

Inauguration: Why we celebrated the indigenious cultures of Lagos State - Bello-Olarinmoye **PG.20**



Fatoki Congratulates Chief Bisi Akande on National Honour **PG.15**



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NEW SANWO-OLU CABINET:

FORMER EXCO MEMBERS TO WATCH



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New Sanwo-olu cabinet: former EXCO members to watch

By Rasaq Adebayo

The political atmosphere is becoming tense in Lagos State as Lagosians especially the politicians are eagerly waiting to see the list of the next cabinet members of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's led second administration.

A few hours before his inauguration for his second term in office last week, Governor Sanwo-olu dissolved his 44-member executive cabinet giving them till Friday May 26 to submit their handover notes and official properties which were not boarded.

Beginning a new term of office on May 29, 2023, Governor Sanwo-olu is expected to announce the Secretary to the State Government, Chief of Staff and Chief Press Secretary.

Next, he will forward a list of would-be commissioners and special advisers to the House of Assembly for consideration and approval.

While the search continues. Echonews brings you the stories of 10 outstanding members of the defunct executive council who touched lives by implementing the governor's THEMES agenda in their respective ministries.

Interviews by Echonews team across local governments put the following among the best 10 cabinet members. According to Echonews, the list includes the former



TUNJI BELLO

Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tunji Bello; former Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Frederic Oladeinde; former Chief of Staff, Mr. Tayo Ayinde; former Commissioner for Home Affairs, Anofi Elegushi; former Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso; former Commissioner for Housing, Moruf Akinderu Fatai; former Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Moyosore Onigbanjo (SAN); former Commissioner for Science and Technology, Mr. Hakeem Fahm, former Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi, and former Special Adviser for Innovation and Technology, Mr. Tubosun Alake.

TUNJI BELLO

Born on July 1, 1961, a Lagosian, Olatunji Bello grew to become a lawyer, environmentalist, political scientist, journalist, and Commissioner for Environment and Water Resources under the first administration of Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

He has a B.Sc. Degree from the University of Ibadan where he studied Political Science and graduated in 1984.[6] He earned his Master's Degree in International Law and Diplomacy ML.D in (1987) from the University of Lagos. He also earned a Bachelor of Law degree from the same University of Lagos, Nigeria, in the year 2000.

Bello is a Barrister at Law (BL) qualifying from the Nigerian Law School, Lagos In 2001 having graduated with an LL.Bi (Hons.)



Dr. FREDERIC OLADEINDE

(Bachelor of Law).

Tunji Bello started his media career at the defunct Concord Press of Nigeria where he grew to become an Editor. He started as a Features Writer; was also an Assistant Features Editor. His career in journalism grew so quickly that he became a Politics Editor at the age of 27. He was later promoted to the Editor of the Sunday title and later Editor of the Daily title of the Concord Newspapers Group. He was also appointed Chairman of the Editorial Board of THISDAY Newspaper. He was a Staff Writer with St. Petersburg Times, Florida, USA, and also the US News & World Report, Washington DC in 1992.

As a student at the University of Ibadan, Tunji Bello was Vice President of the



TAYO AYINDE

University of Ibadan Students Union. He has always agitated for democracy since the 80s. His mainstream national political career started when he served as the Special Assistant to Bashorun MKO Abiola, winner of the annulled June 12, 1993, Presidential election. After the annulment of the epochal election, Tunji Bello became a member of the Nigerian pro-democracy group, NADECO which fought for the actualisation of Democracy in Nigeria and was active from 1993 to 1999. After the handing over from Military rule to the Democratic dispensation in 1999, Tunji Bello joined the former Governor of Lagos State, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu in his cabinet. He served as the Head of the Signage and Advertising

Agency (LASSA) and also the Commissioner for Environment in the Asiwaju administration. In July 2011, he joined Governor Babatunde Fasola's administration as he was sworn in by the Governor as Commissioner for Environment where he served till May 29, 2015.

In 2015, after the swearing-in of the former Governor, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode, Tunji Bello was appointed Secretary to the State Government on the 29th May 2015 serving till the end of Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode's administration in 2019. In 2019, He joined the Sanwo-Olu administration and he was sworn in by the Governor in 2019 as the Commissioner for Environment and Water Resources.

New Sanwo-olu cabinet: former EXCO members to watch

Dr. FREDERIC OLADEINDE

Dr. Frederic Abimbola Oladeinde has worked in the transport industry for over 20 years and until now was the Director, Corporate and Investment Planning at Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA).

He began his career as a Senior Transport Consultant in a transaction advisory role at Oscar Faber Consulting in London, United Kingdom, and in the year 2000 joined the Department for Transport, UK as a Senior Transport Planning Adviser, where he was responsible for advising the British Minister of Transport of the impact of various transport schemes and policy options.

Dr. Oladeinde joined LAMATA in 2008 through Nigeria Infrastructure Advisory Facility (NIAF), A Department for International Development, UK (DFID) Funded Programme as a Transport Planning Expert and Technical Adviser, heading the Transport Planning Unit of the organization and led a team of consultant in developing a 20-year Strategic Transport Master Plan (STMP) for Lagos megacity.

Dr. Oladeinde took up the role of Director of Corporate and Investment Planning in 2016 and led the planning strategy on the future transport needs of Lagos state, coordinating the implementation of transport scheme initiatives and securing investment for the provision of transport infrastructure.

He was born on the 2nd of October, 1966. Dr.

Oladeinde has a B.Sc (Hons) in Mathematics, M.Sc in Applied Statistics and Operational Research DIC, Ph.D. Transport Planning (Modeling) and Engineering. He is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (UK).

TAYO AYINDE

Tayo Akinmade Ayinde, aka BUFFALO born August 24, 1964, in Ikorodu, Lagos, is an accountant.

Ayinde got his Ordinary National Diploma (OND) in Banking and later the Higher National Diploma (HND) in Accountancy from Federal Polytechnic, Anambra. He was an Account Officer at TELL Magazine in 1993. He joined the State Security Service (SSS) where he was Head of the Accounts Department till he retired in 2009.

In 2019, he was appointed Chief of Staff by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

In 2020, after 3 helicopters were purchased under Governor Akinwunmi Ambode's administration to strengthen the security of Lagos the Lagos State House of Assembly summoned Ayinde and two commissioners for questioning.

In 2022, Ayinde was accused in a report by Sahara Reporters of using the police and other security forces to assault landowners to forcefully possess and destroy properties worth over N500 million.

ANOFI ELEGUSHI

Prince Olanrewaju Anofiu Elegushi was born on 11th October 1970 into the Royal family of Elegushi from Ikate Elegushi in Eti-Osa Local

Government Area of Lagos.

He started his early education at Yaba Model School in Lagos in 1976. He later proceeded to Zamurata Islamiyyah High School also in Yaba in 1982 for his secondary school certificate.

In 1989, he enrolled at the Lagos State Industrial Manpower Development Centre (Technical School) and later in 1992 attended the Lagos State Technical College Odomola, Epe, for a certificate in Motor Vehicle Technology.

After his secondary education, his quest for knowledge inspired him to enroll at the Modern Institute of Technology, an affiliate of City & Guilds of London 1997, and in 2002 got a diploma certificate in Mechanical Engineering from the Lagos State Polytechnic.

He holds a PGD in Strategic Management and Leadership from the Metropolitan School of Business and Management, UK in 2016 and currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford, UK.

He was elected a councilor and made the Majority leader of the Legislative Council in Eti-Osa Local Government between 1999 – 2002. As a majority leader, he represented his ward and the people efficiently by providing a bridge between the community and the council. He responded to queries and investigate the concerns of residents. As the majority leader, he was responsible for the

Communication of council decisions to the residents on matters that affect them. He also worked with representatives of local organizations, interest groups, and businesses as well as represented community views at council meetings.

Between 2003 and 2004, he was re-elected councilor and was the supervisor for Health in Eti-Osa Local Government where he helped and coordinated health campaigns at the council as well as presenting the health care queries and advocates for residents.

He was later in 2004-2007 re-elected as councilor and was made leader of the Legislative Council where he presided over council meetings. He spearheaded the creation of the four LCDAs in Eti-Osa and facilitated, supervised, and monitored numerous projects at the Local Government level.

Prince Elegushi was elected as the Executive Chairman of Eti-Osa Local Government between 2008 – 2014 where he performed meritoriously.

In January 2018, he was appointed Special Adviser on Central Business Districts to oversee and coordinate the activities of the Central Business District in the State.

Before he was assigned the position of Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Home Affairs by Governor Sanwo-Olu in January 2020, Elegushi served as the Special Adviser to the Governor in Central Business District since the administration of Governor Sanwo-Olu assumed the mantle of leadership in the State.



AKINDERU FATAI



GBENGA OMOTOSO



ANOFI ELEGUSHI

New Sanwo-olu cabinet: former EXCO members to watch

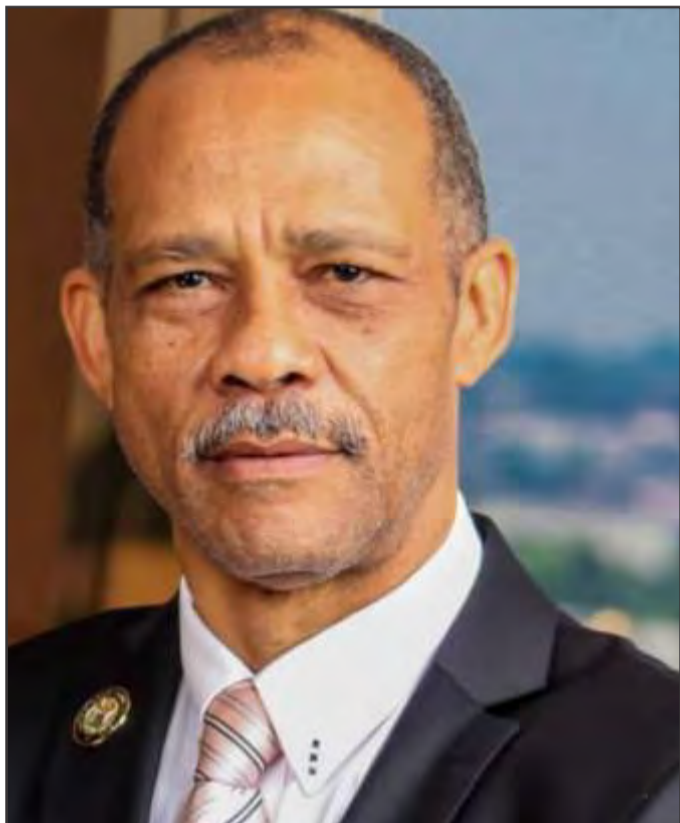
GBENGA OMOTOSO
Omotoso was born on November 11, 1961. He is from Osun State. He graduated from the University of Benin in 1984 where he received his B.A. in English and Literature. He proceeded with a Master's Degree in Public and International Affairs at the University of Lagos, Akoka, which he completed in 2007.

Omotoso has spent 35 years in the media. He started as a trainee sub-editor at The Guardian newspaper. He later became the deputy editor of Guardiank Express from where he rose to become the Editor of the Saturday Guardian. In 1999, at the inception of the Comet newspaper, he was appointed the pioneer editor of the newspaper.

In 2006 he again became the pioneer editor of The Nation newspaper. He has maintained a column "Editorial Notebook" in The Nation, where he writes on topical issues using humor to present serious issues. He is a member of the Nigeria Guild of Editors (NGE) and a member of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ).

He was the editor at The Nation newspaper until he was appointed as the Commissioner in charge of the Lagos State Ministry of Information and Strategy. He was sworn in in 2019 by the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

AKINDERU FATAI
Moruf Akinderu-Fatai, a former Special Assistant to the



PROF. AKIN ABAYOMI

Governor of Lagos State from 2003 to 2007 was born on January 6, 1965. He attended Ikeja Grammar School, Oshodi for his secondary education and thereafter proceeded to Nigeria's premier University, the University of Ibadan, Ibadan where he bagged a B.A (Hons.) in Archaeology in 1989.

Further quest for knowledge made him enroll in Law, thereafter bagging a Higher Certificate in Law at the University of London in 2015. A graduate of John Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, Washington D.C, U.S.A., Akinderu Fatai also studied Budget Strategies and Research

Methodology at Management Development and Productivity Institute, Accra, Ghana.

After a brief stint in the private sector, he started his political career as the Special Assistant to the Special Adviser to the Governor on Political and Legislative Power Bureau, Governor's Office, Lagos State in 2001 where he was engaged in assisting in Research and the coordination of Political activities and ensuring harmonious relationship with the Legislature and in coordinating Government\Students Harmonious Relationship. He later worked as the Secretary of the 2003 Governorship Campaign Committee for Alliance for Democracy Party (AD) in Lagos State.

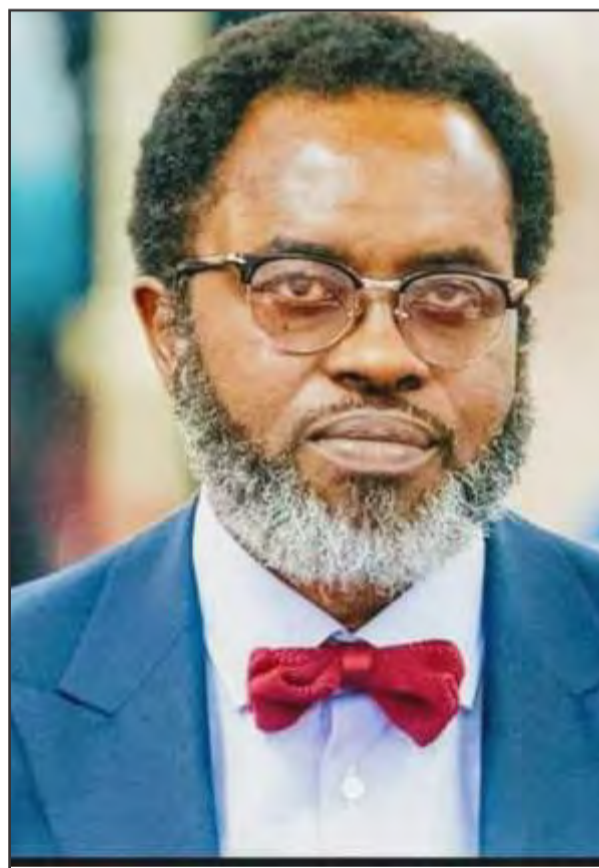
With the success of the Party at the polls, he was appointed as the Special Assistant to the Lagos State Governor on Special Duties and Inter-Governmental Relations in 2003. His responsibility in this capacity was to assist in the Co-Ordination of the Job Creation Policy of Lagos State in the Ministry of Special Duties and the Formulation of Policies and initial takeoff of the Lagos State Emergency Management Authority (LASEMA). He contested in 2007 and was voted in as Honourable Member, Federal House of Representatives representing Oshodi-Isole LGA, 1 Lagos State. This is an elective position which he held for two terms.

Apart from being the Secretary, South West Caucus, House of Representatives (2007-2011) ensuring the interest and welfare of Honourable Members from the South West, he was Chairman House Committee on Legislative Compliance (2011-2015).

He was also at various times a member of the House Committee on Housing, Committee on Culture and Tourism, Committee on Interior, Committee on Science and Technology,

Committee on Ethics and Privileges, Committee on Legislative Budget and Research, Committee on Agriculture, and Committee on Aviation.

As a federal legislator, he sponsored many impactful bills and achieved the implementation of strategies for the uplifting of Nigerians. Akinderu-Fatai was appointed a member of the Greater Lagos team headed by the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu in October 2019. A quiet



MOYOSORE ONIGBAJO

achiever, he has brought his wealth of political experience and expertise to bear his responsibilities as the Honourable Commissioner for Housing in the State of Excellence. A highly rated philanthropist, MAF as he is popularly called runs a Foundation for the welfare of widows

and also a vocational training programme for students on holidays among others. A devout Moslem, Hon. Akinderu-Fatai is a member of the Chartered Institute of Management (NIM) and an Associate Member of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators in Nigeria (ICSAN).



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Catfish Production: Institute of Oceanography, WAPA Train 150 Lagos Women



Stories By Kunle Awosiyun

As part of efforts of the State Government's commitment to alleviating the plights of vulnerable women and youths, the Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA), in conjunction with GIZ-Skills Development for Youth Empowerment (SKYE) Programme and the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR), has commenced a 10-day Catfish production training programme for 150 women across the Lagos Metropolis.

The training, which runs simultaneously in three Communities of Epe, Ikorodu and Badagry Local Governments, is the second phase of the programme targeted at a poverty reduction strategy to give vulnerable women in the State vocations that will enhance their financial capabilities.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the training, held at the Skills Acquisition Centre, Borokini Street, Ikorodu, the Permanent Secretary of WAPA, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo, stated that aquaculture plays a vital role in building the economy and catfish farming is one of the lucrative sectors in the industry, aimed at curbing unemployment and empowering residents towards self-reliance.

She said, "The programme aims to enhance the productivity and profitability of catfish farming, with a focus on empowering women and drastically reducing poverty".

Kalesanwo, who was represented by Mrs. Yetunde Adeniji, averred that the 10-day programme is expected to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge, by providing access to training, information and resources, in order to increase productivity

and financial capabilities, while transforming beneficiaries into financial contributors towards economic growth.

"Recall that the first phase of this training programme was a huge success, where women, men and youths in Agege, Mushin and Lagos Island Local Governments benefited from the programme, some of whom now contribute to the welfare of their families", the Permanent Secretary stated.

Kalesanwo, therefore, urged the beneficiaries to never stop learning, saying "Do not think that your training ends here. You should continue to sharpen your skills so that you become masters in the Aquaculture Industry".

While charging participants on the need for trade proficiency, she called for the adoption of the entrepreneurial skills which will be taught

during the training and enhanced bookkeeping practice to access loans through the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF).

A facilitator from the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR), Mrs. Abiodun Sule commended the Lagos State Government for its constant collaborative efforts geared at improving the lives of its residents for socio-economic development.

The beneficiaries upon completion of the 10-day programme will be equipped with Certificates of Completion and Start-up Packs such as two packs of 500-litre Containers, Plastic Fish Tanks, Seven Bags of 15kg Fish Feeds, a 20kg Weighing Scale, a Scoop Net, One Plastic Basket, One Plastic Basin, One Table Salt (1kg), One Logbook, 200 Pieces of Juvenile Catfish, 20-Litre Jerry Can and PH Test Kit.

Lagos State Safety Commission Decorates Members of LASU Management As Safety Marshals

Sequel to the successful organisation of a One-Day training on Workplace Safety for members of staff of the University, on Wednesday, 24th May 2023, officials of the Lagos State Safety Commission were back on the Lagos State University Campus, Ojo, on Wednesday 31st May 2023, to decorate members of the University Management as LASU Safety Marshals.

The team, led by Mrs. Esther George, Director, Safety Training of the Commission, said the action was aimed at further enhancing safety consciousness in the University. She noted that the Commission would continue to work with the Safety Marshals, i.e, members of the management, to

promote safety practices in the institution.

She, thereafter, decorated the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olufunsho Omobitan, who was the most senior member of management present with safety kits before decorating the Registrar, Mr. Emmanuel A. Fanu. The safety kits of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello, mni, NPOM, and other members of management were received by Deputy Registrar, Vice Chancellor's Office, Dr. Lateef Sekoni.

Here are sights and sounds from the brief ceremony, which held at the VC's Conference Room, 6th Floor, Babatunde Raji Fashola Senate Building.



Smart City Agenda: Lagos Deploys Over 600 SIV Surveillance Cameras

Lagos State Government has deployed over 600 Smart Intelligent Video Surveillance Cameras as well as Intelligent Transportation Cameras for Traffic monitoring and management, the state governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has disclosed.

He said at the GITEK One Africa Digital Summit in Marrakech, Morocco that through the state government's initial ITS pilot deployment leveraging , the Automatic number plate recognition cameras, monitoring of violation infractions has reduced traffic warden in-person enforcement by 30 percent.

As he put it "Our Smart City implementation has seen us deploy over 600 Smart Intelligent Video Surveillance Cameras as well as Intelligent Transportation Cameras for Traffic monitoring and management. Over the past year, through our initial ITS pilot deployment leveraging our Automatic number plate recognition cameras, monitoring of violation infractions has reduced traffic warden in-person enforcement by 30 percent.

Meanwhile the state had attracted over one billion dollars in Data Center Investment in the last one year to enable the local domicile of digital platforms as well as facilitate the proliferation of digital



Surveillance Camera

technology opportunities.

The state governor said that the proliferation of these investments will definitely present opportunities for talent development within this ecosystem.

He said "In deepening internet penetration, a key ingredient for start-up, we have deployed over 2,900km of fibre optic infrastructure that aims to connect public schools, government buildings, hospitals, and other points of interest.

"Along the same channels, we have deployed, in partnership with the private sector 3,000km of optical duct infrastructure. This will serve to de-risk infrastructure development in Lagos which will in turn increase connectivity.

"In the past one year, Lagos has attracted

over one billion dollars in Data center investment. This will enable the local domicile of digital platforms as well as facilitate the proliferation of digital technology opportunities. The proliferation of these investments also presents 10 opportunities for talent development within this ecosystem.

"We have also begun a significant identity management programme through our Lagos State Residents Registration Agency that will seek to identify all our inhabitants. Current projections state that Lagos will have 30 million inhabitants by 2035. It is imperative to drive the identity management ecosystem for a smarter city. This will lend to more efficient

resource allocation and planning for the state."

Governor Sanwo-Olu added that "The Lagos Digital Identity Project has undergone a fundamental restructuring of its operational model. With a new digital identification card that is capable of enabling access to benefits, electronic ticketing and so on, it further drives the digital inclusion benchmark for Lagos. Currently, about five million residents have been captured. We are targeting another 10 million within the next year.

"Through our Lagos State Employment Trust fund, we have funded digital skills training interventions for more than 4,000 beneficiaries. Courses include digital marketing, coding, and other innovation

courses. These digital skills training are needed capacity interventions that lend positively to the development of the ecosystem.

"Undeniably, this infrastructure has significantly contributed to the flourishing startup economy within Lagos State. However, the momentum is not confined to Lagos or Nigeria alone. From Nairobi's Silicon Savannah to Cape Town's Silicon Cape, and from Rwanda's growing tech scene to Morocco's digital development strides, the story is the same. Africa is rising, and technology is the wind beneath our wings.

"According to a report by McKinsey, Africa's consumer spending is projected to reach \$2.1 trillion by 2025,

and its workforce is expected to be the largest in the world by 2035. The potential for growth and development in Africa is immense, and the technology industry is playing a crucial role in unlocking this potential."

The governor said he is committed to the growth of the tech industry in Africa as an ardent believer in the vast and untapped potential that Africa holds in the realms of technology and digital innovation.

He said the acceleration of the African continent towards becoming the next Silicon Valley is a collective effort that requires the continued collaboration of governments, the private sector, academia, and the civil society.

"My administration's focus on fostering an enabling environment for startups and tech companies to flourish is yielding unprecedented results, creating jobs, driving economic growth, and providing solutions to societal problems.

The Governor said the story of Lagos is a testament to the collaborative efforts of both the public and private sectors in fostering development, noting that "The remarkable rise of Yaba, a bustling metropolitan area in Lagos and home to the highest concentration of start-ups in Nigeria, owes its success to a well-coordinated public-private partnership."



The General Manager of Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Authority (LASPPPA), Tpl Kehinde Osinaike has strongly condemned the common practice of displaying fake Physical Planning Permit Numbers on construction sites by some property owners and developers in the State to divert the Authority's Enforcement Team from checking the conformity of such structures to Planning Permit Laws.

The General Manager, who stated this during a recent three-day enforcement exercise by the Agency on non-conforming structures at Banana Island, Lekki, Eti-Osa, Ikoyi and other parts of the State, described the act as criminal and dangerous.

Osinaike revealed that the exercise became expedient as a result of illegal activities of some developers including construction without a Physical Planning Permit, conversion of structures from the use for which a

Out-of-School Children: Lagos Reabsorbs 11, 957 Pupils

Stories By Kunle Awosiyon

planning Permit was granted, non-adherence to the stipulations in the planning Permit granted, all of which contradict the Planning Permit Laws and the operative development plan of the State, especially in the fast developing Lekki corridor.

He expressed regret that despite LASPPPA's efforts at sensitising and creating awareness for Lagosians and relevant stakeholders on the need to obtain Physical Planning Permit from the Authority's District Offices and the Head Office, some still go through the back door, patronising touts, who hand them fake Physical Planning permits.

He further warned developers presenting fake planning Permits on DCB

Boards to desist as anyone caught in the act will be arrested and prosecuted. The GM also urged prospective property buyers to verify the status of properties they intend to purchase.

On his part, the Head, Monitoring and

Enforcement Unit of LASPPPA, Tpl. Iyiola Olarinde, decried the acts of denying officials of the Authority access to some Estates, thereby restricting them from carrying out their statutory duties.

Olarinde particularly condemned the stiff

resistance encountered by LASPPPA Officials recently at Periwinkle Lifestyle Estate, along Freedom Way, Ikate Lekki when its officials tried to gain entrance to the estates to serve notices.

He, however, reiterated the constant appeal of the

Authority to intending Owners/Developers to visit any of its District Offices closest to them or the Head Office, Opposite Soho Filling Station, Oba Akinjobi Way GRA Ikeja to obtain their Planning Permits before embarking on any building projects.



Lagos pupils

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Lekki Building Collapse: LASPPPA Reads Riot Act To Developers Using Fake Permit



Collapsed building

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ENDSARS Ruins: Lagos Reopens Iga Iduganran Primary Healthcare

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos State Government has finally fulfilled the promise it made to Oba of Lagos, Rilwan Akiolu that it will rebuild the vandalized health centre in his domain by hoodlums of ENDSARS protest in 2020.

The state governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu reopened the redeveloped and upgraded Iga Iduganran Primary Healthcare Centre in Isale Eko, which was razed in 2020 by rampaging hoodlums in the aftermath of protests against police brutality.

Oba of Lagos, Oba Rilwanu Akiolu, led residents to the grand reopening of Iga Iduganran PHC redeveloped by Rebuild Lagos Trust Fund and Zenith Bank.

Sanwo-Olu said the scope of health services being provided in the PHC had been expanded from its initial capacity, upgrading the facilities to a semi second medical centre.

The facility is fitted with a dedicated power source to provide constant electricity throughout the period of operation daily.

The Governor said: "I am handling this upgraded Primary Health Centre back to the community to continue to serve people's medical needs. This intervention is part of our rebuilding efforts to restore all public facilities destroyed by hoodlums three years ago.

"We prioritised this project because it is a key component of the objectives to improve



human capital. We are delivering quality road infrastructure to reduce the time you spend in traffic. As we leave here, we are handing over schools. Education is part of human capital development."

Oba Akiolu urged residents to take responsibility of maintaining the PHC, urging them not to allow hoodlums gathered close to the facility.

Sanwo-Olu also commissioned another Primary Healthcare Facility built in Sura by chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Hon. Muibi Folawiyi.

The Governor praised the council boss for expanding access to quality healthcare in the area. He urged other council chairmen to emulate the example, stressing: "we must raise the capacity of our PHCs."

Sanwo-Olu also inaugurated the newly upgraded Adeniji Adele Road and the

rehabilitated Tapa Street in the Lagos Island East Local Council Development Area (LCDA), ending the period of hardship faced by commuters in transiting from the eastern end into Isale Eko.

The formal opening of the road project drew spontaneous excitement from the residents, who heaved a sigh of relief from perennial flooding and traffic congestion.

Sanwo-Olu said the upgrading of Adeniji Adele Road was part of the steps being taken for the extensive regeneration of public infrastructure across Lagos Island, which, he said, would start soon from the northern part of the area.

The Governor said the Adeniji Adele Road was expanded from a single-lane to a dual semi rigid pavement carriageway. He said the road infrastructure was reinforced with concrete drains,

culverts, median barriers and fitted with LED-powered streetlights.

He said: "Adeniji Adele Road is of great importance to the people and vehicular movement on Lagos Island. It is a strategic road that traverses administrative boundaries of Lagos Island East LCDA and Lagos Island Local Government Area. We did not choose the road for upgrade based on emotion, but out of the need for regeneration of decrepit infrastructure on Lagos Island.

"This necessity made us to redesign the road from a single lane to four-lane dual carriageway. We also extended the intervention to Tapa Street to ease pressure on the arterial roads. Today, we are handing over the infrastructure to the community. This ceremony further demonstrates our belief and resolve to ensure there is meaningful

improvement in the metropolis. This is part of the beautification our Government has brought back into this community."

Sanwo-Olu reiterated his pledge to continue to deliver on his campaign promises to the residents, stressing that his administration had successfully constructed and rehabilitated over 1,600 roads across the State. He said the State Government achieved construction of 141 new roads which spanned 700 kilometres.

The Governor said his Government had kept faith with the State's development master plan and his administration's development agenda. He said similar regeneration work was being carried out in Ikoyi, Victoria Island, Alimosho, Agege and other Kosofe to open the State for connectivity and enhance commercial

opportunities for Lagos.

He said: "The regeneration we are talking about will happen in Idumagbo, Ojo-Giwa, Anikantamo, and Pelewura. This development is a testimonial to our resolve to do the best for our people. I enjoined our citizens not to turn these roads to market or dumpsite. The roads are done to ease traffic and enhance connectivity within Lagos Island."

Special Adviser to the Governor on Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Aramide Adeyoye, said in addition to creating new jobs and livelihood opportunities for residents in the area, the projects had eliminated recurrent flooding on the arterial road.

She said the Adeniji Adele Road would facilitate easy access to the new Massey Children's Hospital being built along the road.

"Prior to the upgrade of the Adeniji Adele Road, the State Government attempted several interventions on the corridor which brought temporary succour to road users. These palliatives were not sustainable, which led to almost total breakdown of the infrastructure with accompanying drainage failure. The completion of the projects demonstrates the effort of this administration to support businesses, promote economic development, and ultimately improve the standard of living of Lagosians," Adeyoye said.



Leave Our Roads, Rent Shops, Lagos Tells Roadside Mechanics, Truck Drivers

Stories By Kunle Awosiyani

Lagos may go after automobile engineers and truck drivers who have turned its roads to workshops and parking space as the state government has directed all roadside mechanics to go and rent shops.

The state governor made this call at the handing over of the Jimoh Odutola Street Road in Surulere and Reeve Road/Onilegbale Road in Ikoyi, adding that the government will not tolerate the nuisance again.

He said that he had observed that some automobile artisans do not have shops and have turned the roads to their workshops, which to him is wrong as their activities had destroyed many of the roads.

In his words, "My advice is for you is to make sure we use the road well and we should not allow people to turn it into mechanic garages. So, as mechanics, please get a shop for your workshop. Don't turn the road to the workshop and stop doing your work on the road and truck/container owners, we want you to do your business, but get a place as a park".

Sanwo-Olu added that the government would not accept people destroying or parking on roads in the state and is ready to enforce the law prohibiting parking on the roads.

He said, "The challenge we always have is that trailers will always park on the road. First of all, as a government, we will not accept it and we will enforce it. So, let us just do the right thing by

taking good care of our roads and other infrastructure in the state.

He stressed the need for Lagosians to protect and adequately maintain infrastructure provided by the government as money for re-fixing could be used to provide additional infrastructure for the good of the people in the state.

Sanwo-Olu, who was represented at the commissioning by the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat said, it is germane for the citizens to ensure they make good use of the roads and not allow people to turn it into mechanic garages/workshops.

According to the Governor, by doing so, the government will have more funds to provide additional infrastructure across the state for the well-being of all the citizens.

He, therefore, called on all citizens of the State to join hands with the government of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration, as they begin a second term on May 29, 2023.

Earlier in her welcome address, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Aramide Adeyoye said the completion of the Jimoh Odutola Street Road was undoubtedly a further attestation to the determination of the Sanwo-Olu/Hamzat administration to stimulate economic development by extending infrastructure development in the area and improving the living condition of people in every part of the state.

She added that the completion of the road projects aside from

impacting positively on the lives of residents, will also mitigate flooding, and generally improve the quality of life of all users of the road.

While appreciating the vision of the governor and the deputy governor to continue to provide sustainable road infrastructure development across the state, the Special Adviser urged the residents to take ownership of the projects and protect them for the comfort of all the users.



Roadside mechanic

Experts Advocate Regular Physical Exercise At Lagos Global Lifestyle Medicine Week

The Head of Family Medicine at Randle General Hospital, Dr. Olubunmi Diala and other healthcare specialists have advocated a paradigm shift from disease care to healthcare and from sickness to wellness among the citizens. They also noted that embracing the six pillars of Lifestyle Medicine can guarantee a healthier society.

The health specialists made the submission at the Global Lifestyle Medicine Week 2023 organised by Randle General Hospital, Surulere, Lagos, in collaboration with the Society of Lifestyle Medicine of Nigeria and Africa Lifestyle Medicine Council held recently.

The Global Lifestyle Medicine Week has its main objective of creating global awareness of the effectiveness of lifestyle medicine tools in preventing, treating and oftentimes reversing chronic disease. The theme for this year's campaign is "Beat the Root Cause of Disease with

DREAMS".

The Coordinator of the programme and Head of Accident & Emergency/Family Medicine of Randle General Hospital, Dr. Olubunmi Diala said lifestyle is simply a pattern of an individual's behavioural choices and practices with respect to daily life activities, that are related to elevated or reduced health risk.

Her words, "Lifestyle Medicine, therefore, integrates lifestyle practices into everyday clinical practices in order to prevent or reduce the occurrence of a disease or serve as an adjunct to its treatment".

She further stressed that lifestyle changes are worth instituting at any point in the Health and Wellness spectrum because according to research, an individual's wellbeing is largely determined by lifestyle-related factors. In addition, these changes are feasible, sustainable and empowering to the individual.

Diala also gave an overview of what was to be

expected from the programme explaining the acronym DREAMS as 'D' for Diet and Healthy Nutrition; 'R' for Relationships, 'E' for Exercise, 'A' for Avoidance of Psychoactive Substances, 'M' for Mental Wellbeing and 'S' - Sleep. The Head of Nutrition and Dietetics, Miss. Lateefat Calfos explained that the food and drink choices people make every day affect their health now and later in life. She added that healthy eating entails choosing different types of healthy food from the various food groups, in the right proportion with the aim of improving health and preventing diseases.

In a similar vein, the Director of Physiotherapy, Randle General Hospital, Mr. Adeolu Babatunde emphasised the importance of exercise in achieving and maintaining physical and mental health. He noted that exercising is useful in weight and pain management, as well as control of chronic illnesses. He also stated that exercise must be

prescribed according to the needs of the individual.

Assistant Director of Nursing Services, Mrs. Catherine Okunneye, in discussing "Avoidance of Toxic Substances" said that they can result in chronic inflammation, which increases the risk for physical and mental illnesses. She went on to highlight the negative effects of toxic substances on the individual's psychosocial well-being as well as the impact on the family and society at large. Earlier, the President of Society of Lifestyle Medicine of Nigeria (SOLONg), Dr. Moyosore Makinde revealed that a healthy lifestyle has been shown to affect gene expression positively (epigenetics), reduce insulin resistance, provide antioxidants, and reduce chronic systemic inflammation. She enjoined members and healthcare professionals to conduct outreaches to motivate behaviour changes across the country.

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Read Aloud Lagos: OEQA Challenges Pupils on Daily Reading Culture

Stories By Kunle Awosiyani

The Director-General, Lagos State Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA), Mrs. Abiola Seriki-Ayeni, has challenged school pupils to embrace the culture of reading books from their formative years by dedicating at least 20 minutes of their time to read books that will expand their horizons and increase their knowledge about life generally daily.

She gave the charge on Thursday when the Office of Education Quality Assurance and its partner, "iRead Network" took the 'Read Aloud Lagos' project to pupils of Lagos State Model Primary School at Oba Akinjobi Road, GRA, Ikeja.

The Director-General informed that the initiative was introduced by her in 2020 to school pupils across the State as part of measures to revive the dwindling culture of reading books while also exposing school pupils to some authors worthy of emulation. Seriki-Ayeni, who led the students during the 'Read Aloud Lagos' session of different books to the pupils, described the gesture of bringing the initiative to the Lagos State Model Primary School at Oba Akinjobi Road, GRA, Ikeja, as the biggest Children's Day gift for the pupils.

She also used the opportunity of the occasion to present different educational books to pupils of the school as a gesture to encourage continuous

reading and also address the challenge of inadequate access to good books for school children, especially pupils at the primary school levels. The DG urged the pupils to cultivate the habit of reading to learn new words and develop their vocabulary usage, saying "Reading books will expand your horizons, increase your exposure and make you learn about places you have not been before and even know the culture and way of life of other people". "Apart from this, through Read Aloud Lagos, you can begin to prepare yourself to participate in our Annual Spelling Bee Competition usually organised by the Office of Education Quality Assurance to test the vocabulary knowledge among secondary school students", she stated.

Seriki-Ayeni also revealed that a Mobile Library was also brought to the school to show the pupils that there are multiple ways through which they can read and learn while also having fun. Her words, "We don't want reading to be focused on English class alone or a language class. Reading is basic for all subjects including science subjects and thus explains why teachers and parents are also not exempted from the Read Aloud Lagos initiative".

The Director of Planning Research and Statistics, Office of Education Quality

Assurance, Mr. Remi Abdul remarked that the office is trying to ensure that learners inculcate the habit of vast reading culture to enable them to acquire knowledge that would develop them to become good leaders in the future.

He further stated that the office is focusing on effective reading culture by promoting the reading ability of learners in elementary and primary schools.

The Founder and CEO of iRead Network, Miss. Funmi Ilori, who coordinated the students in the area of poems and educative songs, explained that the organisation is supporting OEQA to complement the efforts of the State Government in reducing illiteracy and encouraging reading among pupils.

The Head Teacher of Lagos State Model Primary School, Oba Akinjobi Road, GRA, Ikeja, Mrs. Florence Bamgbade, said that the "Read Aloud Lagos" will stimulate pupils' interest in reading, in addition to building their vocabularies, speaking and confidence. One of the pupils of the school, Boluwatife Odusanya, appreciated the State Government and iRead Network for the choice of the school for the Read Aloud Lagos project.

She applauded the Director-General of OEQA for reading different books to them, saying that the gesture will motivate them to be better readers that pay attention to details.

Sanwo-Olu Inaugurates 144 Units Resettlement Centre



Resettlement Centre

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has described preparation for unpleasant events, even when we pray for such to be averted, as essential to building a resilient society, saying that his government has a heart and plan for everyone. Sanwo-Olu stated this at the commissioning of 144 Home Units at the Lagos State Resettlement Centre, Agbowo, Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA on Thursday. Represented by his Special Adviser on Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives, Engr. Abiola Okanlawon Olowu, the Governor expressed his sense of fulfillment in the delivery of the project meant to alleviate the unpleasant circumstances caused by unforeseen events and cater to the immediate shelter needs of displaced people.

His words: "The issue of accommodation for people in distress is a great challenge. When people are involved in emergencies such as natural disasters, the problem of shelter is usually a critical one. The pain of such persons is usually beyond comprehension. However, when the accommodation

challenge is resolved, healing can commence with the help of God".

"Ours is a government that knows the pain that accompanies the loss of homes. It is the height of affliction for a man or a woman to be stripped of his dignity as a result of disasters as such a person is exposed to the harsh weather, become less resilient and more susceptible to challenges of all kinds. Destitution and homelessness are familiar words that could be rephrased with our kind and thoughtful actions".

Mr. Governor thanked the good people of Agbowo for granting the government the opportunity of siting the valuable project within their domain while he prayed that the Centre will usher in more prosperity for the people of the area.

Commissioner for Housing, Hon. Moruf Akinderu-Fatai revealed that the 144 Home units comprise 96 units of one-bedroom and 48 units of two-bedroom apartments in eight blocks.

"It is a spacious and conducive environment sited on approximately 14,400 square metres of land. It is carefully designed to accommodate

over 600 people and thoughtfully equipped with basic amenities such as a functioning electricity connection, street lights, water treatment plant and reticulation – overhead and ground water tanks, perimeter fence, two entrance gatehouses and 24-hour security, landscaping and beautification, road network, walkways and drainages", he said.

Chairman of Ikosi Ejinrin LCDA, Hon. Raji Wale Anomo expressed the appreciation of the people of Ikosi-Ejinrin to Governor Sanwo-Olu for the numerous projects executed in the LCDA, which is a testament to the resolve of the administration to spread infrastructural development across the State.

"The re-election of Mr. Governor was a testimony to the great development the administration has brought to the State", he said.

The Regent of Agbowo Kingdom, High Chief Shakiru Kunle Odufowora described Governor Sanwo-Olu as a committed leader who has a genuine interest in the welfare of all Lagosians.

Court Arraigns Producer Of Adulterated Japata Alcoholic Bitters

By Edith Igbokwe

The producer of Japata Alcoholic Bitters, Sunday Chibuikwe has been arrested for allegedly using Indian hemp to produce the bitters at Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Area (LCDA) where the factory is located. Chibuikwe was arraigned before a Lagos Federal High Court for producing, distributing, selling, and dealing in an unregistered alcoholic drink named Japata.

The defendants, Chibuikwe and his company, were arraigned alongside one Ekpendu Chizurumoke, on a six-count charge by the National Agency for Food Drug Administration And Control (NAFDAC) before the Court presided over by Justice Yelim Bogoro. The prosecutor told the court that the defendants were producing the said alcoholic drink by

mixing adulterated drinks with marijuana but deceitfully labeled it with another product's label to give the wrong impression that the alcoholic drink is an original one.

However, the defendants pleaded not guilty when they were arraigned.

Presiding Judge, Justice Bogoro, after listening to both prosecutor and the defence lawyer, adjourned the matter to September 9, 2023, for trial.

He ordered that the defendants be remanded in the custody of the Nigerian Correctional Services (NCoS).

The agency had earlier in August 2022 warned that the content of Japata Alcoholic Bitters

in circulation was more harmful than the one submitted for testing and registration.

The NAFDAC DG, Professor Mojisola Adeyeye said it was not the first time agency would be raising concerns over Japata, an alcoholic drink produced by Chigodson International Company Ltd.

"An alcoholic bitters product that is of grave concern is Japata Alcoholic bitters, which was duly registered by NAFDAC but laced with marijuana or cannabis compared to the registered product that had only ethanol.

"Through intelligence, NAFDAC was able to



Japata Alcoholic drink

shut down the company. This product, when tested in the laboratory, caused

the death of the mice within five minutes," NAFDAC wrote on its website.

Egbe-Idimu Emerges 3rd In National Water Project Competition

By Edith Igbokwe

Faith Point School, Egbe-Idimu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has emerged third at the national finals of the Nigerian Stockholm Junior Water Prize.

Adesanmi Rachel and Owolabi Oyindamola represented the school with a project on 'Recycling Fishing Water' at the national finals and award ceremony held at the Embassy of Sweden, Abuja.

About 60 entries were received from different schools across the country and only seven made it to the final.

A project by two students of Wesley Girls Senior Secondary School, Yaba, Lagos won the year's junior water prize at the Nigerian Stockholm competition.

The winning project 'Bithermal Water Distillation Device' presented by Abdulsalam Omotunde and Korole Elizabeth Boluwatife uses readily available solar energy in the tropics to purify

water.

The project was adjudged the best by the jury due to the ability to make potable water available to all and because it is cost-effective, economically viable, practicable, and scalable.

Noble International Secondary School, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State ranked second at the national finals.

Commenting on the competition, the Sweden Ambassador to Nigeria, Hahn-Englund reiterated the embassy's commitment to supporting laudable projects in Nigeria.

She noted that Nigeria has been participating in the international competition since 2018.

Hahn-Englund said the Swedish government through Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) focuses on a range of research and development topics within and around water that support decision-makers globally.

Pipeline Leakage: LASEMA Assures Community Safety

By Edith Igbokwe



Vandalized scene in Igando Ikotun

Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA) has allayed the fear of the residents of the Ijedodo community over the vandalism of a petroleum pipeline in the community, assuring them of safety.

The LASEMA Permanent Secretary, Dr. Femi Oke-Osanyitolu declared that the agency has conducted a critical risk assessment concerning safety and precautionary measures with public advocacy and

sensitisation to the community to eliminate any contact with the leaked petroleum product in the Alimosho axis.

It was reported that suspected vandals busted one of the petroleum product pipelines in Ijedodo in the Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA) of Alimosho LGA.

The agency in collaboration with others has cordoned off the immediate and remote areas covering

the incident scene to forestall a fire outbreak.

Oke-Osanyitolu explained that the situation was promptly put under control.

"On arrival at the incident scene, the agency's response team found some visible quantities of leaked petroleum product (petrol) on the land surface. An investigation conducted by the agency's response team revealed the immediate cause of the leaked petroleum

product was due to damaged pipelines.

"LASEMA informed the maintenance department of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) of the incident and it promptly shut off the valves connecting to the pipeline in the area.

"This has ultimately reduced the risk significantly, while the incident scene had been cordoned off. The Agency's response team as well as the Lagos Fire Service, NSCDC Anti-Vandal Units, and the Nigeria Police (Isheri Osun Division) were on the ground to avert any unsafe act.

"Assessments and re-assessments are ongoing with a view to identifying any potential threats. The entire community is safe with no palpable tension recorded."



Ikorodu Vice Chairman Bags Tinubu National Think-Tank Award In Abuja

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The Vice Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Princess Folashade Olabanji-Oba has been awarded for supporting President Bola Tinubu during and after the general elections. According to the organisers, Olabanji-Oba gets the prominent award due to her invariant defence of projects related to the new President. While receiving the award in Abuja, the matron of Tinubu

National Think-Tank, who doubles as the Director General of the Asiwaju Distinguished Ambassadors Movement (ADAM), said the award is a motivation to commit herself more to the development of the nation. "This Award is simply a reminder to myself that daily, we must not relent in committing our human and material resources to nation-building, for the good of the common

man," she said. A long-term admirer and supporter of the new President of Nigeria, Olabanji-Oba explained the reason why she stood to uphold projects related to the President, saying it is the best way to affirm her loyalty to the President, who she described as her mentor. She, therefore, appreciated the organiser for counting her worthy of the award.



Mrs Folashade receiving the award

Lions Club Engages Students On Grammatical Capacity

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Ikorodu lions club presenting awards

Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club has engaged the students of Ayangburen Junior High School in Ikorodu on their grammatical knowledge of the

English Language. The club did this through its annual Literacy Project tagged

'Reading Action', put together to test the students on how to read and write effectively, and to upgrade their mode of articulation in English Language and Literature.

The principal of the school, Mrs. Fatokin Adetoun, and the members of the club were assembled with selected students of the school at the Computer Department, where the programme took place. Lion Aderenle Adedoyin, who took charge of the programme, explained to the students that their level of composure, use of grammar, and manner of presentation were key to their learning advantage. "There are ways in which words are broken down into syllables, some words when stressed don't interpret their identity. "As students, you must work on your vowels and also do not rush your pronunciation methods," Adedoyin said.

Essay writing titled 'My School' was assigned to the students as

classwork, to further test their writing ability for five minutes.

Subsequently, the students were given portions of their English Novels to read, which was also controlled by Adedoyin.

After the basic Reading Action (Literacy) tests, Adedoyin appreciated the efforts made by all participating students, advising them to improve their academic performances.

The President of Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club, Lion David Akinosho told the students to understand that they are solely responsible for their success or failure in life, implying that despite their respective backgrounds, they can emerge movers and shakers of society in the future.

He asserted that the pupils must make teachers their best friends for them to learn more and prosper intellectually.

The Principal appreciated the club for the support to enhance the intellectual capacity of the students.

She also took part in

presenting gift items to participating students afterwards.

Meanwhile, the Club has completed a Zebra crossing project for Shams-el-Deen Secondary School, Ikorodu.

The project is aimed at safeguarding students using the road subway during the school's morning and afternoon duration.

The Principal of the School, Mrs. Adijat Adedeji appreciated the club, saying the supportive job won a special place in her heart because it prioritises the safety of her pupils.

"I never knew how to make it happen, so it was the stuff of amazement watching the club coming out of the blue to get it done for our children.

"With zebra crossing like this, it will make drivers careful in moving through this axis and keep our students safe as well.

"I cannot thank members of Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club enough for what they've done to aid the school, but I know that my God will bless them tremendously," she stated.

Agboyi Ketu Mourns Demise of Supervisor

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Chairman of Agboyi Ketu LCDA, Hon. Dele Oshinowo, announced with profound grief the passing of Hon. Peter Bamisaye, Supervisor for Environment of Agboyi-Ketu LCDA.

He was fondly referred to as "Bami" and his sudden demise has plunged the council cabinet

members, the Kosofe All Progressives Congress, residents, friends, family, and associates into a state of deep sorrow.

The council boss wrote: "With pain in my heart, we regret to announce the death of our dear brother and friend, Hon. Peter Oluropo Bamisaye.

"Bami was a great, intelligent, and hardworking leader. He possessed the unique ability to envision beyond the horizons, seeing what others could not. A man of immense value, he will be sorely missed."

Hon. Peter Bamisaye was known for his unwavering dedication and commitment to his role as

Supervisor for the Environment, which earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and constituents.

His visionary approach and far-reaching perspectives consistently contributed to the development of Agboyi Ketu LCDA.



Fatoki Congratulates Chief Bisi Akande on National Honour

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Hon. (Chief) Kehinde Ayobode Fatoki, Supervisor for Environment at Ikosi Isheri Local Council Development Area in Kosofe has extended his heartfelt congratulations to his esteemed mentor, Chief Bisi Akande, on receiving the prestigious National Award of Commander of the Federal Republic (CFR).

Fatoki, in a personal statement, described Chief Bisi Akande's recognition as a well-deserved honour.

He acknowledged Chief Akande's outstanding qualities and contributions to the political landscape of Nigeria. The statement reads: "The conferment of the National Award of CFR by the former President of Nigeria, His Excellency Muhammad Buhari, on my dear father, mentor, and leader, Chief Adebisi AbdulKareem Akande (Baba Akande), is a well-deserved honour."

Chief Akande is a political icon, known for his honesty, transparency, discipline, knowledge, and visionary



Chief Bisi Akande

leadership. He is one of the respected and pragmatic national leaders of our great party the All Progressives Congress (APC)."

Expressing deep admiration for Chief Akande, Fatoki acknowledged his remarkable political achievements, including his tenure as the former civilian Governor of Osun State, where he delivered excellent performance.

He also highlighted Chief Akande's role as one of the founding fathers of the APC, which led to the successful ascension of the party's candidate to the presidency of Nigeria.

Furthermore, he recognised Chief

Akande's instrumental involvement in the recent presidential electoral victory, which saw the emergence of President Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR). "Baba Akande, you are part of the history that has installed two Presidents. Indeed, we are very proud of you, sir. I pray that God grants you good health, longevity, and wisdom, particularly during this period of President Tinubu's new administration. "May your wisdom ease the challenges of leading our beloved country, Nigeria, to the promised land. More national honors await you as you continue your selfless service to humanity. Congratulations sir!"

Council To Synergise With NIS To Curb Human Trafficking

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The chairman of Badagry LG, Hon. Olusegun Onilude has pledged to work with the Nigerian Immigration Service to curb human trafficking across the border.

Onilude made the promise while hosting the newly deployed Divisional Immigration Officer (DIO) to Badagry, CSI S. S. Wusu.

The Divisional Immigration Officer embarked on the

familiarisation tour after assumption of duties to formally introduce himself and his team to the Badagry council chairman.

Onilude, who hosted the DIO in his office at the secretariat, congratulated him on his appointment and welcomed him to the council as they discussed how to manage the cross-border issues in the community, and how to manage the inherent challenges in cross-

border migration.

He, therefore, affirmed his administration's commitment to supporting the Nigeria Immigration Service and other security agencies in the discharge of their responsibilities.

Responding, the new DIO lauded the council chairman for being proactive and his relationship with security agencies which he said has manifested in the peace and tranquility enjoyed all over the border community.



Hon Olushegun Onilude

Residents Decry One-Year Power Outage

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Residents of Epe have lamented over a long-time power outage witnessed in the community. According to them, they have not been able to use electricity for over a year, expressing their dissatisfaction with the situation. A youth leader in the community, Demola Olufowobi, told our correspondent that the community had been without a power supply for the last one year. "This is an ugly development in this 21st century; epileptic power supply should have been a thing of the past in our country not to talk of blackout. "Both the federal and

state governments should wade into the matter and help the ancient community find a solution to this perennial challenge," he said. Another resident, Miss Peju Akanji, a businesswoman, bemoaned the damages that the blackout had caused her business. She said her business had suffered serious setbacks due to the lack of power supply in the community. "I do sell frozen foods and the business thrives when there is a constant power supply. "But since the last one year of power failure in the community, I

have spent a huge amount in buying fuel which has led to a shortage of profit in my business. "I doubt if my business can survive this perennial power supply challenges anymore, I am looking for an alternative business," Akanji said. Ibrahim Ladele, Coordinator, National Youths Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Epe branch, said the youth council had written several letters to PHCN to address the power supply challenges but to no avail. He said the PHCN officials came to Epe recently to investigate what went wrong and discovered a lot of

hiccup and promised to address them. "I do hope they stick to their words and address the problem on time. However, we will not relent in calling out on the PHCN officials to provide a lasting solution to the power supply issue in the Epe community," he said. A community leader, Mr. Afeez Lawal, described the power situation in the community as hopeless, saying that they had not had electricity in about a year. Lawal, who attributed the challenge to the deplorable state of the transformers serving the community, called on the Epe Local Government Chairman



to assist in rescuing the community from the blackout. "As a community leader and resident of this great town, I urge authorities to intervene in this matter as a matter of urgency. "The blackout and neglect by PHCN management have paralysed business

activities in the ancient community," he said. Lawal said that visitors, families, and friends would be coming into the town by June for the Sallah festival, and urged PHCN officials to restore the power supply for the community to enjoy the festive season. Efforts to get PHCN officials to react to the issue proved abortive.

LJLA At LG, Radio Lagos In Search Of Knowledge About Lagos

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy (LJLA) has commenced visitation to some government establishments as a way of deepening its knowledge about governance in Lagos State. The learning visitation which took members of the Academy to Ikeja Local Government Secretariat and Radio Lagos Eko FM was a continuation of an earlier training for Associates of the Academy about the Lagos State Public

Service Rules, Administrative Structure, and Political History of Lagos State. Explaining the rationale behind the visit, the Executive Secretary of the Academy, Mrs. Folasade Coker said the Institute which was established to groom leaders for Public Service and Governance must be adequately equipped with first-hand information about governance and government institutions. She added that the Academy decided to visit Ikeja Local

Government and Radio Lagos Eko FM as its first port of call because the Local Government is the host council for the State seat of power at Alausa and the Capital of Lagos State, adding that Radio Lagos Eko FM is one of the key government institutions established during the administration of late Alhaji Lateef Jakande. Coker commended the State Government's efforts to instill positive values and groom leaders for Public Service and Governance through the Lateef Jakande

Leadership Academy. Receiving members of the Academy on behalf of the Council, the Vice Chairman, Hon. Yomi Azeez, and Head of Administration of the Local Government, Mr. Saheed Abiodun enlightened the Associates of the Academy about the history, roles, responsibilities, achievements, and peculiarities of the local government. The vice chairman shared some of his encounters with the late first Civilian Governor of the State, Alhaji Lateef Jakande, recalling the late Legendary's commitment to excellence, humility, and result-oriented dispositions. The Head of Administration of the Local Government also congratulated the Associates and reminded them that being in the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy was a lifetime

opportunity that they should not take for granted. After the visit to Ikeja Local Government, the Associates embarked on their second learning visit to Radio Lagos, the radio arm of the Lagos State Government, founded in 1978. At the Radio Lagos Eko FM, members of LJLA met the leadership team of the Station led by the General Manager, Mr. Jide Lawal, and the Directors of Marketing, Corporate Affairs, Engineering, ICT, Programmes, News, Language, HR & Admin, Audit & Accounts and other Heads of Units. The Management of the Radio Station educated the Associates about the Radio Station establishment, its various departments, processes, and protocols as well as the evolution and adaptation strategies to the new media and

more. Members of the Academy interacted with the officials of the Radio Station in a question and answer session, embarked on a tour of the station facilities, and also featured in an on-air session on a live programme. Representatives of the Lagos State Public Service Staff Training Development Centre (PSSDC), Magodo, who have been facilitating training sessions on Leadership and Governance for the LJLA Associates also joined the Academy during the learning visit. Recall that the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy was founded by Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu in a bid to develop future leaders in Public Service and Governance and inculcate in them the values of the late Lateef Kayode Jakande who made an indelible impact on Lagos State during his tenure in office.

Subsidy: Idimogbu Calms Residents

By Saheed Afolabi

The member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Oshodi-Isolo constituency II, Hon. Jude Idimogbu has urged Nigerians to be calm and support the removal of fuel subsidy by the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

According to him, the subsidy is a waste of resources that benefits little while the masses suffer it.

"I want to appeal to Nigerians and the

workers' unions to show understanding and give the new President total support on this and encourage him.

"The issue is that subsidy is a waste of resources and the resources are not there to continue. The subsidy regime is only benefitting some people to the detriment of the masses.

"If Nigerians desire growth and development, subsidy regime must go for the masses to breathe," Idimogbu said.

He added: "If this continues, the much-expected renewed hope the President promised the masses will not come through. The country cannot survive if the President does not remove subsidy.

"This removal is a good thing and the right step in the right direction.

"NNPC should not have the monopoly of being the only supplier of refined petroleum products. I know when competition is involved, the prices will come down.

"The removal of subsidy will also eliminate



Hon Jude Idimogbu

Obe Charges Residents To Maintain Ifoshi Road When Completed

By Saheed Afolabi



Hon. Monsurudeen Obe

The final phase of the total reconstruction of Ifoshi Road, Ejigbo Local Council Development Area has begun.

It involves the laying of interlocks on the 440m by 15m stretch of road between Falana Bus stop and Iyana-Ejigbo Bus stop, with the construction of drains and curbs.

The work has commenced with the grading of the road. It would be recalled that the local council just completed the reconstruction of the

Pipeline area (beside the Ejigbo Divisional Police Headquarters) down to Falana Bus stop, with a distance of 510m by 14.85m with asphalt.

The council chairman, Alhaji Monsurudeen Bello (Obe), therefore, urged the people of Ifoshi Road to ensure proper maintenance of the road once it is fully reconstructed.

"This is very important to ensure the durability of the road, thereby easing the affairs of commuters and other road users as well as boosting the economy of the area.

"Hence, shop extensions and other illegal structures in the drains should be removed immediately. Also, there should be no parking of vehicles

on the road, no playing of football, no partying, no placing of generators, no repair of vehicles, no disposing of refuse on the road nor in the drainage, no destroying of any part of the road nor drainages, e.t.c. Anyone caught doing any of those or deliberately causing any form of destruction would face the wrath of the law," he said.

Firm Donates Borehole To Community

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State government through its One Community At A Time initiative has established a Water Treatment Plant and Borehole Donated by Flour Mills of Nigeria at Gbaji Leke community in Badagry.

The water plant project was executed under the One Community At A Time - OCAAT, an

initiative of the secretary to the state. The Gbaji Leke community water can be likened to coloured water until the intervention of the Lagos State Government.

In attendance was the former S.A to Governor on Tourism, Art and Culture now House of Assembly Member-

elect, Hon. Bonu Solomon Saanu, Vice Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Rauf Yemaren who represented the Chairman, Hon. Gbenu Joseph, the SLG Badagry LG, Hon. Sovi Gusanu, SLG Badagry LG Hon. Opa Moses, HRO of Flour Mills and other delegates, Baale of Gbaji Yeke and residents of the area.

LASG Plans To Re-development Isale-Akoka For Tourism

By Saheed Afolabi



The Lagos State Urban Renewal Agency (LASURA) has reiterated the government's commitment to redevelop the Isale Akoka community in the Bariga area of Somolu Local Government to attract more tourists and also make the environment a world-class for the residents. Speaking at a courtesy visit by the Isale Akoka residents to the agency, Ajibike Shomade the General Manager of LASURA informed the residents that the vision of the Lagos State Government is to provide a world-class environment that will attract tourists from all over the world to Isale Akoka. "Our vision is to develop a world-class environment for Isale Akoka Community, such as houses on water as seen in Cape Verde that will attract tourists from all over the world. "Though it is a long-term project that will be beneficiary to the community and an achievement to the state government, the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has kicked started the process by graciously approved the construction of roads for accessibility

which has commenced as it can be seen at Oremeji Street, Alhaji Yinusa Street and Ajayi Olaiya Street." Shomade assured the residents of Isale Akoka of constant engagement in the development of the physical plan of the area that will bring to fruition the vision. Responding, the Baale of Isale Akoka, High Chief Olufemi Adebajo, Loye 1, thanked the State government for fulfilling the promise made before the general elections as residents have started seeing contractors at work in the community and congratulated the state governor and his deputy on their re-election into office.

Somolu Council Boss Appoints New Supervisor, SA

By Saheed Afolabi



The chairman of Somolu Local Government, Hon. Abdul Hamed Salawu has expanded his cabinet by swearing in additional two exco members. The two new executive members sworn in by the Legal Officer, Barr. Ajoke Raji, are Alhaji Nurudeen Anjorin and Pastor Joseph Onosolease (PIO) as Supervisor for Tourism and Special Adviser on Tourism respectively. Tourism is a new department created by Lagos State Government

recently to oversee culture, arts, tourism, and hospitality as well as films and video promotions at the grassroots. The department is also saddled with the responsibility of holy pilgrimage for all religions. Alhaji Nurudeen Anjorin was a councilorship aspirant under the All Progressives Congress in the last local government election in Somolu at

Igbobi/Fadeyi Ward. Pastor Joseph Onosolease is a Somolu-born Pastor who also recently contested for the seat of the Lagos State House of Assembly under the ruling All Progressives Congress to represent Somolu Constituency 1. The council boss said the new two appointments were necessitated by the need for the local government to strengthen the Tourism department at the grassroots.

Sanwo-Olu Installs Two New Monarchs

By Saheed Afolabi

The Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has installed two new monarchs, the Oniyafin of Yafin Kingdom, Aholu Abiodun Whedoku Patinoh, and Aholu of Agemowo Kingdom.

The installation of the new monarchs took place in a brief ceremony in the office of the chairman of Badagry Local Government Area, Hon. Olusegun Adeniran Onilude. Before their elevation, the two monarchs were Baales in their

respective domains.

At the ceremony, the governor was represented by Mr. Bolaji Kayode Robert, who was assisted by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs, Mrs. Kikelomo Bolarinwa, and a Director in the ministry.



The newly installed Kings in Badagry with the Badagry LG chairman and other chiefs



Snail Meat: Essential To Produce Selenium For Body Use

By Edith Igbokwe



One of the essential mineral requirements humans must consume is Selenium and it is highly deposited in snails. The discovery that snails offer Selenium needed for body growth and other several health benefits makes it a must-take diet for everyone. An average snail is composed of 80% water, 15% protein, and 2.4 percent fat. They are high in vitamins E, A, K, and B12 and vital fatty acids, calcium, iron, Selenium, and magnesium. Eating snail meat is beneficial to health at any age. Snail meat is high in vitamins A, E, B1, B3, B6, and B12. Snail meat contains High Selenium with Vitamins and Minerals, High Phosphorus

Content, and Water that prevents Stroke. The selenium property of the snail is one of the most critical elements required by the body to combat deadly heart illnesses and cancer. It protects the body against various illnesses and chronic ailments, and it doesn't stop there. Selenium is essential for the regulation of thyroid hormones. Selenium works well with vitamin E and is a powerful antioxidant in the body. They aid in the prevention of tissue aging by the use of oxidation. It is also required for optimal bodily functioning and is thus found in body cells, mostly in the kidney, liver, and

testes in males. Snail contains a high concentration of protein as well as vital amino acids. Meat extract and snail slime provide benefits for treating eye lining irritation, menstrual discomfort, itching, toothache, and other conditions. While snails are rich in protein, they are also a fantastic source of iron, calcium, Vitamin A, and a slew of other essential minerals. It helps the immune system and the eyes, both strengthened by vitamin A. It also aids in the growth of new cells in the body. Due to the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant qualities of snails, they have anti-cancer capabilities. Snail Meat Is Very Low In Fat but contains high Magnesium Content,

having it in our diets will Prevent Cardio Diseases Other properties of the snail include Tryptophan, which Contains Low Calories, Low Cholesterol Content and helps Human Nervous System to Function Properly. While snails are rich in protein, they are also a fantastic source of iron, calcium, Vitamin A, and a slew of other essential minerals. It helps the immune system and the eyes, both strengthened by vitamin A. It also aids in the growth of new cells in the body. Due to the anti-

inflammatory and antioxidant qualities of snails, they have anti-cancer capabilities. Snail Meat Is Very Low In Fat but contains high Magnesium Content, having it in our diets will Prevent Cardio Diseases Other properties of the snail include Tryptophan, which Contains Low Calories, Low Cholesterol Content and helps Human Nervous System to Function Properly. It also protects the eye, skin, breast, liver, and testicular tissues. Vitamin E protects the lungs from oxidative damage, particularly from environmental pollutants. Snail water also decreases blood pressure; high blood pressure is linked to

stroke; by reducing blood pressure, stroke risk is reduced. Eating snails and drinking their water is therefore beneficial since they contain active substances that calm the brain. It also improves nitrogen balance in adults' and baby development. Tryptophan also produces Niacin, which is required for the synthesis of the neurotransmitter serotonin. Unfortunately, tryptophan and Selenium are mostly obtained from our food and are not primarily present in the body. As a result, humans must consume snail meat to fulfill the body's requirement for Tryptophan and Selenium.

Inauguration: Why we celebrated the indigenous cultures of Lagos State - Bello-Olarinmoye

Interview with Dr. Adeyinka Bello-Olarinmoye on the Lagos State Inauguration Cultural Day

Why did the committee decide to hold a Cultural Day?

The inauguration committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Tayo Ayinde met at the inauguration meeting of the committee to deliberate on possible programmes and events for the one week inauguration plan. Cultural day and or activity was muted and was taken for consideration after deliberations. I actually stood to defend the cultural day, as it would be an avenue to say thank you to the indigenous peoples and divisions of Lagos we call IBILE. It would on the other hand made it possible for us to give credence to the Isele people, promote inclusion and specially thank them for their active spiritual participation during the last election.

Which indigenous community cultures were involved?

The event was purely targeted at the 5 divisions of Lagos state. IBILE: Ikeja, Badagry, Ikorodu, Lagos Island and Epe. All the cultures of these divisions were on display at the event. The diversity of the indigenous Lagosians were at display. Sangbeto, Kori and Sato

from Badagry, Egungun and Gelede from the Awori populating the Ikeja and many other parts of Lagos where Awori populates. We also had the Agere and agbo remireke from the Ikeja division. Meboi, Ere Tuyeye and Osun devotees from Lagos Island division. We had the Igunuko of the Ikorodu division. It's important to note that igunuko has its roots in the Nupe of Niger and Kwara states. Early settlers from this culture area brought the cult to Lagos state. And it is adopted and celebrated in all the divisions of Lagos state.

The Epe division has the Boat regatta, the Osun procession and kayokayo. Kayokayo is mostly attached to the Eid-Al-Adha (Ileya) celebration, so, it's not synonymous to traditional Yoruba festival. Epe people also have egungun and other



Dr. Adeyinka Bello- Olarinmoye

Yoruba festivals.

All in all, the 5 divisions have many unifying festivals and some other peculiar ones to each

division.

How did you mobilise those who participated in the performances?

We mobilized through

invitations, political mobilization of the divisions and through the Council for Arts and Culture.



Inauguration: Why we celebrated the indigenous cultures of Lagos State - Bello-Olarinmoye



As a foremost anthropologist, how do you think this Culture Day can be used to educate the youth?

A people without adequate knowledge of their cultural process is essentially a dead society. Culture defines you. Culture is the total ways of life of a given society. For any society to thrive, to develop and to be respected is for its people to understand its culture, project it, preserve it and guide it most jealously. We need to come back home and draw study curriculum for our children right from the foundation level of education, to teach them the values, norms and traditions inherent in our culture. It is becoming alarming the dearth in the use of our language for instance. And that is where the totality of Yorubanness is coded. Our children cannot understand the concept of



Omoluabi in this present day Yoruba land. That is where we are getting it all wrong. Why we don't know that "oruko rere san ju wura ati

fadaka", why they don't realize that "iwa rere l'eso eniyan", why hardwork is not important like Yoruba saying that "ise l'ogun ise"...

and many more admonitions in our traditional Yoruba parlance. We need to go back to the drawing board in our educational program to

draw a holistic curriculum that would help mode experts in choice fields, and more civilized and cultured minds. The effects in the society would be stronger for development.

Is this Culture Day an attempt to reassert Yoruba civic values a reaction to the 2023 gubernatorial politics?

I wouldn't say the committee had that in mind, but, personally, I guess it would have sent a feedback to all and sundry that Lagos state is a "man's land". And that specifically, it belongs to the Oodua ancestry in all ramifications. And I'm certain the second term of our amiable and sensible Gov, His Excellency, Babajide Sanwoolu would see to strengthening the Yorubanness of Lagos state. I applaud his first statement, with the release of his official portrait. Yes, that was a loud statement for a culture ambassador like me



Ajangbadi PHC To Commence Operation

By Edith Igbokwe

Ajangbadi Primary Healthcare Center is set to commence operation following the completion

of the health facility in the community.

This was disclosed by the Supervisor for Health, Hon. Saheed Ajanaku, who was at

the center to supervise the facility in the community.

According to him, preparation is in top gear towards the

commencement of operation of the Health Care Centre.

He declared: "As inspected, the present state of the Health

Care Centre is ready for operation, duly completed for use, all the materials needed are available, and the

facility is a Top-notch standard. In the next few weeks, it shall commence full operation God willing."

Iba LCDA Chairman, Jubril Eulogizes Former Education Secretary



Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila)

The chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has commended the former Education Secretary in Ojo Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), Hon. Sule Tolani (ÓLÒJÒ) as he celebrated his birthday. The chairman also applauded the celebrant's tenacity as a Deputy Director General, Lagos West 2, All Progressives Congress (APC) 2023 Lagos State Campaign Committee.

Tolani is also LASU Governing Council, a

Member of G-13 Leaders in APC Iba LCDA, and a Member of G-39 Leaders, in APC Ojo Federal Constituency.

According to the chairman's felicitation message, Tolani is a vocal, dogged, liberal, and principled personality who deserves to be celebrated because of his contributions to the development of the local government.

He further described him as a seasoned educationist and a grassroots person whose commitment and contribution can

never be underestimated.

He, however, offered words of prayers to the celebrant and beseeched God for long life in good health and happiness for the celebrant to continue to excel in all his endeavour.

"We appreciate your immense contributions towards the development of our dear local council, we value and cherish your existence amidst us sir. Continue to grow in God's abundant grace, favour, and bountiful blessings. Many happy returns of this day our leader."

Olowa Engages Community Leaders On Flood

By Edith Igbokwe

As part of an effort to find a solution to the issue of flooding affecting various communities, the chairman of Ibeju Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa has met with CDA leaders to discuss the way out.

He assured them that the Local Government is working together with the Lagos State Ministry of Environment to access the drainage master plan to expedite further actions.

The council boss also charged the members to ensure that they sensitise community



HON. ABDULLAHI SESAN OLOWA
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, IBEJU-LEKKI LOCAL GOVERNMENT

members on the need for proper waste disposal as this will keep the environment

neat and habitable.

He pledged to visit other communities to access the situation on the ground.

Johnson Hands Over Ifoshi Primary School

By Saheed Afolabi



Ifoshi Primary School

The Member of House of Representatives in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II, Hon. Ganiyu Johnson has handed over a twelve-classroom building he facilitated at Ifoshi Primary School, Ejigbo, to the Head Teacher, Mrs. Opawale. The building, which also houses the head teacher's and visitors' waiting room, was facilitated by lawmaker. Speaking at the handing over ceremony, Johnson, who was represented by his Personal Assistant, Hon. Ismail Aregbesola said his contribution and support to the successful implementation of the

project was his demonstration and commitment to qualitative education. His Media Aide, Mr. Dotun Oladapo charged the school authority to take possession of the project and guard it jealously to encourage the facilitator to do more. Mr. Kolawole Fagbenro who was part of the team said more buildings are still coming because the lawmaker desires to maintain the UNESCO standard of 35 pupils in a class. The PTA chairman of the school, Alhaji Baruwa, said the building was a dream come true.

The head teacher also said the new building has attracted hundreds of new pupils, as she prayed and expressed appreciation to Johnson for his impactful representation. The joy and happiness on the part of the pupils who are the direct beneficiaries of the project knew no bounds as visibly demonstrated and prayed for the facilitator. "In fact, it was a moment of sober reflection and emotion for me. Seeing the way these children were happy, then it dawned on me that those who are in the corridors of power should emulate this kind of gesture because the citizens' expectations of them are not too much. The leaders should embark on more meaningful, impactful, and visible projects that can bring succour to their followers," the head teacher said.



Lobi Stars Coach Shrugs Off Threats In NPL Championship Playoffs

By Saheed Afolabi



Lobi Stars coach, Jeremiah Kuhwa

Lobi Stars assistant coach, Jeremiah Kuhwa has shrugged off threats posed by other teams in the Nigeria Premier League (NPL) Championship Playoffs.

At the end of the regular season, Lobi Stars came second in Group B with 30 points from 18 matches to seal a place in the Super Six playoffs.

The composed Kuhwa said it is the tradition of the Pride of Benue to win the league title as they did in 1999 because the club is well prepared coming for the playoffs.

"It had been the tradition of Lobi Stars to always win such a tournament. We have done this in 1999 and the following year which is 2000, we

came third. With what we have on the ground, I believe our team will go as far as winning this NPL Championship Super Six," he told Nigeriafootball.ng.

"Lobi Stars are well prepared psychologically, physically, and in every aspect of the game. We are satisfied with the pitch and I'm happy we are playing at that particular turf because the boys are going to exhibit what they have in them, good pitch, good environment and I believe we will go far in the competition."

Despite playing their home matches in unfamiliar terrain, the tactician admitted it wasn't an easy task making it to the Super Six playoffs.

"Qualifying for the Super Six wasn't easy for Lobi Stars especially since we are playing away from home you can recall our home matches were played in Jos because the Lobi Stars pitch wasn't approved. So the task of moving from Makurdi financially, physically the boys were prepared in all aspects, and playing in a home ground where your fans are not there to cheer you up, highest you will have less than 20 people cheering you up. It wasn't easy but we thank God we were able to scale through to qualify for the Super Six."

Lobi Stars will trade tackles with Bendel Insurance in their first game at the Super Six playoffs on the third of June at the Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Lagos.

Ilechukwu Sponsors Relay Championship

By Saheed Afolabi

Plateau United coach, Fidelis Ilechukwu has sponsored the FAST FEET Inter-Secondary Schools Invitational Relay Championship.

Ilechukwu, in collaboration with

Fast Feet Sports Club, is the organiser of the athletics championship scheduled for 9 am on Saturday at the Zaria Road Stadium, Jos, Plateau State.

"I'm delighted to be associated with Fast Feet Sports Club, and foot the bill of the athletics event billed for this weekend in Jos," said Ilechukwu.

"This is my little way of giving back to society as I see sports as life.

"I'm a football coach but I understand what sports means and how sporting activities can keep one physically fit, and healthy and helps relieve stress.

"The value of sport and physical activity is wide-ranging and, as such the FAST FEET Inter-Secondary Schools Invitational Relay Championship will play an important role in promoting the psychological well-being among secondary school students in Jos.

"I want to urge schools and students to take a chance and be part of the FAST FEET championship.

"This is a platform to

catch them young, and from their nature, to become stars that will represent Nigeria in international tournaments.

"It also serves as a means of getting our young ones busy, so they don't engage in social vices. So the Plateau State government has a role in making this a yearly event.

"Events lined up for the athletics championship are 4x 400m male and female and 4x 100m male and female.

"Medals and certificates will be given to participating schools and athletes that show brilliance in the relay events."



U20 Wafu B: Ghana Defeats Nigeria To Clinch Title

By Saheed Afolabi

Ghana U20 side defeated Nigeria 3-1 in a penalty shootout to win the maiden edition of the Wafu B U20 Girls Cup after playing a 1-1 draw in regular time. Stella Nyamekye scored for Ghana before Flourish Sabastine leveled for the Super Falcons at the tail end of the game. Nigeria were the brighter side in the game as they produced lots of chances which were squandered away.

A clumsy challenge from Sabastine brought down Ghana's Comfort Yeboah in the 18-yard box which the referee wasted no time in pointing to the spot. Nyamekye settled in well to score from the spot and gave the young Black Princesses the lead in the 39th minute. Ghana took the lead to the break as the Falcons search for the equalizer. Ghana goalkeeper, Afi

Amenyeku pulled strings of saves to deny Nigeria the game as they surge forward for the equalizer. Sabastine made provision for her earlier giveaway penalty as she found the back of the net in the 85th minute to equalize for Nigeria. All efforts to find a winner from both sides didn't pave through for the game to end in a 1-1 draw which led to a penalty shootout.



Adron Sports Foundation Promises More Sport-Driven Tournaments As Basketball Championship Records Success

By Saheed Afolabi



Adron Sports Foundation basketball tournament

Over 50 teams were invited to partake in the Adron Sports Foundation community/schools slam and dunk

championship held at Milo basketball court, Ilupeju. In the boys' category, Wolves emerged champions by beating CDA to the second

position. Director of Operations, Adron Sports Foundation (ASF), Oladapo Emmanuel stated that the foundation is a youth-driven foundation

which focuses on empowering and encouraging meaningful participation in sports. He said: "Adron Sports Foundation is a youth-

based, driven foundation that is focused on empowering and encouraging meaningful participation in sports. We have the vision to become the leading sports foundation, which is promoting grassroots sports development in Nigeria, Africa, and the world at large. "All thanks to God, our Group Managing Director of Adron Homes and properties, Aare Adetola Emmanuelking whose vision is borne out of his passion for sport and the idea is to go to communities, and schools to search for talented kids who are sport driven and that was what brought about the basketball challenge we had at Ilupeju." Oladipo said the ASF chose basketball because of how

dynamic it is as he revealed plans to look into other sports. "We chose basketball because we are a very dynamic association, we tend not to limit the opportunities that are within our reach to just football. We understand that football is a popular sport but then basketball is also equally a very popular sport. "We thought to carry everyone along and organize a basketball tournament that will help in locating talents, discover themselves, and encourage them to continue with their vision for basketball. "We still have plans to look into football programs or tournaments, which will also help in discovering young football talents. We are an encompassing organization hence the need to organise basketball competitions."