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Lagos Fights Fake Products, Recovers N1.5bn

By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos, Nigeria's commercial nerve centre is increasingly emerging as the primary entry point and distribution hub for counterfeit goods, exposing millions of consumers to substandard and potentially dangerous products.

(Mrs. Esther Olasantan, victim of fake product recovers her money through LASCOPA)

A recent study by Save The Consumers, titled "Why Fake Products Are a Problem in Nigeria," reveals that many counterfeit items first enter Lagos markets before spreading across the country, raising renewed concerns about regulatory capacity, enforcement gaps, and consumer safety.

From pharmaceuticals to food, electronics, and household items, the report warns that counterfeit products are now deeply embedded in everyday commerce, driven by economic pressure and weak oversight mechanisms. Investigations by



LASCOPA team resolving customers' issues

Echonews across major commercial hubs reveal a troubling trend: for nearly every genuine product, a counterfeit alternative exists, often indistinguishable to the average buyer.

At Alaba International Market, one of West

Africa's largest electronics trading centres, traders openly display products branded to resemble global manufacturers, with little assurance of authenticity.

An Echonews correspondent who visited the market to purchase a Sony television set later discovered he had unknowingly bought a counterfeit product. Although the item was returned, he was required to pay an additional amount to obtain a verified original.

In the food and beverage sector, investigations uncovered instances of untreated borehole water packaged and sold as certified bottled water, complete with falsified regulatory labels.

Even sachet water,

widely consumed across Lagos has not been spared. Industry insiders admit that a significant proportion of products in circulation may not meet basic safety standards.

The risks are most severe in the pharmaceutical sector.

Health experts warn that substandard and falsified drugs are contributing to a growing public health crisis, as patients often remain unaware that medications, they rely on may be ineffective or harmful.

Despite ongoing enforcement by regulatory agencies such as NAFDAC and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria, counterfeit networks continue to evolve, exploiting porous borders and

weak market surveillance systems.

In 2025 alone NAFDAC sealed over 3,000 shops within the Idumota Open Drug Market in Lagos in the first week of operations.

During the raid, officials uncovered alarming violations, including vaccines stored in dilapidated, unventilated rooms sealed with iron sheets, posing severe health risks.

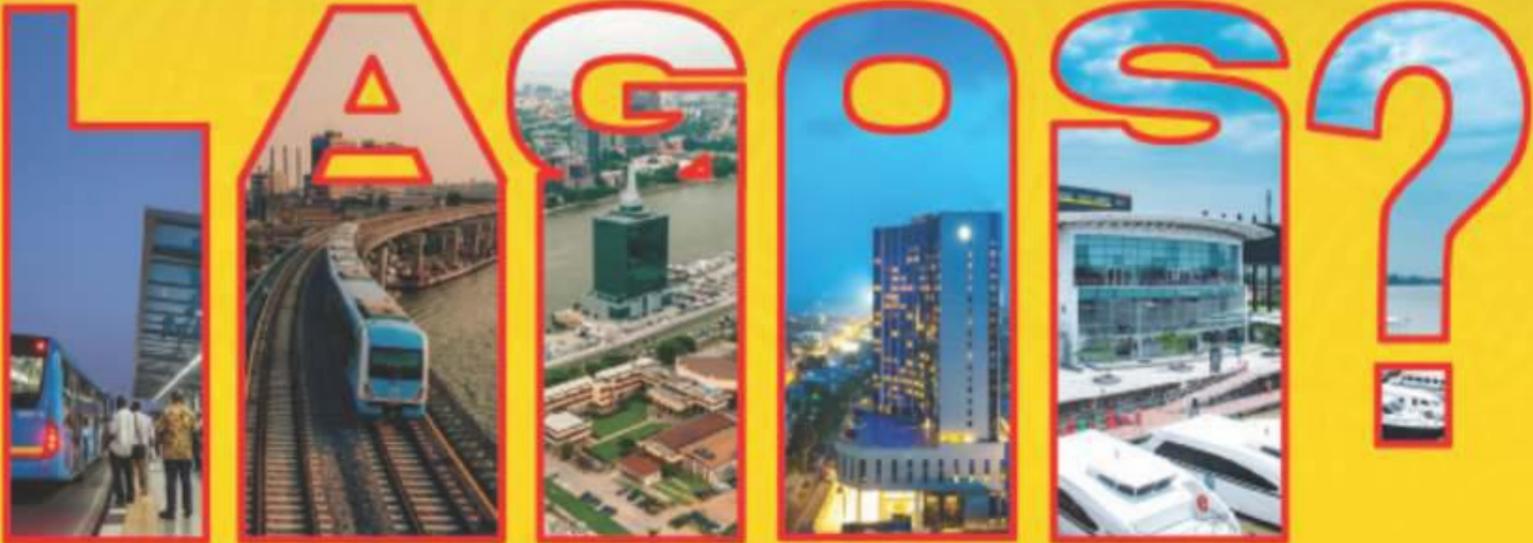
With inflation eroding purchasing power, many consumers are compelled to prioritise affordability over quality, creating fertile ground for counterfeiters.

Echonews indicate that buyers frequently opt for cheaper alternatives, sometimes knowingly, but often without understanding the risks involved.



Customer checking the quality of a product

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Lagos Fights Fake Products, Recovers N1.5bn

Continued from page 2

The Save The Consumers study identifies key drivers of the counterfeit trade, including: High demand for low-cost goods; Weak enforcement mechanisms; Limited consumer awareness; Inefficient supply chain monitoring; Rising Complaints and Partial Recovery.

Figures from the Consumer Protection Agency (LASCOPA) show that over 20,000 consumer complaints were recorded between 2022 and early 2026, many linked to fake or substandard products. Within the same period, the agency facilitated the recovery of more than 1.5 billion for affected consumers.

The cases span multiple sectors, including retail, real estate, telecommunications, and e-commerce, with most disputes resolved through mediation rather than prolonged litigation. For many Lagos residents, the impact is personal. Mrs. Esther Olasantan, a businesswoman in Isolo, recounted losing 180,000 after purchasing a carton of fish that spoiled shortly after delivery.

"I went back to complain, but they refused to refund or replace it," she said. Her case was eventually resolved after intervention by LASCOPA, which secured a full refund and an additional 20,000 compensation.

Such experiences are becoming increasingly common, highlighting the human cost of weak enforcement systems.

While regulators continue to carry out raids and seizures, industry observers argue that enforcement remains



largely reactive rather than preventive.

Counterfeit operators often resume operations shortly after crackdowns, rebrand and repackage products quickly.

Speaking to Echonews, LASCOPA General Manager Afolabi Solebo said the agency is intensifying both enforcement and

consumer education.

He disclosed that in the past five years, the agency has resolved over 11,000 cases and recovered more than 860 million for consumers.

Solebo also issued safety advisories, warning against purchasing drinks exposed to sunlight and reiterating consumers'

rights.

"There is no legal basis for a 'no refund policy.' Consumers have the right to return unsatisfactory products," he said.

Experts argue that the counterfeit crisis reflects deeper systemic challenges, including: Rapid urbanisation without corresponding regulatory

capacity; Weak supply chain traceability; Limited investment in testing and certification infrastructure

Dominance of informal market systems

The Save The Consumers study recommends a multi-layered approach to tackling the crisis, including:

- Stronger border control and surveillance;
- Increased funding for regulatory agencies;
- Expanded consumer education campaigns;
- Adoption of digital product authentication systems and Greater collaboration between government and the private sector.

"Until these systemic issues are addressed, Lagos risks remaining a major gateway for counterfeit goods in West Africa.

For now, the burden continues to fall on consumers, many of whom must navigate a marketplace where authenticity is uncertain and safety is not guaranteed, the study said.



LASRERA Begins Crackdown On Unregistered Estate Agents

The Lagos State Real Estate Regulatory Authority (LASRERA) has intensified its enforcement drive against fraudulent and unregistered real estate practitioners operating in Lagos State, sealing the office of an unregistered agent in the Owutu area of Ikorodu.

The operation, carried out recently in collaboration with officers of the State Task Force, led to the closure of the office of an impostor, Demeny Ventures, who allegedly paraded himself as a registered LASRERA agent using a fake registration number. Speaking on the exercise, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Housing, Barakat Odunuga-Bakare, said the clampdown forms part of the State Government's ongoing efforts to sanitise the real estate sector, protect residents from fraudulent practices, and restore public confidence in property transactions.

She reiterated that only duly registered and certified practitioners by LASRERA are permitted to operate within the State, warning that individuals and organisations engaging in unlicensed

real estate activities will continue to face strict enforcement actions.

According to her, the enforcement initiative comes amid rising complaints from residents who have fallen victim to fake estate agents and property developers.

"Reports indicate that fraudulent practitioners often collect money from multiple tenants for the same property or sell non-existent plots of land to unsuspecting buyers," she said.

Odunuga-Bakare further disclosed that LASRERA has strengthened its regulatory mechanisms through enhanced monitoring of real estate transactions, improved registration processes, and prompt investigation of complaints. She added that the Authority has successfully resolved numerous disputes and facilitated the recovery of funds for victims of property-related fraud through mediation and regulatory interventions.

The Special Adviser urged residents to always verify the registration status of estate agents and property developers before entering into any property transaction, while also encouraging members of the public to

report suspicious activities to LASRERA for prompt action.

She reaffirmed the State Government's commitment to ensuring transparency, accountability and professionalism within the real estate sector, noting that any individual or organisation found violating the law will be prosecuted accordingly. Speaking at the premises of the sealed office located on Oladele Adeniji Street, off Isawo Road, Owutu Agric, Ikorodu, the Director of Compliance and Enforcement, LASRERA, Deji Badejo, said the action was taken following credible intelligence on the activities of the suspect.

"Today's operation is in response to reports of an individual in this area impersonating LASRERA with a fake registration number and defrauding unsuspecting members of the public, particularly accommodation seekers," he said.

Badejo noted that the Authority acted in accordance with the provisions of the LASRERA Law 2022 by sealing the office, pending further investigation and necessary regulatory

actions.

He added that the enforcement exercise would be sustained and extended to other parts of the State, with increased focus on intelligence gathering to identify, apprehend and

sanction fraudulent estate agents.

The Director also called on the public to support LASRERA's efforts by reporting suspicious activities through its dedicated hotlines:

LNSA GM, Oyekan, Visits IGP, Disu



The General Manager of the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency Prince Dr. Ifalade Ajasa Oyekan, FISN, has paid a courtesy visit to the Inspector-General of Police, Olatunji Disu, at the Force Quarters in Abuja. The visit highlighted the critical role of inter-agency collaboration in strengthening internal security and ensuring the protection of lives and property across Nigeria. It also provided a platform for both leaders to deliberate on strategies aimed at enhancing operational effectiveness within their respective agencies.

During the meeting, Prince Oyekan commended the IGP for his remarkable commitment to innovation in policing, particularly his deployment of technology during his tenure as Commander of the Rapid Response Squad (RRS). He expressed optimism that such progressive initiatives would be replicated at the national level to improve intelligence gathering, response time, and overall policing outcomes.

The General Manager further appealed for the support of the Nigeria Police Force in providing structured training programmes for personnel of the Corps, emphasising the importance of continuous capacity building in boosting operational efficiency.

In his response, the Inspector-General of Police, Olatunji Disu assured the delegation of his full support, pledging to collaborate with the Agency in strengthening its operational capacity. He reiterated his commitment to promoting synergy among security agencies as a means of enhancing safety and security nationwide.

Present at the courtesy visit were the DIG Margaret Agebe Ochalla - DIG Force Criminal Investigation Department; DIG Umar Shehu Nadada, mni, DIG Department of Operations; AIG Olabode Adeleye, Force Secretary, and Mr. Lateef Ajao, Director of Operations and Monitoring, LNSA amongst others.



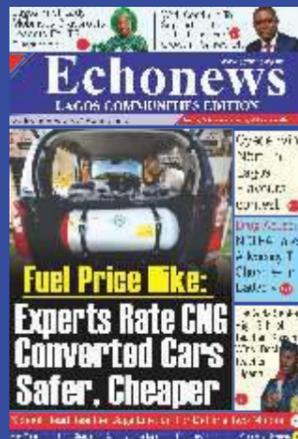


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Lagos Leverages Fashion, Culture To Strengthen Image

Lagos State Government has reaffirmed its strategic use of fashion and culture as tools for global positioning, as the Miss Nigeria Beauty & Fashion Fair 2026 took centre stage in showcasing the nation's creative strength and cultural identity.

The event, held at Eko Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island was part of the Miss Nigeria Patrons and Board Dinner / Daily Times Young Fashion Designer of the Year Award, and had in attendance a diverse audience of industry stakeholders, creatives and cultural enthusiasts.

In her keynote address, Lagos State

Commissioner for Tourism, Arts, and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka, highlighted the pivotal role of fashion and the arts in shaping global perceptions of Nigeria, noting that Lagos continues to lead as a hub for innovation, creativity, and cultural expression in Africa.

She described the Miss Nigeria platform as a longstanding institution that has evolved beyond a beauty pageant into a vehicle for promoting leadership, enterprise and national identity since its inception in 1957.

According to the Commissioner, this year's theme, "She is Made of More," reflects

the expanding influence of Nigerian women as key drivers within the creative and cultural space, contributing significantly to economic growth and global visibility.

She noted that Lagos remains a fertile ground for emerging talents who are redefining fashion by transforming indigenous materials into globally competitive designs, thereby preserving heritage while advancing modern expression.

Represented at the event by the Executive Secretary of the Lagos State Film and Video Censors Board, Mrs. Bukola Agbaminoja, the Commissioner also

underscored the growing importance of sustainability within the industry, commending initiatives such as the Green Girl Foundation for promoting environmentally conscious practices.

She emphasised that the integration of "Green Fashion" into the creative ecosystem aligns with global trends and supports long-term development.

Highlighting key components of the initiative, she stated that programmes such as the Miss Nigeria Travelogue and the Beauty & Fashion Fair serve as critical platforms for projecting Nigeria's rich cultural assets to the international

community, while also stimulating tourism and investment.

She encouraged young designers and entrepreneurs to harness their creativity as a catalyst for transformation, urging them to create value beyond the runway by driving innovation, generating employment and strengthening Nigeria's cultural footprint globally.

The Commissioner commended the Miss Nigeria Organisation and its Chairman, Rita Dominic-Anosike, for sustaining a legacy that continues to nurture talent and inspire excellence across generations.



Lagos Reaffirms Commitment To Clean Energy Transition at WACEE 2026

The Lagos State Government has reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to accelerating clean energy adoption and driving sustainable development across the State and the West African region at the 14th edition of the West Africa Clean Energy and Environment Trade Fair & Conference (WACEE 2026), held from March 17-18, 2026, at the Landmark Event Centre, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Delivering the keynote address on behalf of the Honourable Commissioner for Energy and Mineral Resources, Mr. Biodun Ogunleye, the Overseeing Permanent Secretary, Engr. Abdulhafiz Toriola, highlighted the State Government's bold vision, strategic policies, and ongoing investments aimed at advancing West Africa's green transition.

In his address, the Honourable Commissioner described the conference theme, "Accelerating West Africa's Green Transition: Innovation, Policy & Investment," as both timely and critical, noting that it underscores the urgent need to address climate change while unlocking the vast economic potential within the renewable energy sector.

He emphasised that Lagos State, under the leadership of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, is not only committed to clean energy in principle but is actively investing in innovative and scalable solutions to power a sustainable future.

A major highlight of the



State's clean energy drive is the ambitious 2GW Lagos Grid-Scale Solar Programme - one of the largest subnational renewable energy initiatives in Africa. The programme is designed to diversify the State's energy mix, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and significantly increase the contribution of renewable energy to the grid, while enhancing industrial productivity, improving energy affordability, and positioning Lagos as a leader in Africa's clean energy revolution.

Complementing this effort is the Imole Eko Programme, which is expanding access to solar energy in underserved and low-income communities, thereby strengthening energy security and promoting inclusivity.

The State Government is also advancing the solarisation of public infrastructure, including plans to retrofit up to 50,000 streetlights with

solar technology to reduce emissions, lower operational costs, and improve efficiency.

Ogunleye further said that Lagos has recorded significant progress in deploying renewable energy solutions across critical sectors. These include solar installations in 11 Primary Health Care Centres in rural and peri-urban communities, electrification of 172 schools, and installations in General Hospitals at Ketu-Ejinrin and Ikota. Solar-powered systems have also been deployed in key public institutions such as LTV 8, Lagos Central Mosque, the Chapel of Light, and INEC offices. Additionally, over 22,000 streetlights have already been installed under Phase I, with Phase II expected to deliver an additional 50,000 installations.

He stated that these initiatives are already yielding tangible results, including

improved energy reliability, increased private sector participation, and growing investor confidence, further positioning Lagos as a premier destination for green investment and innovation in West Africa.

Ogunleye emphasised that innovation in both technology and policy remains central to Lagos State's green transition strategy.

He noted that the Lagos Electricity Sector Reform Law has established a framework for a viable subnational electricity market, enabling greater private sector participation, encouraging competition, and prioritising renewable energy development.

He added that Lagos is also laying the foundation for electric mobility through the development of charging infrastructure and pilot programmes for electric buses and two-wheelers, to

become the electric mobility hub of West Africa.

Speaking on investment opportunities, the Honourable Commissioner highlighted the transformative impact of the Electricity Act 2023 and the Lagos Electricity Law 2024 in redefining governance structures within Nigeria's energy sector. He noted that these frameworks provide clarity, strengthen regulatory institutions, and create viable entry points for renewable energy developers, independent power producers, and infrastructure investors. Ogunleye assured that the Sanwo-Olu-led administration remains committed to maintaining a transparent, stable, and investor-friendly environment through streamlined licensing processes, effective risk mitigation mechanisms, and strong public-private

partnerships.

The Honourable Commissioner called on investors, development partners, financial institutions, and technology innovators to take advantage of the vast opportunities within Lagos' evolving energy market, noting that the State is building a dynamic ecosystem where innovation can thrive and sustainable investments can flourish.

He underscored the importance of collaboration in achieving a successful energy transition, stressing that governments, the private sector, civil society, and international partners must work together to deliver a lasting impact. He highlighted the need to invest in emerging technologies such as battery storage, green hydrogen, and waste-to-energy solutions, while also exploring innovative financing models to support both large-scale infrastructure and community-based energy projects.

Reaffirming Lagos State's position as a gateway for sustainable investment and a leader in clean energy innovation, he urged all stakeholders to engage actively, build strong partnerships, and take decisive actions toward a cleaner, greener, and more prosperous future for West Africa.

The conference brought together key stakeholders, policymakers, and industry leaders to explore sustainable energy solutions and investment opportunities.

Lagos Commences 2026 Promotion Exercise

The Lagos State Government has commenced its 2026 promotion exercise for public servants on grade levels 01-05 in the mainstream civil service and those on Grade Levels 01-16 in the parastatal organisations, introducing a new evaluation process for senior officers as part of ongoing reforms in the state's civil service. The exercise comprises the Revised Structured Training Programme (RSTP) for officers on Grade Levels 01-05 in the mainstream civil service and Grade Levels 01-10 in the parastatal organisation, as well as the Structured Evaluation Assessment Programme (SEAP) for officers on Grade

Levels 12-16 in parastatal organisations. The Structured Evaluation Assessment Programme, which is being introduced, includes written examinations and computer-based tests and marks the first formal assessment for officers on Grade Levels 12-16 as part of promotion requirements. The initiative is aimed at ensuring that career advancement in the public service is anchored on competence, capacity development and performance, in line with the state government's commitment to a merit-driven system. The exercise is being held at the Public Service Staff

Development Centre, Magodo and the Women Development Centre, Agege, with 388 officers participating in SEAP and 4,870 officers undergoing the structured training programme. The Commissioner for Establishments and Training, Afolabi Ayantayo, who monitored the exercise, commended the orderly conduct of participants and the seamless coordination at the centres. He urged officers to approach the process with dedication and a strong sense of responsibility. Ayantayo added that the government is focused on building an agile and smart workforce, noting that the introduction of

SEAP would further ensure that promotions are tied to demonstrable knowledge, skills and competence. Also present at the monitoring, the

Permanent Secretary, Olubusola Abidakun, expressed satisfaction with the level of preparedness and organisation. She reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to

sustaining reforms that enhance productivity in the public service.

The exercise, which commenced today, will run through the week and end next week, and will feature training sessions and assessments designed to prepare officers for higher responsibilities.



Sanwo-Olu Celebrates Odogwu's Legacy

The Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has commended the distinguished career and contributions of the Chairman of Royal Exchange Plc, Mr. Kenny Ezenwani Odogwu, as he retires from active corporate leadership, describing his legacy as a testament to stability, integrity, and strategic vision in Nigeria's financial services sector. The Governor noted that Lagos, as the nation's commercial and financial hub, continues to value leaders who strengthen institutional resilience through sound corporate governance.



The Governor, represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr. Tajudeen Alao Mahmud, gave the commendation recently at the retirement ceremony held at the MUSON Centre, Onikan,

Lagos, in honour of Mr. Odogwu's years of distinguished service to Royal Exchange Plc and the Nigerian insurance industry. Sanwo-Olu noted that Mr. Odogwu's tenure coincided with a defining period in the

insurance industry marked by major regulatory reforms, including recapitalisation and strengthened solvency requirements. He added that the company's stability during this period reflected disciplined

leadership and clear strategic direction. "Mr. Odogwu, your career reminds us that true leadership is measured not by noise, but by impact and by the strength of the institutions left behind," the Governor stated. He emphasised that responsible corporate leadership remains vital to sustaining investor confidence and institutional credibility, particularly in periods of economic uncertainty. He further highlighted the critical role of financial institutions in advancing financial inclusion, strengthening risk management culture and

supporting sustainable economic growth, noting that Mr. Odogwu's professional journey will continue to serve as inspiration to emerging leaders in the sector. Governor Sanwo-Olu further congratulated Mr. Odogwu on his impactful career and wished him continued success, good health and fulfilment in retirement. The event was attended by eminent personalities including former President Olusegun Obasanjo; the Deputy Governor of Benue State, Dr. Sam Ode, and other key stakeholders.

OEQA Visits PMO To Boost Efficiency In Schools

In a strategic effort to strengthen institutional resilience and enhance education quality across schools in Lagos State, the Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA) has paid a courtesy visit to the Parastatals Monitoring Office (PMO) to deepen collaboration and promote improved service delivery, accountability, and institutional excellence.

Welcoming the OEQA team to the PMO at the Secretariat, Alausa, on Monday, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Parastatals Monitoring, Mr. Ibrahim Babajide Obanikoro, commended the Office of Education Quality Assurance for its sustained commitment to strengthening the State's education system. He urged the Director-General to build on the solid foundation laid by his predecessors by ensuring continuity, strengthening institutional frameworks, improving foundational learning outcomes, and expanding access to quality education.

He further emphasised the need to leverage the National Identification Number (NIN) system to streamline regulatory processes and enhance operational efficiency. Additionally, he stressed the importance of enforcing strict compliance measures for defaulting schools, noting that such actions are critical to maintaining standards, promoting

accountability, and safeguarding the integrity of the education sector.

In his welcome address, the Permanent Secretary, Parastatals Monitoring Office, Dr. Olugbemiga Ayoola Aina, applauded the agency for its dedication to improving education standards across Lagos State. He highlighted the importance of expanding collaboration beyond the current engagement to include other relevant agencies, noting that such partnerships would encourage shared learning and the adoption of best practices that drive institutional efficiency

and effectiveness.

Dr. Aina emphasised the need for agencies to have a clear understanding of their internal structures, processes, and operational frameworks, stating that this clarity enhances coordination, strengthens accountability, and supports informed decision-making. He cautioned against isolated operations, noting that "working in silos hinders progress."

He also underscored the importance of consistent and effective monitoring in maintaining standards and encouraged OEQA to engage with both local and

international organisations that support education development, in order to strengthen capacity and achieve sustainable improvements in the sector.

In his remarks, the Director-General, Office of Education Quality Assurance, Dr. Sulaimon Olagoke Ogunmuyiwa, reiterated the agency's mandate to regulate and improve the quality of education in Lagos State.

He explained that OEQA ensures that all pre-tertiary institutions are properly registered, meet established standards, and operate within safe and conducive

learning environments.

He further described the agency as the audit arm of the education sector, responsible for conducting inspections and evaluations of school standards, learning conditions, and operational practices. He highlighted OEQA's strategic focus on continuous staff capacity development, strengthened inter-agency collaboration, and enhanced stakeholder engagement to improve oversight and service delivery.

Dr. Ogunmuyiwa also revealed plans to institutionalise school self-evaluation systems

and further professionalise quality assurance practices across the State. He expressed the agency's readiness to collaborate closely with the Parastatals Monitoring Office to drive institutional transformation through strengthened systems, structures, and operational processes. The visit underscored the critical role of collaboration in advancing effective governance and continuous improvement within the education sector. It concluded with a shared commitment by both agencies to deepen partnership, enhance regulatory efficiency, and promote a more responsive, accountable, and high-quality education system in Lagos State.



Lagos Eyes Energy Boost as Dangote Targets 1.4m bpd

Atume Terfa

Lagos is on the brink of another industrial milestone as the Dangote Group moves to significantly scale up operations at the Dangote Petroleum Refinery, reinforcing the state's growing stature as Africa's energy and manufacturing powerhouse. Fresh from stabilising production at about 650,000 barrels per day (bpd), the Lagos-based refinery is now targeting an ambitious jump to 1.4 million bpd—an expansion that could more than double its current output and reshape Nigeria's downstream oil sector. Spearheading this bold push is African industrialist Aliko Dangote, whose long-term vision is to transform Lagos into a global refining destination. Central to the expansion plan is a cost-efficient

“replication model,” which will see the duplication of the refinery's existing structure rather than building an entirely new system from scratch. This strategy is designed to fast-track delivery, limit engineering complexities, and keep the project within a projected three-year completion window. Already recognised as the world's largest

single-train refinery, the facility is expected to rival top global refining hubs once the upgrade is complete. More importantly, it signals a deeper transition in Nigeria's oil economy, shifting from crude export dependency toward large-scale local refining and value retention. Momentum for the project is building, with reports of a \$400 million equipment deal involving Chinese

heavy machinery giant XCMG. The partnership is set to accelerate inflows, and construction timelines while also supporting regional expansion into petrochemicals, fertiliser production, and integrated logistics—further anchoring Lagos as a diversified industrial ecosystem. For Lagos, the implications extend far beyond fuel output. The expansion is expected to

unlock thousands of jobs, improve foreign exchange flows, and strengthen regional supply chains across West and Central Africa. Industry observers also point to the potential for improved fuel stability and reduced import dependence, long-standing challenges in Nigeria's energy market. The development aligns closely with the Lagos State government's push to maximise the

economic potential of the Lekki Free Trade Zone, positioning it as a magnet for global investment and a launchpad for export-driven industries. As the refinery advances toward its 1.4 million bpd ambition, Lagos is not just expanding infrastructure; it is redefining its role in the global energy map, emerging as a strategic hub capable of powering economies far beyond Nigeria's borders.



The Lagos International Trade Fair Complex is undergoing a strategic transformation aimed at turning the once underutilised facility into a vibrant engine for global commerce. This development is a renewed push to strengthen Nigeria's position in international trade. At the centre of this recalibration is Barr. Vera Safiya Ndanusu, Executive Director of the Complex Management Board, whose leadership is driving a new vision focused on modernisation, investment attraction, and improved operational efficiency.

Located along the bustling Badagry Expressway, the trade fair complex has long served as one of West Africa's largest marketplaces, hosting thousands of businesses across sectors ranging from manufacturing and agriculture to electronics and logistics. However, years of infrastructural decline, congestion, and fragmented management structures have limited its full economic potential. Now, under a reform-driven agenda, the

Lagos Trade Fair Complex Repositioned as Global Commerce Hub

Atume Terfa



management is repositioning the complex to align with global standards. Industry observers note that this effort reflects broader national ambitions to boost non-oil exports and deepen Nigeria's participation in regional and international trade frameworks such as the African Continental Free Trade Area. Central to the new strategy is a focus on infrastructure upgrades, digital integration, and improved security. Plans are underway to streamline access roads, enhance

internal traffic flow, and introduce smart systems that will simplify business operations within the complex. These upgrades are expected to significantly improve the ease of doing business for both local traders and international investors. Equally important is the push for structured commercial activities. The management board is working to formalize trading clusters, regulate informal operations, and create a more organized ecosystem that

can attract multinational participation. Analysts say such reforms could transform the complex into a major export processing and distribution hub for West Africa. Barr. Ndanusu's approach also emphasizes partnerships. Engagements with private investors, trade associations, and government agencies are being strengthened to unlock funding opportunities and ensure sustainable development. This collaborative model, stakeholders

believe, is critical to repositioning the complex in an increasingly competitive global market. The renewed focus on the Lagos Trade Fair Complex comes at a time when Lagos continues to assert itself as Nigeria's commercial nerve centre. With proximity to major ports and a growing population of entrepreneurs, the complex is uniquely positioned to drive large-scale trade if properly managed. For traders and business owners within the complex, the

reforms signal hope for a more structured and profitable environment. Many believe that with improved infrastructure and governance, the trade fair could reclaim its status as a premier destination for commerce in Africa. As the transformation gathers pace, expectations are high that the Lagos International Trade Fair Complex will not only regain its lost glory but also evolve into a modern gateway connecting Nigerian businesses to global markets.

Lagos is ramping up efforts to tackle food shortages and supply chain inefficiencies as the first phase of its ambitious 1.2 million square metre food logistics hub nears completion, marking a major step in the state's long-term food security strategy.

The project, officially known as the Lagos Food Security Systems and Central Logistics Hub, is being developed in Ketu-Ereyun, along the fast-growing Epe corridor. Designed as the largest of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa, the facility is expected to transform how food is stored, processed, and distributed across Nigeria's commercial capital.

According to the Lagos State Government, the first phase—focused on cold and dry storage infrastructure—will be completed in 2026. Officials say this phase alone will significantly improve the state's ability to store food for up to three to six months, helping to



Lagos Food Hub Targets 2026 Completion

[Atume Terfa](#)

stabilise supply and cushion the impact of seasonal shortages.

The initiative is part of a broader response to Nigeria's persistent post-harvest losses, which experts say account for a significant portion of food waste due to inadequate storage and inefficient transportation systems. Lagos alone records billions of dollars in food transactions annually, yet a large share of produce is lost before it reaches consumers.

Once fully

operational, the hub is expected to accommodate over 1,500 trucks, house more than 1,200 shops and warehouses, and serve millions of participants across the agricultural value chain. It will also ensure a more reliable food supply for over 10 million Lagos residents, while creating jobs and boosting agribusiness activities.

State officials have repeatedly stressed that the project goes beyond storage. It is designed to modernise the entire food distribution

ecosystem, cutting out inefficiencies, reducing the number of middlemen, and lowering the cost of food for consumers. By integrating cold-chain logistics, the hub will allow perishable goods such as tomatoes and vegetables to be transported and stored under optimal conditions, reducing spoilage. The development is also tied to a larger agricultural investment plan running into hundreds of billions of naira, which includes initiatives such as rice

production schemes and support for agri-entrepreneurs. These efforts are aimed at strengthening local production while improving distribution networks across the state.

Beyond its economic impact, the food hub is expected to play a strategic role in emergency planning. With the capacity to store large volumes of food, Lagos will be better positioned to respond to supply disruptions, price volatility, and population growth pressures.

As construction

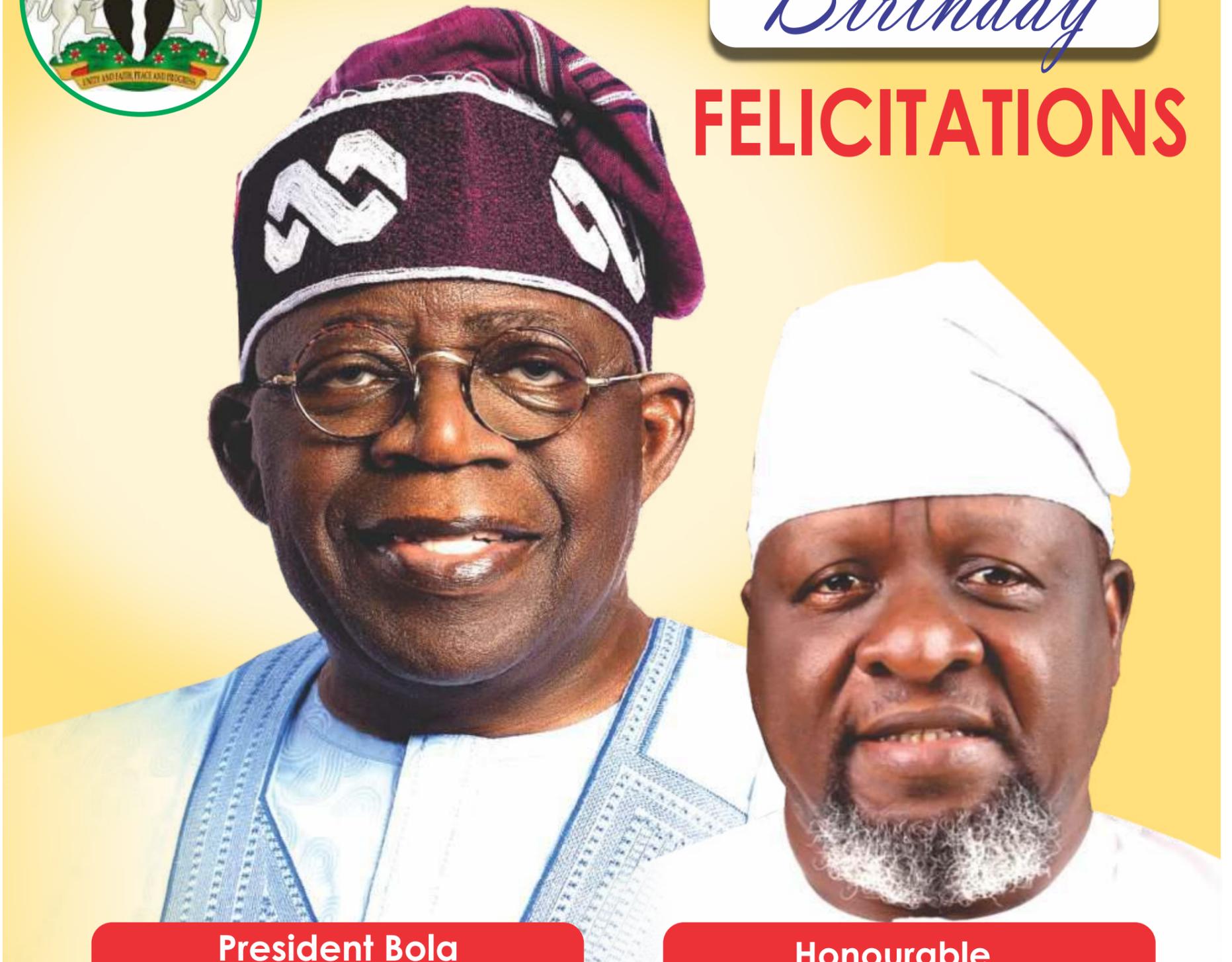
progresses, stakeholders say the success of the project will depend on sustained collaboration between government, private investors, and players across the agricultural value chain.

For a megacity that consumes more food than it produces, the Lagos food hub represents a critical infrastructure bet, one that could redefine food security, reduce waste, and reshape the future of agriculture-driven commerce in Nigeria.



Birthday

FELICITATIONS



**President Bola
Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR)**

**Honourable
Kehinde Bamigbetan**

Sol Investment Limited warmly celebrates His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR) on his 74th birthday and Honourable Kehinde Bamigbetan on the occasion of his 61st birthday.

We commend your outstanding leadership and contributions to national development, and wish you continued good health, wisdom, and greater accomplishments.

Sol Investment Limited is a fast-growing enterprise with nationwide presence, engaged in Bulk Cooking Gas trading, LPG plant operations, off-taking services, general contracting, and manufacturers' representation—delivering reliable energy and business solutions across Nigeria.

Happy Birthday.

Signed

High Chief Otugo Solomon
CEO, Sol Investment Limited



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Ojodu LCDA Prioritises Security with New Tactical Squad

Kehinde Adeleye



Security is taking priority in Ojodu, as the local council begins work on a new facility aimed at improving safety and rapid response within the community. The Chairman of Ojodu LCDA, David Olusegun Odunmbaku, has officially flagged off the construction of a Joint Tactical Squad (JTS) facility along Oba Ogunnusi Road, close to the busy Eweobaja Ultra-Modern Market. The project,

launched in the presence of Olohundare Moshood Jimoh, is designed to bring security operations closer to the people, ensuring faster response times and better protection for residents, traders, and businesses in the area. Speaking at the event, Odunmbaku described the initiative as a proactive step to address growing security concerns. He explained that

the facility will serve as a hub for tactical operations, helping to safeguard lives, protect property, and secure commercial activities, especially around key economic zones like the market. Beyond infrastructure, the chairman emphasized the importance of trust and collaboration between residents and security agencies. According to him,

the project reflects a people-focused approach where safety is built through partnership with the community. He also assured residents that the JTS facility will be completed within 3 months, while the ongoing Oke-Ira Police Station project is expected to be delivered before the end of the year. On his part, CP Jimoh commended the council's leadership, describing the

project as a strong example of how grassroots security can be improved. He noted that when law enforcement is closer to the people, it not only strengthens safety but also builds public confidence. "This is the kind of initiative that should be replicated. When communities feel secure, they can grow, businesses can thrive, and everyday life becomes more stable," he said. The

groundbreaking ceremony drew a wide range of stakeholders, including political leaders, traditional rulers, security officials, and community representatives all united by a shared goal of making Ojodu safer. For residents and business owners, the message is clear: security is no longer just a promise, it is becoming visible infrastructure that supports daily life and economic activity.

Faleke Distributes Cars, Tools, Equipment

Kehinde Adeleye



For thousands of residents, it was more than just an event, it was a moment of real impact and renewed hope. At the Police College in Ikeja, people from different parts of Lagos gathered for a mega empowerment programme hosted by Abiodun Faleke, and many

left with tools that could transform their daily lives and businesses. From small traders to artisans and transport operators, beneficiaries received support items designed to ease economic pressure and create new opportunities. The distribution was massive over

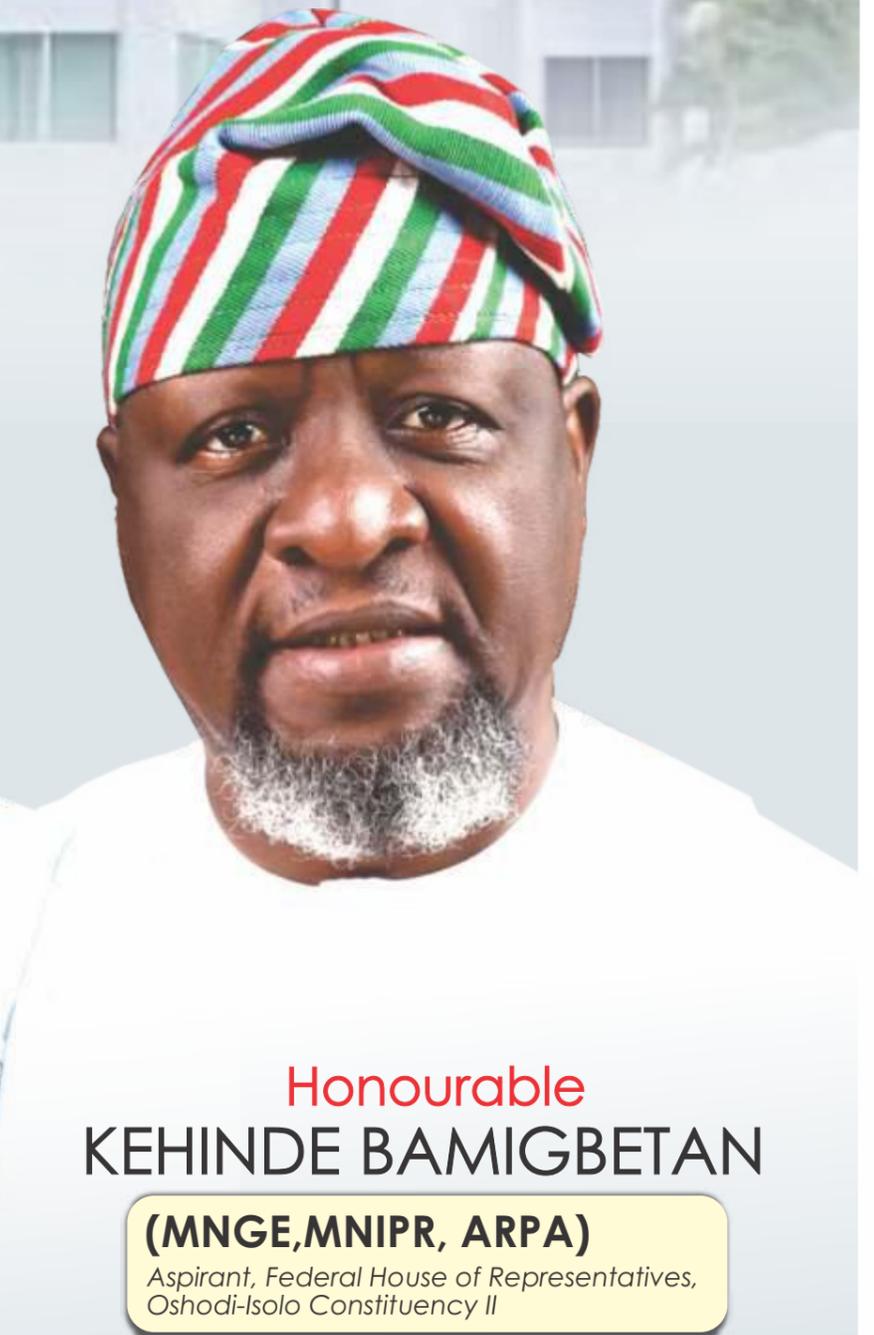
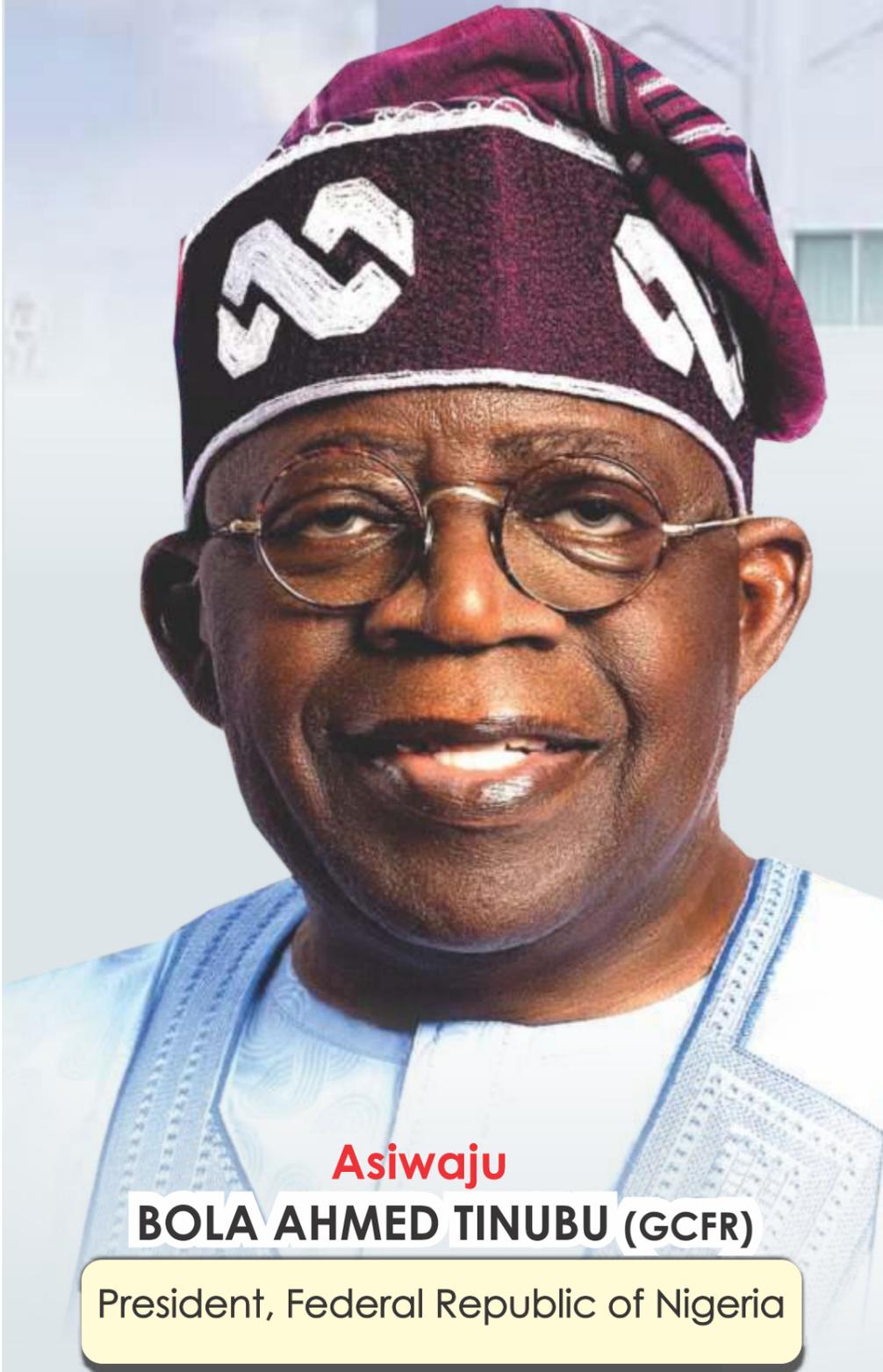
1,000 cars and buses, 2,000 drying machines, 100 mini buses, 1,000 deep freezers, 800 grinding machines, 1,000 industrial machines, and 1,000 generators, among others. For many in attendance, the support couldn't have come at a better time. With rising costs and

economic challenges, these tools represent a fresh start for families trying to stay afloat or grow their businesses. The event also drew key political figures, including Abdul-Hamed Salawu Dullar, whose presence added to the significance of the gathering. But beyond the

numbers and dignitaries, it was the reactions of the people that stood out. Beneficiaries openly expressed gratitude, describing the initiative as both timely and life-changing. Held at the Police College grounds, the programme reflects a growing

approach to governance where support goes directly to the people, helping to stimulate small businesses and strengthen local economies. For many residents who walked away empowered, the impact is clear — this is not just distribution, it is opportunity in motion.

Happy Birthday



Happy 74th Birthday to His Excellency,

ASIWAJU BOLA AHMED TINUBU (GCFR)

President, Federal Republic of Nigeria
and my mentor, **Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan**
as he clocks 61

Courtesy

**Dcn. Dr Paul Olugbenga &
Dcns Oluyinka Fregene**

Hope Returns to Hassan Street as Road Rehabilitation Begins

For residents of Hassan Street in Ogunoloko ward, Oshodi-Isolo, this is more than just a road project, it feels like long-awaited relief finally arriving. After years of living with a neglected street, the

Kehinde Adeleye

Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Kehinde Almaroof-Oloyede, has begun rehabilitation work on the road, bringing renewed

hope to families and business owners in the area. Engineers were deployed to the site on Tuesday, with plans to completely transform the street using interlocking paving stones. For many residents, it is

the first visible sign that their concerns are being heard. The chairman assured that the work will not only be done quickly but also with durable, high-quality materials that will stand the test of time.

But beyond the technical details, it is the impact on daily life that matters most to the people who live there. Mrs. Felicia, a long-time resident, shared her excitement, noting that since moving

to the street in 1998, she has never witnessed any government intervention. For her and many others, this project represents a turning point that could improve movement, boost small businesses, and make life more comfortable.

Mr. Abiodun Atoyebi, who runs a shop on the street, also expressed appreciation. He described the initiative as a reflection of people-focused leadership, adding that residents feel seen and valued. As the gratitude continues to pour in, Almaroof-Oloyede has called on residents to take ownership of the project and cooperate with the engineers on site to ensure smooth and timely completion. For Hassan Street, the transformation is not just about fixing a road, it is about restoring dignity, improving livelihoods, and strengthening the connection between the people and those in leadership.



Al-Hikimat Celebrates 200 Days of Rosiji in Office

Kehinde Adeleye

Marking her 200th day in office, Hon. (Barr.) Oluyemisi Adenike Rosiji received high praise from members of Al-Hikimat Islamic Assembly for her unwavering commitment to interfaith harmony and people-centered governance. The Assembly paid a

courtesy visit to the Council Secretariat on Monday, March 23, to commend Hon. Rosiji for her consistent support for religious groups and her accessibility to faith-based organizations. The visit underscored the Assembly's recognition of her efforts to bridge divides and promote

unity across Ojokoro LCDA. Speaking on behalf of the group, Alhaji Murshid Adeleke lauded the Chairman's leadership style, describing her as approachable, responsive, and attentive to the needs of all residents. He highlighted her administration's

visible developmental achievements and noted that her inclusive approach continues to foster confidence and trust among the community. In a symbolic gesture, the Assembly presented an aesthetic roll-up flex commemorating Hon. Rosiji's 200 days in office, celebrating

what they described as impactful and inclusive governance. Members also offered prayers for her continued success and for the sustained development of Ojokoro LCDA. Hon. Rosiji expressed gratitude for the recognition, emphasizing that encouragement from community groups

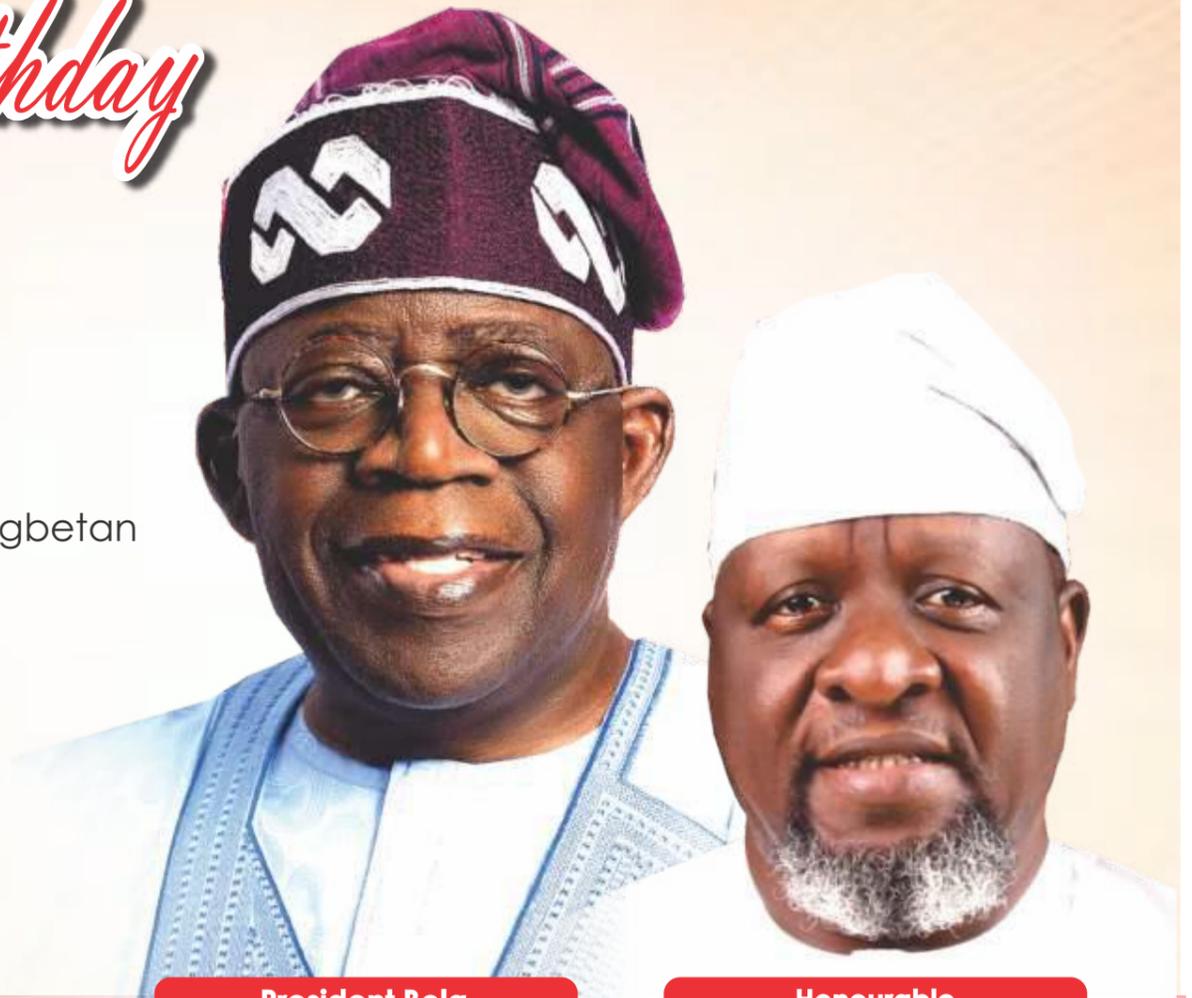
like Al-Hikimat strengthens her resolve to do more for residents. She reiterated the importance of interfaith collaboration, stressing that unity among religious groups is essential for sustainable development and peaceful coexistence within the community.



Happy Birthday

This is to congratulate the president of The Federal Republic Nigeria, **Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR)** on his 74th Birthday and my leader, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan on his 61st Birthday.

Wish you both many years to come in good health.



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR)

Honourable Kehinde Bamigbetan



Signed
Alhaji Femi Olowu
NURTW Chairman
Ejigbo, Lagos.

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Eleko Beach Stakeholders Meet on Management, Sanitation and Revenue

Atume Terfa



Stakeholders in Eleko Beach have launched a coordinated plan to tackle sanitation challenges, strengthen management, and unlock new streams of revenue.

The move followed a high-level meeting convened by the Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, bringing together community leaders from Eleko, Badore, and Iberekodo, alongside government officials responsible for tourism and economic development.

Representing the Executive Chairman, Hon. Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa, the Supervisor for

Tourism and Housing, Hon. Alonge Fatai, set the tone with a frank assessment: Eleko Beach, once a vibrant destination, has suffered a noticeable decline in maintenance and structure. He recalled a period of stronger oversight during the tenure of Otunba M.O. Alogba and noted that as far back as 1999, the beach operated largely under local government control before transitioning into community management.

At the heart of the discussions was a simple but urgent message, cleanliness must come first. According to Alonge,

meaningful revenue generation cannot happen in a poorly maintained environment. He stressed the need for the environmental department to step up supervision, while hinting at the introduction of a structured monthly levy to sustain sanitation and beach upkeep. Monitoring activities of nearby businesses, including hotels and market operators, also formed part of the proposed reforms. Community leaders welcomed the engagement, describing it as a long-overdue step toward rebuilding trust and collaboration. They highlighted the role of local youths, who have been

actively involved in maintaining the beach despite limited resources, and called for formal support and regulation to enhance their efforts.

Security emerged as another major concern. The Baale of Eleko community urged the government to take the lead in ensuring safety, citing its authority and capacity to enforce order. His concerns were echoed by other stakeholders, who also pointed to poor road infrastructure as a critical barrier discouraging visitors and limiting economic potential.

Elders, including Prince Adekunle Labia, Mr Balogun Saheed, Chief Fatai Alaba, Chief

Rasak Ekundayo, and Alhaji Elepoju Agbarajo, painted a broader picture of the challenges facing the beachfront. They cited harassment by some law enforcement agents, the absence of an effective waste disposal system, and growing cases of illegal land encroachment as pressing issues requiring immediate intervention.

In response, the government outlined a series of practical steps. Among them is the introduction of "Keke Jaja" tricycles for waste collection at subsidized rates, designed to navigate the difficult terrain where conventional LAWMA trucks cannot reach. Plans to explore solar-powered lighting for improved safety and nighttime visibility were also disclosed.

Alonge emphasised that maintaining the beach is a shared responsibility, not solely the duty of the government, and assured the community that trained personnel would soon be deployed to oversee proper

beach management. He further revealed that a consultant would be engaged to provide professional guidance on sustainable operations and long-term development.

On infrastructure, he acknowledged the impact of rainfall on previous road repairs and assured stakeholders that efforts are underway to deliver a more durable solution that will improve access to the beach.

As the meeting drew to a close, optimism filled the air. A vote of thanks delivered by Hon. Shakirat Bisola underscored the importance of patience, unity, and continued youth engagement in achieving lasting transformation.

For many in attendance, the gathering signalled more than just another meeting, it marked the beginning of a deliberate journey to reposition Eleko Beach as a cleaner, safer, and economically viable destination within Lagos' fast-growing coastal corridor.

Egbe/Idimu LCDA Strengthens Security with Police Collaboration

Kehinde Adeleye



Residents of Egbe/Idimu LCDA can look forward to improved security following a high-profile visit from police leadership, hosted by the Chairman, Prince Idris Balogun. The visit welcomed ACP Tokunbo

Abaniwonda, along with Divisional Police Officers and Tactical Commanders, to strengthen collaboration between the local government and security agencies. Key officials present included Vice Chairman Hon. Omotayo Ayinde,

Secretary to the Local Government Hon. Semiu Ayinla, Chief Security Officer High Chief Tega, and the P. A. on Administration, Mrs. Adeshola Ogunlari. Discussions centered on: Welcoming the tactical commanders Strengthening collaboration on

security matters Providing logistical support to enhance police operations across Alimosho During the visit, ACP Abaniwonda introduced three new tactical units — Panther, Sparrow, and Shark — aimed at improving rapid response and overall safety in the area.

She thanked the local government for its support and requested additional logistics to boost operational effectiveness. Prince Idris Balogun assured full backing from the council, promising that initiatives to enhance security would be

prioritized. He emphasized that the safety and welfare of every resident in Egbe/Idimu remain top priorities and that the local government will continue equipping the police and other security agencies with the resources needed to protect the community.

Johnson Pushes Inclusive Leadership with New Team

Kehinde Adeleye



Inclusivity is taking centre stage in Alimosho, as the local government signals a broader effort to bring more voices into governance and improve service delivery across communities.

The Chairman of Alimosho Local Government, Akinpelu Johnson, said the swearing-in of newly appointed Supervisors and Special Advisers is not just a routine exercise, but a deliberate move to build a more inclusive and effective system at the grassroots.

According to him,

the appointments reflect a conscious effort to ensure that different interests, groups, and perspectives are represented in governance, especially in a local government as large and diverse as Alimosho.

He congratulated the appointees, reminding them that their roles come with responsibility. He urged them to serve with integrity, stay accountable, and remain closely connected to the everyday realities of residents.

Describing Alimosho as a vibrant hub of

traders, artisans, transport workers, youths, and families, the chairman stressed that governance must reflect the needs of all. He encouraged the new team to work together in delivering results that will directly impact people's lives.

He also highlighted the importance of structure and coordination. The Secretary to the Local Government, he noted, plays a central role in ensuring policies are properly implemented, while Supervisors are expected to

drive development across key sectors like health, education, environment, agriculture, and infrastructure.

Special Advisers, on the other hand, are to provide forward-thinking ideas that will help the administration navigate challenges and create practical solutions for growth.

Beyond roles and titles, the chairman emphasized unity. He warned against internal rivalry and called for teamwork, humility, and collaboration,

noting that true leadership is about service, not personal interests.

He also encouraged the appointees to engage directly with residents, stressing that governance should be visible not just in offices, but in streets, markets, and communities.

In his remarks, the Council Manager, Idowu Banjoko, advised the officials to maintain professionalism, follow due process, and uphold high ethical standards in carrying out their duties.

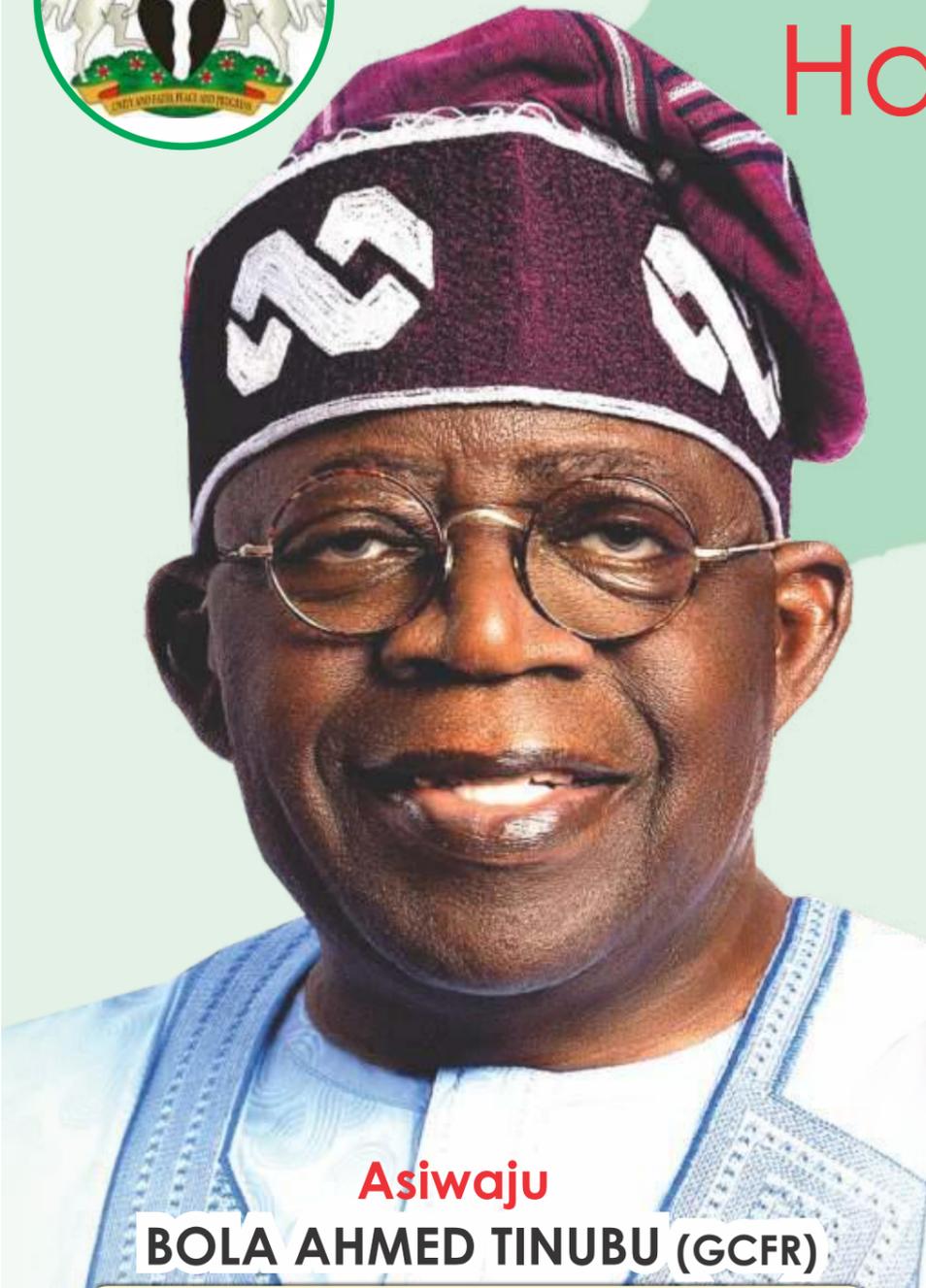
Interestingly, party members have

also welcomed the appointments, describing them as a reflection of inclusivity and political balance. Many noted that the move shows the council's willingness to carry different factions along at a time when recognition and representation remain key concerns within party structures.

For residents, the expectation is simple, that this inclusive approach will translate into better governance, stronger community engagement, and visible development across Alimosho.



Happy Birthday



Asiwaju

BOLA AHMED TINUBU (GCFR)

President, Federal Republic of Nigeria



Honourable

KEHINDE BAMIGBETAN

(MNGE, MNIPR, ARPA)

Aspirant, Federal House of Representatives,
Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II

APCA Africa celebrates His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR) on his 74th birthday and our president emeritus - Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan on his 61st.

May the years ahead overflow with joy, good health, and more contributions to the nation's development.



Kipngeno Duncan

President

APCAFRICA

On behalf of APC-Africa Community

Hontonyon Promises Better Infrastructure at Badagry Beach

By Saheed Afolabi

The Education Secretary of Badagry Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), Mr Joel Hontonyon, has assured the people of Ajido and the Jegeme community of government's commitment to improving

infrastructure and learning conditions at Sea Beach Primary School. Speaking during his inaugural visit to the school, Hontonyon stated that the inspection was deliberately undertaken to assess the current state of facilities, identify gaps, and gather firsthand information that

would guide targeted interventions by the authority. "We are here to boost enrolment, revive effective teaching and learning, and ensure pupils have access to a conducive and modern learning environment," Hontonyon said. The Education Secretary was

received by the Baale of Jegeme community, Chief Sunmola Lukman Tadeyon, and his cabinet members, who used the opportunity to highlight the major challenges facing the school and appealed for urgent government support. During an

interactive outreach session with community members, residents echoed the need for swift intervention to upgrade educational facilities and improve learning outcomes in the area. Responding to the concerns raised, Hontonyon

reassured the community that the LGEA and the government are fully committed to addressing the issues. "The administration is focused on providing quality education through a conducive learning environment for both pupils and teachers."



NIS, Badagry West LCDA Reaffirm Commitment to Secure Borders

By Saheed Afolabi

The Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Seme Command, and Badagry West Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have pledged to deepen collaboration in tackling border security, irregular migration, and related challenges. Comptroller Idoko Jacob Ejeh of the NIS Seme Command made this known during a courtesy visit to the

Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Mr Rauf Yemaren (RIKAY). He stressed that the Immigration Service cannot operate effectively without the active support of the local government. Ejeh urged residents to obtain the ECOWAS Biometric Card to enable smooth and legal cross-border movement. He also called for strict adherence to trade regulations and

warned against human trafficking and smuggling activities. According to him, sustained partnership between the NIS and the LCDA is essential to curbing irregular migration. The Comptroller highlighted ongoing reforms in passport, visa, and residency processing, and appealed for continuous public sensitisation to keep residents well-informed. He reaffirmed the NIS's commitment to

safeguarding communities while maintaining a humane and people-friendly approach. Yemaren assured the Command of the council's full readiness to partner with the NIS in promoting security and lawful migration. However, he urged the Command to prioritise regular orientation and training for its officers particularly those on field duty to

uphold professionalism and respect for human dignity at all times. The meeting took an emotional turn when a victim of a past shooting incident allegedly involving an NIS officer at Igbogbele was brought before the Comptroller and his team. Her condition visibly moved stakeholders present, highlighting the urgent need for continued support and intervention

for the victim and her family. The Legal Adviser to the Council, Mr. Stephen Mesewaku, noted that the matter was still unresolved and should not be swept under the carpet, considering its profound impact on the victim. Ejeh acknowledged the incident, revealing that although he was recently posted to Seme Command, he had been familiar with the case from his previous assignment in Abuja. He assured all present that the Nigeria Immigration Service takes such matters very seriously. Yemaren cautioned against any recurrence of such incidents and emphasised the importance of accountability. He, however, reiterated the Council's unwavering commitment to the welfare and protection of its residents.



Jakande Urges Youth To Harness New State-of-the-Art Basketball Facility

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Odi Olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, Dr. Seyi Jakande (SJ), has thrown his weight behind the planned redesign of the Ilupeju Basketball Court, describing it as a major boost to sports development and youth empowerment in the community. Speaking during a courtesy visit by the management of Planet Bottling Company, producers of American Cola, Jakande welcomed the initiative and assured the company of the LCDA's full support for the project. Jakande emphasised the critical role of sports in community development, stating that a modern, state-of-the-art basketball court will provide a safe and vibrant space for young athletes to develop their talents and stay away from negative influences. He encouraged

the youth of Odi Olowo Ojuwoye LCDA to take full advantage of the facility once completed, urging them to use it to

build discipline, teamwork, and healthy lifestyles. The management of Planet Bottling Company had presented a 3D display of their redesign plans for the Ilupeju Basketball Court during the visit. The project, which has

the approval of the LCDA, aims to transform the existing court into a modern recreational hub that will benefit residents, especially the younger generation. Dr. Jakande assured the

delegation that the LCDA will continue to support initiatives that promote sports and community development, describing the partnership as a welcome development. The company's

management expressed gratitude for the Chairman's support and promised to keep stakeholders updated on the progress of the project, which is expected to be completed very soon



Aruwe Charges Students to Excel In UTME

By Saheed Afolabi



commitment to promoting academic excellence and youth development in the area.

The teachers at the centre commended the Aruwe for his investment in education, noting that the initiative has greatly boosted the students morale and level of preparedness for the examination.

The students expressed appreciation to the council boss for organising the JAMB tutorials and for his promise of rewards.

They described the programme as highly impactful and pledged to justify the confidence reposed in them by coming out with excellent results.

Aruwe also used the opportunity to invite the students to the council's forthcoming Waste to Wealth Initiative scheduled for 7th and 8th April, aimed at empowering young people and promoting environmental sustainability.

The Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Mr Tunbosun Aruwe has urged students participating in the council's JAMB tutorial classes to remain focused, disciplined, and

committed to their studies so they can come out in flying colours in the forthcoming Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME). The Chairman

assured the students during an on-the-spot inspection of the JAMB tutorial centre at New City Primary School, one of the three centres established by his administration

across the LG. While addressing the students, Aruwe urged them to take full advantage of the free tutorial programme, avoid distractions, and strive for academic

excellence that would make Mushin Local Government proud. Aruwe promised to reward the best-performing students, reaffirming his administration's

Imota LCDA Honours Retiring Officers

By Emmanuel Daniji

The Imota Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has celebrated a group of retiring officers in a colourful send-forth ceremony, marking the end of their active years in public service and recognising their contributions to grassroots governance. The ceremony, held at the Hon. Babajimi Benson Multipurpose Hall within the Imota Council Secretariat, brought together political office holders, members of the council's legislative arm,

management staff, family members and well-wishers to honour the retirees for decades of service to the council. Among those celebrated were Mr. Amoda Sikiru Omotunde, Mr. Adedayo Abdulrasaq, Mr. Sikiru Wasiu Babatunde, Mr. Adewunmi Sikiru Adeseye and Chief Wasiu Olu Dara Akinsanya, whose years of dedication were acknowledged as instrumental to the administrative growth and stability of the

council. Speaking at the event, Chairman of Imota LCDA, Benson Sunday Ayodele, commended the retirees for their commitment, diligence and integrity throughout their years of service. According to him, their contributions helped strengthen the administrative structure of the council while preserving its institutional memory. He described the retirees as individuals whose professional legacies would remain a guiding reference for

younger officers within the local government system. Ayodele also noted that retirement should not be viewed as the end of public contribution but as the beginning of a new phase of life that offers opportunities for rest, reflection and continued service to society. He encouraged the retirees to remain ambassadors of good governance within their communities and to continue sharing their experiences to support community development. The Lagos State Head of Service,

Mr. Bode Agoro, who was represented by the Director of the Post Service Department, Mr. Irewole Ogunsakin, presented official Exit Certificates from the Lagos State Government to the retirees. Ogunsakin advised the honourees to prioritise their health, manage their resources prudently and remain engaged in meaningful activities that would sustain their well-being in retirement. Members of the council's management team also delivered goodwill messages,

describing the retirees as dedicated professionals whose discipline, mentorship and work ethic had positively influenced younger staff members within the system. As part of the ceremony, the council presented gifts to the retirees as a token of appreciation for their years of service, drawing applause and emotional reactions from attendees. A special legislative sitting held in honour of Mr. Amoda Sikiru Omotunde, alongside a ceremonial cake-cutting session, added colour to the celebration. Family members and friends of the retirees were also present, sharing in the moment as stories of commitment, sacrifice and professional achievements were recalled. The event underscored the council's commitment to recognising long service and celebrating individuals who have contributed significantly to grassroots development in Imota LCDA.



Ikorodu Stakeholders Set Governorship Agenda

By Emmanuel Daniji



Stakeholders across Ikorodu Division have renewed calls for the emergence of an indigene of the division as the next Executive Governor of Lagos State, urging greater unity, strategic political engagement and collective participation to achieve the long-standing aspiration. The call was made during the I-Heroes 10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Public Discourse themed "Ikorodu's Stake in Lagos Politics: Amplifying Our Strength and

Capacity," held at The Exclusives Club in Ikorodu over the weekend.

The gathering brought together political office holders, public analysts, community leaders and youth advocates who examined the political relevance of Ikorodu Division within Lagos State and discussed pathways to securing greater representation at the highest level of governance.

Delivering the keynote address, Barr. Saheed Owolabi Kolawole Shillings, a former

Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Ikorodu Branch, argued that despite Ikorodu's longstanding political loyalty, particularly to the All Progressives Congress (APC), the division has gained limited political benefits. According to him, Ikorodu remains one of the leading divisions in Lagos State and deserves the opportunity to produce a governor.

Shillings recalled previous attempts by Ikorodu leaders to rally support across other

divisions in the state for the governorship seat, noting that the division has historically enjoyed recognition as a politically influential and culturally significant community. He, however, expressed concerns about what he described as inadequate political representation for Ikorodu, particularly in the Lagos State House of Assembly and the House of Representatives.

"Since the return to democratic

governance in 1999, Ikorodu Division has recorded limited representation in key political positions. Out of 40 members of the Lagos State House of Assembly, we have only two, and just one member at the federal level," he said.

Shillings further questioned the political returns on Ikorodu's loyalty to the ruling party over the years, arguing that the division has not secured top-level executive positions within the state government structure.

He also raised concerns about infrastructural development in Lagos East Senatorial District, describing the region—and Ikorodu in particular—as relatively underdeveloped compared to other parts of the state.

While urging Ikorodu leaders to reconsider their political strategy, the legal practitioner called for stronger political bargaining and a renewed push for the division's interests.

Continue on page x

Ikorodu Stakeholders Set Governorship Agenda

Continue from page 27

However, other speakers at the discourse offered differing perspectives, emphasising the need for unity and strategic engagement within the existing political structure rather than confrontation.

Mayor Muhydeen Sanwoola, Executive Assistant to the Lagos State Governor on Parking Management, acknowledged some of the concerns raised but argued that internal divisions within Ikorodu have historically hindered the division's political progress.

"Our greatest challenge is not external opposition but internal disunity. We must first address the mistakes of the past if we truly want to achieve our political goals," he said.

Sanwoola also stressed the importance of political access and strategic alliances in achieving power.

"Without access, it is difficult to secure power. Ikorodu must be deliberate in building

influence and participating actively in political processes," he added.

The governor's aide also rejected the argument that only indigenes should occupy political offices in the division, stating that residents who have lived within the community for several years and respect its culture should be allowed to participate fully in governance.

"If someone has lived in a community for years and understands its culture and values, such a person should not be excluded from political participation," he said.

Also speaking at the discourse, Hon. Gbolahan Mudashiru, representing Ikorodu Constituency I in the Lagos State House of

Assembly, maintained that Ikorodu's loyalty to the progressive political movement would ultimately yield positive results.

He highlighted past appointments of Ikorodu indigenes into key government positions, including commissioner-level roles in finance, education, agriculture and health, as well as leadership positions such as Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly and Secretary to the State Government.

Mudashiru emphasised that while Ikorodu deserves the governorship seat, the pursuit must be driven by unity and sustained political engagement.

"Unity and focus are essential. Differences will

always exist in politics, but collective purpose must prevail if we are to achieve our goals," he said.

Similarly, Omo'ba Hammed Olalekan Aroyewun, Chairman of Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA, stressed the importance of fairness and equity within Ikorodu Division itself as a prerequisite for pursuing the governorship ambition.

He also advocated stronger youth participation in the political movement for the 2027 governorship race.

Public analyst and former Ikorodu Constituency I candidate, Mr. Adekunle Rasaq Aderigbe, also supported the call for greater political engagement but warned against viewing the governorship

ambition as an entitlement.

Instead, he urged Ikorodu leaders to pursue strategic negotiations and build alliances with other political blocs across the state.

"If we demonstrate competence and capacity, the opportunity will naturally come. What is required is strategic engagement and collaboration with other stakeholders," he said.

Earlier in his welcome address, Mr. Majolagbe Olansile, President of I-Heroes, described the discourse as a necessary platform to examine Ikorodu's position in Lagos politics and chart a path for greater political influence.

He noted that the initiative was driven by the need to stimulate constructive dialogue among

By Emmanuel Daniji

stakeholders on how the division can strengthen its political capacity and secure its rightful place within the state's leadership structure.

Other dignitaries present at the event included Hon. Sulaimon Kazeem, Chairman of Ikorodu West LCDA; public analyst and lecturer Mr. Hassan Ekundayo; former Ikorodu North LCDA chairmanship aspirant Mr. Samson Bisiriyu; Comrade Adebodun, Coordinator of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Imota; and Mr. Adegboyega Folan, media aide to the Chairman of Imota LCDA, among others.

The discourse concluded with a renewed commitment among participants to strengthen political collaboration across Ikorodu Division as stakeholders continue to push for greater representation in Lagos State governance.



Ramadan Fallouts: Ikorodu Residents Host Eid Hangout

Residents of Ikorodu gathered in large numbers on March 21, 2026, for a vibrant Eid hangout that blended festive celebration with a message of responsible living, drawing children, youths and families from across the community. The event, organised in partnership with several corporate organisations and small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs), created a lively atmosphere filled with music, social

interactions and recreational activities. For many attendees, it provided an opportunity to unwind and reconnect with friends and family following the Ramadan fasting period. Speaking during the event, one of the organisers, Mr. Waliu Adeyeri, explained that the initiative was conceived to create a structured and value-driven entertainment space for Muslim youths within the community.

According to him, festive periods often present situations where young people seek entertainment in ways that may conflict with their religious values. "People sometimes get involved in acts that are forbidden by Allah in the name of trying to entertain themselves. To avoid that, we decided to create an alternative platform where people can still have fun while staying true to their beliefs," he said. Adeyeri

emphasised that the hangout promotes a new culture of celebration that combines enjoyment with moral consciousness. "Vibing without sin is the new way to go," he added. Beyond its social message, the organiser noted that the initiative also plays a role in supporting local economic activity within Ikorodu by providing a marketplace for small businesses to showcase and sell their products. "This event has

been helping SMEs. Whenever we organise it, their sales increase because it brings together a large number of people who are ready to patronise local businesses," he said. He added that the 2026 edition marked the third installment of the community-based initiative. Attendees at the event also shared positive reactions, describing the hangout as both entertaining and impactful. Mrs. Nafisat Rasaan, one of the

participants, said the initiative is particularly valuable in a large and culturally vibrant community like Ikorodu. "Events like this help bring people together in a positive environment. It's not just about fun; it's about community and shared values," she said. Similarly, Mr. Abubakar Alabi commended the concept, noting that celebrating while maintaining moral discipline is a commendable approach to youth engagement. Observers noted that the strong turnout and enthusiastic participation reflected a growing demand for youth-oriented events in Ikorodu that combine entertainment with themes of faith, identity and community development. As the third edition of the Ikorodu Eid Hangout drew to a close, participants left with not only memories of celebration and social connection, but also a renewed message that responsible celebration and community values can coexist.

By Emmanuel Daniji



Vote Tinubu or Face Consequences-Portable



Controversial Nigerian singer Habeeb Okikiola Badmus, popularly known as Portable, has stirred reactions after threatening fellow Yorubas with spiritual consequences if they fail to vote for President Bola Tinubu in next year's general elections. In a video broadcast, the Zazu crooner claimed that he

Kehinde Adeleye

has been contracted by the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) to campaign for Tinubu, warning that any Yoruba who opposes the president's reelection risks divine punishment. He stated, "We need peace, we don't want war in Nigeria, you better vote for Tinubu. Thunder and Ogun will strike any

Yoruba man who doesn't. I have been signed, given APC clothes — don't worry, I will soon start sharing rice and vegetable oil." The video has sparked controversy online, with many questioning the appropriateness of invoking spiritual threats in political campaigns, while others see it as Portable's signature bold and provocative style.

Ireti Doyle: Marriage Ended, Public Doesn't Deserve the Details

Veteran Nollywood actress Ireti Doyle has finally addressed her divorce from ex-husband Patrick Doyle, shedding light on the personal decision to keep details private for years. Speaking to Morayo Brown, Ireti explained that ending her marriage was a deeply painful experience, and her choice to remain silent was intentional. She emphasized that the public has no right to the intimate details of her personal life. "Two people come together to get married, there's a celebration. Sadly, unfortunately, something went wrong and you could no longer continue the life journey together," she said. The actress added that she owes explanations only

to her family and close friends who were part of the celebration, and vowed never to allow herself to be used as clickbait in the media. "The larger audience that you are performing for, they do not care. God forbid, because I will never knowingly give myself up as clickbait. The end of any relationship, let alone a long-time marriage, is painful," she

stated. Ireti and Patrick Doyle have since maintained a

professional relationship on screen, demonstrating

Kehinde Adeleye

mutual respect despite their personal split.



Blessing CEO Appeals for Urgent Support After Breast Cancer Diagnosis



Popular Nigerian self-acclaimed relationship expert Blessing CEO has publicly reached out to Nigerians for financial assistance following her breast cancer diagnosis. The appeal comes after she put her Lagos mansion up for a distress sale to raise funds for chemotherapy and other urgent treatments. In a video shared on Instagram Wednesday evening, Blessing explained that she urgently requires surgery to amputate her left breast or possibly both depending on how fast the cancer has progressed. "I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I need help," she said, revealing her full name as Okoro Blessing Nkiruka and pleading for support from well-meaning Nigerians. This candid appeal highlights the personal and financial struggles faced by many in accessing life-saving cancer treatments, and underscores the urgent need for public and institutional support for healthcare challenges in Nigeria.

Jay-Z Denies Taking Sides in Drake-Kendrick Beef

[Kehinde Adeleye](#)

American hip-hop icon and billionaire music executive Jay-Z has addressed rumors about his alleged role in the ongoing feud between rappers Drake and Kendrick Lamar, clarifying that he has not taken sides.

In a recent interview with GQ, Jay-Z explained that Kendrick Lamar was chosen

to headline the 2025 Super Bowl Halftime Show purely based on his musical achievements that year. "I chose the guy that was having a monster year, it wasn't in some sort of alliance to a battle," he said. The Roc Nation founder also reflected on the impact of rap beefs, questioning whether they are necessary in today's hip-hop

landscape. He stressed that such rivalries often divide the industry and lead to personal attacks, including targeting artists' families and children. Jay-Z urged the hip-hop community and fans to focus on growth and collaboration, suggesting that the genre stands to gain more without the drama of beefs and public disputes.



Kunle Remi Blasts Nigeria's Fuel Crisis: "Staying Out of Politics is Stupid"

Nollywood actor Kunle Remi has joined growing concerns over Nigeria's skyrocketing fuel prices and economic strain, describing the idea of "staying out of politics" as "the most stupid statement" any Nigerian can make right now. In a heartfelt Instagram video on Wednesday, Remi lamented the rising cost of petrol, persistent power outages, and the impact on

daily life. "I don't even know how to begin this conversation," he said. "Usually, I stay out of politics, but right now, that's the most stupid thing anyone can do. We should be discussing, talking, and trying to fix what's happening in our country." The actor, who has a child, stressed that his concern extends beyond himself, emphasizing the need to consider the welfare of families and

communities. He shared that he recently spent over 1,300 on petrol and described the exhausting reliance on generators due to the lack of electricity. Remi also highlighted the burden on businesses and workers, noting that high diesel and petrol costs are eating into salaries and making it difficult for staff to commute to work. "I can imagine diesel costs affecting everything from malls to the

smallest barber shops. People can barely manage their salaries," he said.

He questioned why Nigeria, an oil-producing nation, is one of the first countries impacted by global conflicts, such as the war in Iran. "A blessed, resourceful nation like ours should not be suffering from fuel shortages because of one underperforming refinery and insufficient government support," he remarked.

Remi's candid comments echo similar frustrations

Kehinde Adeleye shared by fellow actor Wale Akorede

(Okunnu), who also recently criticized the high cost of fuel in an oil-rich country.



Leo Radvinsky, Billionaire Behind OnlyFans, Passes Away at 43

The tech and adult entertainment world is in mourning following the death of Leo Radvinsky, the Ukrainian-American billionaire behind adult content platform OnlyFans. He passed away at the age of 43 in Pompano Beach, Florida, after a prolonged battle with cancer, his family has requested privacy during this difficult



time. Radvinsky, who acquired OnlyFans in 2018,

turned the platform into a global phenomenon,

Kehinde Adeleye reportedly earning up to \$1.8 million a day from subscriptions and other ventures. His estimated net worth stood at \$4.7 billion, largely tied to his company, Fenix International Limited, which holds a majority stake in OnlyFans. A spokesperson for the company said, "Leo passed away peacefully after a long battle with cancer. The

family has requested privacy at this difficult time." OnlyFans described the loss as deeply saddening. During his career, Radvinsky was also known as a philanthropist and angel investor, supporting tech start-ups and other ventures. Under his leadership, OnlyFans saw unprecedented growth, with users spending a record \$7.2 billion in 2024 alone. Between 2021 and 2025, he

reportedly paid himself \$1.8 billion in dividends. Despite attempts to sell the platform last year, reports indicated difficulties in finding a buyer, largely due to the adult content nature of the business. Radvinsky's influence on digital content creation and subscription-based business models leaves a lasting legacy in the tech and entertainment sectors.

Lagos FA Cup Unveils Iconic Eyo-Themed Trophy

... Unites Football Stakeholders, Sets Stage for Historic Tournament



The 2026 Lagos State Challenge Cup draw ceremony delivered a perfect blend of football, culture, and unity, as stakeholders gathered at the Indoor Hall of the National Stadium, Surulere, for a memorable event that officially set the stage for Nigeria's foremost grassroots football competition. At the heart of the colourful ceremony was the Chairman of the Lagos State Football Association, Hajji Liameed Gafar, whose leadership

continues to drive renewed energy and direction within Lagos football. Under his stewardship, this year's Lagos FA Cup is already shaping up to be one of the most impactful editions in recent history. A major highlight of the event was the unveiling of a beautifully crafted Eyo masquerade-inspired trophy, generously donated by 54Footballx, and officially presented by revered royal fathers — HRM Oba Ibrahim Olasunkanmi Lawal-Bello (Isheri-Olofin Kingdom) and Oba Abdul

Moruf Oyekunle Oluwa (Olu-Iwa of Apapa) - drawing excitement and admiration from the football community. The culturally symbolic trophy reflects the rich heritage of Lagos, while identity and prestige to the competition widely regarded as the biggest football tournament in the state. Speaking at the event, LSFA Chairman Hajji Liameed Gafar expressed his delight at the level of organisation and stakeholder engagement, while reaffirming the association's

commitment to excellence. "This competition represents more than football; it reflects our culture, our unity, and our vision for the future of the game in Lagos. We are committed to delivering a well-organised tournament that will continue to discover talents and inspire the next generation," Gafar said. The event attracted a distinguished audience, including ex-internationals led by Engr. Waidi Akanni, club owners, football

administrators, referees, media practitioners, and representatives of the Lagos State Government - all united in their commitment to football development. In a joint show of appreciation, the LSFA, alongside tournament sponsor Dr. Sheriff Tajudeen, Founder/CEO of Cloud Sports, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all stakeholders for their presence and unwavering support. Special recognition was given to the Royal Fathers for their honour in unveiling the trophy, as well as to the facilitators of the Media Officers Training seminar, whose sessions have equipped club media personnel ahead of the tournament. The LSFA also acknowledged the contributions of its Congress members, the Lagos State Referees Association, and its elders-emeritus for their continued guidance and dedication to the growth of the

game. Beyond the glamour, the ceremony reinforced the importance of collaboration among stakeholders, with a shared vision of elevating the Lagos FA Cup to greater heights. With 77 teams confirmed for participation, and added incentives including match balls, increased prize money, and global live streaming powered by Cloud Sports, anticipation is building ahead of kickoff. As the tournament begins on Sunday across designated centres, all eyes will be on Lagos - not just for football excellence, but for a celebration of culture, unity, and passion. Under the leadership of Hajji Liameed Gafar, the Lagos State Football Association remains committed to delivering a competition that inspires, unites, and showcases the very best of grassroots football.

2026 World School Games: Sanwo-Olu Hosts Victorious Lagos Athletes

... Highlights Lagos Commitment To Foster Sports Development Within Academic Curriculum
... Presents Plaque To Victorious Athletes

Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on Wednesday hosted student-athletes from six Lagos schools that delivered a historic, medal-laden performance at the 2026 World School Games Olympia in Doha, Qatar.

Recall that the team dominated U-11, U-13, and U-15 categories in athletics, football, and swimming, including top wins by St. Saviour's and Grange School. Students from St. Saviour's School, Grange School, Riverbank School, British International School, Lagos Preparatory & Secondary School, and Corona School participated in the games.

The World School Games took place in Doha, Qatar, from January 29 to 31, 2026, where Lagos schools achieved a significant medal haul.

In his remarks, the amiable governor highlights the Lagos State Government's commitment to



fostering sports development within the academic curriculum.

While celebrating their record-breaking performance, Sanwo-Olu also admonished the students to exhibit discipline and excellence to achieve bigger records in life.

In his words, "We will ensure that the Lagos State Sports Commission design something with your schools. We're not going to obstruct or disrupt your learning curriculum. Where can we work something with your schools? And see how we can

also design inter-school competition locally here before you can go international.

"See, what we're doing is that we're telling the world that something different is happening in Lagos. I'm sure there are so many other schools that would have wished that they had participated, and they're here to come and celebrate with us, but they're not. There are other schools that are going to be coming behind, and guess what? They want to come and compete with you. And they want to defeat you.

"So you cannot relax now. You can't say to yourself, 'Because I've won medals at Qatar World School, that's the best'. No, that's not the best. You're just starting, and at this age, you have a lot to learn. You have a lot to discipline yourself in. You have a lot to learn from your coaches. How well will you feel if you're on the podium and having a handshake with Mr. President? Or if you're on the podium and you're shaking hands with some of the best athletes in the world?"

"I'm sure these are some of the things your parents want. But I know that even with this, your parents will still want you to be academically outstanding. You want them to be able to strike a proper balance between sports and academics. So you also still owe them that responsibility. While sports are liberating, and dignifying, your parents also want you to be outstanding in your academic work. They want you to be an all-around student who will do well in sports and also in academics. "So you need to be

able to say to yourself, 'I am going to be the best in whatever field I choose for myself. And what I'm going to charge the Lagos Sports Council is to see how we can domesticate some of this activity, to see how we can actually push to ensure that we support you in all the competitions that we can fund and we can finance", he concluded.

Speaking earlier, the Director-General of the Lagos State Sports Commission, Lekan Fatodu, commended the athletes for their resilience, discipline and dedication.

He noted that their achievements reflect the success of ongoing efforts to develop grassroots sports and position Lagos State as a hub for Sporting Excellence.

"We are profoundly proud of every Athlete, Coach, School Administrator, and parent whose collective efforts produce a remarkable impact", he added.

Gafar Foresees Next Generation Of Stars From Lagos FA Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of the Lagos State Football Association, Gafar Liameed, has described the upcoming football competition as more than just a sporting event, emphasising its deep cultural and developmental significance for the state. Speaking to the Press, Gafar said the tournament embodies the values and

aspirations of Lagos State culture, tradition and sporting success. "This competition represents more than football; it reflects our culture, our unity, and our vision for the future of the game in Lagos. We are committed to delivering a well-organised tournament that will continue to discover talents and inspire the next generation." Gafar highlighted

that the competition is designed not only to provide competitive football but also to serve as a platform for unearthing new talents and motivating young players across the state. He assured stakeholders, participating teams, and fans that the Lagos State Football Association remains fully dedicated to organising a seamless and

impactful tournament that will leave a lasting positive legacy on the growth of football in Lagos. The LSFA boss remarks come as anticipation builds for the competition, which is expected to feature teams from various local government areas and academies, further strengthening the grassroots foundation of the sport in Nigeria's commercial capital.



Dotun Coker Hails Rebranded Lagos FA Cup As World Class Innovation Hub For Football

By Saheed Afolabi

its evolution into a modern platform for the sport.

"I stand proudly with this rebranded Lagos FA Cup competition because it has transformed from an elite tournament into a true World Class innovation hub for football. The fusion of tradition with modern technology and fresh ideas is exactly what the game needs. This is where legends are made and the future is shaped," Coker stated.

The astute sport administrator

emphasised that the Lagos FA Cup aligns perfectly with broader goals of advancing football both in Africa and globally.

"The Lagos FA Cup mirrors our own commitment to elevating African and global football through excellence, organisation, and forward-thinking ideas that will discover new talents and set new standards for the sport," he added.

According to the Vice Chairman, the rebranding reflects the Lagos State Football

Association's dedication to creating a tournament that not only maintains its rich heritage but also embraces technology, improved organisation, and innovative approaches to talent discovery and player development.

The competition is increasingly being viewed as a flagship event that positions Lagos as a leader in grassroots football development in Nigeria and beyond



The Vice Chairman of the Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) Dotun Coker has expressed strong support for the

rebranded Lagos FA Cup, describing it as a transformative competition that blends tradition with cutting-edge innovation.

Speaking to Echonews exclusively, Coker said he stands proudly behind the upgraded tournament, noting



2026 Commonwealth Games: Nigeria Women's Wheelchair Team Stuns South Africa

By Saheed Afolabi

The Nigeria Women's Wheelchair Basketball team has etched its name in history by qualifying for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland. The team secured the ticket after a thrilling 8-3 victory over South Africa in the final of the Commonwealth Games qualifiers held in Angola on Thursday. Captain Ijigbamigbe

Gbemisola Olubisi inspired the side to a remarkable comeback against the tournament favourites, South Africa. Nigeria had earlier suffered a 7-3 defeat to the same South African team in the group stage, but showed tremendous resilience and character to bounce back strongly in the decisive final and claim Africa's sole qualification spot

in the women's event. President of the Nigeria Wheelchair Basketball Federation, Seyi Johnson have described the achievement as a monumental milestone that will significantly boost the growth and visibility of wheelchair basketball in Nigeria. "As a President, I feel very fulfilled that we have been able to write history in Nigeria

wheelchair basketball. Everyone associated with Nigeria Wheelchair Basketball presently and even before have every reason to share in this credit because this is a result of many years of dedication and hard work," Johnson said. He extended special appreciation to the leadership of the National Sports

Commission (NSC) for their pivotal support. "I must specially thank the leadership of the National Sports Commission under the Chairman, Mallam Shehu Dikko, and the Director General, Hon. Bukola Olopade, for the kind of leadership direction they brought into Nigerian sports which is making every sport to thrive, regardless of whether they

are bigger sports or not." In the men's category, the Nigerian team narrowly missed out on qualification after losing the final to South Africa 13-8. Consequently, Nigeria (women) and South Africa (men) will represent the African continent in wheelchair basketball at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.



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