

# GAC CAR ASSEMBLY: LIFTING LAGOSIANS OUT OF POVERTY

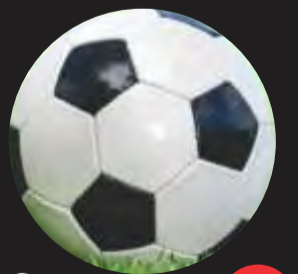


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# GAC Car Assembly: Lifting Lagosians Out Of Poverty

Kunle Awosiyan

The last few months have seen Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu delivering some of the promises he made during the campaign ahead of the 2023 general elections.

The governor inaugurated the Lagos Blue Rail Line last month and last week he joined the Chinese automobile company, CIG Motors to open GAC Assembly plant in Ogba area of Ikeja as a fulfilment of another promise.

During the inauguration, Sanwo-Olu said that GAC Car Assembly Plant in Ogba, Lagos would create more jobs and strengthen technical skills among the workforce.

In 2020, the Lagos State Government and CIG Motors Company Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the GAC Motor Nigeria CKD factory in Ogba and also the LAGRIDE project – 1000 brand new GAC cars for smart taxi in Lagos.

With the success story of LAGRIDE in which about 2000 Lagosians had benefited, Echonews gathered that the state government did not have any option than to activate the agreement it signed with the CIG motors to open an assembly plant where GAC car would be produced



Governor Sanwo-Olu during the inauguration of GAC Assembly Plant

in large scale to solve the challenges of mobility and also create jobs for the teeming population of youths in the state. Though investigation showed that some drivers of this e-hailing taxi initiative, LAGRIDE have been complaining that the management forcefully took away the vehicles from them after depositing N700,000 and payment of at least N9,000 daily target. However, some other LAGRIDE drivers commended the scheme, adding that it had improved their living standard. They said that it was true that the management of the scheme actually retrieved the vehicles from some of their colleagues due to their unproductivity. Mr. Muyiwa Adelaja, a LAGRIDE driver told Echonews that many of his

professional colleagues were on the long queue to take the opportunity and now that an assembly plant had been set up in Lagos, it would be easier to tap into the business. "We need more of this brand of vehicle in Lagos and we are happy that the state government has brought the company here to assemble," Adelaja said. Speaking, another user of GAC car, Mr. Alex Adeleye spoke about the vehicle's low fuel consumption, which according to him makes it a perfect brand for Nigeria at this time. "It is a luxury car and the fact that the LAGRIDE scheme had allowed payment by installment, it is a great opportunity for any serious person to make money. "The partnership

between Lagos State and CIG Motors represents a pivotal step towards greater industrialization, more jobs, and technical training for our people," Sanwo-Olu said adding that the partnership, born in the challenging days of the pandemic, has flourished, not only giving birth to the GAC Motor Nigeria CKD factory but also aiding the growth and expansion of our LAGRIDE project. These initiatives signify our commitment to progress, innovation, and the betterment of Lagos State" According to him, the new car assembly plant in Ikeja will create more jobs in Lagos.

He said that LAGRIDE] drivers are better off now. They are able to sort their bills and lift their families out of

poverty. We are pulling people out of depression and essentially making commitments to ensure that people are productive and self-sustaining.

He is convinced that in a few years, LAGRIDE will push beyond the struggle to be the third most dominant player in Lagos' ride-hailing ecosystem.

The facility will be jointly-run by the State Government and its partner for the production of different classes of brand new cars.

The governor said that the establishment of the Vehicle Assembly Plant in Lagos was part of the bilateral agreements reached by his administration and Chinese Investors' Community during the Governor's business trip to China in November

2019.

Already, 2,000 units of brand new GAC vehicles had been successfully assembled in Lagos ahead of the formal opening of the facility. The plant was built with production capacity to assemble 5,000 units of new vehicles yearly in the first phase, while generating thousands of direct and indirect jobs.

This accomplishment, Sanwo-Olu said, reflected the "promising synergy" between international partnerships and local talent, stressing that the development underscored Lagos' openness to investments that would foster job creation, skill development, wealth creation, and entrepreneurial opportunities.

## GAC Car Assembly: Lifting Lagosians Out Of Poverty

He said: "Today, we applaud a remarkable milestone of assembling 2,000 brand new vehicles right on Lagos soil, as our vibrant city now hosts a thriving hub of automotive excellence. The opening of this Vehicle Assembly Plant is a glowing emblem of our State's openness to investments that foster job creation, skill development, wealth creation, and entrepreneurial opportunities. The milestone is not merely a numeric achievement; it's an epitome of multi-sectoral progress that stands to benefit Lagosians.

"The ripple effect of this investment

extends far beyond the automotive sector. It has ushered in a new dawn of employment, providing our industrious youths with well-deserved jobs, thereby significantly reducing unemployment in Lagos. The skill transfer and technical training programmes initiated by CIG Motors have empowered many unemployed individuals, arming them with the requisite skills to thrive in today's competitive job market.

"This initiative is nothing short of visionary. Through increased economic activity, supply chain development and

ancillary businesses, wealth is being created and evenly distributed among our people. This synergy will not only provide affordable and quality transportation for Lagosians but also will open up a plethora of entrepreneurial opportunities for many."

Sanwo-Olu said the Completely Knocked Down (CKD) factory, which spans 35,000 square metres, would raise the quality of life and standard of living, as it would crash the cost of brand new GAC vehicles in local markets and also reduce dependence on second-hand vehicles imported

from overseas.

He said although the plant was built to assemble cars locally, the efficiency would meet international standards. GAC vehicles, he said, were designed for comfort and easy maintenance, adding: "They are durable, well suited to our roads and climate."

The Governor pledged his commitment to the growth of the automobile sector through business-friendly regulations, provision of infrastructure and investments in quality technical education to produce world-class workforce.

Chairman of CIG Motors, Chief Diana Chen, said the

assembly workshop was designed in three phases to respond to market demands of GA4, GS3, GS4 and GS8 brands of GAC products.

The full operation of assembly plant, she said, would raise annual production capacity from 5,000 to 50,000 units yearly.

Chen said: "We are proud to have Lagos Government as our JV partner. Today, in Ogba, Ikeja, Lagos State, we have a fully automated world class vehicle production line that is tested, verified and fully operational; owing primarily to the successful PPP between our company and the Lagos State.

"I specially commend Governor Sanwo-Olu for his transformational and excellent leadership. The success of this project is a loud message to the global investment community that Nigeria, especially Lagos is ready for business."

The assembly plant has production and quality inspection workshops, comprising three automated lines – the Trim Line, Chassis Line and Final Line. The factory is built to GAC CKD-factory standards and can match the current dismantled CKD assembly and forward assembly methods.





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The Special Adviser on Mineral Resources, Engr. Abiola Olowu has urged the Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society to join hands with the present administration in the State to advance the understanding and application of geology, geophysics and related disciplines.

He also called for the acquisition, preservation and dissemination of mining geo-scientific and metallurgical knowledge for the advancement and practice of Mining, Earth Sciences and Metallurgy. The Special Adviser made the call recently when the National President of Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society, Prof. Akinade Olatunji and members of the Council paid him a

# Mining In Lagos: Govt Seeks Collaboration With NMGS

courtesy visit at his office in Alausa, Ikeja.

He expressed gratitude to the President and Council members of the Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society, on behalf of the administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for their cooperation and support over the years.

The Special Adviser reminded them that the interest and growth of the state

remain the main priority of Mr. Governor, assuring them that the administration encourages knowledge and will do everything possible for the best interest of Lagosians.

Earlier, the President, on behalf of the council members, congratulated the Special Adviser on his appointment and appreciated the state government for giving room to members of their society to practice in the Centre of Excellence.

He also applauded the

high number of Geologists employed by the state government and their participation in professional training, workshops, and conferences organised by the society, noting, however, that the government needs more geologists in the system.

He also submitted that society needs to do a lot of research to attract more investors to the country, saying Nigeria is blessed with Mineral Resources that should be fully explored and commercialised.



The Special Adviser on Mineral Resources, Engr. Abiola Olowu host NMGS executive

## Lagos Generates 870,000 tonnes of plastic Wastes Annually

Lagos State has been estimated to generate about 870,000 tonnes of plastic waste annually, these plastics being about 15% of total waste generated in the State.

The state Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tokunbo Wahab made this known during the commemoration of the Year 2023 Walk for Nature exercise held at the Youth Centre, Onikan Lagos Island.

He stressed that in Nigeria, it has been reported that about 2.5 million tonnes of plastics are generated annually including sachet water bags, single-use plastic bags and bottles amongst others.

He advised residents on the need to reduce single-use plastics and encourage reusable ones which are eco-friendly and devoid of environmental nuisance.

The Commissioner noted that the Walk, which was organised in conjunction with Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), was held simultaneously in Lagos Island, Kosofe and Ikeja Local Government Areas to promote environmental awareness on conservation matters in the State.

Speaking on the theme for the 2023 Walk for Nature: "Solutions to Plastic Pollution", he said it is a wake-up call to everyone on the adverse effect of plastic pollution on human health, future generations, and the environment we live in.

Wahab said plastics pose a threat to humanity by altering natural

ecosystems resulting in loss of habitat, biodiversity and the climate, adding that managing waste disposal through recycling, reuse and reduction is very important.

He stated that Plastics have been synonymous with people's lives from packaging to different spheres of living, adding that the packaging sector has been identified as the largest generator of single-use plastic in the world.

He said the indiscriminate dumping of these plastics and their presence in the canals, waterways, dumpsites and their inability to biodegrade requires a permanent solution to the menace to ensure the sustainability of Mother Earth.

The Commissioner averred that the THEMES PLUS Agenda of the present administration has continuously showcased Environmental News in print and electronic media as well as many online Websites to increase awareness of the Environmental Degradation caused by plastic pollution and its resultant effects.

He explained that the State Government encouraged proper containerisation as well as separation of waste at the point of generation, as such, it is presently engaging major producers in the beverage sector on the need to take responsibility for the end of life of these plastics.

He said over the years, the Lagos State Government through the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) and Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) has

launched several initiatives ranging from Policy initiation, Environmental Education and advocacy and Buy-back programme to mitigate the challenge of plastic waste management within the State.

Waham informed that the Ministry recently embarked on the replication of Recycling Banks in the Government Residential Estates, Schools, Communities and Markets after a successful implementation of a pilot project within the catchment area of the Ministry Complex, Alausa.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Dr. Gaji Omobolaji Tajudeen noted that this year's theme emphasises the need to proffer lasting solutions to one of the major causes of environmental degradation in the State.

He said considering the huge negative impact constituted by Plastic Pollution, it is imperative to ensure that the issue is addressed without any further delay, saying that to achieve the best results, the "All Hands must be on Deck" approach must be adopted.

He said plastic pollution reduces the life span of Human beings, Plants and Animals within the Ecosystem as well as results in flooding, thereby causing great havoc to the Lives of Aquatic, Terrestrial and properties,

The Commissioner added that it also narrows the food basket of the State and invariably opens the door to starvation if not

## LASEPA, US Consulate Deploy Air Monitoring Sensors In Lagos Hospitals



In continuation of the strategic move to enhance the air quality in the state, the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), in collaboration with the Department of State, US Consulate, Lagos, University of Lagos and Makerere University of Uganda, has installed Low-Cost Air Quality Monitoring Sensors at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH) and Gbagada General Hospitals in Lagos.

The installation of the equipment is to boost the State Government's

efforts to improve research and studies in institutions, policy formulation and implementation while addressing environmental pollution and public health, especially pulmonary health care among others across the state.

Speaking on behalf of the General Manager of LASEPA, Dr. Babatunde Ajayi at the installation ceremony at LASUTH and Gbagada General Hospital, the Director, Noise and Emissions Control of the Agency, Mrs. Olabisi Shonibare said the collaboration would have a positive impact on the public

health in Lagos. According to him, "The deployment of the equipment marks a significant leap in advancing environmental research and deepening government's efforts on air quality dynamics in the state. In addition, the equipment will be instrumental to verifiable scientific data generation that will expand sustainable environmental management practices". The General Manager assured members of the public that the Agency is positioned to improve and create a sustainable environment in Lagos.

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# Lagos Assembly to Review Local Government Administrative Guidelines

## – calls for sanction against estates which lock street gates

By Kunle Awosiyen

The Lagos State House of Assembly has made a call for the review of administrative guidelines for Local Governments (LG) and Local Council Development Areas (LCDA) in order to ensure effective governance in relation to societal advancement.

The call, supported by Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, emphasises the Assembly's responsibility to make and update laws as needed.

Hon. Sanni Okanlawon, Chairman of the House Committee on Local Government and Community Relations, raised the matter during a plenary session on Thursday.

Hon. Okanlawon highlighted the importance of reviewing the laws that govern local government and LCDAs to align them with current realities.

Okanlawon expressed concern over reports of illegal acquisition of chieftaincy titles without proper guidelines just as he urged his colleagues to support the review of the administrative guidelines to promote good governance.

The lawmaker suggested that the number of supervisors and special advisers in local government councils should also be properly regulated.

During the session, Hon. Gbolahan Yishawu (Eti-Osa 2) pointed out the inordinate way streets were named in Lagos.

He said in the past, streets were named after individuals who have made contributions to the development of their communities or the State. He suggested that this practice should be re-examined.

In a related development, Hon. Olusegun Ege (Ojo 1) proposed that the House address the issue of some estates in the State that lock their gates, leading to traffic congestion and other problems.

The lawmakers also discussed the need to regulate the access restrictions put in place by certain estates in the State.

They agreed that such actions must be monitored and controlled.

In his contribution, the



RT Hon Mudashiru Obasa

Majority Leader of the House, Hon. Noheem Adams, shared an incident from a recent oversight function on healthcare in the State, where they were denied entry into some estates.

He noted that these estates also have ongoing legal issues related to elections held within

their premises and have not been granting access to government officials.

Some of the lawmakers suggested that the House review the laws governing residents associations as they are currently guided by Community Development Association (CDA) laws.

## Career Development: Agoro Seeks Partnership With Professional Institutions

By Kunle Awosiyen

The Lagos State Head of Service, Mr Bode Agoro has reiterated his commitment to collaborate with Professional Institutions for civil servants to enhance the State Public Service.

He said the Lagos State Public Service, through his office, is willing to ensure that there is cooperation among the professional institutions who are ready to partner and collaborate with the State Government on improving the State Public Service.

Agoro stated this during a courtesy visit by the President, Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, ESV Johnbull Amayaevbo and National Treasurer, Chartered Institute of Personnel Management, Mrs. Ogochukwu Egbuonu to his office at the Secretariat Alausa-Ikeja.

Agoro said he is proud of the members of the two professional bodies with the way they present themselves adding that they are exceptional officers that make the institution proud.

He maintained that the Human Resource Officers in the Lagos State Public Service are the



Lagos State Head of Service, Mr Bode Agoro with executive members of Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers

engine room of the service just as many of them are also good ambassadors for the Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM).

The HOS commended the President, Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers and the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management for taking the bar higher, noting that their passion for the institutions had engendered new ideas.

Speaking earlier, the President, Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, ESV

Johnbull Amayaevbo said their visit was based on the continuation of the efforts of the leadership of the Institution to engender a more cordial relationship between the Institution and Government through its Ministries and Agencies.

He applauded the Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro for the high esteem in which he holds the profession, just as he recognised the important roles of the Institution as a critical stakeholder with the State Government. The National

Treasurer, Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM), Mrs. Ogochukwu Egbuonu noted that they are readily available to support the Head of Service in ensuring that he excels in his new appointment.

Also present during the visit are the Permanent Secretary, Public Service Office, Mrs. Sunkanmi Oyegbola, the Principal Private Secretary to the Head of Service, Mr. Bola Adeyiga and the Executive Assistant to the Head of Service, Mrs. Doyinsola Gasper-Johnson.

## Waste Disposal: Lagos Imposes Community Service On 26 Persons

Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences Magistrate Court, sitting in Ikoyi, Lagos, has imposed a 30,000 fine per person or the option of community service on 26 persons for engaging in reckless waste disposal in areas of the State.

The environmental offenders were arrested by the enforcement team of the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA), in collaboration with the Lagos State Environmental Sanitation Corps (LAGESC), at different locations in the State, disposing of their refuse in unauthorised places, between the hours of 9.30 pm and 7.00 am.

Commenting on the matter, the Managing Director/CEO of LAWMA, Dr. Muyiwa Gbadegesin, said that the ongoing joint enforcement action by the Authority had been intensified, in line with the zero-tolerance policy of the administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

"The era of recklessness and disdain for the environment is over. Anyone caught under whatever guise will be made to face the wrath of the law. The exercise is a continuous one", he said.

He urged residents to support efforts made to sanitise the environment by shunning acts of reckless waste disposal by having waste receptacles at home, and patronising only accredited PSP operators, warning that there would be no hiding place for defaulters.

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# Vandalization of Government Properties Should Be Discouraged - Onilude

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry Local Government, Olusegun Onilude has tasked residents not to vandalize government properties.

The council boss urges the National Orientation Agency (NOA) during a recent meeting in Badagry to reawaken the spirit of patriotism among citizens which must begin with the leaders.

Onilude said leaders and citizens are to be given massive reorientation on patriotic messages, actions that resonates with their mind.

He however urges the NOA to intensify efforts in educating the populace to see infrastructures as their own.



(L-R: The National Orientation Agency (NOA) acting Lagos State director, Dr Mustapha Adeseji and Chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude)

"I think we need to reawaken the spirit of patriotism in our people. This must start with us as leaders.

"I recall the famous words of one of our

former ministers, Jerry Gana who said, 'If you be governor, govern us well, if you be police, police well well.' We have to embark on massive reorientation

for the leadership and citizen with messages that resonate in their mind.

"People should, for instance, see the government's properties

as theirs. The needless vandalization of government property among other mind-boggling behaviors must be discouraged.

"We need to urgently

galvanize the requisite support for the government. The truth is we need to reshape the narrative and the NOA has to intensify on their statutory role in achieving this."

# Construction Of New Offices To Provide Comfort For Workers - Joseph

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Gbenu Joseph has disclosed the objective of constructing more office buildings for workers.

The council chairman said the construction of the new offices will provide comfort and serene environment to the workers to deliver efficiently.

Joseph stated at the official laying of

foundation of the construction of the new office building that, it's another campaign fulfilled made to the civil servants during electioneering.

He added, his administration would focus more on robust empowerment to residents and improve the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) and as well have an active social welfare, health and educational services. "It is imperative for our

administration to fulfil our campaign promises by giving our secretariat a facelift in terms of structures for the comfort of workers of the local government, hence the groundbreaking of the administrative block." He said.

"This administration has kept the eye on the ball in terms of robust empowerment and rural development, Improved IGR for wealth creation, Active Social Welfare and Educational/Health Services, as well as Renewed Partnership for good Governance."



(The laying of the foundation of the new office buildings in Badagry West LCDA led by Gbenu Joseph)

# Ejinrin Youth Extol Onafeko's Palliative Gesture

By Mohammed Adekola

In an inspiring testament to the power of kindness, Ejinrin Youth have united to celebrate Barrister Olalekan Onafeko's remarkable generosity and unwavering support with the distribution of palliatives to alleviate the struggles of the Ejinrin Kingdom's residents during these economically challenging times.

In a heartening display of goodwill, Barrister Olalekan Onafeko, Clerk of the House at the Lagos State House of Assembly, stepped

forward to offer much-needed assistance to the elderly, widows, and persons living with disabilities (PLWDs) in the Ejinrin community, earning the deep admiration and gratitude of its youthful residents.

Prince Ademola Adetola, President of the Ejinrin Youth Organization (EYO), Barrister Onafeko's latest act of benevolence brought immense relief to the elderly, widows, and persons living with disabilities (PLWDs) in the Ejinrin Kingdom. These much-needed palliatives came as a

ray of hope in these challenging economic times.

He recognized the immense impact of Barrister Onafeko's support on the lives of the beneficiaries and fervently extended blessings and prayers for his well-being. Prince Ademola also paid tribute to Egbonwon Junior Damilola, the diligent secretary, who worked tirelessly into the late hours to ensure the equitable distribution of relief items.

Salau Tomisin, another youthful voice, echoed the sentiments of the Ejinrin Youth Organization, expressing their profound appreciation for Barrister

Onafeko's thoughtfulness and generosity. The organization's chairman was also commended for his unwavering dedication to addressing the needs and concerns of the community.

In unity, the Ejinrin youths underscored the significance of Barrister Onafeko's support, not only in making their community smile but also in nurturing its resilience. To make the Ejinrin community smile and stand strong, the palliative support provided by Barrister Olalekan



Onafeko joins a series of supportive initiatives conducted by the Ejinrin Youth Organization (EYO) throughout the year.

Together, they continue to champion the cause of "Building a Better Community, one step at a time."

## Senator Abiru Hails Legacy of Former Epe Chairman, Agbaje at 55

By Mohammed Adekola

Senator Tokunbo Abiru and his adorable wife, Mrs. Feyisola Abiru have commended the former Chairman of Epe Local Government, Segun Agbaje as he marks 55 birthday anniversary.

Abiru commended the chairman for his impactful grassroots leadership with indelible legacies as he described him as a distinguished political colossus of exemplary quality.

Mr. Agbaje, the dynamic leader steering the progressive wheels of the East Consultative Forum (ECF), Epe, was lauded for his exceptional contributions and profound influence on the lives of the people he served. Senator Abiru described him as a phenomenal leader who has left an indelible mark in the hearts of his constituents.

'In his days as Chairman of Epe Local Government, Agbaje endeared himself to the people through many life-impacting programs and projects



he championed. Agbaje's outstanding legacies stand to date, a testament to his remarkable leadership."

Senator Abiru continued, "I heartily congratulate my dear brother, Hon. Olusegun Agbaje, on his birthday. He described him as an astute administrator and a great party man who has contributed immensely to the

advancement of the progressives' cause in Epe division and Lagos East at large."

The celebration of the former Chairman's 55th birthday stands as a testament to the enduring impact of visionary leaders in Lagos East Senatorial District, reaffirming the bonds of unity and progress among the people they serve. Mrs. Feyisola Abiru added..

## Otedola Donates N1m Each to 750 Students in Epe

By Mohammed Adekola

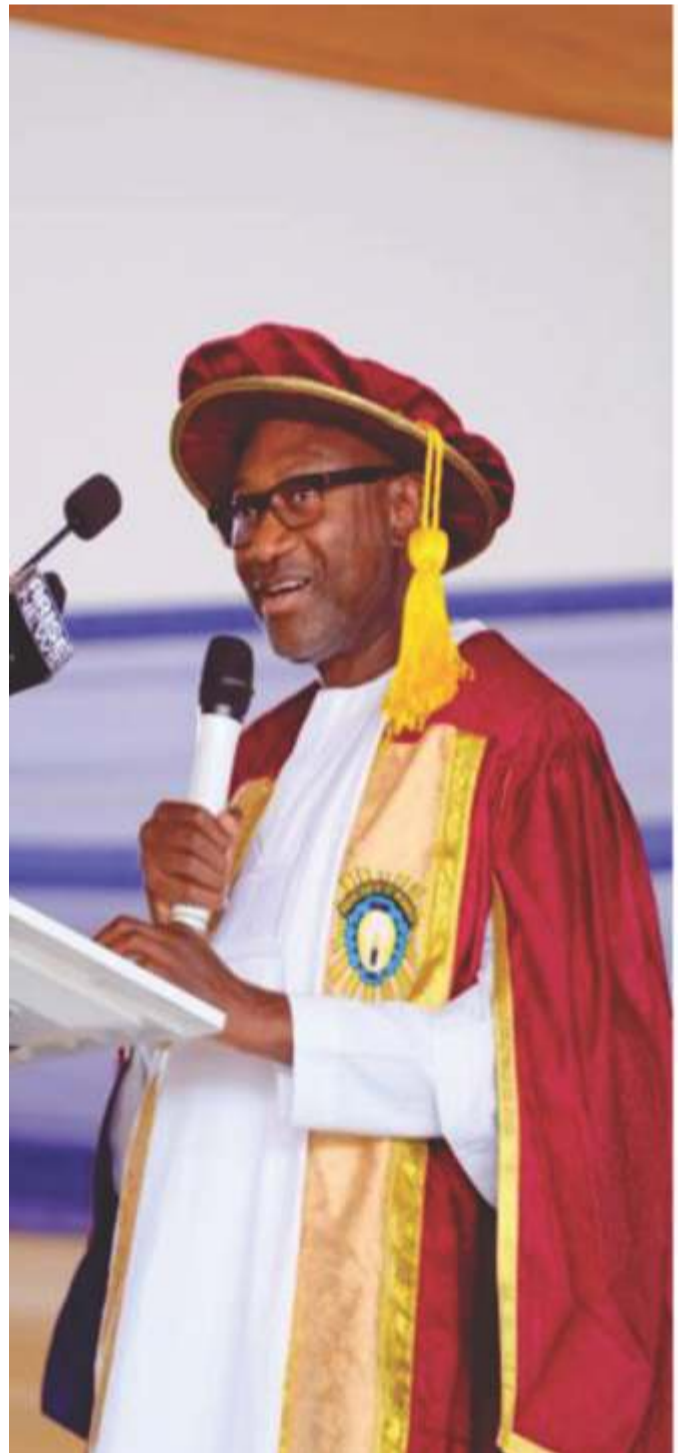
Business mogul, Mr. Femi Otedola has made a donation of N750,000,000 (Seven Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) to students of St Augustine, University in Epe.

The businessman and philanthropist was officially unveiled as the Chancellor of the University in a ceremony that held at the school premises.

During the ceremony, he donated N1,000,000 to each of the 750 students of the school.

"I hope this donation of Seven Hundred and Fifty Million Naira assists the plight of the parents of our students in this difficult time" said in his Speech.

Speaking on his appointment, Nicholas Obayi, the institution's spokesperson, said the appointment is well deserved owing to Otedola's untiring philanthropic endeavours.



# Agbado Oke-Odo Council Boss Pledges Economic Growth

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Agbado Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area, David Oladapo Famuyiwa, has lamented failed monetary policies as he promised to provide solid base for economic growth of the residents of the area in the coming year. At the stakeholders' consultative meeting on the Year-2024 Budget on Friday, Famuyiwa made the commitment.

In response to a query, the head of the Council stated that his administration would work with private citizens and corporate entities to provide amenities that will boost the tax bases of the populace and the revenue of the state in order to achieve the improved infrastructure development anticipated of the LCDA in the budgetary year that is being anticipated. Famuyiwa expressed regret that his

administration's ambition to build a contemporary hall on the grounds of the Secretariat was undermined by the unsuccessful monetary policies implemented at the beginning of the year by the former governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria. "But, I want to assure you that everything humanly possible, will be done to make the LCDA Secretariat your great pride; and reference to solidify the economic base of the



In order to assure the best performance for the residents of the LCDA, Famuyiwa noted that he has been able to increase the capacity of the council officials with automobiles and buses. The Chairman, therefore, asked the people to assist his administration by paying their dues, levies and tariff to ensure the success of the planned budget.

The Chairman of Community Development Committee (CDC), Com. Ernest Kasumu, asked Hon. Famuyiwa to endeavour provide an avenue to have a date base of residents, shop owners, landlords and tenants to enable the government harness all resources accrueable to it and proper security monitor for the peace of the people.

Com. Kasumu promised to assist the government to achieve its aim of providing the developmental programmes as envisioned by Hon. Famuyiwa; and make Agbado/Oke-Odo an envy of others in Lagos State.

# 100 Participants Graduate From Adult Class In Ifako-Ijaiye

Kehinde Adeleye



to his constituency's residents for their constant support and trust.

He went on to say that by 2031, he hoped Ifako Ijaiye will be the most educated constituency in Nigeria.

At the event, three of the recipients of his GCE and free UTME forms who didn't initially qualify for a scholarship but went on to excel at their respective universities were given one immediately.

He told the graduating adult class that he would support their business and granted their request for an advanced adult education program, so they were not left out of the generous gesture.

Additionally, since many of them were eager to continue their education, he pledged to grant them a free NECO GCE.

Overall, the successful presentation of 200 free GCE forms and the graduation of the free 3-month adult class program in Ifako-Ijaiye is a testament to the assembly members' commitment to education and the determination of the participants to seize the opportunities presented to them. It is a celebration of their accomplishments and a stepping stone towards a brighter future for all involved.

people of the LCDA."; the Chairman said.

The government will be grateful for the people's cooperation in making the Y-2024 Budget successful, he said, despite the hardships being experienced by the people as a result of the monetary policies and the reduction of petroleum subsidies.

"While we concentrated on completing and

delivering on-going projects in the current year, we activated the public healthcare centres (PHCs) at Ajasa and Meiran for the use of our people, constructed Lawal Street at Iyana Ipaja with drainages for life use; and cushion the economic defects of our people with appropriate empowerment"; the head of the Council stated.

# Ifako-Ijaiye Council Boss Complete Major Road Rehabilitation

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Usman Akanbi Hamzat has completed the rehabilitation of the main road leading from Bola Oyewo intersection to Olowookere Street junction in the Obawole Area.

The repair project, which started a few weeks ago, was a prompt response to the need to secure the road infrastructure, improve traffic flow, and continue serving the community's excellent citizens as well as the entire local government.

He implores Ifako Ijaiye residents, in particular drivers who travel this important road connecting Obawole Bridge, to assume ownership of the infrastructure and all other council intervention projects in their community and to savagely protect them by abstaining from actions that could harm or deface them.

Hamzat two years ago who unveiled the HEEDS programme, which is the acronym of "Health, Sports and Environment, Education

and Technology, Empowerment of Youth, Women and the Aged, Development of Infrastructures, Sustainable Initiatives, Good Governance and Security", says the agenda is very much on course and it will continue yielding to the plights of Ifako-Ijaiye residents and business community and deliver more landmark infrastructural projects in other sectors like education, health, and agricultural services, not forgetting youth and women empowerment, including people living with disabilities (PWDs)"

Residents of Ifako Ijaiye will always remember October 25, 2023 as Adewale Education Initiative delighted and excitedly displayed the 200 recipients of his free GCE forms as well as the pioneer sets of his adult education graduates in the TUC hall.

Celebrating the triumphant conclusion of a complimentary three-month adult education program, the 2-1 event is organized by Hon. Adewale Temitope Adedeji, Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Ifako-Ijaiye constituency 01.

Hon. Adewale's dedication to skill development and education development is demonstrated by the 200 free GCE (General Certificate of Education)

forms that were given to the attendees.

This act not only demonstrates their commitment to making the lives of the community members better, but it also gives them the chance to improve their chances and continue their studies.

The GCE students and the adult graduation class made a variety of presentations to honor Adewale for his dedication to education. They showed their happiness by expressing it via presents of artwork, singing, and other gifts.

Adewale, who had just returned from the holy pilgrimage shortly before the crisis started, took the occasion to thank God and express gratitude

# Omotoso Speaks on Ills of Social Media

The Lagos State Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso has called for caution on the use of social media by Nigerians, noting that, like every human creation, the innovation has its inherent dangers, which could be very toxic and perilous.

The Commissioner made the call in his address titled: 'Social Media: Hope or Hubris', delivered at the Social Media Hangout 4.0 in Radisson Blu Hotel, Ikeja on Saturday. He explained that social media is a creation of science designed to give comfort but has inadvertently become an agent of discomfort due to non-regulation and abuse.

Omotoso said, "No doubt, social media, also known as the 'new media', accelerates conversations in a more interactive way that makes communication more effective and worthwhile. It takes communication beyond the limitations



(Gbenga Omotoso)

of the traditional media, which most often delivers content but doesn't allow readers, or as the case may be, viewers or listeners, to participate in the formation or development of the content".

"The opportunity it affords everyone to freely share ideas and disseminate information makes social media popular

among various kinds of people across the world. More so, it has created an avenue where anyone who so desires, could find friends, make business contacts, and become part of a community of people who interact and share thoughts online. Indeed, social media offers an endless opportunity to be seen and be heard without any restriction", he asserted.

The Commissioner recalled that former

Senate President David Mark expressed the need to check the negative tendencies of Social Media hinging his stance on the seeming lack of control of the platform. He compared unregulated social media to "A highway without road signs, markings, traffic lights, traffic officers and others", saying "Chaos will be the order of the day".

Omotoso pointed out that on many

occasions, the authenticity of information posted on social media is suspect, unlike true journalism, which has no room for fake news.

He said, "On the contrary, social media affords a faceless character the platform to post devious and false information, sadly without any compelling process or law to enforce rebuttal. Social media has become a tool of blackmail. At the end of the day, the victims of such misleading information are faced with the task of fighting for their integrity".

Noting that the views expressed by the former Senate President on the subject were misinterpreted in many quarters to be an attempt to gag Social Media, Omotoso maintained that even in the United States, TikTok is banned in 36 states for security reasons.

"The truth, however, is that many people now believe that whether we like it or not, there is a need to ensure some

measure of sanity within the social media space. If there is an established mechanism in place to control traditional media, is there any reason why the same should not apply to social media? This is one of the thorny questions in our polity today", he stated.

The Commissioner opined that the most irritating occurrence is that those responsible for disseminating wrong information on social media don't usually consider it essential to retract the information when the story changes.

While advising that efforts should always be made by the public to authenticate news that emanates from social media, Omotoso stressed that everyone should be very discerning when it comes to using information obtained on social media.

"As good as social media is, it could be quite injurious to a careless user. Remember, a doctor operates with a knife to save lives while a murderer can also kill with a knife", he cautioned.

#theuseofsocialmedia

# Lagos Implements Energy Conservation Across 19 MDAs



As part of the strategy towards the attainment of a smart city, the Lagos State Government has implemented energy conservation and management measures across 19 Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

A release signed by the Head of Administrative and Human Resources, Lagos State Electricity Board, Mr. Shitta Demilola Lateef, said the initiative aligns with the State Government's commitment to improving energy access and

sustainability while enabling efficient energy usage.

Lateef explained that following an assessment of energy priorities across all MDAs, the Lagos State Electricity Board has successfully executed an Energy Conservation and

Management Plan (ECMP) in 19 government institutions to improve energy efficiency and sustainability.

While noting that the endeavour will significantly advance the present administration's mission to increase power efficiency and reduce carbon emissions, the Director

pointed out that the project will provide leverage to actualise the Lagos State Electricity Policy.

He said the journey towards #Greater Lagos as envisioned by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu in the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda, particularly in making Lagos a mega city and global financial hub with adequate reliable and sustainable electricity access to the citizens, requires strategic management and conversation of energy across the state.

"The ECMP takes a systemic approach to energy use, improving operational efficiencies and streamlining decision-making for future energy needs. The Lagos State Electricity Board conducted comprehensive training sessions with MDA staff on ECMP best practices

and reviewed previous energy audit findings", he revealed.

Describing the mechanism for the exercise, the Head of Administrative and Human Resources of the Board confirmed that energy consumption was re-evaluated at each facility as two-year targets were set along with plans to establish ongoing ECMP efforts, including energy management techniques. He reiterated that through dedicated efforts, the Agency has empowered numerous MDAs to reduce energy expenditure and minimise environmental impact, adding that awareness of staff on the government's commitment to energy efficiency is critical to link the state's energy use with greenhouse gas emissions.

The 19 MDAs audited, according to him, include the Lagos driver's institutes, theatres, waste management offices and depots, residency registration centres and Ministries of Health and Housing.

He maintained that the audit project will be rolled out in phases across all state facilities including hospitals, schools, and other institutions with early results showing an average energy savings of 25% in the initial 19 agencies.

"By taking the initiative to optimise energy consumption, Lagos aims to be a nationwide leader in energy sustainability and encourages other States, businesses and residents to join us in this critical effort", he added.

Lateef implored anyone interested in learning more about the Lagos State's energy conservation and smart city programme to visit <https://memr.lagosstate.gov.ng/>

# Govt Dislodges Scavengers at Olusosun Dumpsite

The Lagos State Government has dislodged scavengers at Olusosun Landfill, Ojota, citing health and safety concerns from their illegal activities, including burning of tyres, which could trigger a major fire incident.



Olusosun Landfill, one of the largest in the State, copes with the challenge of scavengers rummaging the site for recyclable items, posing significant danger to people and environmental health. Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tokunbo Wahab, hinted that the dislodgement operation was chiefly for the well-being of people living close to the landfill.

He said, "It is our foremost responsibility to ensure the well-being of residents of Lagos. The activities of scavengers at the Olusosun Landfill have raised concerns for the health and safety of the scavengers themselves and the larger community. From time to time, we must take steps to protect the people

and environment. Their activities could trigger an inferno on the site and this we need to prevent". Wahab further explained that the state government was committed to enhancing the overall waste management system in the state, ensuring it aligned with the global best practice of safety, environmental sustainability and public health, adding that similar action would be

replicated in other landfills in due course.

Managing Director/CEO of the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA), Dr. Muyiwa Gbadegesin, said the

Authority would continue to work closely with communities, stakeholders and experts to implement salutary measures that safeguard the environment and well-being of residents.

He noted that shanties erected on the site would be dismantled, as scavengers would no longer be allowed to live there, but would be duly profiled and allowed to operate only during official work hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## Open Defecation: Govt Begins "Use the Toilet Campaign" in Lagos Mainland LG

The Lagos State Government has reassured residents that the present administration has put adequate measures in place to sustain the campaign for the eradication of Open Defecation by 2025.

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Mr. Gaji Omobolaji Tajudeen who gave the commitment while speaking at the "Use the Toilet Campaign" held at the Mainland Local Government Secretariat added that raising awareness is pivotal but there is need to educate all communities about the health risks associated with open defecation.

The Permanent Secretary who was represented by a Director in the Sanitation Department Mrs Omoyeni Balogun added that Knowledge is the foundation upon which change is built, and by informing the citizens, they are empowered to make choices that would positively impact their lives.

He said Open defecation is not merely about sanitation concern but a multifaceted challenge that negatively impacts the environment, health, education, economy and social fabric of any society He stressed that the consequences of open defecation are far-reaching and profound from the spread of waterborne diseases to the contamination of the water sources saying this practice poses a grave threat to the public health.

He explained that children are vulnerable, as they are more susceptible to these diseases due to their developing immune systems added that open defecation



undermines the dignity of the people, especially the women and girls who often bear the brunt of this practice's negative effects.

He said people should not dwell solely on the challenges but to focus on the solutions and the collective actions that can be taken to put an end to the menace in the State saying It is imperative everyone approach the issue with a sense of urgency, determination, and unity.

Gaji said Lagos State having attained the Resilience City Status with the vibrant communities and growing urban centers, has made remarkable strides in its journey towards development would not allow the menace to stands as a stark contradiction to the aspirations for a cleaner, healthier and more prosperous Lagos.

"Accordingly, let us be the CHANGE AGENTS who transform Lagos State into a model of sanitation excellence, setting an example for others to follow. Together, let's End Open Defecation and create a Safer, Cleaner, Healthier and Sustainable Environment in other to bequeath a more prosperous Lagos for generations to come" he said

He said it is time to envision a Lagos where clean and accessible sanitation facilities are available to all, water

bodies remain unpolluted and the well-being of all are protected, as such eradication of open defecation is not an option but necessity that matters to the environment.

He stressed that Infrastructure plays a critical role in eradicating open defecation and as such everyone must invest in building and maintaining adequate sanitation facilities across the state.

He added that it is high time for the Urban Planners and Engineers to collaborate with the government in order to design accessible and safe and facilities that would cater for the needs of all residents, regardless of their background and socio-economic status.

In his welcome address, the representative of the chairman and Vice Chairman Mainland Local Government, Hon. Emilagba jubril said this flag off became necessary because there are many rural areas in the axis and these include Otumara, Idi-Agbon, Makoko, Ori - Oke, Aiyetoro amongst others saying the Local Government is set to partner with the private sectors to build more toilets in the rural communities.

He added that the Local Government had built some public toilets within the community and determined to build more so as to sustain the campaign against eradication of open defecation.

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## CBD Dislodges Commercial Drivers, Traders on Carter Bridge



Following the vacation notice issued to all occupants of bridges in the State, operatives of the Lagos Central Business Districts have dislodged commercial drivers and traders constituting a menace on Carter Bridge.

Reacting to the removal exercise, the Special Adviser on Central Business Districts (CBD), Mrs. Bola Olumegbon Lawal noted that the dislodgement of traders and vehicles parked on

the bridge is essential to restoring order on the roads and enhancing the well-being of residents around the axis.

Olumegbon stated that the Agency will not tolerate the practice of commercial drivers using the Carter and Apongbon bridges as their loading bay and traders displaying their wares for sale thereby preventing the free flow of traffic and endangering the structural stability of

the bridge.

The Special Adviser also cautioned vehicle owners and traders to desist from parking and trading on all bridges while warning that defaulters would have their vehicles impounded. Meanwhile, the Agency has also intensified the removal of all makeshift shops and iron kiosks erected on walkways and drainage alignments within the Island Business District. The clean-up exercise which started last week is already improving the aesthetics of the Lagos Island Business District.



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# Lagos Supremacy Cup: Five Top Players To Watch Out For

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos Supremacy Cup has developed a reputation for being an event that showcases some of the best young talents in Nigeria. Previous alumni include: Colin Sor, Quadri Liameed, Solomon Agbalaka, Tijani Muhamed, Ade Oguns and Samson Akinyoola ... the list could go on.

With the tournament around the corner, we've selected five players to look out for at the 18th edition of Lagos Supremacy Cup.

Akindele Ramadan Ayatu [Dosu Joseph Football Club]

Ayatu's strongest trait is his keen eye for goal, and the movement on and off the ball which allows him to create chances for himself. Dosu Joseph Football Club's flexibility in offensive positions means that he will be expected to contribute throughout all phases of play. However, the youngster's astute knowledge of the game,

and his unpredictability in possession allows him to drive his team's attacks forward.

He bagged 18 goals in 16 matches at the Ikeja Divisional Football league last season.

Moses Ekundayo [FC Bethel]

The comparison here is an easy one. Moses Ekundayo is a winger who plays like France skipper Kylian Mbappe. That said he has showed willingness to get his foot in when FC Bethel presses high up the pitch during matches in the grassroots.

Ekundayo is adept at finishing chances as he is at creating them.

At his best he usually shows great technical skill and a willingness to dribble the ball into the box before squaring the ball back to a forward. If you hadn't guessed yet, he's the new Mbappe.

Sanusi Hanif [Broad City] The forward has been brilliant for Broad City at the current TCC season. Hanif has lightening pace and isn't scared to take on his opposite number with



a touch of skill or burst of acceleration. He singlehandedly destroyed Beyond Limits in a recent game.

Ozor Victor Okeke

Okeke can be described as a proper modern ball playing defensive midfielder. He can also play anywhere at the

back whenever needed. He comes as a very dedicated and passionate footballer.

Linus uses his technique to good use for aerial duels and headed clearances. He is very strong in the air, capable of surviving under pressure. His enthusiasm

to help the team is visible by his tactical awareness.

The lad's tremendous strength makes it very difficult to him push off the ball. He is extremely comfortable in possession and is an accomplished passer of the ball with possessing a rich variety of passes. The

17-year-old was part of Golden Eaglets' team at the 2023 U17 Africa Cup of Nations.

Agada Charles Adah [Mavlon]

Standing at 1.75m, Agada Charles Adah certainly isn't the tallest of strikers but he is very strong for his height. He's able to shield the ball from the opposition rather well, meaning his hold up play is much better than expected. However, when given space to run with the ball or behind a defence he can cause havoc. His blistering pace allows him to exploit a high line held by an opposition defence whilst his smart movement allows him to create space within the box to get into a goal scoring position which is a rare trait to have for someone so young and raw.

The youngster notched two goals for Mavlon at the last edition of the prestigious ViaReggio Cup in Italy. He was also part of the Golden Eaglets' squad to the 2023 U17 Africa Cup of Nations.

## Seven Thousand Private Schools To Participate In Lagos Principals Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

The general secretary of National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools, Lagos chapter (NAPPS) Prince Yusuf Alaka has revealed that over seven thousand private schools will participate in the Lagos Principals Cup. The chairman of the Lagos Principals Cup, Rasaq Ajala disclosed the return of the foremost students tournament

in Lagos where top secondary schools will fight for pride and honor. Alaka commended the Ajala for his Commitment in bringing back the Principals Cup competition and the private schools are delighted to be part of the tourney. The school administrator said all private schools will be carried along to form a formidable team to engage the government schools. "Let me commend the

chairman committee of Lagos State Principal Cup, Honourable Ajala and others members for their commitment to bring this Lagos principal cup back. We the members of NAPPS are delighted that private schools would involve in the tournament. "Of course, we are going to engage our schools to involve. We have more than 7,000 private schools in the state, and we have our sport officers in all

the local government councils and zonal level. We are going to carry them along and ensure that we present a formidable private school that would compete with public schools at the state play off." The Lagos Principals Cup is one of the oldest students competition in Lagos and have a rich history of producing world class talents that have gone on to represent the national team in international tournaments.





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# Flooding: Kosofe Lawmaker Tasks Residents On Safety

Kehinde Adeleye

The Lawmaker representing Kosofe Constituency II at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Femi Saheed has urged members of his community to prioritize their own safety first in the face of flooding in the community. Saheed expressed

sympathy to those affected by the current flood disaster in Agiliti, Ajegunle, Odo-Ogun, Owode, Agboyi, Maidan Orile, Isheri, Magodo, and other areas.

He urged them to maintain their composure and put the safety of themselves and the younger people first by vacating the area temporarily for higher ground in order to

prevent an occurrence like the one that lost lives the previous year.

In significant areas of our electorate, this flood issue has unfortunately become a recurring event.

I live in Agiliti, therefore I can relate to the suffering that many impacted residents are going through right now.

Saheed said, "I watch

the issue and receive daily briefings on the flooding scenario.

"I was present at the canoe accident that claimed several lives last year, and I would not want anything of the sort to occur again," he continued.

I therefore want to utilize this platform to beg my wonderful people to temporarily leave the devastated flood zones and move

to a higher, more secure location.

The legislator also stated that he is working with the state and federal governments' relevant ministries and agencies to ensure that quick actions are taken to lessen the problems that flood victims are facing.

"Last year, we distributed food

palliatives made available by National Emergency Management Authority to some affected residents. We are already knocking doors of state, federal and relevant bodies to get some relief materials to our people. I can assure you that as soon as any of such is received, our people would surely benefit from them".

## ENDSARS Ruins: FG Refurbishes Five Ambulance Points in Lagos

By Mohammed Adekola



In the aftermath of the civil unrest of October 2020 tagged EndSARS, the Saving One Million Lives Programme for Result (SOML-PforR), a Federal Government initiative to strengthen health service delivery, has refurbished five ambulance points in Lagos.

The new look ambulance points are located at Lagos Tollgate end of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway; Mile 12 in Kosofe Local Council; Third Mainland Bridge; Anthony along Oshodi-Oke Expressway and Mobil along Lekki-Epe Expressway in Eti-Osa Local Council.

Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr Olusegun Ogboye, said the old dilapidated and vandalised ambulance points were replaced with new prefabricated

and transferable architecture consisting of an ambulance hanger and a workstation or office space for ambulance crew.

He explained that the construction of ambulance points in strategic areas of Lagos was first mooted in 2001 during the administration of the then Governor of Lagos State, and now the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Bola Tinubu, to reduce the response time of first responders to accident scenes, especially accident prone areas.

Ogboye said the infrastructure and crew at the ambulance points have been targets of hostilities in host communities and civil unrest, with the latest being the civil unrest of October

2020, which resulted in destruction of the ambulance points infrastructure.

He said other ideas geared towards protecting the ambulance infrastructure and crew are currently being worked on by Governor Sanwo-Olu-led administration in Lagos State, stressing that the state government planned to station ambulance points in all local council secretariats where it can be deployed at any time of the day.

Dr. Mazeedat Erinsho, said the initiative was aimed at strengthening maternal and child health indices across the 36 states of the Federation using a set of Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) among which is improving quality of service delivery.

## Kosofe Local Government, Fidelity Bank Walk for Nature -Championing Sustainable Ecotourism

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In a spirited display of environmental stewardship, the Kosofe Local Government, under the leadership of Moyosore Ogunlewe, joined hands with Fidelity Bank PLC to orchestrate a remarkable "Walk for Nature" event in the heart of Kosofe Local Government, Lagos.

This event, uniquely focused on raising ecological awareness and supporting sustainable ecotourism, proved to be a resounding success.

The prominence of Fidelity Bank's sponsorship loomed large in this year's "Walk for Nature," highlighting the bank's unwavering commitment to sustainable initiatives and investments that nurture the future of local communities and safeguard the environment.

The partnership between a local governing body and a renowned financial institution is a testament to the power of public-private cooperation in advancing noble causes.

"Walk for Nature" is an annual initiative conceived by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, thoughtfully designed to instil a sense of ecological consciousness among the public. This program underscores the paramount importance of Nature Conservation and Good Environmental Practices within the Nigerian context.

The 2023 edition of "Walk for Nature" championed the theme, 'We advocate solutions to plastic pollution.'

This thematic choice resonated profoundly, given the pressing global challenge of plastic waste and the urgent need to address it for the well-being

of our environment.

The event unfolded with participants congregating at the Kosofe Local Secretariat at the early hour of 7:30 am. The mission was clear: embark on a fitness walk that would lead them through the picturesque Ogudu axis, covering a distance of approximately 4 kilometers.

This chosen route took participants through areas that epitomized the environmental diversity that warrants preservation.

A diverse cohort of participants enriched the event. It included community leaders, public officials, and environmentally conscious citizens, all exemplifying the spirit of unity and purpose that events like "Walk for Nature" inherently nurture.

Distinguished individuals who graced the event included Hon. Okanlawon Ganiyu Sanni, a revered House of Assembly Member, as well as the Executive Chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Hon. Barr. Moyosore Ogunlewe, who passionately embraced the cause. Other notable attendees comprised Hon. Oluloro Idowu, the Leader of the House, and Hon. Fatai Gbadebo, who holds the crucial position of Secretary to the Local Government.

The assembly further included Councillors representing various wards, such as Hon. Sulaimoh Baruwa, representing Ojota Ward F, and Hon. Hakeem Oshijirin, representing Mende Ward E. Key functionaries like Chief of Staff Abiona Akinyemi, Supervisor for Environment Hon. Kunle Olorunfunmi (Maf), Supervisor for Tourism Hon. Oduwaye Odubamise, Supervisor for

Works Hon. Taiwo Balogun, Special Adviser on Special Duties Hon. Omokhudu Alufohai, environmental officers, students, and representatives from Fidelity Bank, among other dedicated individuals, further contributed their energy and enthusiasm to the event.

The "Walk for Nature" event symbolized more than just a physical endeavor; it represented a collective gesture that conveyed the community's unwavering commitment to championing the cause of nature conservation and environmental stewardship. As participants returned to the Kosofe Local Government Secretariat, the journey's completion signified the commencement of a sustained effort to advocate for practical solutions to plastic pollution, all while fostering a more eco-conscious society.

The collaborative synergy between Kosofe Local Government and Fidelity Bank PLC stands as a testament to the transformative potential of partnerships. Together, they championed sustainable practices, promoted ecological awareness, and contributed to preserving the beauty of nature for future generations.

The event underscores the community's dedication to making a difference, one step at a time, as they collectively embark on the journey towards a more environmentally conscious and sustainable future.

In a world where environmental challenges persist, partnerships like the one showcased by Kosofe Local Government and Fidelity Bank offer a glimmer of hope and a blueprint for tackling complex issues.

# NAAT Inaugurates New Executive

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The National Association of Academic Technologists (NAAT) recently marked a momentous occasion as they inaugurated new executives at the esteemed Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) in Ikorodu. The event was held at the Faculty of Agriculture, a venue that could accommodate 500 eager attendees who were filled with enthusiasm and anticipation as the new leaders assumed their pivotal roles in serving the academic community.

Comrade Uthman Olayinka, the Brand Coordinator, opened the event with warm words of welcome and appreciation for the distinguished guests who graced the occasion. Among these luminaries were Deputy Vice Chancellor Mrs. Basirat Oladipupo, who represented the Vice Chancellor, Professor Olumuyiwa Odusanya. Also present were Com. Okulaja, the Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) at LASUSTECH, zonal coordinator Com. Moruf Balogun, the secretary, Mrs. Salvador Kuburat, and many other attendees who had gathered to witness this momentous occasion.

Uthman Olayinka also emphasized the significance of LASUSTECH hosting universities from the South West region, highlighting the institution's pivotal role in the academic landscape.

In response, Mrs. Basirat Oladipupo extended her warm welcome to everyone in attendance and expressed her profound gratitude to NAAT for organizing this event. She acknowledged the contributions of union leaders such as ASUU, LASU, and SANU, highlighting the importance of these associations in the academic ecosystem.

Furthermore, Mrs. Basirat Oladipupo stressed the critical role that NAAT plays in promoting research, innovation, and technological advancement. She underlined how these advancements not only benefit the economy but also enhance the social well-being of society. For LASUSTECH, a renowned institution that consistently produces high-quality graduates equipped with the skills required for success in their chosen fields, the establishment of NAAT represents a pivotal opportunity to further expand the frontiers of



technology.

Mrs. Basirat Oladipupo expressed her belief that NAAT would facilitate valuable collaboration between students and industry experts, leading to practical solutions for the economic challenges of our time. Furthermore, she noted that NAAT would serve as a catalyst for entrepreneurship and job creation, demonstrating its potential to contribute significantly to the growth and development of the region.

During the event, a representative from the Nigeria University Pension Management Company (NUPENCOM) also had the opportunity to speak. They emphasized the high-quality services they provide and the benefits of working in collaboration with universities. In their words, "We are specialized PSA for the University, and we hold periodical meetings where interaction takes place."

As the evening continued, cultural dancers took the stage, showcasing the rich heritage of the region, with performances that celebrated Eyo and honored cultural groups such as the Ijebus, Egbas, Ekos, Oyos, and Ilorins.

A significant moment during the event was the official recognition of NAAT as a union within LASUSTECH. This recognition led to the dissolution of the old executives, paving the way for fresh candidates to present their manifestos and elaborate on their intentions and plans once they assumed their respective positions within NAAT.

One of the candidates, Com. Akinwunmi Adesokan, vying for the role of Financial Secretary, promised transparency and accountability in managing the union's finances, ensuring members were well-informed about the financial records.

Com. Taiwo Fathia Gbemisola, contesting for the position of Treasurer, shared her commitment to maintaining meticulous financial records, providing annual and monthly reports, and ensuring full accountability.

Com. Olaitan Peter Adediran, who sought to become the Assistant Brand Secretary, pledged to provide unwavering support to the Brand Secretary and Chairman in an advisory role.

Com. Olatayo Agogo, a candidate for the role of Branch Secretary, shared his extensive experience as a former union secretary during his school days. He laid out a comprehensive five-point leadership plan, which included elements such as Efficiency and Organization, Advocacy and Support, Education and Appliance, and Unity and Solidarity. He underscored the

importance of collective support in elevating NAAT to greater heights.

Com. Olorunfemi Adewunmi, who vied for the position of Vice Chairman, vowed to be a reliable and supportive figure to the Chairman, complementing the leadership team.

The contestant for the role of Chairman simply promised to lead by example and serve as a source of inspiration for others.

The much-anticipated election took place, and the process was conducted meticulously by the Electoral Committee. The results were subsequently announced:

- The Financial Secretary received 35 valid votes.

- The Treasurer garnered 35 valid votes.

- The Assistant Branch Secretary secured 35

valid votes.

- The Branch Secretary was favored with 35 valid votes.

- The Vice Chairman obtained 34 valid votes and 1 invalid vote.

- The Chairman received 34 valid votes and 1 invalid vote.

Following the announcement of the election results, the new Brand Chairman received the brand certificate, and all the newly elected executives solemnly swore their oaths of allegiance and office.

In an interview with Com. Uthman Olayinka, the newly elected Chairman, he expressed his satisfaction with the event and its significance. He conveyed his optimism that they had successfully laid a foundation for a robust and effective union, and he assured all stakeholders that NAAT could anticipate a more vibrant and proactive organization in the future.

Com. Olurinde Joseph, the NAAT South West Zonal Coordinator, also shared his thoughts on the event, describing it as satisfactory. He extended his appreciation to the organizing committee for their dedicated efforts and offered valuable advice to the newly elected executives. He stressed the importance of being transparent and specific in their actions and encouraged them to keep their members well-informed and engaged in their endeavors.

Com. Olatayo Agogo, the new Branch Secretary, was unequivocal in his commitment to the union's members.

He emphasized that service would be at the forefront of his role, and he vowed to protect the welfare and interests of NAAT members diligently.

Among the distinguished guests present at the event were Com. Olurinde Joseph, NAAT South West Zonal Coordinator, Com. Basirat Oladipupo, the Deputy Vice Chancellor representing the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Olumuyiwa Odusanya, Com. Mrs. Omobolanle, Com. Femi Oshun, Com. Olumide Joseph representing Com. Ikoma, Com. Agnes Funmilayo, Com. Busari Ayinde, who represented the NASU chairman, Com. Odunuga Janet, Barrister Alake, Doc. Adeyeye, Mrs. Oloyinka Kolawole, and Com. Olabiran from UNIOSUN, along with Com. Okulaja.

The inauguration of the new NAAT executives at LASUSTECH was an event filled with promise, commitment, and hope for a brighter future in the field of academic technology.

It represented a significant step toward fostering research, innovation, and technology development, with the potential to impact not only the academic community but also the broader society and economy. The elected officials, having received the trust and mandate of their peers, now bear the responsibility of translating their promises into meaningful actions for the betterment of their institution and region.

## LASUSTECH Commences Uploading Names on JAMB CAPS

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) has officially commenced the process of uploading names on the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board's Central Admission Processing System (CAPS) for the 2023/2024 academic session. This marks a significant step in the admission process for prospective students seeking to join the prestigious institution.

LASUSTECH, known for its commitment to excellence in science and technology education, is set to welcome a new cohort of students who will contribute to the institution's reputation for academic prowess

and innovation.

The uploading of names on JAMB CAPS is a crucial step in the admission process, as it helps streamline the allocation of spaces to qualified candidates. LASUSTECH has always been diligent in ensuring a fair and transparent admission process, and this year is no exception.

In light of this development, LASUSTECH has provided some important information for prospective students:

1. Check JAMB CAPS Regularly: All candidates who applied to LASUSTECH for the 2023/2024 academic session are advised to regularly check the JAMB CAPS portal for updates on their admission status. This can be done by visiting the JAMB CAPS portal and following the instructions provided.

2. Accept or Reject Admission: Once names are uploaded on the JAMB CAPS, candidates will have the option to either accept or reject the admission. It is important for candidates to make this decision promptly to secure their place at LASUSTECH.

3. Clearance and Registration: Successful candidates are urged to start preparing for the clearance and registration process, which will be communicated by the institution in due course. It is vital to ensure all required documents are readily available for a smooth admission process.

4. Keep Updated: For further information and updates, candidates are encouraged to visit the official LASUSTECH website and follow the institution's official social

media channels.

LASUSTECH remains dedicated to providing quality education in science and technology, and this latest development reinforces its commitment to maintaining transparency in the admission process. The institution looks forward to welcoming the next generation of talented individuals who will make a significant impact in the fields of science and technology.

Prospective students are advised to stay informed and keep a close watch on the JAMB CAPS portal for updates on their admission status, as LASUSTECH kicks off the 2023/2024 academic session with enthusiasm and dedication to academic excellence.



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# Bamigboye Explains Why There's Peace in Mushin

By Saheed Afolabi



The chairman of Mushin LG, Emmanuel Bamigboye has explained the reasons why there's peace in the community. Mushin have experienced a low crime rate recently and the council boss has attributed it to the collaborative effort with the security agencies or operatives in the local government. Bamigboye said the brain behind the high security rate in Mushin is the constant meetings with the security agencies who carries out raids and fish out criminals in their hideouts. The council chairman added, he setup a taskforce committee to complement the efforts of the security agencies and urged the residents to abide by the rule of law and not engage in criminal activities. "On security, we have been holding meetings with all the security agencies in Mushin and this is the brain behind peace we are enjoying in Mushin now. I always get in touch with Area Commander and DPOs in Mushin Local Government. They always carry out raids and visitation to the criminal hideouts and shanties," he said. "I have set up my task force to complement the efforts of the security agencies and to curtail the excesses of criminals in our dear Local Government. "I want to implore our people to be prayerful, respect the rule of law and we should not make life a do or die affair but rely on the Almighty God."

## Bamigboye Reveals Bursary Plans For Indigent Students

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Emmanuel Bamigboye has revealed plans to dish out bursary to indigent students of the community. The council chairman said a committee of six members have been constituted to oversee the distribution of bursary to tertiary institution students to support their education financially. Bamigboye added, the food palliative distributed wasn't from the State but the initiative of the local government but the state is also doing theirs which he said, he witnessed the one of Mushin.

"The bursary is for all and sundry and six man Committee has been constituted to screen students who will benefit from the bursary award, appropriately. "The palliative we conducted recently, was financed by the

Local Government in its capacity and not from State Government neither Federal Government. "The Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-olu is also doing the state palliative in its capacity, pioneering through the ministry of Agriculture. I witnessed that of Mushin Local Government across 53 CDAs in Mushin Local Government and it was massive. "It will be turn by turn batches and not one or two derica of rice or beans."

# Mushin Residents Benefit From NMA Free Health Care Programme

Kehinde Adeleye



the less privileged as they will access the best hands in the medical line.

" Doctor Bakri is the son of the soil and he has demonstrated that he loves his people and this is the reason he is giving back to the community that he grew up in.

He seized the opportunity to advise parents to always tell their children to lend support to the government wherever they find themselves as the government can not do it alone.

He stated that the program will take care of consulting and free drugs for different ailments.

He stated, "There will be free consultation by the best hands in the medical field who will examine various ailments and would prescribe drugs will treat the people freely.

" Those whose ailments are more complex would be referred to various hospitals for proper treatment,"he said.

The highlight of the event was the formal declaration of the event by the Chairman and the presentation of the portrait to him by the Association.

The Nigerian Medical Association on Tuesday provided free medical services to the people of Idioro area of Mushin as part of its activities to mark the "Physicians Week 2023",

Doctor Bakri Hamzat,

the Chairman of Medical Outreach said that the programme is an attempt to give back to the community in where he was raised.

Through this programme, he said that the association was able to meet the healthcare needs of the community

members by giving back to the people.

"We felt it is important that people take care of their health and with the support of the Chairman of the council, Rasaq Ajala, we can make this happen,"he stated.

He gave the crowd his word that the program

was free and that they would get free medical care from the greatest doctors to diagnose a range of illnesses.

He described Rasaq Olusola Ajala as a selfless leader who always supports his people and always support what will be

beneficial to them.

In his speech the Chairman, Ajala thanked the association for bringing the program to his people.

He said, "it showed that Dr Kadri and his colleagues were committed to helping

# Mushin LG Boss Promises Bursary To Students

Kehinde Adeleye



The Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Emmanuel Bamigboye has made it known that his administration is et to

give out bursary to students of tertiary institutions in the local government.

Bamigboye made this known recently as he

stated that he would make life more comfortable and profitable for his people in Mushin.

He also said the would provide primary school pupils with exercise books and school bags.

He said that another school was being renovated around Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Center in Oshodi.

On road project, he mentioned Balogun Street, Amodu Street, and a few other streets in need of renovation.

"The building of the Oliyide complex is ongoing, and before

theZ end of December 2023, the first decking will be completed.

Bamigboye said his government has established a road repair crew and is currently in the process of desilting, the team known as "Operation All fill Portholes" in Mushin Local Government, of which a bus has been acquired .

The seven streets that this body will initially target are Sebanjo, Oteomi, Daleko axis, Oye roundabout, Isolo Road, Fatai Atere, and Cele axis.

After the first seven streets, attention will be focused on another

seven roads. The bursary is available to everyone, and a six-person committee has been established to correctly select the students who will receive the award.

I have set up my task force to complement the efforts of the security agencies and to curtail the excesses of criminals in our dear Local Government.

I want to implore our people to be prayerful, respect the rule of law and we should not make life a do or die affairs but rely on the Almighty God. For six years now, we have not increased rates and levies in Mushin. Traders should pay directly to bank and we are promising to make judicious use of tax payers' money, he concluded .



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