence of new leadership and a collective desire for progress, the surrounding communities have rallied behind a vision of expansion and rejuvenation.

Ogijo, encompassing approximately 127 villages, holds a rich history with multiple

interpretations of its name. Whether derived from the local pepper known as "Oko Ogijo" or the tale of a woman selling pap who discovered a life-giving water source, the community's roots run deep.

Under the guidance of Oba Kazeem Kashimawo Olaonipekun Gbadamosi, the Ologijo of Ogijo, significant strides have been made towards revitalizing the area.

While some aspects of Ogijo's history remain shrouded in secrecy, its significance as a source of water and a hub for surrounding villages is undeniable.

Crucially, Ogijo maintains strong cultural ties, particularly with the Akarigbo kingdom, reflecting a bond akin to that of a father and son.

Festivals and



traditions are shared across communities, fostering a sense of unity and shared heritage.

Recent infrastructure developments have been pivotal in reshaping Ogijo's landscape.

Improved roads, restored electricity, and ongoing construction

projects, including a modern market and a new palace, signify a shift towards modernity and progress.

Residents of Ogijo have welcomed these changes with open arms, expressing gratitude for the enhanced quality of life

and newfound economic opportunities.

Laura, a resident, praises the transformation, citing improved amenities and business prospects as key benefits.

As Laura reflects on the

changes that have taken place, she expresses a sentiment shared by many: "I'd prefer the Now Ogijo to the then Ogijo as it is now developed because people now have big businesses here in Ogijo."

"Ogijo is now a better place to live for us now," Laura declares, her voice filled with conviction and pride. "Children now have where they can go to play, we now have banks, good roads, and steady electricity."

For Olajumoke, a frozen foods seller, the restoration of electricity has been a game-changer, alleviating the burden of reliance on generators and boosting business efficiency.

As Ogijo continues on its path of development, the community stands as a testament to the power of perseverance and collective action. With each stride forward, it reaffirms its place as a vibrant and thriving enclave within the Ikorodu region.

## Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA Provides Relief Fund To 500 People

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In a bid to alleviate the economic hardships faced by its residents, the administration led by Builder Olusesan Daini, Chairman of Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA, disbursed a 10 million naira relief fund to 500 individuals on April 25th.

This initiative was prompted by the aftermath of the federal government's removal of subsidies, which significantly impacted businesses and individuals nationwide. During his address, Chairman Daini underscored the

significance of community support in times of adversity.

He empathized with the challenges posed by the subsidy removal, acknowledging its ramifications on both infrastructure and daily livelihoods.

To address these concerns, the LCDA decided to provide a 20,000 naira relief shot to households, elderly citizens, and individuals with special needs.

Out of the total relief fund, 10 million naira was disbursed in cash on the specified date, with the remaining amount earmarked for bolstering businesses



and fostering community development initiatives. Chairman Daini personally pledged to visit various locations, including markets and businesses, to extend support to those in need, irrespective of

recognition or publicity.

Addressing the issue of fluctuating exchange rates, Chairman Daini urged local traders to recalibrate their pricing strategies, particularly for goods unaffected by currency fluctuations.

He stressed that while challenges persist, the

government is steadfast in its commitment to financial restructuring for the collective prosperity of all citizens.

Moreover, Chairman Daini highlighted previous community-centric endeavors, such as the distribution of rice bags and grains by the federal government, alongside the forthcoming "Ecocares" program by the Lagos State government aimed at providing free food to communities.

Asiwaju Olorunfunmi Bashorun, a member of the Governor's Advisory Council (GAC) in Lagos State, voiced his support for Chairman

Daini's initiatives, affirming the government's dedication to improving citizens' lives.

He urged responsible use of the disbursed funds and assured residents of forthcoming palliative measures from the State Government.

Ho. Taiwo Orenuga, the APC LGA Chairman of Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA, lauded Chairman Daini for his benevolent acts, praising his alignment with APC's principles and fulfilling the community's expectations.

Expressing their gratitude, beneficiaries thanked Chairman Daini for the timely support and pledged to utilize the funds prudently.



# Oshodi- Isolo Council To Begin Another Phase of Community Projects

Kehinde Adeleye



The Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local government, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, is determined to provide the residents with the benefits of democracy.

He has announced plans to dig at least 10 borehole water projects across the council's seven wards, starting in the first week of May 2024.

Additionally, the council will focus on rehabilitating and constructing roads in the Shogunle area.

Oloyede promises that these projects will be completed using high-quality materials and within a short period.

He reassures residents of continued development efforts, stating that the government will not

stop until every corner of the council has access to infrastructure, envisioning a better future for Oshodi.

He said; "We will hit the ground running in the first week of May 2024 by constructing more roads, starting with Shogunle area of the council, digging of 10 more pipe borehole water for our people across the seven wards of the local government.

We are committed to bringing the benefits of democracy to our citizens by delivering infrastructure projects to every area of our council.

We will continue our efforts until every part of the community feels the positive effects of our government. Our goal is to create the best Oshodi possible through the completion of numerous projects, and we will

persist until we reach this goal.

Some of the streets where pipe borne hole water will be dig include Olori/Fagbola junction ,Abdulrasaq street, Adejumobi street, Aberuagba Street ,Rafiu Crescent and others

Some of the roads ads listed for rehabilitation include:

Saka Street, Shogunle, Aina Street, Shogunle, Araromi Street Shogunle and the construction of culvert at Aina/Ajisegiri Junction.

Oloyede promises to continue his development initiatives in the council area after finishing the current projects, and he asks residents to be patient, understanding, and supportive during the process.

## KOSOFE

# Bada Inspects Ongoing Primary Health Centre Project in Ikosi-Isheri LCDA

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area, Mrs SamiatAbolanle Bada has inspected the ongoing primary health centre being constructed by her administration. Echonews reports that the project is one the tremendous Infrastructural projects being carried out Bada

led administration. A hands-on approach to tracking and assessing the project's progress is demonstrated by the chairman's examination of the ongoing health center project. Important elements such as budget compliance, quality control, and progress assessment were

evaluated during the inspection. In her remarks at the inspection, she highlighted the project's relevance and impact on the local community. "This is one the fulfillment of our campaign promises to the residents of Ikosi- isheri LCDA, and we will never relent." "People are saying: what are they doing with the local

government funds? This is one of the projects of our administration and you can all see. I must commend Mr. President and Mr. Governor for giving the LG/LCDAs easy access to funds", she said. The inspection also witnessed an Oversight Exercise by the Legislative Team. The oversight exercise

conducted by the Legislative team enhances the work of the Chairman by offering a methodical review procedure and guaranteeing openness and responsibility. The lawmakers had the opportunity to carry out a performance evaluation, evaluating the project's success in relation to predetermined metrics

and objectives, under the direction of Council Leader Mr. Yinusa Salami. The cooperation between Ikosi- isheriLCDA's Executive and Legislative branches helps guarantee that this and other projects fulfill quality requirements, efficiently address community needs, and advance the field of healthcare as a whole.

# Somolu LG Chairman Calls For More Funding for Local Governments

By Saheed Afolabi

Somolu LG distributed to one thousand beneficiaries. Each recipient received N20,000, personally handed out by the council chairman. In his address to the beneficiaries, the council boss reiterated the local government's commitment to understanding and addressing the unique challenges faced by residents. While acknowledging

the efforts of the Federal Government under the leadership of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, Salawu emphasized the necessity of additional support at the grassroots level. "Our aim is simple, to make life easier for our people, to provide them with the support they need to weather the storm."



# Somolu LG Boss Lauds Sanwo-olu On Eko Care

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Somolu LG, Abdulhamed Salawu has applauded Lagos State governor, Babajide Sanwo-olu on the Eko Care initiative which have served as a relief to the residents. Salawu pledges to emulate the governor's exemplary leadership in ensuring the well-being of residents at the grassroots level in Somolu LG. While recognizing the importance of proactive governance, he vows to continue implementing initiatives that alleviate the challenges faced by constituents and improve their quality of life. During the event, Sanwo-Olu reiterated his administration's fulfillment of promises made including

initiatives in health, transportation, and education. Notably, the establishment of Sunday markets, provision of discounted food items, and commencement of medical outreach programs to highlight the government's commitment to addressing critical societal needs.



# Abdek Donates Items To Hospitals in Somolu

Kehinde Adeleye

Oyewole



The school management, led by Mrs. Omolola, and the Abdek students were graciously met by the Officer in Charge (OIC), Mrs. Oluwafunmilayo Samuel, and Mrs. Semiat ADEYEMI at the maternity and child service station under the shed port while they were at Akinwumi Ambode Diagnostic and Primary Health Care.

Operationally, Mrs. Semiat took some time to conduct a practical weight check for a few of the students. After that, OIC Oluwafunmilayo briefed the students and management about the center's regular service offerings, which include immunizations, treatment for malaria, lab tests, childbirth, and other health services.

Following the planned celebrations for the 35th anniversary of Abdek Private School, Durojaye one of the most prestigious schools within the Core Educational Foundation in Somolu and Lagos has carried out a corporate social responsibility program.

They donated items such as customized lab coats and aprons, bead sheets for the children's wards, packs of plastic drinks, packs of toiletries, packs of noodles, packs of fruit juice, packs of biscuits, packs of detergents, and so on, supporting the hospitals as they gave back to the local community in honor of the school's 35th anniversary.

The school which is owned by Mr. Oluwagbenga Abdulai, a well-known educationist, author, and distinguished politician during the week led by Mrs. Omolola Oyewole visited the Lagos State Government Hospitals in Somolu, Oguntolu, and Akinwunmi Ambode Diagnostic and Primary Health Care, Anifowoshe Street, Somolu, in order to activate their cooperative social responsibilities (CSR).

The administration and students at Lagos State Government Hospital, Oguntolu were cordially welcomed and given a tour of several hospital departments by Dr. Oja, the medical director, and Mrs. Ojo after the presentation of items by the Mrs Omolola

Mrs. Omolola in her remarks, acknowledged the good work and service offered on regularly basis by our hospitals and staffs to serve humanity, we deem it necessary as a private organization in compliance with our CSR policy over the years, we are duty bound to give little within our reach to support our hospitals, also seized the medium to reiterates the academic excellence and standard of teaching at Abdek, evidently to be the best Private School rooted in educational foundation recommended for our children and wards in Somolu Federal Constituency.

# Onilude Promises To Cooperate With Navy On Badagry Waterways

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry LG, Olu Segun Onilude has promised total cooperation with the newly deployed Commanding Officer of the Nigerian Navy Forward Operating Base Topo, Badagry, Navy Captain B. O Amakiri during an official visit to the council secretariat. Onilude applauded the newly deployed Commanding Officer alongside other top brass of the Naval Base commended men of the Nigerian Navy for the meticulous job they are doing in protecting Nigeria's territorial integrity, maritime and economic area of

interests. The council boss also assured Capt. Amakiri of his administration's support and cooperation as well as commitment to securing lives and property in the local government. He also reiterated that all hands must be on deck to maintain peace, law and order as well as fostering an enabling environment for peaceful coexistence and economic prosperity. Onilude and Capt. Amakiri deliberated extensively on diverse areas of collaboration and synergy, challenges and measures that can be



taken between and among critical stakeholders in Badagry local government as a border and coastal water bodies that serves as exit and entrance point to the country in checkmating human trafficking, smuggling, terrorism among other activities of security and economic saboteurs.

# Badagry Youths Declare Support For Princess Ogungbe



A group of youths in Badagry West known as Standard Boyz has declared support for Princess Sesi Ogungbe

who is vying for the position of chairman of Badagry West LCDA. According to the leader of the group popularly known as 'MAJE' he said the youth body is

confident in the personality of Hon Sesi sisting some of her support for the people, especially her ward and community Igbogbele where she hails from. Maje said that although he is a man, himself and his group are ready to give their unflinching support to the 1st woman chairmanship aspirant. "We do not need your money to support you, we are here to declare our support without fear or favour, we are agile youth, we have our work, we came here with our own 'okada' and cars not borrow-borrow, and we promise you that we will use every resources within our reach to support you. "Our camping for you has started from today, and we are hitting the villages door to door." The group also uses the opportunity to inform the aspirant to ensure the youth are carried along in terms of employment, training, empowerment, when she gets into office. Responding, Hon. Princess Sesi Ogungbe appreciate the group for their genuine love for her and support for her political aspiration.

# Nigerian Migrant Shares Struggling Experience in the UK

By Nurudeen Adebayo

A Nigerian man identified as @bee\_hot opened up about his challenges in a Tik Tok video while living abroad in the UK, shedding light on the misconception that life overseas guarantees instant success and prosperity.

Expressing his emotions, @bee\_hot lamented that despite being in the UK, he has yet to achieve the level of success many presume comes with living abroad.

Through tears, he revealed that there are unseen struggles and



complexities in navigating life in a foreign country.

"People saying come home, you think it's easy to go home like that?" he wrote in the video caption, emphasizing the financial constraints and emotional toll of returning empty-handed.

The video garnered supportive comments from fellow Nigerians abroad, with Ennywise acknowledging the difficulty of returning home without tangible progress and urging compassion.

However, others, like

yomi Smith \$, seemed to misinterpret @bee\_hot's tears as tears of joy, highlighting the contrast between perception and reality.

Oduilas echoed @bee\_hot's sentiments, acknowledging the challenges faced by migrants in the UK, while Rozz\_ey emphasized the importance of education or vocational skills before relocating abroad.

The video serves as a poignant reminder of the complexities of migration and the importance of understanding the realities faced by individuals seeking better opportunities overseas.

# Yoruba Actress, Onamade, Shares Encounter On Attempted Money Rituals

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Tolulope Onamade, a notable Yoruba actress, has bravely disclosed a chilling ordeal she faced when she narrowly escaped being used for money rituals after joining her friends for a hookup. In a revealing video posted on Talk To B5000's official Instagram page, Onamade recounted the harrowing experience, shedding light on the dangers lurking in certain social circles. The actress recounted how she was lured by a

man who promised her a week-long stay and a sum of one hundred thousand naira.

However, the situation took a sinister turn when her friend was caught stealing a hundred dollars from the man. In retaliation, the perpetrators vowed to use both Onamade and her friend for money rituals.

Subsequently, Onamade found herself taken to a shrine in Ogun State,

specifically in Ijebu, where the native doctor was poised to carry out the ritual.

However, to her immense relief, the native doctor declared her unsuitable for their purposes, prompting her eventual release.

Reflecting on the traumatic experience, Onamade emphasized the importance of vigilance and discernment, cautioning against the allure of easy money and the perilous consequences it may entail.



# Nollywood Star, Toriola, Bags Master's Degree from LAUTECH

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**N**ollywood actress Wumi Toriola is basking in the glow of academic achievement as she celebrates graduating with a Master's Degree from Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomosho, in Oyo State.

Taking to her Instagram page to share the exciting news, the Yoruba actress expressed her joy and gratitude towards Lautech for the opportunity.

In her announcement, she exclaimed,



“WHATEVER YOUR HANDS FIND TO DO, DO!!! It's convocation baby. Master's degree Done and Dusted... NEW LADDERS BLINKING!!!! Congratulations to me and class of 2022/2023 Academic session. Thank You LAUTECH.”

The comments section of her post flooded with congratulatory messages from fans and colleagues alike, showcasing their pride and admiration for Toriola's accomplishment.

One commenter, khazimdanmola, wrote: “Congratulations Padi

mi.....So proud of you always. More wins” While another, tofumi.yomide, expressed: “You did it my wonderful woman a very big congratulations to you

Similar sentiments poured in from others, with users like funmifocus and angel\_ufuoma, echoing heartfelt congratulations and support for Toriola's milestone.

Toriola's achievement marks a significant milestone in her journey, demonstrating her commitment to personal and academic growth alongside her successful career in the Nigerian film industry.

## Nigerian Woman Discovers Boyfriend is a Catholic Priest in the U.S

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**I**n a shocking revelation that has left many astounded, a Nigerian woman recently discovered that her boyfriend of three years is, in fact, a Catholic priest serving in the United States.

While seeking solace and advice, she turned to the popular Instagram account, Diaryofanaijagirl, sharing her

heartbreaking ordeal with followers.

Detailing her experience, the woman expressed her disbelief, stating that she had never suspected her partner's true vocation throughout their lengthy relationship. She recounted feeling betrayed upon learning the truth, especially after having

read similar stories but never fathoming she would become a victim herself.

Upon confronting her boyfriend, he purportedly confessed to his deception, citing his love for her and fear of losing her if she knew the reality. He outlined plans for their future together, envisioning her relocation to America once he retires

from his religious duties.

However, the woman vehemently refused to entertain such an arrangement, rejecting the notion of being involved romantically with a man dedicated to the priesthood.

The revelation sparked a flurry of reactions from Instagram users, with some expressing shock and others offering

advice.

One commenter, theashabee\_, lamented the gravity of the situation, highlighting the perceived betrayal of the priest's commitment to God. Meanwhile, scentsby\_perfboss suggested that the priest should reconsider his calling, urging him to leave the priesthood.

Others, like dshoecollector and kellyzagz, advocated for the priest to resign and pursue a relationship with the woman openly. In a lighter vein, naarah16 humorously remarked on the irony of being involved romantically with a man committed to his divine duties, likening it to being a "sidechic with the Alpha and Omega."

# Nollywood Star Uche Ogbodo Preaches Intra-Industry Marriages

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian actress Uche Ogbodo has sparked a conversation within the Nollywood community by urging her colleagues to consider marrying within the industry rather than seeking life partners outside of it. Addressing the increasing challenges faced by unmarried actors and actresses in finding suitable partners, Ogbodo emphasized the unique understanding and compatibility that fellow actors can offer. She asserted that a colleague would comprehend the demands of the profession better and therefore make a more suitable spouse. Highlighting the advantages of marrying within Nollywood,

Ogbodo made a case for actresses in particular, declaring them to be the best wives. She encouraged her peers to embrace the idea of intra-industry marriages, suggesting that such unions would foster greater understanding and support between partners. In her statement, Ogbodo expressed her conviction, stating, "LOOK WITHIN THE INDUSTRY, Husband full there, Wife Full. Marry your selves." Her remarks have stirred debate and reflection within the Nollywood community about the dynamics of relationships and marriage in the entertainment industry.



# Chess Master: Tunde Onakoya Is An Angel With Unwavering Determination-Father

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In a recent interview with City Edge TV, the father of Nigerian chess prodigy Tunde Onakoya, Pa Onakoya, shared a heartwarming anecdote about his son's journey to success in the world

of chess. Initially hesitant about Tunde's devotion to chess, Pa Onakoya confessed to interfering with his son's games in an effort to prioritize his studies. However, as Tunde's passion for the

game persisted, Pa Onakoya gradually realized the depth of his son's talent and commitment. Expressing his immense pride and admiration for Tunde, Pa Onakoya described him as an "angel" with an

unwavering determination to succeed in whatever he pursues. Reflecting on his earlier attempts to steer Tunde towards a different path, Pa Onakoya acknowledged his oversight, admitting, "I

didn't know that chess would make him popular like this." Despite his initial reservations, Pa Onakoya now encourages parents to support their children's passions wholeheartedly, recognizing the transformative power

of nurturing their interests. As Tunde Onakoya continues to make waves in the world of chess, his father's journey from skepticism to pride serves as a testament to the importance of embracing and fostering individual talents.

# LASG Clamps Down On Illegal Estate Developments In Epe Axis

By Mohammed Adekola

Lagos State Government has clamped down on illegal estate developments in the Epe corridor of the State.

Acting on a State Executive Council directive, the Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide led a special joint exercise to the axis on Tuesday 23rd, and Wednesday 24th of April 2024, where erring estate developers were served notices and requested to come forward to the relevant authorities to perfect their documents.

He said that under no circumstances should

any developer go ahead and start the development of estates without obtaining layout approval, Planning Permit, and Fencing Permit as may be required, adding that these requirements were to ensure the attainment of organised, livable and sustainable built environment.

He explained that layout approval was required for proper arrangement of the estate to give room for appropriate services and infrastructure while planning permit addressed the planning requirements on individual plots in the estate.

He urged property uptakers and buyers to

be weary of investing in estates without approval to avoid needless embarrassment from government officials or risk of losing their property or investment to demolition as some of the estates springing up in the axis, especially those that might be encroaching on committed lands, were not approvable.

To avoid any ugly situation, he advised developers and buyers into estates to access the Planning Information service of the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, which would give adequate information on the approvable development in an



area whilst giving details of the zoning arrangement and the right approval order for a given location.

Engr. Oluwole Sotire, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Physical Planning, said that staff of the Office of Physical Planning were always ready to guide developers through the process while urging them to ensure that they get all required approvals before embarking on any

project.

Tpl. Kehinde Oshinaike, the General Manager, Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Authority, LASPPPA, implored property owners and developers to seize the opportunity provided by the 90-Day Amnesty period on the Planning Permit for completed buildings to regularise their developments by obtaining Planning Permits on their existing

buildings.

Areas touched by the exercise include Alaro City, Okorisan, Igboju, Molajoye, Shaala, Ketu, and Epe, where notices were served on estate developments such as Patriot Bay Estate, Smart City Estate, the Legend and Hilton Royal Garden.

Others are Greenland Estate, Lagacy City, Isinmi Lagos, Dominion City, Topview Estate, and Ibi Alafia, among others.

## Oba Aladepekun Speaks on The History of Odo-Egiri

By Mohammed Adekola



“Aladepekun” throne “Having stayed with his elder brother, the Omola of Odomola, Adegbo opted to leave for the left side of the Omola space to settle and start a new life called Larugba. The place called ‘Larugba’ was said to be inhabited by the Aiye deity.

Aladepekun of Odo-Egiri kingdom in Eredo LCDA, Epe, Lagos State, HRM Oba Musiliu Abiola Oliwo, has shared profound insights into the historical perspectives of the town.

The monarch highlighted the town's relationship with sister communities such as Odomola and Noforija, emphasizing the essence of preserving the practice of the African traditional religion alongside peaceful coexistence with foreign religions.

Oba Musiliu Abiola Oliwo traced the lineage of his ancestors from Ijebu-Ode town in Ogun State, narrating their migration alongside elder brothers, Aladeshonyin of Odo-Noforija and Omola of Odomola, to establish the unique kingdom of Odo-Egiri. He recounted the challenges faced by his progenitor, Adegbo, including the appeasement of potent deities and the subsequent intervention sought from Ifa priests, culminating in the coronation of the

“Adegbo returned to Ijebu-Ode to seek help from the then-Awujale Sogunle in the 18th century to resolve the calamity of the tragic deaths of his offspring. The trip saw the invitation of Ifa priests from the Iwopin kingdom, who consulted the oracle, and revealed that there exists a powerful female deity adorned with beautiful hairs.

“Adegbo was then told to shift base a little, and the successful killing of a tiger culminated in the cognomen of the Odo-Egiri throne called “Aladepekun.” The place is now called Egiri Metti, with the “egiri” coined from the directive to stand firm in the place (duro giri si ibi bayii),” he said.

Emphasizing the rich cultural heritage of the Odo-Egiri kingdom, Oba Musiliu Abiola Oliwo highlighted the significance of the Kilajolu festival as a spiritually potent tool to ward off evil and its tourism potential. He spoke of the town's blessed water bodies, particularly the Aiye River, which flows

through to Epe, the 20-kilometre Itasin boundary, and its cordial relationship with neighbouring towns celebrating the festival. The monarch underscored the importance of regular worship of the kingdom's deities in maintaining peace and warding off calamities.

Addressing the importance of worshipping the kingdom's deities, Oba Oliwo credited the practice with warding off calamities and fostering peace and security within the community. He attributed the absence of bloodshed or violent incidents in the kingdom to the devotion to African traditional religion, citing the successful filming of Nigeria's acclaimed movie, “Tribe of Judah,” as a testament to the protective power of ancestral worship.

Oba Oliwo revealed plans for worshipping a deity later in the year, which shows up once every decade, reaffirming his commitment to preserving cultural heritage and promoting religious tolerance.

He expressed gratitude to the community for their support. He called upon government leaders, including President Bola Tinubu, Governor Babajide Sanwoolu, and Hon. Ismail Akinloye, to continue spearheading initiatives for the welfare and development of the people..

## Students of Pan-Atlantic University Shine at Inter-Institutional Quiz Competition

By Mohammed Adekola

Students of Pan-Atlantic University emerged as champions and first runner-up in the maiden edition of the inter-institutional quiz competition organized by ICAN Epe and District Society, under the leadership of Mrs. Hellen Deile.

Dr. Ipesu Fredrick, Head of the Accounting Department at Pan-Atlantic University, expressed joy and satisfaction at the outstanding performance of his students during the event held, at the Noforija Town Hall, Noforija, Epe, Lagos State.

He commended the organizing committee for providing a fair and competitive platform for students to showcase their knowledge and skills. He emphasized that the university's commitment to excellence in education, coupled with the dedication of its lecturers, has contributed to the success of its students in academic competitions such as this.

Highlighting the department's approach to education, Dr. Ipesu underscored the importance of blending academic rigour with practical industry experience. He emphasized the significance of preparing



students for accounting by providing theoretical knowledge and real-world exposure.

Dr. Ipesu further encouraged young students to consider pursuing a career in accounting, emphasizing the vast opportunities available in both the private and public sectors. He stressed the importance of upholding ethical standards and professionalism in accounting, noting that practitioners play a crucial role in driving economic development.

“It is a profession you will never regret. At the end of the day, you can work as an accountant, an auditor, a tax

consultant as well as a lecturer. The opportunities in the field are enormous and you can even be on your own as well. So, my advice to young ones who are interested in this noble profession is to take the opportunity in the financial world,” he stated.

Miss Ugwumadu Francis Kelech, the contest champion, expressed gratitude to her lecturers, parents, and friends for their support and encouragement. She emphasized the importance of thorough preparation and dedication in achieving success in academic competitions. “It is not truly easy to prepare for such a competition because you never know where the questions are to come from. So, it is all about trying to study as much as you can, and hope for the best,” she said.

# Adedeji Advocates Synergy Between State Assemblies and Executive Arm

Kehinde Adeleye

The member representing Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency I at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Mr. Adewale Temitope Adedeji, has called on state assemblies to emulate the synergy between the Lagos Assembly and the Executive arm of government to achieve development.

He made the call while speaking as a panellist on the topic "roles and impact of lawmakers in society" at the maiden edition of the Rt. Hon Adebo Ogundoyin Students Legislative Summit held at the International Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, on Wednesday.

Dissecting the topic, he said the cordial relationship between the Legislative and Executive arms has given birth to great infrastructural development for Lagos State.

He said, "For a state to

experience massive infrastructural development and progress, there is a need for the Legislative and Executive arms to be in tandem.

In Lagos State, we have a House that stands alone. A House that has its autonomy.

Before we pass any law, it goes through the first and second reading to the public hearing and before it is signed into law, it is always sent to the Executive arm of government to see if they are comfortable with what we have given and what we have proposed to them.

So, we tend to meet halfway, and then they decide. Once that is done, it is then passed into law. So, we have a relationship whereby everyone is playing their part in terms of the separation of powers as laid down by the constitution.



"So, it is possible for an executive arm to have a close relationship with the Legislative arm because the executive arm believes the Legislature is a watchdog for their decisions and activities.

But they (Lagos State) have a cordial relationship between both arms, and that has made Lagos develop very fast in terms of budget appropriations, which is key to the activities of the

Executive arm, and that is why you see infrastructure developments springing up across the state.

"If the Executive is not in favour of a bill, it is not passed. So, before bills can be passed into laws, there must have been an agreement between the Executive and Legislative arms.

He also highlighted the need for public engagement.

"After the second reading of bills, the entire public is invited to the House, and a communique is given back to the people and receives their communique, taking the necessary input into consideration, and then it is passed into law.

He added that "lawmakers also do stakeholder engagement where everyone goes home and holds a meeting with his constituents to inform them of what has been done while taking back their requests to the House, which is sent to the Governor and forms part of our budget for the following year."

Responding to a question from one of the students from the Yaba College of Technology on what he has done for his constituents in relation to education, Mr. Adewale Temitope said through the ATA-EI, over 4,000 students have benefited from free JAMB forms; 1,000 plus students from free GCE, many

students are currently on scholarships to various tertiary institutions while people above 40 years have also benefited from the free adult education classes as part of moves to make Ifako-Ijaiye Local the most educated LG in Nigeria by 2037.

Some of the dignitaries at the event included Gov Seyi Makinde of Oyo State, a former Senate President, Bukola Saraki, represented by a former Repls member, Mr. Golu Timothy, Speakers of the Osun and Ekiti House of Assemblies, Rt. Hon Adewale Egbedun and Rt. Hon Adeoye Aribasoye, respectively; Minister of State for Youth, Ayodele Olawande; Soun of Ogbomoso land, Oba Afolabi Ghandi Olaoye; APC national youth leader, Dayo Israel, Oyo State House of Assembly members, amongst others.

## ALIMOSHO

# Ayuba Engages Stakeholders in Alimosho Federal Housing Estates

Kehinde Adeleye

The Deputy Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Member of the House of Representatives for Alimosho Federal Constituency, Mr Ganiyu Adele Ayuba, organized a significant meeting with stakeholders of Gowon Estate and Shagari Estate in Lagos.

The meeting, attended by politicians, CDC executives, and estate stakeholders, took place at the Council Hall of Mosan-Okunola

Local Council Development Area.

Ayuba expressed the importance of engaging with estate stakeholders following his motion on the poor road conditions in the estates.

Additionally, he thanked them for their support during the previous general election for APC candidates.

Efforts have been made by the lawmaker to coordinate with government agencies for the road network rehabilitation in the

Federal Housing Estates and initiate beneficial projects in the constituency.

Princess Olabisi Adebajo, the Chairman of Mosan-Okunola LCDA, appreciated Mr. Ayuba for representing the constituents' needs in the legislature.

Mr. Rotimi Ogunwuyi, an APC leader, mentioned the purpose of the meeting was to address communal development issues with estate stakeholders.

Mr. Rasheed Abiodun Mafe, a former LCDA Chairman, praised the



lawmaker's efforts and urged continued cooperation between the estate communities and the government.

Pa Abel Badejo, the pioneer LCDA Chairman, highlighted the importance of scrutinizing

government activities on the housing estates to ensure informed decision-making.

In response to the constituents' requests, Ayuba assured stakeholders of being updated on government projects and emphasized efforts to create job opportunities for youth in the constituency.

Some of the executives of various CDAs and CDCs of the estates present were Mr. Olufemi Ojo, Mr. Rasheed Onisemo, Mallam Musa K. O., Alhaji Oyebanji Dauda, and Adegboju Onikoyi.



# Aruwe Charges Community Leaders To Play Active Roles In Government

By Saheed Afolabi

Leaders of the newly constituted Community Development Associations (CDA) in Mushin Local Government have been enjoined to play active roles in grassroots development by the vice chairman of the council, Tunbosun Aruwe. In his address, the Supervisor for Agriculture and Social Services, Shakiru Oyefolu, expressed appreciation to the council chairman, Emmanuel Bamigboye, for his laudable social development programmes in Mushin. He emphasized that the Chairman is not relenting as he has

promised to roll out more grassroots development projects in the year 2024. The Special Assistant (SA) to the Chairman on community affairs, Alhaji Aliu Sekoni, enlightened the community leaders on some of their responsibilities to the people and the Local Government. He highlighted that the CDA leaders should position themselves as the mouthpiece of members in their community, act as agents of the government, play the role of Development Ambassadors and always facilitate mutual relationship between members of the community and



political office holders. The training which was organised by the department of Agriculture and social services, was aimed at equipping the newly elected excos of the 56 Community Development Associations in Mushin on how to perform

their leadership roles in their various CDAs. The programme provided the participants with requisite knowledge and skills to mobilise members of the community on partnership with the government in carrying out various developmental projects across the communities in Mushin. The participants were educated on various aspects of leadership skills by the professional educators. Participants includes chairmen, secretaries and treasurers from each of the 56 CDA from the 10 wards in Mushin LG. After the training, all the participants were issued certificates of participation.

# Major Projects Near Completion In Mushin

By Saheed Afolabi

Some major projects in Mushin LG are nearing completion under the leadership of the council boss, Mr Emmanuel Bamigboye. The LG announced the upgrade of the Alasalatu street, and the near completion of the housing estate and others. The Mushin LG Housing Scheme project is set to serve the people of the community in acquiring a home of their own through a favourable payment method. The prize of the housing

scheme is yet to be made public but according to some sources who pleaded anonymity, the housing project will be ready for commissioning soon without any specific date in sight. The perimeter fence rounding St. Jude, Ilasamaja Road, Morayo, Odu-Abore, Mainland Model, Layi Oyekanmi Primary Schools in Mushin have also been given a new look by the Mushin LG.



# Entrepreneurship: Bamishile Launches Tamar Foundation To Empower Nigerian Women

Abolaji Adebayo

A business cum social entrepreneur, Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile, has launched a Foundation for the development of women folk in Nigeria.

The non-profit organisation, christened Tamar Women Skills Development Foundation (TW SDF), is established to empower women for business and family.

Speaking during the launching which coincided with her birthday at Magodo GRA, Lagos on Wednesday, the Founder, Yemisi Bamishile said she was moved to establish the Foundation to move as many women as possible out of poverty by equipping them with the requisite skills to be relevant in the society.

Bamishile, the CEO of Abbacos Learning Solutions a management consultancy firm in Lagos, said the women must be equipped first with the required skills to work on their own to contribute to the

development of the family and the society as a whole.

She said the Foundation would serve as an avenue for her to give back to the society, while taking the women folk out of poverty and illicit activities.

His Foundation will serve as an avenue for me to empower the women as the builders of the nation. The Foundation is committed to training the women on various handiworks which they can do with their hands. After the training, we will monitor their progress and support them with loans and or grants. We are already partnering with some organisations especially financial organisations that could support our members.

"Our vision is to empower women success in life and in the market places. To achieve our aims, we be organising entrepreneurial skill empowerment trainings, coaching and mentoring targeted at women in various locations such as schools to catch them young, markets and other places.

"We will leverage the various technology devices to reach our participants including the social media.

"The Foundation is also aiming at having a Women Centre in Lagos where we can accommodate the thousands of women who come to Lagos daily, accommodate them and train them for six months before releasing them to the society to work rather than

being idle and become a burden to the government and the society.

"We therefore seek the Lagos State Government's support to make this a reality. Soon, we shall roll out our scheduled programme as we will first embark on sensitisation programme across the country starting from Lagos State."

The Guest Speaker at the

launching of the Foundation, Barr. (Mrs.) Okuchi Chima-Agbara, commended the Founder for establishing such an organisation, saying it would help many hopeless women in the society.

Speaking on the topic 'Navigating Successful Entrepreneurship in Nigeria', Chima-Agbara enlightened the participants on how to start

and a business and overcome the inherent challenges to stay and grow the business.

She, therefore, admonished women in the society to be part of the Foundation while urging the government, individuals, and other organisations to support the Foundation to achieve its objectives.



The Founder, Tamar Women Skills Development Foundation (TW SDF), Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile with others at the launching of the Foundation

## Airtel Leads Telecom Market Surge

Abolaji Adebayo

In a recent revelation from the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Airtel Nigeria has emerged as a standout performer in the country's telecommunications sector, marking significant gains in market share over the past year.

According to the NCC data, by the end of March 2024, Airtel Nigeria has grown its market share over the last year into a remarkable 29%, solidifying its position as a leading telecom provider in the region.

In stark contrast, other mobile network operators such as MTN and 9mobile have faced considerable setbacks, with MTN witnessing a notable 3.19% decline in market share and 9mobile experiencing a 0.5% decrease.

Even Glo, a prominent player in the market, saw a decline, albeit less pronounced, with a 0.58% drop in its share of internet subscribers.

Airtel Nigeria's success story goes beyond market share gains.

The company has also witnessed a substantial surge in its share of internet subscribers,

boasting an impressive 165% basis points increase.

This surge correlates with the launch of Airtel 5G, which the company began rolling out in June 2023 and underscores the telco's continued push to grow its customer base nationwide.

Airtel Nigeria's ascendancy in the telecom market comes at a pivotal moment when mobile network operators face challenges of rising operations cost and exchange rates volatility.

The company's recent results solidify its position as a frontrunner in Nigeria's telecom

## Airtel Boosts NIPR Public Relations Week with Onsite Unlimited Data Connection

Leading telecommunications service provider, Airtel Nigeria, has collaborated with the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) to provide with unlimited internet access at the institute's inaugural edition of the Nigeria Public Relations Week.

The event, themed 'Leveraging Public Relations as a Critical Asset for Nigeria's Economic and Reputation Renaissance' ran from Monday, April 22nd to Friday, April 26th, 2024, and with thousands of delegates across Nigeria at the prestigious June 12

Cultural Centre, Abeokuta, the Ogun State capital.

Speaking on the strategic collaboration, Director, Corporate Communications and CSR, Airtel Nigeria, Femi Adeniran, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership.

He said: "Airtel is proud to support the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations in its endeavour to advance the field of public relations. The relevance of public relations practice in Nigeria cannot be overstated, as it plays a vital role in shaping perceptions, managing

reputations, and influencing public opinion. Hence, our support is a demonstration of our commitment to empowering individuals and organizations with innovative solutions that drive progress and create an enabling society."

For the PR Week, the Organising Committee Chairman, Mr. Yomi Badejo Okusanya, said over 2,000 experts in the fields of economics, PR, and nation-building were gathered to discuss strategies for effectively communicating government policies and initiatives to the public.

The chairman of Badagry Divisional Football Association (BDFA), Dr Osondu Martins has explained the process of the Rising Stars Football League (RSFL). Osondu said the RSFL is the biggest football event he will handling as the head of the BDFA, while looking at the number of teams that will participate in the competition. He said there are mouthwatering prices for the teams while the winner takes

## Osondu Martins Explains Concept, Mechanisms of Rising Stars

home a whopping 11 million naira as the league will be played under the right security and no room for indiscipline will be tolerated. "Rising Stars Football League is one the biggest league I have ever come across as Badagry Divisional FA chairman. It's a project we need to hold for ourselves. We have over 96 teams that will participate in the tournament from

different parts of Lagos and the number of teams was picked due to the concept of the competition. "From 96 teams, we get the first knockout to 48, then the next knockout will be to 24 while the last knockout teams of 12 will now play the League proper with mouthwatering prices and the winner goes home with 11 million.



"The league would be played under tight security and all matches would be played in various venues in Badagry division. We purposely select some army barracks for venues as part of our security strategies so we are waiting to see any club misbehave during and after the match, such club would be severely punished."

## Dotun Coker Commends Organizers of Rising Stars Football League

By Saheed Afolabi



The vice chairman of Lagos State Football Association (LSFA), Dotun Coker has commended the organizers of the Rising Stars Football League for bringing the event to Lagos. Coker also implored the participating clubs not to take the competition as a do or die affair but rather

showcase marketable players. He advised the clubs to uphold the values of sportsmanship and fair play. "Let me first and foremost commend the organisers of the Rising Stars Football League and leadership of Badagry Divisional Football Association BDFA led by Dr Martins

Osondu for this initiative particularly the sponsor who happened to be the Rising Stars Football League management. "From what I see in this league, I implore the participants not to take the game as a do or die affair rather they should parade the players that would be marketable for the organisers at the end of the league. "We need to let the teams know that they need to admonish the spirit of sportsmanship "So it's to keep the boys busy all round the year and to engage them positively." 96 teams will participate in the Rising Stars Football League in Badagry where it will be streamed down to the final 12 that will take part in the league proper.

## Dynamic Queens Win Inaugural Standard Female Championship

By Saheed Afolabi

Dynamic Queens have emerged the champions of the inaugural edition of the Standard Female Championship in Ikorodu. Five clubs participated in the maiden edition of the tournament hosted by Nigeria elite referee, Shade Ekun in one of her ways in giving back

to the society. The a day competition was played in a round robin format where the team with the highest number of points was declared winner. Dynamic Queens proved superiority over the other clubs as they won all their matches to rake in 12 points from four matches with 13 goals scored and two goals conceded.

Ablaze Amazons came second with nine points thereby losing only a game which came against eventual champions, Dynamic Queens. E'clat Queens finished on the third spot with four points including a win, a draw and two losses. Adosag Ladies and Simario Queens finished with three points and one point each.





# For News Round Lagos

# Read Echonews

Read Echonews Online  
 Subscribe for Echonews Whatsapp E-Copy  
 www.echonews.ng Publisher@echonews.ng

Published by Echonews Newspapers Limited

21, Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo, Lagos. www.echonews.ng Email: echonews1111@yahoo.co.uk  
 Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed Tel, 08025378799 Editor: Abolaji Adebayo, Tel: 07061193610. Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade; Marketing executive: Tope Yussuf 07010496879