

EchoneWS

www.echoneWS.ng

LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of EchoneWS Newspapers Limited

Monday 4th November - Sunday 10th November 2024

Lagos Records 1,085 Fire Incidents

Pg.
2&4

Sanwo-Olu Opens J.Randle
Centre, Seeks Return
Of Yoruba Artefacts

Pg.6

Climate Change : Lagos,
German Consul Throw
Weight Behind Lighthouse

Pg.11

My Experience as
One-Day Governor
-Abdulrahmon

Pg.14

Alleged Murder
Case: Policeman
Freed After 11
-Years In Detention

Pg.17

APC Stakeholders
Laud Projects
Modernization In
Ejigbo LCDA

Pg.22

Got A Story? Call
08032178602

To Place Adverts,
Call 08025378799

Bursary Award: Epe LG Targets 470 Students

Pg.27

Discover Lagos – Treasures of Lekki Arts and Crafts Market

Pg.15



Lagos Records 1,085 Fire Incidents

Kunle Awosivan

The Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service said that it recorded 1,085 fire incidents between January and July, 2024.

In the first half of 2024, the state witnessed no fewer than 1,085 incidence of fire outbreaks with Eti-Osa and Ikeja topping the list of affected local governments.

This was contained in the statistics of the mid-year activity report made available to Echonews and with this there are indications that there will be more as the year runs out due to more kitchen activities from homes to event centres and social gatherings.

The Director of the Lagos Fire and Rescue Service, Margaret Adeseye, said January, February and May witnessed more incidents of the fire outbreaks

During the period under review, the three months recorded a combined 614 fire outbreaks with January having 213, February 215 and May recording 186 cases.

The report also showed that Eti-Osa (95), Ikeja (75) and Kosofe (45) rank top among the seven worst-hit local councils in the state.

The remaining four affected local government areas include Lagos Island (35), Ikoyi-Obalende (35), Isolo (30) and Surulere (30).

Adeseye, who spoke through the Fire Service Publicity Director, Ololade Agboola, however, explained that there was a massive drop in the number of fire incidents recorded in 2024.

She said, "Last year (2023), the state had 1,642 fire incidents from January to June. But this year, the cases we recorded showed 1,085.

Apart from residences and industries, the affected structures also included warehouses, public



Margaret Adeseye

assemblies, sawmills, schools, markets, government establishments, tankers carrying petroleum products and vehicles.

"But where we had

building collapse, other responders like Lagos State Ambulance Services are always around to attend to emergencies."

While warning Nigerians to be cautious in their

approach, Adeseye stated that their investigations had revealed that carelessness and negligence were the major causes of the disaster.

However a study has

called on residents to be careful with fire, as it identifies various causes of households inferno during the "Ember" months.

The study, "Statistical Analysis of Fire Outbreaks in Homes and Public Buildings in Nigeria: A Case Study of Lagos State" by Adekunle A. Umanah I.I, Ibe K.E, and Imonikosaye M.Rukewe of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) Ota, Ogun state. It concludes that most homes lack fire management equipment and with increased kitchen and shopping activities and its attendant technical and electrical faults, most homes and market places are prone to fire outbreak during the ember months.

The study says if people can be more careful in the "ember" months when kitchen activities increase, fire incidents can be reduced.

According to the study, most homes do not have fire management capacity, adding that majority of fatal fires incidents occur in homes and that three-quarters fatal home fires start in the kitchen living room, bedroom.

The study says most residents do not maintain their electrical and

technical facilities over time but put more pressure on them as the year runs out, making the facilities to give up leading to fire outbreak.

He study stated that children had been found to have the lowest death rates while elders the highest because they are more exposed to the kitchen during this period.

"The male age groups have a much higher rate than the corresponding female group. Burns due to fires have 56% of all medical diagnosis compared to toxic effects of carbon monoxide with 30%," it stated.

In another study, "Analysis of Causes and Characteristics of Market Fires in Lagos State Nigeria" by Ayobami Popoola University of KwaZulu-Natal, Town and Regional Planning; Oluwafemi Bankole Adekalu, University of KwaZulu-Natal, School of Built Environment and Development Studies and Audu A Abiodun of the same university, noted that Lagos Metropolitan area witnessed more of the outbreaks of fire in markets during the ember months with about 92% of the total occurrence within that period.

Continued on page 4



79th
Anniversary

THE BANK THAT WORKS







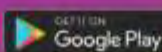
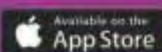









Are you an ALAT user? Download the app to join the ALAT Trybe



Dial *945*01#

Don't forget payments are easier with

*945#

0-7000-PURPLE, 0803 900 3700

purpleconnect@wemabank.com

Customer help desk 09044411010

Get social with us at:



@wemabank | @alat_ng



alat.ng

wemabank.com

alat.ng

Lagos Records 1,085 Fire Incidents

Continued from page 2

During this period, shops were mostly affected and only cases where people resided within the market environment witnessed significant displacement of people. Most of the fire outbreaks at markets have been attributed to power surge and vulnerable building materials. It recommended that government should take practical efforts to put every market in a safe State. This includes demolishing every vulnerable and illegal structure in markets and reconstruction to modern and resilient standards after proper and adequate consultations with stakeholders.

It recommended a workable collaboration with the public power supply body to ensure sustainability of power supply to the markets and that all illegal connections should be corrected and possibly rewired.

Measures to improve fire protection in homes according to the studies

Information and education are deemed to be the most important measures. Increased awareness of fire by residents would affect behaviour and lead to greater care.

In homes early detection by smoke detectors is the most important measure. It is of course important that action is taken once the fire is discovered - people should own fire extinguishers and be trained to handle them.

Education and training for school children is

considered especially effective in raising fire awareness across the whole population. Such education should be an obligatory part of all schooling.

Television, radio, internet, twitter and face book are media which should be used more to spread information on fire protection in the state. Fire fighters in the state should be empowered to respond quickly in cases of fire outbreak.

Measures to improve fire protection in public buildings

Education, training and information to raise awareness and cautiousness of occupants, employees and those responsible for activities in a building.

Education is the most effective measure to prevent fires in public buildings. This is important for the general public, but even more essential for personnel. Both employees and company leaders need



to understand fire risks.

Systematic self-auditing of fire prevention work. It is important to make it difficult for arsonists to target the building and to check fire prevention in concealed spaces in the building.

The early detection of any fire is clearly vital in public buildings.

Education and information are also important so that personnel can deal with a fire in this phase - employees should be able to put out a fire at this stage.

It is important to have automatic fire alarms for early detection and equipment and training so that evacuation can start and the fire be put out

or its spread limited.

It is important to have a high level of fire safety in public buildings since otherwise visitors are exposed to danger. People in the building have a right to expect that those who build or lead the activities there have considered the risk of arson and taken measures to protect visitors from it.

The local fire authorities should develop their work with inspection and supervision so that better judgments can be made.

The fire brigades must be well prepared for fires in public buildings since in certain situations they may be required to help people escape from a fire.



A new Lagos is in the works

The future is loading!

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



Lagos State Internal Revenue Service

Lagos Revenue House, Assbifi Road, Central Business District, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos State
Tel: 0700-CALL-LIRS (0700 2255 5477)

Lagos State Internal Revenue Service (LIRS) | www.lirs.gov.ng | @lirsgovng | @lirs_govng | info@lirs.net



Sanwo-Olu Opens J.Randle Centre, Seeks Return Of Yoruba Artefacts

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, has announced that the John Randle Centre for Yoruba Culture and History in Onikan, completed and equipped by his administration, is now fully operational and open for public use, particularly members of the creative sector and tourists. (Sanwo-Olu at the opening of J.randle Centre)

Speaking during a conversation session held at the Centre, the Governor unveiled Mr. Qudus Onikeku as the CEO/Director, who will be responsible for managing and coordinating creative activities at the Centre with his team.

Sanwo-Olu explained that Onikeku was selected due to his international exposure, rich cultural and artistic background, and commitment to creative development.

"For over a year, finding the right person to manage this Centre has been a challenge. We chose Qudus Onikeku because of his distinguished career in the creative field and to fulfil our promise of giving young talents opportunities to showcase their skills," the Governor said.

Sanwo-Olu noted that the Centre represents not only Lagos but the entire Yoruba race, including the southwestern states in Nigeria and Yoruba-speaking communities worldwide. He urged the British government and other countries to return artefacts that belonged to Lagos and the Yoruba people.

The Governor also called on his colleagues in the southwestern region to see the Centre as a shared cultural facility and to

contribute artefacts to further establish it as a prominent museum documenting the history and culture of the Yoruba people.

During the session, moderated by Qudus Onikeku, Sanwo-Olu encouraged youths to explore the Centre to develop and promote their creative skills. He also appealed to parents and the Yoruba community to actively promote the culture and language to prevent it from fading away, ensuring its preservation for future generations.

Governor Sanwo-Olu emphasised that the State Government does not seek to dominate the tourism and entertainment sectors but is committed to

creating an enabling environment for creative practitioners to thrive, making Lagos a vibrant hub for tourism and entertainment.

He highlighted various interventions by his administration for creative practitioners in the film, arts, and fashion sectors, as well as collaborations and sponsorships that have supported the industry. Expressing his administration's willingness to support creative minds, Sanwo-Olu insisted that recipients of support from his administration must prove themselves deserving, as the government expects value-added contributions in return.

"We want our people to come up with

innovative ideas that will positively project Lagos to the international community. Once a creative idea is conceived, securing funding for outstanding initiatives won't be difficult," he stated.

Speaking on one of the ways to further improve and develop the State's tourism and entertainment sector, Governor Sanwo-Olu said the development of an annual tourism calendar is important to guide both local and international tourists and drive traffic to Lagos State.

He identified this as a strategic move to showcase the state's rich cultural heritage, festivals, events, and entertainment

activities in a structured and predictable manner.

Mr. Governor noted that the tourism calendar would help boost the tourism and entertainment sectors by ensuring that potential visitors and industry stakeholders can plan their trips and investments around scheduled events, thereby driving economic growth and enhancing the state's reputation as a premier destination for tourism and entertainment in Nigeria.

In her welcome address, Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka, assured that the Centre would serve as a dynamic space where

traditional music, artistry, and historical narratives come alive, fostering a deep sense of connection and pride among visitors.

She added that the John Randle Centre is not just about preserving culture but also about inspiring innovation and encouraging youth to engage with and reinterpret Yoruba heritage in contemporary ways.

"This Centre's establishment was made possible through the collaborative efforts of artisans, historians, educators, and community leaders, embodying a collective vision of unity and appreciation for our shared cultural identity," she said.



LSSC Restates Commitment To Grassroots Sports

... Rolls Out Sporting Initiatives To Discover, Develop Budding Talents



The Lagos State Sports Commission (LSSC) has reiterated its commitment to propagating grassroots sports development, stressing that the state government would continuously bring out initiatives that will improve sports and develop new talents across board. The Director General of Lagos State Sports Commission, Lekan Fatodu made this known after the conclusion of the Lagos Individual Boxing Club Championship held at the Bishop Aggey playing ground, Ilassamaja, Mushin, Lagos recently. Boxers from different boxing clubs in the state assembled for

the week-long tourney designed to churn out more talents and to prepare them for the forthcoming "Gateway Games" in the neighbouring Ogun State. He noted that the identified boxers will be presented to the sports association in the state so that their talents can be properly nurtured to further shape their career in their chosen discipline. "We realised that there is a need for us to further engage the community, particularly the young people, in productive activities and also to help them harness their hidden sporting talents", said Fatodu. Abee Adekunle, who fought under the badge of Owonikoko

Boxing Club, won a gold medal in the 80kg category, following his winning streak at the championship. Omotajo Semiu won a gold medal after dominating the 75kg weight category, while Lawal Ismail grabbed a gold medal in the 71kg. Also, in the female weight categories, Adura Patience from Owonikoko Boxing Club, Divine Emmanuel, Owonikoko Boxing Club, and Jinadu Ikimat, Star Boxing Club, clinched gold medals in 70kg 86kg and 61kg respectively. Director of Sports Development, LSSC, Nunayon Travih, stressed that the identified boxers at the championship

would be monitored and guided to achieve their potential in the course of their discipline. Travih added that with their ability and dexterity in the boxing ring, they would be exposed to proper guidance and routine training to continue to hone their skills. Director, Technical Department, LSSC, Uthman Olaribigbe Okunnu, posited that the championship is part of the lineup activities of the Commission to put the state's athletes in the right form for the forthcoming national competitions. He said apart from boxing, there are other events like blind sports, cricket, and softball, among others, coming up in different locations.

LASPARK Trains Staff on Elocution, Public Speaking

As a way of enhancing the communication skills and public speaking abilities of its members of staff, the Lagos State Parks and Gardens Agency (LASPARK) recently trained its management staff on elocution and public speaking. The training, which took place recently at Dr. Finnih Park, Oregun, Lagos, was part of LASPARK's commitment to fostering effective leadership among its staff, in recognition of the crucial role that strong communication skills (Participants at the Training session) play in periodically engaging with members of the public. The General Manager of LASPARK, Mrs. Adetoun Popoola, who was represented at the event by the Director and Head of Greener Lagos Managers at LASPARK, Mrs. Yinka Oladini, while welcoming the facilitators and participants to the training session, stressed the importance of continuous learning and professional development to the staff. "This training is a significant step towards equipping our management team with essential skills that will not only be beneficial to their careers but also contribute to the growth

of the Agency," she said. She encouraged the staff to keep an open mind and embrace the opportunity to learn new techniques that would assist their public speaking abilities and enhance their overall effectiveness as leaders. The General Manager assured the management team that the Agency would continue to invest in programmes aimed at developing staff competencies to meet the evolving needs of public service delivery in Lagos State. During her presentation at the training, the facilitator and Robson, an accomplished Etiquette and Image Consultant, Mrs. Gloria Robson shared valuable insights on the fundamentals of elocution, the art of delivering speeches with clarity, and how to project confidence while addressing an audience. She highlighted the significance of non-verbal communication, including body language and facial expressions in reinforcing the spoken word. "Public speaking is not just about what you say, but how you say it," Mrs. Robson noted. "Effective communication requires not only well-chosen words but also the ability to connect emotionally with your audience."



Sanwo-Olu Charges Nigerians To Promote Good Governance, Transparency

• As Jega calls for reform of leadership recruitment process

The Lagos State Governor, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has charged Nigerians, particularly Lagos residents, to promote the values that underpin good governance to ensure a future where the state's economic environment will empower and uplift its citizens.

He said strong governmental institutions, effective leadership, and an unwavering commitment to transparency will build a strong and thriving economy.

Governor Sanwo-Olu spoke on Wednesday at the opening ceremony of the 2024 Annual Conference of the Chartered Institute of Directors held at Eko Hotels and Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos.

He said the conference theme, "Good Governance as a Catalyst for Economic Recovery, Growth, and Development," captured the current challenges and illuminated a path toward a more resilient and prosperous future.

"As leaders, we recognise that good governance is more than a moral obligation—it is an economic imperative. It is the key to unlocking our nation's potential, attracting vital investment, and creating opportunities for our citizens. We



know that transparency, accountability, and trust are the cornerstones of any thriving economy. History has shown that where these principles are absent, nations struggle.

"We have seen the devastating consequences of poor governance, where corruption and inefficiency stifle growth and erode trust in institutions. But history has also shown us that with strong governmental institutions, effective leadership, and an unwavering commitment to transparency, we can build a strong and thriving economy," he said. Speaking on his administration's

commitment to good governance, economic growth, and development, Governor Sanwo-Olu disclosed, "Here in Lagos State, we are deeply committed to embedding these values in every facet of our administration. We have launched reforms to strengthen institutions, promote transparency, and ensure accountability across sectors. Capacity-building initiatives equip our public servants with the skills needed to drive meaningful economic growth, and we are seeing the fruits of these efforts across the state.

"But government alone cannot

achieve sustainable progress. The private sector plays a crucial role in advancing good governance. By adhering to ethical business practices, investing in sustainable initiatives, and insisting on transparency in governmental dealings, we can create an environment that fosters transparency and economic stability. Together, we can bridge the gap between intention and action."

The former Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Prof. Attahiru Jega, while delivering the conference lecture, called for a reform

of the leadership recruitment process, noting that the major challenge confronting Nigeria is that most of the leaders are not prepared for leadership.

He advised Nigerians to pay serious attention to nurturing and entrenching democratic governance to place Nigeria on a sustainable trajectory of 'people-oriented development processes' rather than mere good governance being promoted by the World Bank.

"We should not swallow hook, line, and sinker what they bring to us. We must be very careful in terms of what measures they have suggested to us

because if we don't do that, we may inadvertently fall into greater medium and long-term problems even if we think we are seeing short-term benefits from that kind of engagement," he advised.

Also speaking, the President and Chairman of Council of the Chartered Institute of Directors, Alhaji Tijjani Borodo, said the Institute proudly leads the charge in promoting corporate governance across the country.

The Chairman of the occasion, Mr. Mutiu Sunmonu said character is the bedrock of good governance and good corporate practices.

Lagos CSC Hosts Commissions' Summit To Foster Public Service

As top government officials converged for the third edition of the Lagos State Commissions' Summit, the Chairman, Lagos State Civil Service Commission (CSC), Mrs. Olunmi Fabamwo has underscored the importance of standardisation, synergy and collaboration amongst Statutory Service Commissions and Boards for a unified Public Service.

In her welcome address at the two-day event held in Ikeja, Fabamwo posited that the choice of the theme: "Building a Sustainable and Resilient Public Service in the Face of Economic Realities", portends to provide a collective solution to the current economic climate by devising means to sustain and invariably improve the accomplishment of the Commissions' respective

responsibilities.

The Chairman observed that the Summit has over the last three years offered the Commissions the opportunity to incubate initiatives and policy reforms on human resource governance and their subsequent operationalization for a strong workforce in the State Public Service.

She urged the Chairmen of Statutory Commissions' and Board to engage in discussions centred on formulating strategies to streamline procedures, reduce inefficiencies, and adopt innovative approaches that would ultimately enhance the quality of governance. As the ultimate expectations of Lagosians is quality service delivery; irrespective of the Agency of government providing the said services.

In his goodwill message, the Chairman, Lagos

State House of Assembly Committee on Establishments, Training, Pensions and Public Service, Hon. Oladele Ajayi, who declared the Summit open, emphasised the strategic importance of the Summit towards building a responsive and a 21st-Century Public Service.

He stressed that the insights provided at the Summit would undoubtedly inform future policies for possible reforms in the Public Service that would ensure quality service delivery to meet the expectations of Lagosians.

The Head of Service, Mr. Olabode Agoro, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Health Service Commission, Dr. Muyiwa Eniyawun, stated that, "Although government establishments are

structurally bureaucratic, it is however imperative to introduce some measure of flexibility and innovation to adapt its processes to current realities to meet the evolving needs of the citizenry.

He noted the pivotal importance of the Summit's theme as an opportunity to come up with new strategies to drive and engender a new culture of service orientation to propel the much needed changes within the Service.

The Permanent Secretary of CSC, Mr. Akinbode Obadina, in his vote of thanks, assured the participants and other stakeholders that the resolutions and recommendations from the Summit will be compiled into a report as input that will guide future human resource reforms in the Lagos State Public Service.

He made reference to the potency of the resolutions reached at the previous editions of the Commissions' Summit, revealing that those resolutions have been embraced as basis for some innovations and policies within the Service.

The Summit featured several sessions, including paper presentations from national and global industry and subject area experts and panel discussions among others; all aimed at addressing critical issues facing the public sector with contemporary topics on the dynamism of human resource principles and practice with emphasis on social inclusion, employees' wellness and safety, among others as the blueprint to the 'NOW OF WORK'

In attendance at the two-day Summit were

Chairmen of Statutory Service Commissions and Boards namely the Chairman, Health Service Commission, Dr (Mrs.) Atinuke Onayiga; Chairman, Audit Service Commission, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Adepeju Adegboji-Onikoyi; Chairman, Local Government Service Commission, Mr. Kamal Ayinde Bayewu; Chairman, Teaching Service Commission, Mrs. Victoria Mopelola Peregrino and the Chairman, House of Assembly Service Commission, Otunba, Richard Akin Oshungboye

Other distinguished personalities at the event were the Commissioners from CSC, Members of the Body of Permanent Secretaries and Boards' Secretaries of core establishment MDAs, Senior Civil Servants, policymakers, and other stakeholders.



Lagos Commences “Know Your Numbers, Control Your Numbers Campaign”

... As COS, Deputy Governor, Top Officials Participate in National Health Screening Campaign

In a significant effort to address the health risks associated with hypertension and diabetes, the Lagos State Government has launched its "Know Your Numbers, Control Your Numbers" campaign today, providing screening services at 330 designated sites across the state. This health initiative aims to heighten public awareness and encourage regular blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, targeting the growing prevalence of these silent yet life-threatening conditions. This campaign forms part of the national '10 Million Project,' a Programme initiated by the Nigeria Governors' Forum to address the widespread impact of hypertension and diabetes. The Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi, announced the initiative last Friday at a news briefing.

The campaign launch was marked by a special screening event at the Lagos State Executive Council meeting held today at the Lagos House, Alausa-Ikeja, where prominent government figures, including Deputy Governor Dr. Kadir Obafermi Hamzat, underwent screenings for blood pressure and sugar levels as part of the inaugural activities.

During the Executive Council event, the Special Adviser to the Lagos Governor on Health, Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Ogunyemi conducted blood pressure and sugar level screenings

for the Deputy Governor, Dr. Hamzat and supervised the screening of other cabinet members. Participants included the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Sam Egube; Commissioner for Innovation, Science & Technology, Mr. Tunbosun Alake; Commissioner for Youth and Social Development, Mr. Mobolaji Ogunlende; Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Bolaji Cecilia Dada and Special Adviser on Transportation, Mr. Sola Giwa, among others. Additionally, over the weekend, Dr. (Mrs.) Ogunyemi conducted screenings for prominent figures such

as the Chief of Staff to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabamila, and Honourable Babajimi Benson, and Honourable Fuad Laguda of the House of Representatives. She also highlighted the necessity of routine checks to control hypertension and diabetes.

“Hypertension and diabetes are two silent killers that need to be tamed,” she emphasized, urging Lagosians and Nigerians alike to “know and control their numbers by attending screenings at designated sites or their private facilities.” Screenings are scheduled to continue at 30 General Hospitals

and 300 Primary Health Centres across Lagos, with the Ministry of Health coordinating efforts to maximise reach and accessibility. Screening sites are strategically distributed to cover various local government areas, ensuring easy access for residents.

The "Know Your Numbers, Control Your Numbers" campaign is set to run from Monday, October 28 to Sunday, November 3, 2024, with screenings starting at 9 a.m. daily across the state. The Lagos State Government remains committed to the health and safety of its residents through this proactive health initiative.



President Tinubu's Chief of Staff, Femi Gbajabamila during the exercise

Lagos Set Agenda For Safety at Dredging Sites

The Lagos State Safety Commission has urged Sand Miners and Dredgers in the State to be mindful of the importance of their lives while at dredging locations and mining sites in all nooks and crannies of the state.

The Director-General of the Commission, Lanre Mojola gave the advice on Monday in his welcome address delivered at a one-day meeting with stakeholders in the sector.

Mojola maintained that the security of lives and properties is very paramount. Hence, the law that established the Lagos State Safety Commission, especially as it relates to dredging and mining sectors, stipulates that all hands must be on deck to ensure there is no loss of life during any dredging and mining activities in any part of the State.

He said that organisations, communities and individuals around the world must be encouraged to give attention to the pressing issues affecting lives. Hence, we need to do the needful that lives are well protected.

The DG averred that the essence of the stakeholders' meeting was not to force anything on people but to deliberate together and proffer solutions to avoid unforeseen occurrences on dredging and mining sites.

"As we all can see, some have been injured, while others have been so unfortunate to have gone to the great beyond through compromising attitudes of some of our dredgers and miners at our various sites, hence why we are all here to deliberate and chart a new course for ourselves on how to live and behave responsibly in our various sites", Mojola said.

Also in his remark, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Engineer Abiola Kosegbe, who was represented by Mr. Shomilewo Okikiola, reiterated that ensuring a safe, resilient and

sustainable Lagos, through the protection of lives and properties in dredging and mining sites in the entire nooks and crannies of Lagos State remained imperative to the state government.

She advised miners and dredgers to remain committed to the already established and agreed safety rules outlined by the Lagos State Safety Commission and other sister agencies.

"There is no doubt Lagos State Safety Commission has put in place guidelines for all dredgers and miners bearing in mind that safety measures can't be overlooked and its importance can't be underestimated, as far as the safety of dredging and mining sites are concerned", Kosegbe said.

The National President, Association of Tourist Boat Operators and Water Transportation in Nigeria (ATBOWAN), Dr. Tarzan Balogun appealed that the Lagos State Safety Commission should provide a standby safety boat for dredgers and miners to act as checks and balances to their operations at sites as well as act as eyes of the agency at all dredging and mining sites.

In his submission, the President, Dredgers Association of Nigeria, Mr. Bature Akpomejero emphasised that the association is cooperating with the government while suggesting that there should be a seamless and joint committee to ensure the setting up a sub-committee to oversee how safety personnel could be appointed in various dredging and mining sites. Reeling out the critical life-threatening issues in the dredging and mining sectors, Engr. Festus Todowede, a Director with the Lagos State Safety Commission, said multiple hazardous issues were recorded due to the absence of a life jacket, a missing fire extinguisher around the fuel storage handling area, and the absence of first aid facilities.

Climate Change : Lagos, German Consul Throw Weight Behind Lighthouse

The Lagos State Government, through the Office of the Special Adviser on Climate Change and Circular Economy and the German Consul General in the State, have thrown their weight behind the Founder of Lighthouse Highschool Initiative (LHI) campaign on climate action and recycling to public schools.

The campaign was held recently at Ireti Grammar School and Falomo High School in Ikoyi in the form of a concert to sensitise students on recycling, using art and entertainment to drive the message.

Speaking to the initiative, Mrs. Titi Oshodi, Special Adviser on Climate Change and Circular Economy to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, emphasised the crucial role children play in sustainability and social transformation.

She noted that their open-mindedness, influence on families and communities, and potential as future leaders make them ideal environmental ambassadors and social change agents.

In her remarks, the Program Officer at the Consulate General of Germany in Lagos, Udochukwu Okeahialam said the project speaks to the need to channel the energy and curiosity of our younger generation into productive, transformative activities. Through this initiative, we have seen students engage with vital issues such as climate change, environmental sustainability, and the importance of recycling-issues that are not only critical for Nigeria but for the world.

Her words, "The Climate Action and Recycling Campaign Project is

aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically, SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 4 on quality education, and SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production. These goals remind us that sustainability is not a one-dimensional issue. Protecting our environment, improving our health, and promoting education are deeply interconnected challenges that require innovative, inclusive, and lasting solutions."

Akinade Ibuoye, the Founder of Lighthouse Highschool Initiative, who also is a musician and popularly known as 'Gaise Baba' disclosed that this year's edition is the 22nd and a major milestone in partnership with an international organisation aimed at sensitising students on

the benefits of climate actions and recycling.

He explained the initiative is more than a climate campaign action, it is just that the Y2024 edition is built around climate action and recycling.

According to him, "As a musician who is conscious of the environment, conscious of my community, my nation. I want to sensitise other young people to make the right decisions and make the right choices; that's why we started this in 2017. We've gone to federal government schools. We've gone to private schools. Now we are going to Lagos State public Schools as well. We started from my alma mater, King's College, in 2017.

"We've done 21 editions. This is our 22nd edition. This is the first time that we're having a

partnership with an international organisation like the Consulate General of Germany. So it's great to see the German consulate believe in what we're doing and help us do better at it.

"We promote values like delayed gratification to tell young people that you don't have to get rich quickly through illegals. We also promote abstinence to avoid sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. So we tell them that the best way to avoid that is to abstain until marriage", he added.

Gaise Baba lauded the Lagos state government support through the Office of the Special Adviser on Climate Change and Circular Economy, Mrs. Titi Oshodi as well as the Education District III of the Ministry of Education.





Echoneews
Newspapers Limited

We Never Fail To Deliver

Every Minute

Every Week



Subscribe | Advertise | Partner

www.echoneews.ng | www.facebook.com/EchoneewsNG

First Lady Applauds Akapo, Seeks Increased Support for Education



(Students supported with educational materials)

The First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu has praised the efforts of Seun Akapo, founder of the Top Scholars Education Empowerment Initiative, for his commitment to supporting over 100 outstanding students from various secondary schools with educational resources aimed at enhancing their academic pursuits. Dr. Sanwo-Olu gave the commendation recently at an event organised by the Seun Akapo Foundation to recognize outstanding students from secondary schools

within Ikoyi and its surrounding areas, held at Government College, Osborne, Ikoyi. Representing Dr. Sanwo-Olu at the event, Mrs. Omoleye Alake, a member of the Committee of Wives of Lagos State Officials (COWLSO), highlighted that Mr. Oluwaseun Akapo's initiative will not only benefit students, academically but also help mentor them in the value of giving back to society, thereby empowering the next generation to overcome challenges and achieve success. Dr. Sanwo-Olu

emphasised that building a capable society and nurturing youth development are more achievable when stakeholders collaborate to support the government's efforts in advancing the educational sector. She noted that Mr. Akapo, through his foundation, has made significant contributions not only to the students' academic pursuits but also to improving learning outcomes – an initiative which aligned with Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's commitment to transforming the educational sector through the THEMES

Plus Agenda.

“Our aim is to prepare our children to be exemplary ambassadors for themselves and the state by equipping them with the skills needed to succeed in future job markets. As stakeholders, we should help them discover their strengths and acquire the competencies to thrive on a global scale,” she stated. The First Lady congratulated the students and encouraged them to strive for academic excellence, maintain a positive attitude, dream big, and envision a

productive future for themselves and society.

She also acknowledged Mr. Akapo's various interventions and empowerment programmes, especially his dedication to supporting the vulnerable and underserved communities.

The First Lady reaffirmed the Lagos State Government's commitment to building a sustainable educational system that not only promotes academic achievement but also prepares youth to become self-reliant and skilled for the labour market.

In his welcome remarks, Mr. Oluwaseun Akapo commended Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-

Olu's administration for its substantial investment in transforming Lagos into the “Centre of Excellence,” especially through improvements in the educational sector aimed at supporting young people in becoming exemplary leaders.

Mr. Akapo expressed his unwavering commitment to positively impact society, noting that he has started this journey in his immediate community of Ikoyi-Obalende by supporting vulnerable residents.

He described the Top Scholars Initiative as one of his primary projects dedicated to rewarding youth excellence and promoting career development.

He emphasised that empowering the younger generation is essential for driving significant change in the state and the nation, sharing his agenda for future projects that would bring relief and progress to society and pledging his continued support for government initiatives.

Mr. Akapo also expressed his gratitude to all teachers in Ikoyi-Obalende and across Lagos State for their dedication and commitment, which consistently places Lagos among the top-performing states in terms of educational quality and delivery.

My Experience as One-Day Governor-Abdulrahmon

The One-Day Governor, Abdulazeez Abdulrahmon, has expressed gratitude for the warm reception given to him by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the first lady, Ibijoke and described the experience as enlightening and unforgettable.

While noting that the experience garnered across key government offices was an eye-opener that would forever be cherished by him and his team members, Abdulrahmon thanked the State Executive Council for their support and encouragement.

The one-day Governor, his team members, the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye and top officials of the Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA) led by the Director, Planning Research and Statistics, Mr. Remi Abdul, later visited the Office of Chief Judge of Lagos, the Ayangburen of Ikorodu, the Headquarters of Lagos State Education District II, among other important places were received by Sanwo-Olu. Abdulrahmon, a student from Oriwu Senior Model College, Ikorodu, was received by Governor Sanwo-Olu and his wife during a courtesy visit on Monday at the Lagos House, Marina.

The One-Day Governor was accompanied by his team members, the

One-Day Deputy Governor, Master Oki Sewanu Coordinator of Ansar-Ud-Deen Senior Grammar School, Badagry, and the One-Day Secretary to the State Government, Miss Saheed Alimot-Odere of Jubilee Model Senior Grammar School, Coker Aguda.

During the visit, Governor Sanwo-Olu congratulated the students for their remarkable achievements, noting that the Spelling Bee Competition has continually fostered confidence and vocabulary development among participants.

At a subsequent reception at the Exco Chamber, Lagos House, Ikeja, the Deputy Governor of Lagos

State, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, who received the one-day Governor and his team members on behalf of Governor Sanwo-Olu, urged the students to emulate past winners who have excelled in various fields.

He described both the present one-day Governor and the past winners of the Spelling Bee Competition as shining examples of the State's commitment to nurturing future leaders.

He advised the young leaders to stay committed to positive change and be proud representatives of Lagos State. "You should be proud of being products of Lagos State, and be determined to change any negative narratives

about our country," he said.

Responding to Abdulrahmon's request for an ICT Laboratory for Oriwu Senior Model College, Governor Sanwo-Olu assured him that the project would be carried out. He directed the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Alli-Balogun, to begin work on the request.

The First Lady, Dr. Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu alongside the wife of the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Oluremi Hamzat, encouraged the students to continue pursuing academic success, assuring them that the government will maintain its

commitment to creating conducive learning environments across the state.

Dr. Sanwo-Olu also introduced the students to various initiatives led by her office, including the War Against Drug Abuse, Fight Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Lagos Boy Child Initiative, and School Support Initiative. Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Olabode Agoro, also commended the government's investment in education as a means of securing the future of Lagos State. He assured the students of opportunities within the public service, stating, "There is a reserved place for you within the Lagos State Public Service upon completing your education."

The Commissioner for

Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Alli-Balogun informed that the official tour undertaken by the One-Day Governor and his cabinet was aimed at broadening the knowledge of the young leaders in providing valuable experiences that would benefit their future careers.

Director of Planning, Research, and Statistics at the Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA), Mr. Remi Abdul, lauded the sustained efforts to keep the One-Day Governor initiative alive.

He noted that the competition, which saw Abdulrahmon emerge as the winner, was keenly contested across zonal and state levels, serving as a morale booster for students.



(One-Day Governor, Abdulazeez Abdulrahmon, flanked by his cabinet members)

Discover Lagos – Treasures of Lekki Arts and Crafts Market

The Hidden Treasure

By Preye Blessing Albert

Tucked away in the heart of Lekki, Jakande, Lagos State, lies a hidden gem that showcases the rich cultural heritage of Nigeria - the Oba Elegushi International Market, also known as the Lekki Arts and Crafts Market or the Jakande Art Market. With over 500 open-air galleries or outlets, it is widely regarded as the largest arts and crafts market in Nigeria.

Located on Oba Elegushi Street which is off Elegushi Market Road, off the Lekki Expressway to the right of the road inwards Ajah and to the left inwards Victoria Island (the turn to the market is between the 4th and 5th traffic lights), this bustling marketplace is a must-visit destination for tourists, Lagosians and visiting Nigerians interested in exploring the country's vibrant arts and crafts scene. Stepping into the market, buyers are immediately struck by the sheer variety of handmade crafts on display. From intricately carved and sculpted woods to beautifully woven rattan earrings, mats, bags, and baskets, the market is a treasure trove showcasing beautiful

African artistry. The air is filled with the earthy scent of wood, some sweet, some spicy and the sound of friendly vendors calling out to passers-by.

Craftsmen and women also have on display leather goods, paintings, rafia work, bronze works, textile, marble carvings to semi-precious stones amongst others and where visitors show interest in the production process, the craftsmen and women are usually willing to teach how the items are made. Most of the items are made by Nigerian arts and craftsmen, however, visitors who have time on their hands, can find arts and craft from several West African countries.

Highlights of the market include the sheer volume of art and craft work on display as well as the stunning African prints fabric, which can be used to create a wide range of clothing and accessories. I was also impressed by the beautifully crafted African rings and iron brass works, each piece telling a story of Nigerian culture and tradition. Tips to enjoy your visit

* Wear comfortable shoes and clothes, some head gear for protection from the sun and carry a bottle of water.

* The best time to go is in the morning, it's

cooler and you can usually get better bargains.

* Come ready to bargain, a formula I advice is halving whatever price the craftsmen and women offer you and start the haggling from there.

* Avoid showing too much eagerness and a sense of being in a hurry to buy the arts and craft - where you find something interesting, note the number of the shop and come back. You might just find more unique items and then not being in a hurry, makes the craftsmen and women eager to yield to your negotiation

* Most stores are electronic transfer friendly so you can complete your transactions via POS terminals with your debit card or effect a bank transfer.

What makes the Lekki Arts and Crafts Market truly special is the warmth and hospitality of the craftsmen and women. They are eager to share their stories, showcase their skills, and negotiate prices with a smile. Remember to haggle, though - it's all part of the fun!

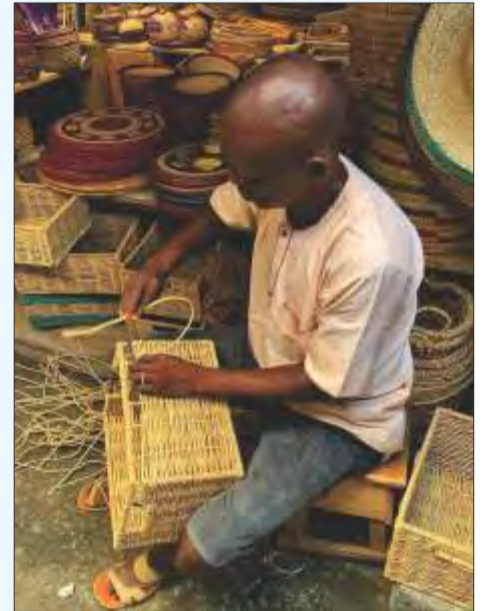
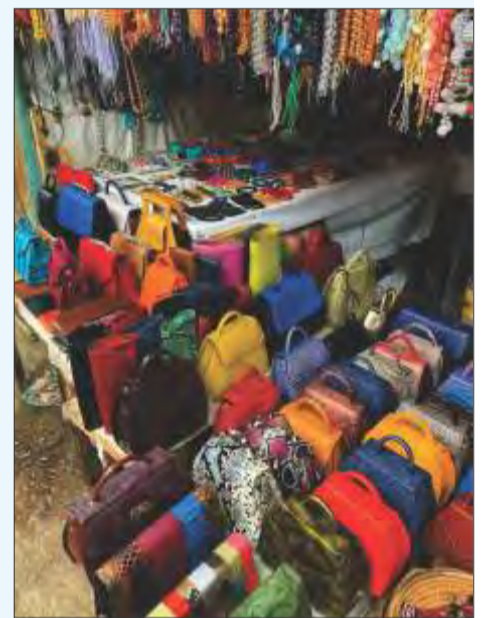
Being a popular tourist destination, the market is safe and welcoming. Entry is free, and visitors can explore the stalls at their leisure - no location or shops are off-limits.

Whether you are a seasoned art enthusiast or just looking for a unique souvenir, this market

has something for everyone.

In short, no trip to Lagos is complete without a visit to the

Lekki Arts and Crafts Market. So come and experience the treasures of Nigerian artistry firsthand.



Lagos Trains Directors On Leadership, Succession Planning

Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro has called on Directors of Administration and Human Resources in the State Public Service to exhibit exemplary ethical behaviour and consistently uphold the values of the service. Agoro emphasised that the approach would inspire younger officers to adopt acceptable leadership qualities, ultimately facilitating the succession planning process in the Public Service. He stated this at a three-day retreat organised by the Public

Service Office / Office of the Head of Service for 75 Directors of Administration and Human Resources, held at the Jubilee Chalets, Epe, Lagos. Agoro noted that this year's retreat, themed, "Leadership Development and Succession Planning: Ensuring Robust Talent Management for Effective Service Delivery," underscores the urgent need to address the significant leadership gap in today's Public Service. He emphasised that leadership development enhances

individuals' ability to perform in leadership roles, facilitating the execution of the organisation's strategy by fostering alignment, gaining support, and enhancing the capabilities of others. The Head of Service stated that as human resources strategists in the State Public Service, leadership development begins with them, adding that they can only cultivate the leadership capabilities of others if they first develop the leadership within themselves.

He asserted that it is the responsibility of Administration and Human Resources leaders to bridge the gap through strong leadership development and effective succession planning. Agoro stated that to achieve this, they must intentionally adopt a culture of talent management, which involves strategically bringing in the right talent and helping them develop to their full potential while aligning with organisational objectives. He expressed deep gratitude to the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide

Sanwo-Olu, and his Deputy Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, for prioritising the capacity building of the workforce in the State Public Service and approving the organisation of the retreat. Earlier in her welcome address, the Permanent Secretary, Public Service Office, Mrs. Sunkanmi Oyegbola, urged all Directors of Administration and Human Resources in the Lagos State Public Service to lead by example. She also encouraged them to establish succession plans for their respective Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), to ensure a smooth

transition when they retire. One of the participants at the retreat, Mr. Abdulrafiu Fashola, appreciated Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for the great opportunity granted to the Directors of Administration and Human Resources in the State Public Service to be able to learn, unlearn and relearn new strategies in the human resource practice. He stressed that the retreat will also enable them to network and align with the THEMES Plus Agenda of the present administration.



(Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro , talking)

Alleged Murder Case: Policeman Freed After 11-Years In Detention

By Felix Kuyinu

A Policeman in Lagos has been acquitted over allegations of a manslaughter.

Justice Ibironke Harrison, at the Tafawa Balewa Square Court Complex gave the ruling following an eleven year detention of the police officer, Emmanuel Uvadike.

Uvadike's release was granted following a successful intervention by the Foundation for Public Interest Law and Development, FPIL&D, which brought his case to the Lagos State High

Court.

Uyanweke, a police officer once attached to the Ojo division in Lagos State, was discharged on October 24, 2024, following the judge rulling out the case due to lack of diligent prosecution.

Earlier, his ordeal began on August 18, 2013, when he was arrested for allegedly causing the death of one Adams Bello in Okomaiko, Lagos.

The officer was initially held without charge until March 2015, when he was formally remanded during his arraignment at the Magistrates' Court in

Ebute Meta.

Defence Counsel, Yusuf Nurudeen, Executive Director of FPIL&D, bemoaned the prolonged detention of his client, citing the lack of substantial evidence presented by the prosecution.

Nurudeen, while quoting Sections 35(4) and 36(4) of the Constitution and Section 232 of the Lagos State Administration of Criminal Justice Law (amended 2021) mentioned that his client's detention was unlawful and against his constitutional rights. He

urged the court to dismiss the charges and release the accused due to lack of diligent prosecution.

He said that throughout Uyanweke's eleven-year confinement, the prosecution failed to produce any of the ten witnesses listed in the case.

The prosecution acknowledged that their witnesses were unavailable and deferred to the court's discretion.

Commenting on the decision, the defence counsel stated, "Uyanweke's case underscores the need for

diligent prosecution and critical reforms to prevent prolonged detentions without trial.

"Our organisation, The Pro Bono Centre, would continue advocating for judicial and human rights reforms, offering legal support to underserved individuals by connecting them with volunteer lawyers for pro bono service."

Justice Harrison agreed with the defence's arguments. He subsequently dismissed the manslaughter charge and ordering Uyanweke's release.



80-Year-Old Retiree Sues Yabatech Over Property Demolition

By Felix Kuyinu



A former employee at Yaba College of Technology, Yabatech, Vivian Osemwengje, has filed a suit against the institution over an alleged demolition of her property in the college.

Osemwengje, who worked as the Chief Lecturer of the college's Graphics Design Department remonstrated at the Federal High Court in Ikeja Lagos through her counsel, FRA Williams Chambers.

The motion brought pursuant to Order 26 Rules (1)(3) of the Court, seeks the following reliefs: "an order extending the time to apply to set aside the orders of the Federal High Court

dated August 30, 2024, delivered by Justice Dipeolu in Suit No. FHC/L/CS/753/2003, which granted the defendants leave to enforce the judgment of the Federal High Court

delivered on February 2, 2007.

"An order setting aside the court's order made on August 30, 2024, order granting police protection to the first defendant to enter Quarters 39, Aggrey Road, GRA, Yaba College of Technology, Lagos, and take possession of the property.

"An order for a stay of execution of the judgment delivered on February 2, 2007, in light of the August 30, 2024, orders.

"An order setting aside the execution of what the retiree claimed is a non-existent judgment or order.

The Octogenarian listed five grounds for her application, which are: "That the defendants misled the court into granting the August 30, 2024, order.

"The court was misled into enforcing the February 2, 2007, judgment.

"The 2007 judgment contains no enforceable orders or directives.

"The Federal High Court

lacks jurisdiction to grant the defendant's application to enforce the 2007 judgment. Mrs. Osemwengje was not given notice of the application to enforce the judgment."

In a different petition dated October 10, 2024, Osemwengje wrote to the Force Criminal Investigation Department in Alagbon, Ikoyi-Lagos, requesting for an investigation concerning the demolition.

She noted that the actions may have been orchestrated by unknown land grabbers.

The petitioner recalled that she served the nation meritoriously at Yaba College of Technology and invested her entire savings into acquiring the property situated at the staff quarters.

Osemwengje also informed of her belongings been destroyed, and left homeless due to the demolition.

Court Acquits Suspect Over Alleged Sexual Assault

By Felix Kuyinu

A man accused of sexually assaulting his five year old daughter has been freed from further prosecution.

During a proceeding at the Ogba Magistrates' Court in Lagos, the acquitted, Emmanuel Emeruwa, 42, was cleared from all charges by the Police.

Presiding over the matter, Magistrate Bola Osunsami said that Emeruwa had no case to answer, striking off the one-count charge against him.

During earlier arraignment, the Magistrate, having heard the accused's not guilty plea, remanded him in Police custody. Thereafter, she ordered that the case file be sent to the office of the Directorate of Public

Prosecution, DPP, Lagos State for legal advice.

The state's DPP issued a legal advice issued an advice on June 24, 2024. Sequel to the submission of the advice, the court made a judgement as follows: "Based on the advice of the DPP dated June 24, 2024, Reg No LIP/MISC/R/2024/114/8, it advised non-prosecution of the defendant.

"A copy of the legal advice signed by the state's DPP, Babajide Martin, showed that the Police investigation did not establish any prima facie case against the defendant.

"The legal advice cited a family meeting in the duplicate case file where the mother of the victim had

accused the suspect of sexually assaulting their daughter and later turned around to apologized stating that she made up the allegation out of anger.

"After carefully considering the facts available in the duplicate case file, this office is of the view that a prima facie case of sexual assault by penetration contrary to Section 261 of the Criminal Law Cap. C.17, Vol.3, Laws of Lagos State 2015, is not disclosed against the suspect, PG B1-Emmanuel Emeruwa.

"The legal advice also stated that there was a gross contradiction between the medical examination carried out on the victim by Mirabel Centre and another medical examination conducted by Women at Risk International



Foundation, WARIF.

"The medical report from Mirabel Centre revealed blunt force penetration of the victims genitalia. The anal examination was found to be normal. The medical report from WARIF on the other hand found that the external female genital was normal, vagina was hyperemic and the hymenal membrane was intact.

"The report further found that the anal was bruised at position 12

o'clock and there were anal abrasions. It is the law that the guilt of a defendant may be proved by direct eye witness account, confessional statement or circumstantial evidence which is direct, positive, compelling and unequivocal.

"There are none of these modes available in this case. The eye-witness account of the victim relates to touching of her front buttocks. The circumstantial evidence relating to the

examination of the victim are contradictory, while one found blunt force penetration of the victim's genitalia (excluding penetration into her introitus) and also finding the anal not normal.

"It is important to note that even the victim did not mention that the Suspect or anyone touched or penetrated her anus. The suspect did not confess to the crime.

"There is material contradiction that casts serious doubt on the allegation against the suspect especially as it relates to the offence. The law is that if there are contradictions in the evidence of the prosecution and the contradictions go materially to the charge, doubt will be created and the benefit of it must be given to the accused person in which case he will be discharged."

Osikoya, 34 Others Celebrated In Mushin LG

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Mushin Local Government - Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, on Tuesday 29th October, showered gifts on the former Council Manager and 34 staff of Mushin Local Government who have retired from active service from 2021 till date. The event which took place at the council secretariat, was organised by the Bamigboye led cabinet, to celebrate the former Council Manager - Comrade Sogo Osikoya, who was transferred to Onigbongbo LCDA and other retired council officials who have opened down from active service. While addressing the staff, the Chairman, commended the workers in Mushin Local Government, particularly, the good leadership of the National Union of Local Government Employees

(Mushin Branch), headed by Comrade Olajide Akinola and other members of staff, for their wisdom and patience in their dealing with both the management and the council. The council boss expressed appreciation to the workers union, for their understanding and display of maturity during the proposed "End Bad Governance" protest by those who wanted to use the protest to destabilise and cause mayhem in Lagos State. He further appealed to them to continue in presenting their grievances before the government and engage in dialogues for resolution of any matter or issues affecting their members. Bamigboye admonished the workers to avoid being used by anyone to destroy the heritage and assets of the Lagos State government as such act is not the



(The Chairman presenting gift to the retired Council Officials)

solution to any of their problems, neither will it bring down the status of any political office holder. While commending the former Council Manager - Comrade Sogo Osikoya, who was being celebrated, he advised workers to always live a legacy worthy of emulation. He highlighted how he had put the former CM to test, in many ways, just to know his level of

tolerance and how to manage people. The Chairman, expressed his appreciation to Comrade "Sogolee", for his intelligence, wisdom, spirit of perseverance, humility and dynamic dexterity in managing situations when called upon during emergency situations. In a show of appreciation to the services rendered to

the people, by the staff who have retired from service, the Mushin Local Government council leadership, presented gifts items like; Television sets, gas cookers, rechargeable fans, oven, table top fridges etc. In his response, the former Council Manager thanked the chairman, Councillors, members of his cabinet and the entire workforce for the cooperation he enjoyed

during his tenure as the CM in Mushin Local Government. The entire staff also reciprocated by presenting the Chairman with an award to celebrate and appreciate him for his visionary guidance, exceptional leadership and unconditional commitment towards the welfare of staff in Mushin Local Government. The event witnessed dignitaries from the Local Government Service Commission, Ministry of Establishment and Training, NULGE official from other Local Government councils. Also with the chairman at the event were, Vice Chairman - Mr. Tunbosun Aruwe, Leader of Legislative Arm - Mr. Olawale Ayegbayo, Councillors, former leader and current Oba of Odi Olowo, HRM. Oba Sikirulai Olamide Williams (Osu Apena 01), Secretary to the Local Government - Mrs. Olubunmi Gbadamosi, Council Manager, Council Treasurer, Supervisors, Heads of departments, Special Advisers/Assistants and members of staff in Mushin Local Government.

Bamigboye Honours Mushin LG Retired Staff

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, hosted a special event to honor the former Council Manager, Comrade Sogo Osikoya, and 34 other staff members who have retired from active service since 2021. The event, held at the council secretariat, was a testament to the

council's commitment to recognizing and appreciating the contributions of its dedicated employees. In his address, Chairman Bamigboye commended the retired staff for their years of service and dedication to the council. He particularly acknowledged the leadership of the National Union of Local Government Employees (Mushin

Branch), headed by Comrade Olajide Akinola, for their maturity and understanding in navigating challenges and advocating for the welfare of workers. The Chairman urged the retired staff to continue to be positive contributors to society, while also appealing to the current workforce to maintain a harmonious working relationship with the management. To express gratitude, the



The picture collage shows the Mushin LG chairman, Emmanuel Bamigboye handing over gifts to the retired civil servants)

council presented gifts to the retired staff, including television sets, gas cookers, rechargeable fans, ovens, and table-top fridges. In his response, the former Council Manager, Comrade Sogo Osikoya, thanked the council leadership and staff for their cooperation and support during his tenure. The retired staff also presented an award to the Chairman in appreciation of his visionary leadership and commitment to their welfare.

Ajala Renovates Oliyide General Hospital

By Saheed Afolabi

Mr. RasAQ Ajala, Chairman of Odi-Olowo Ojuwoye Local Council Development Area (LCDA), recently inaugurated the rehabilitated Block D at Oliyide General Hospital in Mushin. This significant achievement marks another milestone in the LCDA's commitment to improving healthcare infrastructure and services for its residents. The inauguration ceremony, held at the hospital premises, was attended by several dignitaries, including

the Medical Director of Oliyide General Hospital, Dr. Oluyemi Taiwo, who expressed gratitude for the LCDA's intervention. Chairman Ajala highlighted the importance of accessible and quality healthcare, particularly in underserved areas. He emphasized the need for a dedicated healthcare center within Odi-Olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, given its strategic location within the Mushin Local Government Area. Dr. Olawale Adegbite, representing the Permanent Secretary of the Health Service



(Odi-olowoOjuwoye LCDA chairman, Mr RasAQ Ajala speaking to guests at the Oliyide General Hospital premises)

Commission, also commended the LCDA's efforts and encouraged further community support for the hospital. The event was further graced by the presence of Dr. Oseni Salisu, Medical Director of Isolo General Hospital, and Dr. Adesola Pitan, Medical Director of Orile-Agege General Hospital, who both expressed their appreciation for the rehabilitation project and called for continued collaboration to enhance healthcare services in the region. The successful inauguration of the rehabilitated block is a testament to the LCDA's dedication to improving the lives of its residents and underscores the importance of public-private partnerships in delivering quality healthcare.

ALIMOSHO

Relief As Akinsanya Completes Dosu Ekunrin Road

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Igando-Ikotun LCDA, Comrade Akinsanya Lasisi Ayinde, has demonstrated his commitment to improving the lives of residents through the completion of the Dosu Ekunrin Street road and drainage project. The once-abandoned road, which had become a dumping site, has been transformed into an interlocking road, easing traffic

congestion in the area and providing residents with a safer, more accessible route. Over the past three years, Akinsanya has spearheaded numerous infrastructural development projects across Igando-Ikotun LCDA, focusing on enhancing the community's well-being. Echonews reports that his dedication to delivering the

dividends of democracy to residents is evident through the successful completion of projects like the Dosu Ekunrin Street rehabilitation. The Chairman emphasized that projects like the Dosu Ekunrin road construction will significantly contribute to the council's economic growth. By alleviating traffic congestion and enhancing accessibility, these infrastructural improvements will create a more conducive

environment for businesses to thrive, ultimately benefitting the local economy. Moreover, the renovated schools will provide a better learning environment for students, fostering their academic development and offering them a higher quality education. He further stated that his administration will continue to provide more dividends of democracy to the people.



(Pictorial view of Dosu Ekunrin Road)

Isolo Council Chairman, Deputy Tour Ilasamaja, Okota Ward

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Isolo Olasoju Adebayo has expressed his commitment to ensuring the timely completion of the ongoing Baale/Ibadan Streets, Ilasamaja road construction project, despite recent challenges posed by heavy rainfall.

In a recent tour of the project site, Olasoju, accompanied by the council's vice chairman, Shakir Adeola Sadiq, cabinet members, and other key officials, assessed the progress made so far and emphasized the importance of delivering the project on

time.

Olasoju stated that the road construction, once completed, would not only improve the mobility of residents and commuters but also

serve as a testament to the council's dedication to providing essential infrastructure and promoting development within the local community.

Olasoju conducted a

comprehensive inspection of various facilities and areas within the Okota Ward. Starting with the Ilasamaja Customary Court, he took note of areas needing attention

before proceeding on foot through Baale/Ibadan/Cecilia Odotuga Streets, making stops to assess potential improvements for the project's effectiveness.

During the tour, the council boss also visited the Ilasamaja Primary HealthCare Centre, anticipating the return of healthcare workers who had been temporarily operating at the court premises due to ongoing rehabilitation work.

Additionally, the council chairman addressed shop owners at Okota roundabout, cautioning them against dumping refuse along the Ibeh

Road median.

Okota Ward's drainage issues were closely inspected by the council chairman, Isolo Olasoju Adebayo, and his convoy as they traversed Alli Dada, Wahab Kajogbola, and Nwakibe streets. Taking immediate action, Olasoju instructed that removal notices be served to owners of kiosks and other obstructing structures that contribute to the drainage problems in the area.

Additionally, Idowu Rufai Street, where the canal channel is set for expansion, was also visited. This expansion project aims to address the persistent flooding that has been affecting the neighborhood, ensuring that the drainage infrastructure is improved for the benefit of the local community.



(A pictorial view showing the Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Mr. Adebayo Olasoju and members of his cabinet during the tour at Okota/Ilasamaja Ward)

EPE

Raji, Others Embark on Pre-commissioning Inspection Of Schools In Epe

By Mohammed Adekola

The Legislator representing Epe Federal Constituency1, Hon. Wale Raji, alongside Hon. Tolani Alli-Balogun, the Lagos State Commissioner for Education, embarked on a pre-commissioning inspection visit to Epe Grammar School and Oko-Abe Community Secondary School, Ward C1, Epe Local Government.

The visit underscores the efforts of Rep. Wale Raji to uplift education standards across both urban and rural communities.

The exercise was honored by Pastor Cornelius Ojelabi, State Chairman of the APC ably represented by Hon. Kehinde Adeniyi,



the Welfare Secretary of the party, Dr. Funke Oyetola, TG/PS Education District 3 ably represented by Mrs Mosunmola Adefuye and Animashaun, Epe LG Chairman represented by Hon. Sikiru Owolomose, her Vice-Chairman and Hon. Aliu Shittu (SAICO), Epe LGA Education Secretary.

The tour commenced

at Epe Grammar School, where the Lawmaker led others to assess the ongoing upgrades, including new hostel facilities, modernized classroom blocks, a spacious dining hall, and a principal's lodge. Following this, they inspected Oko-Abe Community Secondary School, where two blocks of 12 classrooms ready for commissioning

have been constructed. Rep. Wale Raji, speaking at the gathering, shared insights into the transformation he envisions for Oko-Abe. "This community, once challenged in terms of public secondary education, will soon be home to a well-equipped school with two blocks of 12 classrooms. This is part

of our strategy to reduce the number of out-of-school children, ensuring education for all," he said. Raji expressed gratitude to Hon. Alli-Balogun for his unwavering support, highlighting his historic role as the first Commissioner of Education in Lagos to visit Oko-Abe and Ward C1. "Education is a fundamental right, and every child deserves access, irrespective of their background or location. Our goal is to ensure no child is denied this opportunity," he stated.

The Commissioner commends the educational development initiatives, saying, "We've toured Epe Grammar School, where several projects are underway, such as a Mini Stadium, dining hall, staff quarters, classrooms, and boarding hostel facilities. This demonstrates that Rep. Wale Raji is truly

representing the people of Epe Federal Constituency."

Hon. Alli-Balogun inspected the new facilities as part of the pre-commissioning. Stressing the significance of the inspection, he said: "We are here to ensure everything is in place before we officially open these 12 classrooms, a project made possible by Rep. Raji. Education is a key pillar in Lagos State, and projects like these are instrumental in driving our goals deeply rooted in the THEMES plus agenda."

The Baale of Oko-Abe community sharing the sentiments of Baale of Ishon, highlighted the community's efforts to address security such as fencing and reaffirmed their support in employing local teachers as requested by the Commissioner

APC Stakeholders Laud Projects Modernization In Ejigbo LCDA

Kehinde Adeleye



(Cross Session of Stakeholders during the GAC visit to Ejigbo LCDA)

the stability within the APC at Ejigbo LCDA. The stakeholders were impressed by the progress made in the area and the commitment of the Council Boss to the development of Ejigbo LCDA.

This recognition further solidifies the efforts of the APC-led administration in improving the standard of living in local communities across Lagos State. With continued support from the party and local leaders, Ejigbo LCDA is set to experience further growth and development, providing residents with access to essential services and infrastructure that enhance their daily lives.

The team, who are also members of the Governance Advisory Council (GAC), reviewed the Council's use of resources, including rates and levies, to determine the effectiveness of revenue allocation and ensure residents are truly benefiting from democratic dividends.

Using pictorial evidence, Mr. Bello showcased key projects, detailing both completed and ongoing initiatives across various sectors, including infrastructure, health, empowerment, and education. Projects presented included the reconstruction of Ifoshi Road; a network of roads connecting Kashimawo Alimi, Oyinbo Dudu, Prince Babatunde Adefioye, and part of Rainbow Avenue; rehabilitation of the Primary Health Centre at Morning Star, Aigbaka; construction of Akinsanya Ajaloleru Public Primary School in Ilaoshe; remodelling and reconstruction of the Council Secretariat; and

construction of the CDC Secretariat.

The Chairman also noted that upon his assumption of office in 2017, he inherited 436 roads, of which only twelve were tarred. Under his administration, an additional forty roads have now been completed. He highlighted that all projects were funded without incurring any debt, relying solely on careful prioritization and efficient financial management.

After reviewing the presentations, Otunba Femi Pedro expressed satisfaction, noting the visible impact of the Council's projects and emphasizing the importance of these efforts as an example for other Council Chairmen across Lagos State. He also praised the transformation of Ejigbo LCDA from a rural area into a modernized community.

The positive feedback from the APC Party Chairman, CDC Chairman, CAN Chairman, Iyalaja of Jakande Market, Youth Leader, representative of persons with disabilities, and other community members further underscored the Council's achievements. Both the GAC team and other stakeholders commended Hon. Bello's leadership, with APC members in attendance voicing their support for his potential future candidacy as the representative for Oshodi/Isolo Constituency II at the Federal House of Representatives.

Stakeholders from the All Progressives Congress (APC) Lagos West Senatorial District, Ikeja Division, have commended the transformation of Ejigbo Local Council

Development Area (LCDA) from a previously rural area to a modernized locality. Echonews reports that this endorsement came during a visit to the Local Council Secretariat on Friday,

October 25, 2024, led by former Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Otunba Femi Pedro, who conveyed special greetings from Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu. The delegation's visit

aimed to inspect the projects initiated by the Council Boss, assess the relationship between the Council and the community, including security officials and party leaders, and confirm

Coker-Aguda LCDA Renovates School ICT Center

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Coker-Aguda Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mr Rasaq Ibrahim, has recently completed the renovation of the ICT center at Atara Nursery and Primary School in Aguda.

This initiative aligns with the LCDA's long-term plan to enhance the learning experience of students and expose them to modern technology.

Prior to the renovation, the ICT center was not operational due to a lack of modern equipment

and furniture.

Recognizing this need, the council boss directed the Head of Works Department to undertake the rehabilitation project. The newly renovated center is now equipped with quality furniture and modern technology, providing a conducive learning environment for students. It is expected to commence operations in the coming days.

This significant investment in education demonstrates the LCDA's commitment to providing quality education and preparing students for the digital age.



(Some of the newly acquired equipments for the ICT center in Atara Nursery, Primary School)

Itire-Ikate LCDA Chairman Honoured For Excellence In Governance

By Saheed Afolabi

Dr. Ahmed Olanrewaju Apatira, Chairman of Itire-Ikate Local Council Development Area (LCDA), been recognized for his exceptional leadership. He recently received the prestigious NIGGSA 2024 Excellence in Citizen-Focused Delivery Award.

This latest accolade marks Apatira's seventh prestigious honor in just three weeks, a testament to his dedication to public service and his commitment to

improving the lives of Itire-Ikate residents.

The Nigeria Grassroots Governance Summit (NIGGSA) recognized Apatira's unwavering commitment to citizen-centered governance and grassroots development.

His administration has implemented a wide range of initiatives focused on economic empowerment, social welfare, and nutritional programs, demonstrating a comprehensive approach to addressing the needs

of the community.

Apatira's leadership has been characterized

strong focus on community development.

This latest award reinforces his reputation as a champion of grassroots

governance and inspires continued excellence in public service.



(Dr Ahmed Apatira receiving the award with his loyalists)

Gbenu Urges Residents To Utilize Empowerment Funds

By Saheed Afolabi

Gbenu Joseph, the Chairman of Badagry West Local Council Development Area (LCDA), recently launched the second phase of a cash empowerment program designed to alleviate poverty and stimulate economic growth among the aged and vulnerable residents. The event, held at the Sultan Beach Hall, brought together community leaders, beneficiaries, and other dignitaries. (Badagry LG chairman, Gbenu Joseph handing over an envelope of cash to a recipient of the empowerment scheme) Chairman Gbenu emphasized the

program's goal which is to provide financial support to the needy in the society.

"We aim to provide financial support to those who need it most, fostering economic independence and self-sufficiency."

He expressed gratitude to his team, including cabinet members, councilors, and management, for their collaborative efforts.

The Chairman also revealed plans for a third phase of the initiative, reaffirming his commitment to the well-being of the community.

"This program demonstrates our dedication to reaching out to the masses and



providing essential support during challenging times," he said.

Beneficiaries of the program received financial empowerment packages ranging from 50,000 to 100,000.

Gbenu urged them to

utilize the funds wisely, whether it's by investing in small businesses or using it for other productive ventures. He added, "A little can go a long way." Community leaders, including Hon. Hontoyon Joseph Bangbose, FMHR and

Apex Leader of Badagry West, Hon. Ade Agoro, and Alhaja Okejale Osenatu, the Apex Woman Leader, praised Chairman Gbenu's unwavering commitment to the community.

Speaking on behalf of

the beneficiaries, Mr. Kumayam Joseph and Mrs. Christiana Ajalesan expressed their sincere gratitude and offered prayers for the Chairman's continued success.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by former CDC Chairman Kolade Ogunbe.

Badagry West LCDA Builds Drains To Address Flood

By Saheed Afolabi

In a bid to address the perennial flooding issue plaguing several communities within Badagry West Local Council Development Area (LCDA), the Chairman, Gbenu Joseph has embarked on an ambitious drainage project. The project, which covers key areas such as Irosu (Ward A), Iwesere community (Ward B & E), Kweme Age (Seme axis), and Kweme Owode, aims to improve the quality of life for residents by mitigating the impact of flooding.

(Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Gbenu

Joseph with respective ward leaders entrusted to tackle flooding)

To ensure transparency, accountability, and community ownership, the Chairman has opted for a localized approach, entrusting the project to community leaders, which includes, Zofun, Leader Gbenupo, Chief Togan, Baale Joel (Wesere Topa), Baale Irosu, and Chief Okedara Adeniyi, will oversee the execution of the project in their respective areas.

By empowering community leaders,



the Chairman aims to foster a sense of ownership and ensure the project's successful completion.

The collaborative approach will also enhance community engagement and facilitate timely

feedback and problem-solving.

This proactive step by the LCDA demonstrates a commitment to addressing

the infrastructure needs of the community and improving the overall living conditions of its residents.



FATTI RENTAL SERVICES



Tables • Chairs • Canopies • Drums



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



21 Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke
Bus Stop, Eijigbo Lagos



+234 802 905 4032

Anomo Shines At 23rd LOGMA Award

By Mohammed Adekola

The Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin Local Council Development Area, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, was honored with a prestigious Merit Award at the 23rd edition of the Local Government Chairmen Merit Award (LOGMA) in Abuja. He was awarded the Best Local Government Chairman in Nigeria for his outstanding contributions to rural electrification. Council Manager, Mr. Awobajo Sunday, who represented Anomo, delivered an acceptance speech



expressing gratitude to the event organizers for acknowledging Anomo's significant achievements in rural electrification. Mr. Awobajo noted that the Chairman's achievements transcend rural electrification, emphasizing that the Chairman has passionately impacted all sectors, with tangible evidence of his contributions to education, health, infrastructure, and social welfare. He stressed that the award is a well-deserved honor and a testament to the Chairman's unwavering dedication to improve

the lives of his people. He added that the recognition will not only encourage the Chairman to continue his good work but also serve as a motivating factor to deliver more impactful projects across the LCDA. As part of the award, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo was presented with a 10-seater mini bus, a reward for his exemplary efforts in enhancing rural infrastructure within Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA. Awobajo added that the recognition at the 2024 LOGMA is an affirmation of Wale Anomo purposeful leadership in holistic development in Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA.

Olowa Flags Off EKOSHA Free Enrolments For 1000 Residents

By Mohammed Adekola

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Chairman, Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa has flagged off the Eko Social Health Alliance Scheme (EKOSHA) for 1,000 residents of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government. While flagging off the exercise, Olowa acknowledged that it is the Government's responsibility to ensure basic quality healthcare services to its people, most especially at the grassroots level where the majority of the people cannot afford quality healthcare services which has led to the untimely death of loved ones. In his words, "This is a health scheme packaged under the Lagos State Health Insurance Agency to

address the yearning desires of the majority at a pocket-friendly and affordable rate to enable all citizens to access the package. Hence, the need for this initiative to give free enrolment to 1000 residents within Ibeju-Lekki communities" "Our government has decided that we must provide health succour for our people. Our target is to register 1000 residents and pay N11,500 every year. All our PHCs have been rehabilitated to meet the health needs of our people, even those in the riverine areas of Arapagi town, they are going to be registered under this policy", he said. Olowa pointed out that

quality healthcare services are the top priority hence the employment of qualified medical personnel with four medical doctors and 20 nurses by the Lagos State Health Service Commission in addition to functional medical equipment at various Primary Healthcare Centres within Ibeju-Lekki communities. The representative of LASHMA, Mrs. Mojisola Ojo, intimated the people on the process of registration as they are free to choose the health centres of their choice. She added that part of the package covered by the plan includes treatment of the eye with free eyeglasses, a dental appointment with the dentist, a free Caesarian Section which covers the baby for 28 days,



tuberculosis treatment, malaria and typhoid fever among others. She advised beneficiaries to keep their registered policy number as they would

be using it to access their health need in their various hospitals and that there are also registered community pharmacies to dispense drugs that were not available in the PHCs

free of charge. Beneficiaries of the scheme appreciated the Chairman and his executive for providing succour to them regarding their health needs.

Ibeju-Lekki LG Seeks PPP For Tourism Development

By Mohammed Adekola



Engr. Sesan Olowa, Chairman, Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Area of Lagos State, has called for public-private partnership in developing tourism in the council area. Olowa made the call during an interview with Newsmen in Ibeju. He highlighted the community's vast tourism potential, saying it had the capacity to boost revenue while attracting local and international tourists. Olowa noted that, notable tourism assets in

the area include sacred trees, hospitality hubs, historical relics and mangrove forests. He added that the council area had aquatic and agro-tourism opportunities. "If these potentialities are well-utilised, they will significantly enhance government revenue. "Grassroots tourism assets are natural, not artificial, and they have great market value. "Properly harnessing these products will place the community on the global tourism map," he said.

Olowa said that he recently visited the La Campagne Tropicana Beach Resort, Ibeju-Lekki, to explore tourism collaboration with the resort's founder. "What I saw at the resort was inspiring, and I am prepared to work with the management to promote tourism at the grassroots. "The council is eager to showcase its community tourism potential to the world," he added.

Bursary Award: Epe LG Targets 470 Students

By Mohammed Adekola

About 470 students of Epe origin in all tertiary institutions of learning in the country would benefit from the ongoing N50,000 bursary awards from the local government. Chairman of the council, Ms. Surah Animashaun, stated this while presenting cash of N50,000 to the first batch of 50 indigent students of the council. The handing over took place at the Council Chamber, Ita-Marun, Epe, Lagos State. She said; "Students in public and private tertiary institutions will

benefit from the bursary awards, as the first batches of the beneficiaries have received their cash of N50,000; the programme will continue and it targets 470 students in some months," Animashaun said. Animashaun said each student of the council's origin is entitled to N50,000 cash from the local government, and that it was aimed to assist them financially in running their academic works, noting that this would alleviate their parents' financial burdens for some time.



Malaika, Qdot, Ishola Thrill Fans At Y2024 Ikosi Isheri Magodo Annual Festival

Kehinde Adeleye

The Ikosi Isheri Magodo Annual Festival, with the theme “Our Heritage, Our Pride: A Celebration of Culture and Unity,” was a spectacular two-day event that commenced on October 26th. The festival attracted a vibrant crowd of guests, fans, and residents who were thrilled by the captivating performances of A-list artists.

The event, held at the Centre for Management Development (CMD) Magodo, was hosted by Princess Samiat Bada, the Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA). Her unwavering commitment to promoting the

community's cultural heritage was evident throughout the festival, which featured various displays of cultural splendor and unity.

(Cultural Display during the Ikosi-Isheri Annual Cultural Festival 2024)

Princess Samiat Bada, in her address, emphasized the significance of the festival's theme, “Our Heritage, Our Pride: A Celebration of Culture and Unity.” She noted that it truly captured the essence of the occasion, acknowledging the rich diversity that makes Ikosi-Isheri LCDA a strong and resilient community.

The Centre for Management Development (CMD) Magodo served as the perfect venue for this cultural extravaganza,

providing a fitting backdrop for the celebration of local heritage and unity. As participants reveled in the festive atmosphere, they were reminded of the importance of preserving their cultural identity and promoting inclusivity within their diverse community.

The “Our Heritage, Our Pride” event not only brought the community together in celebration but also fostered a deeper appreciation for the unique cultural fabric that shapes Ikosi-Isheri LCDA's character and strength.

Princess Samiat Bada paid homage to the Aworis, the original settlers of the LCDA, who played a pivotal role in shaping the community's unique identity through their farming, fishing, and craftsmanship traditions. She

acknowledged their invaluable contributions in laying a solid foundation for the vibrant community it is today.

Over time, various ethnic groups, including Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Efik, and others, have become an integral part of the community, contributing to its diversity and fostering unity, which serves as the LCDA's core strength.

The Chairman took the opportunity to clarify that the carnival was organized without utilizing government funds. Instead, it was made possible through successful partnerships with corporate sponsors and supportive agencies, highlighting the importance of collaboration and

resourcefulness in promoting cultural celebrations and community development.

The presence of the First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, as the Face of the 2024 Carnival, added an extra layer of significance to the event. She took the opportunity to emphasize the importance of women's involvement in governance and leadership roles.

Dr. Sanwo-Olu commended the LCDA Chairman, Princess Samiat Bada, for her efforts in promoting cultural heritage and fostering unity among the diverse ethnic groups within the constituency. By showcasing the rich tapestry of cultural diversity, the carnival

served as a reminder of the community's shared values and collective strength.

During the raffle draw, the First Lady, along with former Ogun speaker Rt. Hon. Suraj Adegunbi, announced the lucky winners.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement and anticipation as recipients were awarded various gifts, adding to the festive spirit of the celebration and making the event truly memorable for all in attendance.

The two-day event was a spectacle of vibrant festivities, showcasing a roadshow carnival, pageantry, and hundreds of exquisitely dressed dancers who captivated the audience with their performances. Cultural dance troupes, accompanied by traditional masquerades, displayed their artistic...



Lawmaker Doles Out N10m To Party Executives In Ifako-Ijaiye

Kehinde Adeleye

Mr. Benjamin Adeyemi Olabinjo (BAO), the

representative for Ifako-Ijaiye Federal Constituency at the House of Representatives, held

a meeting with APC Local Government and Ward Executives from Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro LCDA last week.

During the gathering, Olabinjo doles out Ten Million Naira (10M) as quarterly stipends for party officers, emphasizing the importance of unity among party members to strengthen their influence within the constituency.

Additionally, Olabinjo announced upcoming empowerment initiatives aimed at benefiting APC members and improving community welfare across the constituency.

These initiatives include financial support, vocational training, and food palliatives, demonstrating Olabinjo's dedication to enhancing the well-

being of his constituents and fostering growth within the region.

(BAO during the Ward meeting)

Deacon Banjo Omole, the Local Government Area Chairman for Ifako-Ijaiye, and Mr. Jelili Oseni, the LGA Chairman for Ojokoro, expressed their gratitude for Olabinjo's dedication to the welfare of the party and his consistent focus on the needs of his constituents. They praised his efforts in ensuring that party members receive substantial support.

Furthermore, the Lawmaker shed light on some of his recent projects, including the solar electrification of

public secondary schools in Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro, street and police station lighting, and the construction of classroom blocks at Ijaiye Housing Estate Junior Secondary School.

These endeavors exemplify his steadfast commitment to the growth and well-being of both the Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro communities. As a champion for progress, Echonews reports that Olabinjo's work continues to make a positive impact on the lives of those living in these areas, contributing to the overall development and success of Lagos State. With his leadership, the region is poised for even greater achievements and advancements in the years to come.



Ifako-Ijaiye Residents Enjoy Discounted Food Price

Kehinde Adeleye

The Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government headquarters buzzed with excitement as Chairman Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat launched an initiative providing essential food items at significantly discounted prices for local residents.

This impactful program aims to ease the financial strain on citizens, particularly during these challenging economic times, and highlights the Council's commitment to improving the welfare of its people.

Addressing the press, Prince Hamzat emphasized his administration's unwavering dedication to enhancing the quality

of life for residents, while complementing the food security efforts of the State and Federal governments.

He reiterated that such initiatives are essential to his vision of ensuring that every resident has access to affordable essential goods.

(Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat and resident during the discounted food price sales)

"Just a few weeks ago, we launched a similar initiative to provide relief to our people. Today, we are reaffirming our promise to stay responsive and responsible. This highly discounted sale of food items will play



a significant role in helping families navigate the current economic challenges with greater ease," Prince Hamzat stated.

The Chairman reaffirmed

his commitment to implementing various welfare programs designed to improve the living standards of residents across the region. This latest

initiative is one of many efforts undertaken by his administration to provide meaningful support and foster an inclusive environment for the community.

As part of a broader agenda, the highly discounted food sale program seeks to address the needs of the community by ensuring that every resident has access to relief measures that positively impact their daily lives.

Echonews reports that the commitment to improving the welfare of Ifako-Ijaiye residents demonstrates Prince Hamzat's dedication to creating a supportive environment for all.

In anticipation of the upcoming yuletide season, the Council Chairman has promised to introduce additional palliative measures to ensure food availability during the festive period. This thoughtful gesture will allow residents to enjoy the celebrations without the added burden of food insecurity, further exemplifying the administration's people-centered approach to governance.

'Mai Martaba' Selected as Nigeria's Oscars Contender

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Nigerian Official Selection Committee (NOSC) has announced the selection of 'Mai Martaba', an epic Hausa-language film, as Nigeria's official submission for the International Feature Film (IFF) category at the upcoming 97th Oscars Awards.

In an official statement, the NOSC highlighted Mai Martaba's powerful thematic focus and technical excellence as key reasons for its selection.

"The Nigerian Official Selection Committee selected the film for its relevant theme of

diverse voices in decision-making and inclusive leadership and its visual and technical appeal," the committee noted.

Produced and directed by Prince Daniel, Mai Martaba is set in an ancient African kingdom and delves into themes of power, love, greed, and betrayal.

The film presents a transformative story that not only challenges societal conventions but also celebrates female leadership.

The selection process was led by a distinguished panel of NOSC voting

members, chaired by award-winning filmmaker Stephanie Linus, and included prominent figures such as Directors' Guild of Nigeria (DGN) President Victor Okhai, veteran actress Omotola Jalade-Ekeinde, former DGN President Andy Amenechi, theatre practitioner Yibo Koko, and writer-director Izu Ojukwu.

Additional members included actor Ali Nuhu, Filmhouse Cinemas Co-Founder Kene Okwuosa, director Dimeji Ajibola, writer-director Jude Idada, actress Meg Otanwa, and film critic Victor



Akande, among others. Filmed in Daura, Katsina State, Mai Martaba tells the story of an ancient kingdom that once flourished through the Trans-

Saharan trade, only to be thrust into turmoil by a fierce internal power struggle among the Agadashawa ruling clan.

The film was previously

showcased in Nigerian cinemas and selected for the Septimius Awards in Amsterdam, underscoring its appeal beyond Nigerian borders.

The film received the highest number of votes from the 15-member NOSC panel. The next stage will involve review by the IFF Executive Committee, which will determine Mai Martaba's eligibility for an official Oscars nomination.

The 97th Academy Awards is scheduled to take place on 2 March 2025 at the Dolby Theatre in Ovation Hollywood, Los Angeles, and will be broadcast to over 200 territories worldwide.

Don Jazzy Appoints Oghenejobo as Mavin Records' President

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The founder of Mavin Global, Michael Collins Ajereh, popularly known as Don Jazzy, has appointed Tega Oghenejobo as the new President of Mavin Records.

Oghenejobo, who previously held the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO), will now serve as both President and COO of the renowned record label.

Announcing the appointment on his X page (formerly Twitter), Don Jazzy expressed pride in recognising Oghenejobo's dedication and

resilience from Mavin's early days, attributing his success in identifying talent not only to his knack for nurturing musical superstars but also for spotting Oghenejobo's potential as a leader.

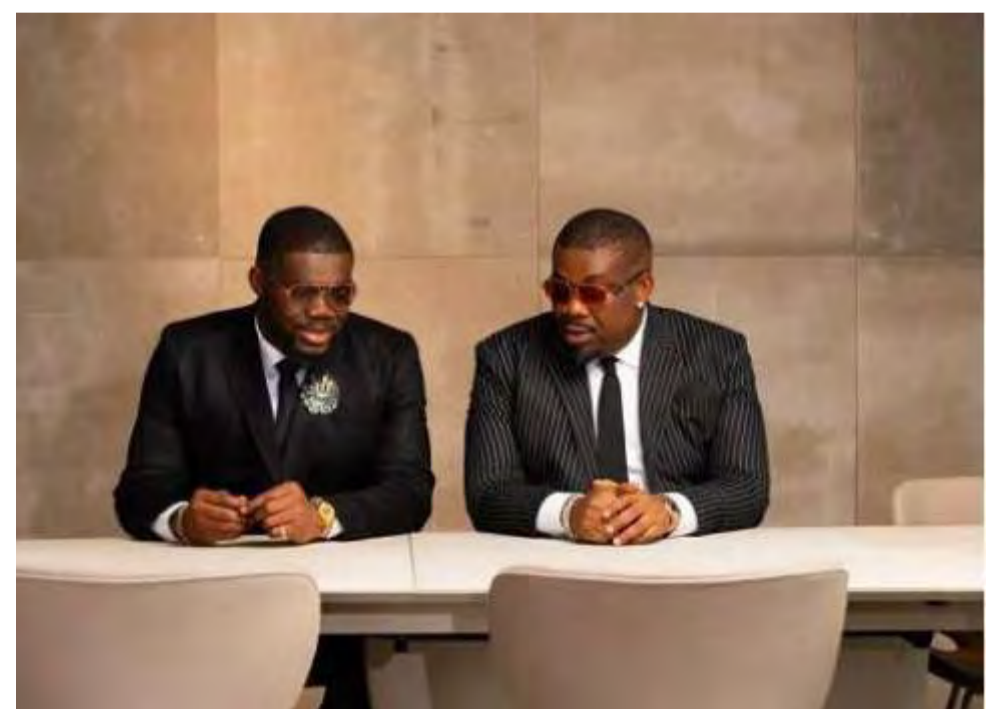
"I'm proud to announce @TEGAMAVIN's expanded role as President and COO of Mavin," Don Jazzy wrote. "I am often praised for being able to spot and raise superstars, but I can proudly say the most genius thing I have done in my life was being able to spot the passion and resilience in Tega."

Don Jazzy went on to

commend Oghenejobo's dedication, noting his curiosity about the music business, his ability to build teams and develop executives, and his commitment to ensuring sustainable careers for Mavin's talents.

He added, "His commitment to growing Mavin and shaping the future of African music has been relentless, and I'm confident that with him in this role, we'll continue to break new ground and achieve even bigger milestones for our artists and company."

Accepting the new role, Oghenejobo expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm, saying, "I'm honoured to step into this new role as President &



COO of Mavin Records. It means embracing new challenges, setting new goals, and reaching new heights. Thank you, Supreme

Leader @donjazzy, for your unwavering belief and trust in me to lead the Mavin team."

The appointment marks a

significant milestone for Mavin Records, as the label continues to expand its influence within the African music industry.

Winners Emerge At Y2024 UAH Inter-Ward Football Competition

Kehinde Adeleye

The Year 2024 UAH Inter-Ward Football Competition reached a thrilling climax as Ward C2 clinched the championship title, with Ward C1 and Ward D taking second and third places, respectively.

The winners received well-deserved accolades for their commitment and outstanding teamwork throughout the tournament.

During the competition, scouts were present to identify talented players, opening doors for further growth and advancement in the sport.

As a flagship initiative of the administration,

the Inter-Ward Football Competition emphasizes the importance of grassroots football development and community involvement.

During the finals held on Wednesday, October 23rd, at the African Church Primary School sports ground, the Usman Akanbi Hamzat led administration reaffirmed its dedication to hosting the UAH Inter-Ward Football Competition annually.

Echonews reports that this commitment underscores the tournament's importance in promoting youth development and



(The Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye LG, Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat holding the Cup with members of his team during the grand finale of 2024 UAH Inter-Ward Football Competition)

sports excellence within the region.

Additionally, the Chairman announced the nearing completion of the Ifako-Ijaiye Kingmakers Mini Sports Complex signifies the administration's focus

on providing state-of-the-art facilities for sports development in the Local Government. It was gathered that the infrastructure upgrade will serve as an ideal venue for future tournaments, further

enhancing the community's sports capabilities.

The UAH Inter-Ward Football Competition has become a beacon of inspiration for football enthusiasts,

showcasing local talent and fostering unity among wards.

Ward C2's victory stands as a testament to the competition's success in promoting camaraderie and sportsmanship within the region.

Buruj FC Dominates O.O.I.M FC In Friendly Encounter

By Saheed Afolabi

Buruj Football Club continued their impressive form with a 3-1 victory over O.O.I.M FC in a friendly match on

Thursday. Buruj Football Club who had earlier

defeated Bright Future Lions FA by 3-0 in a friendly match a week

ago, started like a house on fire as Spain bound Ubong Samson opened scoring with a sublime strike from the edge of the box.

Anjolaoluwa, who had scored a brace in the previous friendly, doubled the lead before halftime.

The highly entertaining match saw Buruj Football Academy resume the second half from where they left it as they continue to dominate O.O.I.M FC boys, piling pressure looking for more goals.

The pressure eventually paid on the hour mark, when Buruj FA won a penalty but the advantage was missed as Raheem Salaudeen hit his effort on the cross and the ball rebounded straight into

the hands of the O.O.I.M FC goalkeeper.

Despite missing a penalty, Buruj maintained control of the match. O.O.I.M FC pulled one back from the penalty spot but couldn't capitalize on further opportunities.

Garuba Quadri sealed the victory with a spectacular free-kick that caught the opposition off guard.

This win marks Buruj FC's second victory in three matches this season, as they prepare for a busy schedule that includes European tours to the Viareggio Cup in Italy and the Manchester Cup Championship.



(Buruj FC players jubilating one of the goals scored against O.O.I.M)



For News Round Lagos Read Echoneews

Read Echoneews Online

Subscribe for Echoneews Whatsapp E-Copy

www.echoneews.ng  Publisher@echoneews.ng

Published by Echoneews Newspapers Limited

21, Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo, Lagos. www.echoneews.ng Email: echoneews1111@yahoo.co.uk

Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed Tel, 08025378799 Editor: Abolaji Adebayo, Tel: 07061193610. Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade; Marketing executive: Tope Yussuf 07010496879