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# Echoneews

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The Lagos State House of Assembly is not leaving any stone unturned in ensuring that the government rids off street traders.

The assembly said that it would be coming up with Market Authority Bill, 2024, which will be used to curb street trading and illegal enterprise structures in the metropolis.

The lawmakers informed that the bill, if passed, will address the issues of registration, formation, organization and operation of market associations.

During a one day public hearing, the House Speaker, Mudashiru Obasa, said that the bill will also ensure cleanliness, orderliness in the state's market.

Obasa, represented by the Deputy Speaker of the House, Mojisola Meranda, also stated that traders will be compelled to adhere strictly to the environmental laws through the proposed bill.

"This bill has come at the very right time because with this important bill, our markets can be well regulated and coordinated," Obasa began.

"It will bring about modern practices whereby everyone that owns a space in the market would be properly identified with their exact location.

"The most important aspect is also to regulate and recommend policies to the government regarding problems on market affairs.

"This includes fair pricing with modern best practices. It would also bring about structure for management of these market places

"The quality of the eventual law would be dependent on their contributions, either through their memoranda or oral addresses."

The House Chairman of Local Government, Chieftaincy and Rural Development Committee, Okanlawon Sanni, mentioned that the bill would correct the anomalies in the extant law and would make it

# Assembly Goes Hard on Street Trading, Proposes Market Authority Bill

By Kunle Awosiyan

mandatory for markets to be duly registered.

Sanni said, "The bill would address the issue of formation because there were lots of indiscriminate formation of markets.

"With this law, you cannot just create a market, the bill provides that before you create a market, you must be up to 50 people." "They have to register with the local government. These people will also go to the state market to register the association. This is to strengthen the law and to ensure that there is peace and harmony in the market."

This is coming at a time a study identified lack of proper market setting in Lagos as one of the factors contributing to heavy traffic in the state. The study, "Street Trading Activities and Its Effects on Traffic Flow by Mojeed Olayiwola Giwa



RT. Hon Mudashiru Obasa

of School of Transport and Logistics, and Joel Ayodeji Asaju of the Lagos State University assess market activities and the challenges on

traffic flow in Igando Bus-stop.

The study shows that poor market infrastructure and government regulation

has led to on-street trading, which eventually reduces the width/carriage capacity of the road and consequently impedes traffic flow.



Street traders



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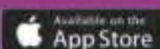
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# Assembly Goes Hard on Street Trading, Proposes Market Authority Bill

*Continued From Page 2*

According to the research, 73 per cent of the traffic is caused by lack of enough space at the market, which causes traders to seek customers at roadside and as such creating traffic volume while buyers mostly parked at the roadside.

The study also observes that many of the old markets built by past administrations in the state lack enough parking space causes drivers to alight passengers at available space and this enhances traffic volume.

At most of the

markets, the study reveals that there is no road pavement for pedestrian and such creates heavy traffic delay.

It also revealed that 84.2% of buyers buying goods at the market especially where traders display their wares at the major roads causes traffic delay while 80.9% lack enough parking space causes.

Coupling with lack of proper traffic control of truck/lorry drivers to load and offload goods at any available, traffic builds up, the study shows.

Reacting, the Lagos State Environmental Sanitation Corps (LAGESC), said that the government

would be constituting a taskforce to help tackle the menace of street trading across the state.

LAGESC Corps Marshal, Major Olaniyi Olatunbosun Cole (Rtd), said, "We are going to constitute a taskforce for street trading to patrol every nooks and crannies of the state. Street trading and hawking remain banned according to the state's environmental laws.

"We have stepped up daily enforcement operations to reduce the spate of street trading to erring traders and hawkers in the habit of displaying wares for

sale in traffic, lay-bys, setbacks, medians, road verges, and kerbs," he said.

However, the study gave some recommendations as it concludes that the existence of market activities should not only be viewed in negative light but also seen as an integral part of the overall economic system and as such, an employment generator.

It called on government to work more on policies to deal with informal sector market activities with much attention given to the future needs of the existing business as well as increasing demands

of entirely new forms of activities.

"Planners and decision makers seem to be ill equipped with lack of adequate information and framework to express how the explanation of the past processes as well as current location patterns can be linked through to the provision of future controls," it said.

It called for the readjustment of the existing situation for effective implementation of any commercial planning policies.

It urged the government through the Lagos State Ministry of Physical Planning

and Development authority to embark on structure planning for the study area within the context of the Lagos metropolitan plan.

"Also effective policies should be made by the government to regulate all forms of street trading activities along Lagos roads for instance, compliance with the set back and marketing level should be regulated and controlled but hawking on the highway should be banned due to the risk hawkers are subjected to and the negative roles it play in traffic delay," it said.



Street traders



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# Island Maternity Offers Free Medicals on World Pharmacists Day

The Lagos Island Maternity Hospital (LIMH) has joined counterparts worldwide to celebrate the Y2024 World Pharmacists Day with a series of health activities put in place for the benefit of patients, relatives and staff. This year's edition, which took place under the theme: "Pharmacists: Meeting Global Health Needs", saw personnel of the Department coming out in customised attire to showcase the role Pharmacists play in healthcare; ensuring safe and effective medication as well as promoting wellness of people in the society. The first day of the two-day event took place inside the Hospital Conference Room, with experts from notable Pharmaceutical Companies as well as personnel of the Department, lecturing on the theme of the event, the right dosage to take to ensure drugs effectiveness, as well as harmful effect of drug abuse. The Car Park was the venue for Day two of the event, as



personnel of the Department, led by the Head, Pharmacist Solape Adebayo, fully engaged in

sensitisation and awareness creation campaign dance around the hospital environment, including the

Health Service Commission premises with banners and handbills to share. Free Medicals, like BP

checks, Blood Sugar, Malaria and Hypertension tests, were also carried out, including free medicines and gift items for those in attendance.

Speaking on the event, the Medical Director, Dr. Olufemi Omololu sees the role played by Pharmacists in healthcare vital.

He praised the hospital's team of Pharmacists for working tirelessly to promote wellness and making that difference in the lives of patients, on daily basis.

On the reason for the celebration, Head of Department, Pharmacy, Pharm. Solape Adebayo said the day is set aside by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to appreciate the hard work, resilience, commitment and dedication of Pharmacists to a healthier society.

She equally counselled patients against purchasing prescription medications from unauthorised sources, to avoid unnecessary problems.

# Lagos Surveyor-General Inducted as Fellow of Chartered Institution of Administration

The Permanent Secretary/Surveyor General, Office of the State Surveyor-General (OSSG), Surv. Ayokunnu Adesina has been inducted as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Administration (CIA) at a ceremony held recently. Surv. Adesina was inducted by the Institute's Chairman, Dr. Stanley Ojuolape FCIA, who led Executives of the College of Fellows on a visit to the Office of the State Surveyor-General. Speaking at the brief ceremony, Dr. Ojuolape said the Fellowship was conferred on the Surveyor-General for his outstanding leadership, dedication, and contributions to administration in Lagos

State.

"The fellowship, which is one of the highest honours conferred by the Institute, is reserved for professionals who have demonstrated exceptional administrative excellence, integrity, and commitment to public service", Dr. Ojuolape said.

Responding, Surv. Adesina expressed gratitude to the body of Fellows and the Institution for the recognition, reaffirming his commitment to effective administration.

He also acknowledged the support of his team, saying, "This honour is a reflection of our shared dedication to improving the standard of public service".

Noting that the visit will further strengthen the collaboration between the Institute and the Office of the State Surveyor-General.

Surv. Adesina pledged to promote administrative excellence within the public service.

The Chartered Institute of Administration is a leading professional body in Nigeria, focused on the development of high standards in administrative practice.

After conferment of the fellowship on Surv. Adesina, the management and the entire staff congratulated him for a well-deserved recognition and applauded his commitment to excellent customer service.





# LASODA Vows To Protect Children With Disability

Lagos State Office For Disability Affairs (LASODA) has expressed its commitment to ensure children with disabilities receive adequate protection towards their full integration into the society.

The government is reassuring that every single person with disability will be co-opted to live a meaningful life, as this aligns with the present administration's mantra of leaving no one behind.

Speaking at a stakeholders' forum held recently with service providers in the disability community in Lagos State with the theme: 'Ensuring the Protection of Children with Disabilities', on Wednesday, the General Manager of LASODA, Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal said the event was organised to address issues relating to catering to the needs of children with disabilities in both private and government care homes.

Oyetunde-Lawal noted that children needs to cohabit and grow up in a safe environment, stressing that their needs are more critical which require specialised care, attention and protection. "The home should be a sanctuary where children feel safe, loved, and accepted. For children with disabilities, a well-managed home is not just a shelter but a lifeline. It provides them with stability and serves as the foundation for their physical, emotional, and cognitive development.

"Managing a home for a child with disabilities requires additional thought, planning, and unwavering commitment. It must be a space where they are shielded from external challenges – a



haven where their abilities are nurtured, their differences celebrated, and where their self-esteem and confidence are constantly built. Dear stakeholders, I believe we can all agree on the importance of instilling these values in our children early on, to help them grow into self-reliant, confident, and well-rounded individuals", she said

LASODA Boss maintained that the Agency has been working assiduously to ensure social inclusion, which formed part of the THEMES Plus developmental agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu which is to eliminate discrimination and provide equal opportunities for persons with disabilities across education, employment, and community life.

According to her, "Our mandate is to create, enforce, and supervise policies that ensure Lagos

remains a state where inclusion is the norm, and the rights of persons with special needs are fully recognised and protected. We tirelessly work to shield them from all forms of discrimination and to ensure equal access to opportunities in every aspect of life.

"Today's forum will focus on how we can better manage our homes to ensure the well-being, safety, and development of our children. We will hear from experts on creating safe environments – physically, emotionally, and psychologically – for children with disabilities.

"While the home is central to their protection, we must also recognize the crucial role of community support. No family can thrive in isolation. We need to collaborate with community organisations, support groups, and local services to provide a broader network of care

for our children. By connecting with others who understand the challenges, families can access invaluable resources, share advice, and find emotional support for themselves as caregivers".

She, however, acknowledged the support and contributions of the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and private homes that cater to the needs of children with disabilities, while re-echoing the immense potential of the children with disabilities that can be tapped by caregivers and parents to ensure they are given the needed tools to thrive.

"Your dedication and commitment have been invaluable in improving the lives of these children. It is through such collaborative efforts that we will continue to make a meaningful, lasting impact. Let us all keep working together to ensure

that every child, regardless of ability, receives the love, care, and opportunities they so richly deserve", she added.

At the forum, different speakers took turns to address the theme of the event which harped on the Management of home and protection of children with disabilities.

In her presentation, the National President of Down Syndrome Foundation of Nigeria, Mrs. Rose Modi said that discrimination against people with disabilities is cruel and those managing homes should escalate this issue to the appropriate quarters while abusers should be made to face the law.

odi also mentioned that it is the responsibility of every home to take up the task of child protection, with appropriate structures in place, conduct research for best practices that is obtainable around the world, collaborate with other stakeholders and ensure consistent training to upscale their staff knowledge and understanding.

Other speakers at the event talked about crisis management, prevention and understanding the holistic approach to crisis in catering for the needs of children with disabilities.

They called on parents to desist from abusing drugs, reach out to the appropriate law enforcers whenever crises arise, and be proactive to forestall any forms of crisis. Other observations include the need to establish a crisis management team, develop crisis management policies, create emergency response plans, train staff on crisis management and establish communication protocol.

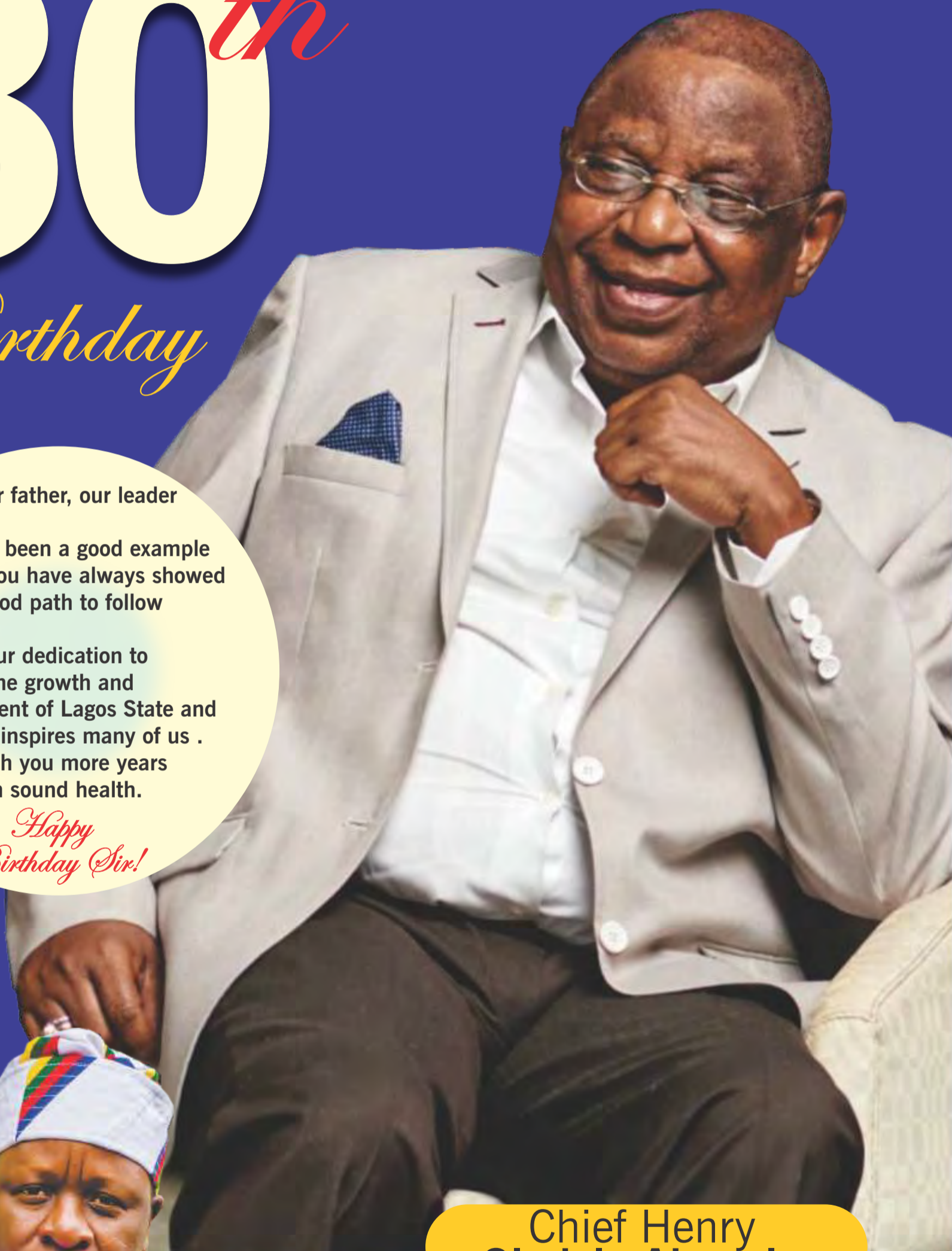
*Happy*  
**80<sup>th</sup>**  
*Birthday*

To our father, our leader

You have been a good example to us, as you have always showed a good path to follow

Your dedication to the growth and development of Lagos State and Nigeria inspires many of us .  
I wish you more years in sound health.

*Happy Birthday Sir!*



**Chief Henry  
Oladele Ajomale**



Courtesy  
**Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan**



# No Estate Association Has Authority To Screen Govt Construction-Commissioner

The Lagos State Government has said that no estate or association has the right to screen architectural drawings or undertake stage supervision of construction activities within the State. These regulatory activities are reserved exclusively for government agencies by the law. The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide affirmed this in Alausa on Wednesday.

He emphasised that no estate or association has been granted such powers while the Lagos State Urban and Regional Planning and Development Law 2019 (as amended) empowers the Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Authority (LASPPPA) and the Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA) to regulate the built environment sector in Lagos State. He further clarified that any involvement by estates or associations in screening of drawings or

stage supervision of construction would constitute a breach of the law, which is reprehensible. "It should be sounded loud and clear that the State Government has not delegated those responsibilities to any group or estate, and such untoward actions, where undertaken, should cease forthwith", he said. He urged residents to report any illegal regulatory attempts in the sector to the appropriate authorities. He maintained that as

part of the commitment to maintaining high standards in the built environment, the Lagos State Government welcomed stakeholders' collaboration through whistleblowing initiatives. He added that such initiatives should be strictly for reporting infractions and not to confer regulatory rights. "Taking the law into one's hands will not be tolerated, as doing so can only undermine the progress being made in achieving a sustainable Lagos.



**LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT**  
Ministry of Physical Planning & Urban Development

# Lagos Impounds 241 Unlicensed Vehicles

In accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Lagos State Transport Sector Reform Law (TSRL) 2018, the Lagos State Government has impounded 241 vehicles during a recent enforcement exercise conducted by the Vehicle Inspection Service (VIS). The vehicles were found to be unlicensed and in violation of the state's transportation regulations. The Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation, Mr. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, cautioned motorists to avoid driving unregistered vehicles, emphasising that such practices undermine law enforcement efforts, particularly in identifying and tracking stolen vehicles or those involved in criminal activities. Quoting Section 16 of the TSRL 2018, Mr. Osiyemi reiterated that driving a vehicle without proper registration or affixed identification marks

constitutes a legal offence. He further revealed that a fake dealer number plate was discovered on one of the impounded vehicles, noting that investigations are

ongoing to apprehend and prosecute those responsible for issuing the fraudulent plate. The Commissioner urged all motorists to adhere to the state's traffic regulations,

stating that compliance would enable the government to fulfil its mission of ensuring a safe and secure environment for all road users.

**LASG IMPOUNDS 241 UNLICENSED VEHICLES, WARNS AGAINST USE OF UNREGISTERED VEHICLES**







MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION  
LAGOS STATE

# Lagos Wastewater Seals Property Over Environmental Pollution

The Lagos State Wastewater Management Office (LSWMO) has once again shown its dedication to ensuring credible and sustainable wastewater management in the State by clamping down on the Orchid Shopping Centre along Orchid Road Eti-Osa for discharging untreated wastewater into the road and public drains. According to a release from the office, the General Manager, Engr. Adefemi Afolabi, the Agency exercised its authority to shut down the Centre in line with its mandates to monitor and ensure buildings have sustainable and environmentally friendly wastewater treatment systems in place. LSWMO discovered, through its monitoring and compliance team, that the Orchid Shopping Centre was discharging untreated

wastewater into the road and public drains thereby creating environmental nuisance and endangering public health. The Office, therefore, advised all Residents, Estates and Organisations discharging untreated wastewater and sewage into the environment to desist or face sanctions according to the law. It noted that necessary sanctions will be served on the property, the owners and occupiers in line with the provisions of the Lagos State Environmental Management and Protection Law, 2017. The Lagos State Wastewater Management Office reiterated that the State has zero tolerance for environmental pollution and degradation that portends negative effects on the public health of its citizens.



# Lagos First Lady Inaugurates Cutting-Edge Remote Healthcare Monitoring System

## ... As Health District I Pioneers Remote Healthcare Supervision

The Lagos State Government has introduced a state-of-the-art Remote Control System for Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in Health District I to bolster healthcare delivery in the district as part of efforts to enhance healthcare at the primary level.

Commissioned by the First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, the system is expected to improve healthcare access for residents of Lagos Health District I, particularly in underserved areas. It enhances efficiency by providing real-time monitoring of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and facilitates remote consultations between patients and specialists.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony held at the Rauf Aregbesola Primary Health Centre in Mosan-Okunola LCDA on Friday, September 27, 2024, the First Lady, represented by the wife of the Chairman, Egbedimu LCDAs, Mrs. Omolola Sanyaolu, highlighted the significance of the Remote Control System. She noted its potential to improve access to quality healthcare, especially for residents in underserved and hard-to-reach areas of the state.

She emphasised that the system will enable real-time monitoring of PHCs and facilitate remote consultations with specialists, bridging the gap between

primary and secondary healthcare services in Lagos.

"This is not just a technological advancement; it is a bold declaration of our commitment to ensuring that no resident is left behind in accessing quality healthcare", Dr. (Mrs.) Sanwo-Olu stated. She commended the Permanent Secretary of Lagos Health District I, Dr. Olufunmilayo Bankole and her team for their dedication to bringing the project to life.

She explained that the Remote Control System is expected to improve early diagnosis, facilitate efficient referrals, and ensure better management of healthcare resources. The system will allow

health workers in the district to monitor and manage health conditions remotely, reducing the burden on secondary healthcare facilities by addressing minor health issues at the primary level.

"This initiative reflects our resolve to transform healthcare in Lagos. It is an essential step in reducing mortality rates and improving health outcomes across the state", Dr. (Mrs.) Sanwo-Olu added. She urged other health districts to adopt this innovative approach, noting that it serves as a model for advancing healthcare throughout the state. The First Lady reaffirmed the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration's commitment to

leveraging technology to enhance healthcare delivery, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

Permanent Secretary of Lagos Health District I, Dr. Olufunmilayo Bankole expressed pride in the district's health initiatives over the past year. She revealed that over 5,000 individuals had been screened for non-communicable diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, cervical cancer, and breast cancer as part of the district's outreach programs. She also noted that 30% of those screened had some form of health condition requiring follow-up, and the district is actively tracking these cases.

In addition, Dr. Bankole emphasised the district's focus on child health, including the success of an immunisation programme aimed at reducing the number of zero-dose and partially immunised children in the Alimosho area. "Through this programme, 512 children were identified and immunised, ensuring their protection against preventable diseases", she said. Chairman of Mosan-Okunola LCDA, Princess Olabisi Adebajo praised the Governor and First Lady's dedication to healthcare development in the state. Adebajo added that the Remote Control System would reduce delays

in patient care by ensuring timely specialist consultations and improving referral processes.

"This system will not only enhance the patient experience but also significantly reduce maternal and child mortality rates in our community", she remarked.

Other dignitaries at the event included the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye; Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Public Service Office, Mrs. Oluwakemi Oyegbola; Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, Dr. Biodun Onayeleye and the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Health, Dr. Oluwatoni Adeyemi.





# Sanwo-Olu Reiterates Administration's Support For Arts, Creative Sector

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has reiterated his administration's commitment and support to the arts and creative sector for the industry to thrive.

He said his government's commitment to the sector is reflected in the Lagos State Government's investments in various initiatives, including training, manpower development and the promotion of arts among others.

The Governor spoke on Sunday after watching a stage play, 'Kurunmi' written by renowned playwright, Prof. Ola Rotimi, at Terra Kulture in Victoria Island, Lagos.

Kurunmi explores the themes of supremacy of tradition, social

## As Governor, cabinet member, Nollywood stars, others attend performance of 'Kurunmi' at Terra Kulture

change, responsible leadership, control, and accountability.

The stage play, which paraded a large cast of 75 young and veteran actors and crew members, was staged at Terra Kulture Arena on Saturday and Sunday, September 28 and 29. It was put together by Stagecraft Studios and Film Productions.

Governor Sanwo-Olu, was accompanied by his Special Adviser on Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Idris Aregbe, and other close aides to watch the play produced by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Mr. Gboyega Akosile, and directed by a renowned movie producer and actor,

Mr. Oladapo Muyideen, popularly known as 'Lala.'

The stage play was also watched by top executives of First Bank, one of the major sponsors, as well as veteran Nollywood actors and actresses, which included Yemi Solade, Mercy Aigbe Adeoti, and her husband, Kazeem Adeoti, among others.

Speaking about the command performance of the stage play, Governor Sanwo-Olu said, "Kurunmi is a powerful exploration of themes such as the supremacy of tradition, social change, responsible leadership, control, and accountability. Set in the Yoruba

kingdom of Oyo, Ijaiye, and Ibadan, the play follows Kurunmi, a military leader and war general, as he navigates internal strife and external threats from imperial powers.

"The play is produced by my media aide, Gboyega Akosile, and directed by Mr. Oladapo Muyideen.

"I firmly believe that our support for the arts and creative sector is crucial for fostering an environment where this industry can thrive. Our commitment is reflected in our investments in various initiatives, including training, manpower development, and arts promotion,

among others."

Commenting on the stage play, Mercy Aigbe Adeoti, who commended Governor Sanwo-Olu for always supporting the art, said: "Watching the play KURUMI tonight gave me a nostalgic feeling! It took me back to my theatre arts days at the university. I really do miss the stage!

"Well done to the amazing cast and crew; it was a great watch! Special shout out to the Executive Producer, Gboyega Akosile, and the Artistic Director, Lala."

The staging of the play at the weekend, was supported by the Lagos State Government through the Ministry of Tourism,

Arts and Culture, in its bid to promote the historical heritage and prevent the African culture and traditions from going into extinction, as well as expose and awaken the consciousness of youths to the role of good leadership anywhere they find themselves.

FirstBank, as part of its First@arts initiative to promote the arts, preserve cultural heritage, and provide a platform for creative expression, also supported it.

Other sponsors include Nigerian Breweries Plc, with its Goldberg beer—an attestation of the brand's connection to the culture and tradition of its consumers.





# Plans To Grant Full Autonomy To LASCOHET On Course - Commissioner



The Lagos State Government said it is prioritising plans to grant full administrative autonomy to Lagos State College of Health Technology (LASCOHET) to enhance the Institution's operational efficiency. The Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Mr. Tolani Sule during the Year 2024

Management Retreat of the College, themed: "Creating a Global Standard Learning Culture for Lagos State College of Health Technology," held recently in Maryland, Lagos. Sule reaffirmed Government's commitment to improving the performance of LASCOHET, recognised as the oldest tertiary

Institution in Lagos and Nigeria. He emphasised that granting administrative autonomy is a strategic measure designed to offer the college greater flexibility in its operations and governance. In his words, "Administrative autonomy will allow the institution to

independently handle key aspects such as financial management, academic policies, and staffing decisions in line with best global practices. The goal is to empower LASCOHET to make timely decisions, optimise resources, and continue delivering top-quality Health education to the people of Lagos State". He further highlighted the need for the College to

establish its own employment, promotion, and salary structures, which he believes will help enhance its identity and reputation. The State Government, he added, is actively planning to upgrade the academic and physical infrastructure of LASCOHET to strengthen its role in fostering excellent learning environments. Additionally, Sule assured that the State Government would continue to support the College through funding, infrastructure improvements, and other necessary resources to ensure its success. Echoing the need for institutional improvements, Mr. Lukman Olumoh, Chairman of the Economic Planning & Budget Committee in the Lagos State House of Assembly, advocated for the adoption of technology to improve revenue allocation management. He also stressed the importance of implementing

effective internal control policies and fostering clear communication about institutional programmes, particularly in times of limited resources. In related discussions on improving educational standards, Prof. Banji Fajoyomi of the Department of Public Administration, Lagos State University (LASU), urged institutions to shift focus from grades to more interactive and practical learning experiences. He emphasised the importance of engaging students in classroom discussions, problem-solving, and project presentations. Prof. Fajoyomi also underscored the role of mentorship, stating that lecturers must address the unique needs of individual students through care, empathy, and emotional support. He added that regular workshops, seminars, and research projects are crucial to cultivating a vibrant learning environment.

# Commissioner Charges Town Planners on Masterplan Implementation

The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide has urged Town Planning Officers posted to various MDAs to play their role in ensuring adherence to Physical Development Plans in project implementation. He made this known in Alausa on Friday during an interactive meeting with Town Planning Officers serving in various MDAs. He said that physical planning was the bedrock of any meaningful development and should be so respected by all Ministries, Departments, and

Agencies (MDAs) of government drawing their projects from the provisions of the Master and Model City Plans. He added that posting of Town Planning Officers to strategic MDAs such as Ministries of Transportation, Housing, Agriculture and Waterfront Infrastructure Development as well as the Lands Bureau and Lagos Resilience Office among others was a deliberate policy to ensure that impactful projects were executed in tandem with the provisions of the



Operative Development Plans of the State. "No state or city can

have meaningful, orderly and sustainable development by default but through planning, the

responsibility for which has been vested in the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban

Development", he said. While urging the Planning Officers to make their impacts felt in their respective postings to provide the needed professional services and guidance, he said that the Ministry would not relent in its efforts to provide the enabling environment for better performance. He expressed confidence that the interactive session, which would now be held every month to review activities and compare notes, would go a long way in repositioning physical planning in allied MDAs.



# WTD 2024: Lagos Emphasises Role of Tourism in Fostering Global Harmony

The Lagos State Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka has emphasised the pivotal role that tourism plays in promoting global harmony and understanding, highlighting the unique ability of the tourism sector to act as a catalyst for peace, bridging divides by bringing people from diverse backgrounds together.

The Commissioner stated this during the celebration of the World Tourism Day (WTD) in Lagos jointly held in partnership with Sterling Bank at Muri Okunola Park, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Benson-Awoyinka said that the tourism sector's collaboration with Sterling Bank is a testament to the power of partnerships in driving the growth of this vital sector.

Through this joint effort, she said that the state hopes to strengthen the narrative of tourism as a path to peace and reconciliation,



demonstrating how tourism can create opportunities for sustainable development while bringing people closer together.

Speaking on this year's theme for the annual event: "Tourism and Peace", the Commissioner noted that visitors from around the world explore different lands, meet new people, and experience diverse cultures, they engage in an exchange that promotes mutual respect, tolerance, and friendship.

She explained that through this cross-cultural interaction, barriers are broken and the common threads of humanity are revealed,

fostering a sense of unity that transcends borders.

According to her, Lagos, a melting pot of cultures and traditions, is not only committed to leveraging tourism as an economic driver but also as a vehicle for peacebuilding.

In line with this, the Commissioner reiterated the Lagos State Government's dedication to expanding its tourism sector, promoting the city's rich history, cultural heritage, and vibrant arts scene.

She disclosed that tourism in Lagos goes beyond sightseeing, as it serves as a means of creating mutual

understanding and respect among visitors and locals alike.

Benson-Awoyinka, therefore, urged all stakeholders to embrace the opportunities tourism presents for fostering peace, mutual respect, and understanding across borders, in line with global efforts to build a more peaceful and tolerant world.

Speaking in the same vein, the Special Adviser on Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Idris Aregbe maintained that the chosen topic for this year's WTD comes at a time when Lagos is investing heavily in infrastructure to boost its tourism industry.

He said that from the ongoing restoration of

heritage sites to the promotion of cultural festivals and eco-tourism, Lagos is positioning itself as a hub for both leisure and cultural tourism, with an added emphasis on peacebuilding.

During a presentation made by HRM Oba Abdulwasilu Omogbolahan Lawal, CON, the Oniru of Iru-land, the royal father explored the profound link between tourism and peace, especially in the context of Lagos State, while drawing from global examples.

He emphasised that tourism, when strategically developed, can serve as a key driver for economic development and peace, using Paul Collier's theory on conflict and peace as a foundational framework.

Oba Lawal informed that tourism creates economic opportunities, fosters cultural understanding, and reduces conflicts. This has been demonstrated in the Iru Kingdom through cultural festivals like the Ejiwa Elegba festival, which unite communities and attract global visitors,

thus promoting peace. He maintained that Lagos, with its rich cultural heritage and beachfront potential, has immense opportunities to boost tourism for economic growth, adding that strategic investments in infrastructure and the promotion of responsible tourism practices are essential for transforming the sector and promoting lasting peace.

The Minister of Tourism, Lola Ade-John, who was represented by the Special Adviser on Policy, Mrs. Jibike Teniola, commended the Lagos State Government and Sterling Bank for partnering to promote tourism as a tool for peace.

"Tourism is a bridge between people and culture. Nigeria, with over 250 ethnic groups, can use tourism to bring unity in diversity. The world, through tourism, fosters dialogue and collaboration. Tourism breaks down barriers", the Minister said.

Ade-John, therefore, called on the Ministry of Education to include tourism and history in the school curriculum.

# Lagos Moves To Integrate Ikorodu Heritage Trail Into UNESCO Recognised Sites

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture has moved to integrate three of the Ikorodu Heritage Trail into a tentative list of 14 sites recognised by UNESCO as key officials visited Ikorodu on Tuesday

The Honourable Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka disclosed this when she led a high-powered delegation of Ministry Officials that included the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Mrs. Oloruntoyin Atekoja alongside the Heritage Consultant to the Ministry, Mr. Gbolahan Ajala and some French investors, including Regis Charpentier, President of WinWinAfrique, to meet with key stakeholders in Ikorodu

Division Benson-Awoyinka and the team also met with the six Obas of the six major towns of the Ikorodu kingdom in the Palace of the Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Kabiru Shotobi, where they disclosed the purpose of the visit.

The Honorable Commissioner, while speaking during the meeting, appealed to the Traditional Rulers and their Chiefs to trust the process of what the State Government wants to do because it will be for the benefit and upliftment of the Ikorodu Division of the State.

Speaking further, she said the Lagos State Government seeks their support because the Ikorodu Division has a lot of heritage



sites and traditional festivals that can be documented and calendarized to boost tourism in Ikorodu town.

According to her, she wants people all around the world to know the symbolic nature of Eyo, Agere, Igunnuko and Agemo masquerades, stressing the fact that the Eyo masquerade is

not the only masquerade in Lagos State.

Benson-Awoyinka also used the opportunity to inform the Royal Fathers that the Yoruba Heritage Week will come up in November this year, and it will be a one-week-long celebration of our Yoruba culture tradition and heritage.

On his part, the Odofin of Ikorodu Chief Adewunmi Ogunsanya, who stood in

for his Royal Majesty the Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Kabiru Shotobi, said he appreciated the coming of the Honourable Commissioner and her team for remembering the Ikorodu Division at this time, adding that the Ikorodu people have long awaited them and are ready for them as well and that there would be a committee to work with the Ministry's team

to execute the project. The Local Government Chairman of Ikorodu West, Honourable Wasiu Adeshina, who also hosted the team, appreciated the Honourable Commissioner and others for coming. He said that Ikorodu Local Government is rich in culture and can also play host to tourist attractions.

Traditional rulers present at the meeting included the Oba of Igbogbo, Oba Abdulsemiu Kasali; Oba of Imota, Oba Ajibade Bakare Agoro; Oba of Egbin and Oba Abdul-Hakeem Oyebo, amongst other Chiefs and traditional title holders.

Tourism sites visited included the Old Obas Palace and the different traditional worship houses.



# Court To Prosecute Gang For Stealing 100m Jewellery

By Felix Kuyinu



The Lagos State Special Offences Court has pronounced a female house help, Funmilayo Olawale, to be dragged for trial over accusation of theft of a jewellery worth N100,000,000. The court judge, Rahman Oshodi, directed the Kirikiri Female Correctional Centre to produce the suspect alongside five other alleged

accomplices in the act.

The judge issued the directive after Olawale failed to appear at the court on Tuesday for re-arraignment.

According to reports,

the suspect alongside others, Mbadike Aloysius, Ben Dimgba, Emmanuel Eze, Mukaila Husein and Henry Ochoma were at first arraigned on January 19, 2024. They were later re-arraigned on March 4, 2024 on nine counts, bordering on conspiracy, stealing, breaking and entering, burglary, receiving stolen property, and impersonating as money doubler.

Prosecuting counsel, DSP Henry Obiazi, informed the court that the defendants, along with others who are still at large, conspired to commit the offences sometime in June 2023 in Banana Island, Ikoyi, Lagos.

Obiazi further stated that

explained that Olawale, a Benin Republic national and mother of three, allegedly stole eight boxes of jewellery from her employer.

The Prosecutor said, "The first defendant, Olawale, broke into the complainant's residence on June 7, 2023, stole the jewellery, and then fled the scene.

"Aloysius, Dimgba, and Ochoma conspired to receive the stolen property, knowing it had been stolen from the employer's residence.

"Husein conspired with one Yusuf Adamu, who is still at large, to receive the stolen property from Eze, who was described as the leader of a criminal syndicate.

Obiazi also added,

"Aloysius, Dimgba, Eze, and Ochoma falsely presented themselves as individuals capable of using sorcery to increase any sum of money.

"They claimed to be able to produce currency by treating paper or other material with chemical substances.

"The offences contravened Sections 516, 390(6), 411(1)(2), and 427 of the Criminal Code 2004, as well as Section 8(a) of the Advance Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences Act 2006.

The defendants pleaded not guilty.

The judge adjourned the case till December 3.

## Lagos CJ Advocates State Courts Prosecution Against Cybercrime

By Felix Kuyinu



The Chief Judge of Lagos State, Kazeem Alogba, has called for the need for state courts to handle cases of cybercrime.

The state's CJ while week during the opening of the 2024/25 New Legal Year disclosed that the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, Etc.) Act which allows only federal high courts to

prosecute cybercrime offenders could be overwhelming.

While recommending an all round jurisdiction in handling the cases, Alogba said, "Jurisdiction needs to go round all the courts because, very soon, like what interlocutory appeals have done to our appellate courts, these issues of cybercrimes will hit a lot of blows on our federal courts if they are left alone to handle

them.

"They will be overwhelmed in a very short time. There is a need for a more inclusive approach in tackling cybercrime.

"Cyber criminals are often ahead of security operatives and the public in their schemes, making it crucial for all stakeholders to collaborate in addressing the menace."

## Lagos Targets More Referral Centres For Sexual Crime Survivors

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State Government has informed that there are plans to increase referral centres for victims of Sexual and Gender Based Violence, SGBV.

The state's Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, said that more referral centres are needed in order to tackle the menace of SGBV to ensure quite justice service to the survivors.

Sanwo-Olu, who was represented by his wife and first lady of the state, Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, disclosed this during the 2024 Governor's Commendation and Awards Night, organized by the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency, DSVVA.

At the event held this week in Ikeja, Sanwo-Olu mentioned that the state only has three referral centres. He noted that the move became necessary due to the high number of cases and population in the state.

"We have 20 local governments here, so it is not enough because there are a lot of cases," said the Governor.

"We are dealing with 20 million citizens in Lagos State, and we are still counting. I am not saying all the 20 million citizens are the victims, but you can imagine, if you do the statistics and the numbers, the announcement they made, the number of cases is over 6,000, and I am sure there are many more out there that have not yet been recorded.

"But what I am happy about is that people are speaking up now. People are reporting cases. The blame and shame game is going on. The sex offenders register is being utilized."

He added, "Since the inception of the DSVVA in 2014, the Lagos state government had shown unwavering determination to provide holistic support to victims of domestic and sexual violence while holding perpetrators accountable.

"The sexual and gender-based violence is one of the gravest barriers to achieving gender equality. Hence, the government will not allow such in the state.

"The fight against SGBV requires the participation of everyone, religious leaders; community heads; families and individuals alike. It is not just the responsibility of the government or the agency; it is a collective

endeavour.

"We must continue to strengthen our legal frameworks, expand our support systems, and most importantly, break the culture of silence that allows abuse to persist."

He described the efforts of the DSVVA as extraordinary, and added, "The work done in the past year alone speaks volumes, receiving over 6,000 cases, providing critical legal and psychosocial support, and engaging over a million people across the state in advocacy and education.

"As we mark ten years of DSVVA's relentless service, I pledge that my administration will continue to support and invest in initiatives that protect our people, particularly the most vulnerable, our women, our children and marginalized groups.

"We will continue to raise awareness, provide resources and ensure that justice is served for every survivor.

"To every survivor who has shown immense courage in coming forward, you are the reason we do what we do, and we will not rest until every form of violence is eradicated from our society."



# Aguiyi Ironsi Spare Parts Markets Takes New Dimensions As Bamigboye Wades In

Kehinde Adeleye

**A**s the Aguiyi Ironsi Spare Parts Market in Ladipo, Mushin Local Government Area, grapples with a leadership crisis, the Chairman, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has taken decisive steps to address the situation. In preparation for the upcoming market executives' election, Bamigboye has issued directives to leaders and members of various groups within the market.

At a meeting held last week, stakeholders, including members of the Executive Council of the market, convened to discuss the ongoing crisis and voice their concerns. Each group had the opportunity to present their grievances and perspectives on the current state of leadership.

To promote transparency and inclusivity, Bamigboye ordered the election committee to permit traders

possessing either old or new identity cards to operate within the market.

Furthermore, he demanded the immediate reversal of recent amendments to the market association's constitution made by the current chairman.

In addition to these measures, Bamigboye has also taken steps to alleviate financial burdens on traders and customers.

Echonews gathered that this decision aims to protect traders and customers from potential exploitation by individuals or groups claiming to act on behalf of the Mushin Local Government.

After listening to their submissions, and other deliberations at the meeting, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye gave the following directives as solution to the lingering crisis in preparation for the coming election, to usher in new executives in the coming election:-

1. That the constitution should be amended to allow the tenure of the



Executives last for least three (3) years, to replace the two (2) year term which is currently being used in running the affairs of the Market Association.

2. That Indigenes should be included among the Executives of the Market Association.

3. That the Local Government has to go through the constitution, for clarity and make it understandable to everyone in the market.

4. That a new Electoral Committee should be established for the Market association, to comprise nine (9) members (4 from the current Chairman of the Market Association, 3 from the other faction while the Local Government will also provide 2)

5. That the Electoral Committee should allow traders with both the old and new Identity Cards, to operate in the market.

6. That new amendments made by the incumbent

chairman in the constitution of the Market Association should be reversed.

7. The Electoral Committee should do its work with all necessary transparency and there should be accountability.

8. For neutrality and objectivity; one of the representatives of the Local Government in the Electoral Committee should head the Electoral Committee.

9. The names of all the Contestants and the members nominated (by the different groups/parties) to serve

in the Electoral Commission should be submitted to the appropriate authority.

10. The electoral process should include shop to shop enumeration for the election.

As the situation continues to evolve, the Mushin Local Government, market union leaders, and other stakeholders remain committed to resolving the crisis and restoring stability to the Aguiyi Ironsi Spare Parts Market.

## Education District Award Excites Ajala



By Saheed Afolabi

**C**hairman of Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, Mr Rasaq Ajala has been impressed with the evergreen award he was given by the Lagos State Education District IV. The Lagos State Education District IV Oshodi recently held its 18th annual merit award where teachers,

students, non teaching staff and erudite dignitaries were honored for their exemplary professionalism and contributions to the educational sector. Ajala was excited over the award he earned from the Education District IV as he complimented the educational sector for rewarding excellence.

He further earmarked the award to the Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCDA for standing by him in delivering quality governance to the residents. "I was honored with the Evergreen merit Award yesterday by the Lagos State Government Education District 6 at its Annual Merit Award for 2024," he said. "The award is the

recognition of individuals, organizations, public office holders who have contributed to the development of education within the district over the years. "I will not take this award for granted as the reward for good work is more work. "This award is not for me alone but the entire team in Odiolowo-Ojuwoye LCDA.



# Electricity: Mushin Community Reject Planned Migration To Band A, Amidst Hike In Tariff

Kehinde Adeleye

The residents of Ilasamaja community in Mushin Local Government Area of Lagos State have united in opposition against Eko Electricity Distribution Company's (EKDC) proposed migration of their electricity tariff from Band B to Band A. In a petition addressed to the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of EKDC, the community has expressed their intent to resist the move using all legal means at their disposal.

This unified stance reflects the community's concern over the potential impact of such a tariff change on their access to affordable electricity. As the situation develops, it remains to be seen how EKDC will respond to the community's concerns and whether a compromise can be reached that satisfies both parties.

To further underscore their opposition to the proposed electricity tariff migration from Band B to Band A, the Ilasamaja community in Mushin Local Government Area has not only sent a petition to the Eko Electricity Distribution Company (EKDC) but also distributed copies to key stakeholders, including the National



Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), the Lagos State House of Assembly, and the Lagos State Commissioner of Police.

Echonews reports that this move signifies the community's determination to bring attention to their frustrations and unwillingness to accept the tariff change. By involving these important entities in their plea, the residents of Ilasamaja aim to ensure that their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed by those who have the power to influence the situation.

"We are leaders of all Community Development Associations (CDAs) representing the

residents of Ilasamaja, Mushin Local Government Area of Lagos State. We have it on good authority that there are sinister plans to forcefully migrate us from Band B to Band A. We reject this plan and will resist it with everything at our disposal. We have already informed our lawyers to be on red alert for any eventuality."

The community leaders further warned that while they are peaceful, they would not hesitate to take legal action if the EKDC proceeds with the move.

"We are a peace-loving community, but we will not take our

peaceful disposition as cowardice. We will bite without hesitation if you put your hands into our mouth. This evil and unwarranted plan to move us from one band to another forcefully must be jettisoned if you do not want to see the other side of us. We don't want any movement to any Band A. It was bad enough that you put us on Band 'B' without consultation, but forcing us to Band A will definitely be a joke taken too far."

According to the petition, residents have been facing exploitation ever since they were placed on Band B without prior consultation. They alleged that many

community members have been billed according to Band A's higher tariff system despite ongoing protests and complaints.

"Ever since you forcefully and wickedly put us on Band B, many of the residents of the community have since discovered that you have surreptitiously been billing them through Band A system. Despite complaints and protests, you have greedily refused to rectify or address their complaints and the problem. You cannot force us to swallow the evil and wicked pills of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that have not only inflicted unbearable suffering and poverty on the citizens but continue

to kill our small and medium enterprises among others."

The petition highlighted the economic struggles of the Ilasamaja residents, which include low-income earners, petty traders, and retirees.

"You are aware that the residents of Ilasamaja community are mostly peasants, petty traders, lowly paid workers, retirees, and others struggling to earn a living who barely manage to take care of themselves and their responsibilities. The last thing they need is an exploitative electricity tariff that would worsen their living conditions.



# Residents Praise Mushin Chairman For Transformative Achievements

By Saheed Afolabi

**M**ushin Local Government Chairman, Mr Emmanuel Bamigboye, was lauded for his significant contributions to the community during a recent appearance on Radio Lagos 107.5FM's "Lagbo Oselu" program. Callers praised Bamigboye for his numerous projects that have improved the quality of life for Mushin residents. A caller highlighted the reconstruction of Ladipo Road with interlocking stones, a major commercial hub in the area. Another commended the newly completed Office Annex, which will house federal and state agencies,

making it easier for residents to obtain passports and driver's licenses. Bamigboye also discussed his efforts to promote peace and security in Mushin through partnerships with community leaders and law enforcement. He explained the rationale behind using modern interlocking stones for road construction, citing Ladipo Road, Balogun Street, Omodigbo Street, Olaseninde Street, and upcoming projects on Yusuf Street and Olafimihan Street as examples. Addressing concerns from residents about limited GCE and JAMB allocations, Bamigboye clarified that forms were



distributed through traditional leaders, community leaders, religious groups, and social groups. He emphasized that priority was given to indigent students who couldn't afford to purchase the forms. The chairman also responded to a caller's request for operational vehicles for artisans, advising them to unite under a single umbrella to be recognized and supported as a collective body. Before the program concluded, Bamigboye expressed gratitude to his council members for their support in achieving his vision of transforming Mushin.

## ALIMOSHO NEWS

# Lagos Lawmaker Facilitates 5000KVA Transformer To Ayanwale/Boltex Community

Kehinde Adeleye

**T**he Ayanwale/Boltex Community in Ikotun was filled with a sense of optimism as the community received a precious gift – a 500KVA Transformer facilitated by Mr. Kehinde Olaide Joseph, Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, representing Alimosho Constituency II. Echonews gathered that the transformer, made possible through the office of the Special Adviser on Rural Development, Dr. Nurudeen Yekinni Agbaje, is a testament to Mr. Joseph's dedication

to ensuring that his constituents benefit from the dividends of democracy and good representation. Valued at 500KVA, the transformer is designed to provide an efficient and reliable power supply to the community, boosting economic activities and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. In response to this generous gesture, residents of Ayanwale/Boltex Community expressed their heartfelt gratitude, acknowledging the transformative impact it will have on their daily



lives. This initiative, among others, highlights Hon. Kehinde Olaide Joseph's relentless efforts to address the needs of his constituents and drive positive change in Alimosho Constituency II. The Lawmaker commended Dr. Agbaje for utilizing his office to address the needs of his constituents. "Dr. Agbaje's support has been instrumental in making this project a reality. I am grateful for his commitment to our community," he maintained



# Raji Begins Pobo Market Reconstruction

By Mohammed Adekola

In a significant step toward improving the socioeconomic landscape of the Poka community in Eredo LCDA, House of representative member representing Epe Federal Constituency I, Hon. Wale Raji brought his promise of supporting small and medium enterprises to life. The historic Pobo market, named after the wife of the community's progenitor Urakaloye, is now undergoing a complete reconstruction, much to the excitement of local traders. "It's truly a dream come true for

us," said one trader, beaming with joy. "This market means everything to our community, and seeing the construction begin fills us with hopes for better business opportunities." The market, a symbol of the community's economic vitality, quickly became a hub of activity as construction crews were mobilized to begin work on the foundation. Engineers at the site meticulously lined and pegged the foundation and started the digging process, ensuring the new stalls will be built to last. Located centrally within the community, the market will host both



local and modern businesses, serving not only Poka but also neighboring areas such as Odomola, Iraye, Odogbonle, Odo-Egiri, Imokun, and Odo-Noforija. The market will also meet the needs of nearby hospitality businesses, academic institutions, and healthcare facilities. Wale Raji noted that "I assure everyone that this project will be completed on time. All necessary logistics, including funding, have been sorted. This market will not only benefit our traders but will also be a testament to the power of good legislative oversight."

# Epe LG Begins Construction Of Museum And Library

By Mohammed Adekola

The Chairman of Epe Local Government, Hon. Princess Surah Animashaun has performed a unique groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a building for museum and library centres in Epe Local Government. In her speech at the event, Animashaun disclosed that creating a museum within Epe Local Government Area (LGA) is crucial for safeguarding and preserving cultural heritage and displaying the rich cultural history to the outside world. The museum will serve as a repository of collective and shared

memories, containing relics, exhibits, and interactions that tell the story of the community's evolution and monumental development. "By opening up Epe for tourism through museums, we can spread our unique and distinct cultural heritage with people from different places and walks of life, encouraging mutual understanding and interaction. This will not just boost residents' pride but will also help the local economy by increasing tourism revenue". The museum, she said, will equally serve as a valuable educational tool for children, giving them

hands-on learning opportunities that will bring history to life. She noted that Students can develop a stronger sense of belonging and deepen their cultural roots by exploring the museum's artefacts. Animashaun added that, in turn, will motivate a new generation of leaders, innovators and influencers who are ready to mould the future of the society to

attain a global pedestal. In her words, "Setting up a contemporary library is essential for 21st-century education. The library will provide an extensive range and collection of digital and print resources, such as e-books, online databases, and multimedia materials. This will allow students and researchers to

access a vast amount of information, conduct research, and enhance critical thinking skills". She added, the library will offer a collaborative learning space, furnished with state-of-the-art technology, facilitating group work, idea sharing and discovery of innovative concept, "By establishing a museum and setting up a contemporary library, we can create a vibrant

cultural and intellectual centre that enriches the experiences of both our locals and tourists alike. "These establishments will not just protect and preserve our history but also foster a culture of learning, creativity, and advancement that will propel our LGA forward", the Chairman stated.





# Lagos State Lottery And Gaming Authority Hands Over PHC To Ibeju-Lekki LG

By Mohammed Adekola

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Chairman, Egnr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa officially took possession of the Adesalu Modern Primary Health Care Center (PHC) located at Desa Community, which was facilitated by the Lagos State Lottery and Gaming Authority on behalf of the Lagos State Government. Egnr. Olowa who was elated by the recent development,

appreciated the Lagos State Governor, Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu who was represented by the CEO of the Lagos State Lottery and Gaming Authority, Mr. Bashir Abiola Are, for presenting the magnificent edifice as it will serve communities like Desa, Bankole, Alatishe, Onosa, and other adjoining communities and by extension, the entire Local Government Area. Mr. Abiola Are in his speech hampered on the need for collaborative



partnership with needed service to the Government in order people as he used the to help bring the much moment to call on Corporate Organizations to do same as he succinctly puts it that, Government alone cannot bear the burdens.

# Anomo Begins Construction of Police Officers' Quarters in Ketu-Ereyun

By Mohammed Adekola

Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, laid foundation for Officers' Quarters at Ketu-Ereyun Police Station. This significant move aims to improve security infrastructure within the LCDA. The groundbreaking ceremony drew notable crowd of community leaders and stakeholders, Anomo underscored the importance of the project for local law enforcement. "As a Council, we are committed to making it easier for security

officials to carry out their responsibilities. Their comfort directly impacts the safety of our people, and we must ensure they have the necessary resources to serve with efficiency," Anomo said. He also revealed that a similar initiative will begin at the Agbowa Police Station once the Ketu-Ereyun project is completed. The council's commitment to supporting local police efforts extends beyond the construction of quarters. Recently, 3.5KvA generators were donated to both Ketu-Ereyun and



Agbowa police stations to address power shortages that had hampered police operations. CSP Idungafa Nsidibe, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ketu-Ereyun, expressed his gratitude to the Chairman, noting the impact of the project on officer morale. "This gesture will undoubtedly enhance the productivity of the officers. On behalf of the entire force, I assure you that we will reciprocate this kindness by delivering efficient and effective service to the community," he said.



# Omoni Oboli Sets to Make Cinematic Return After Five-Year break

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**A**claimed actress and filmmaker Omoni Oboli is making her highly anticipated return to the big screen with her latest film, 'The Uprising' set to hit cinemas across the nation on 18th October. In an Instagram post, Omoni shared a touching video featuring her family, expressing her gratitude for the time she has spent prioritising her loved ones. She wrote, "Everyone who knows me knows that family will always come first! Over the last few months, I've been

completely focused on caring for my grandbaby, Naya, and my entire family. I've enjoyed every moment of it more than anything else." Turning her attention to her upcoming film, she continued, "Now it's time for The Uprising! Get ready to see a lot of me! The film will be in all cinemas nationwide from 18th October. "As we count down to the premiere and release of The Uprising, My dear friends, I ask for your support. It's been five years since my last cinema outing, and

while I'm excited, I've got butterflies in my stomach and I'm feeling a little nervous. I need you to keep cheering me on! "Let's take this journey together. I can't do it without you! By the grace of God, let's make history together! Always remember that I love you." The Uprising promises to be an unforgettable cinematic experience, marking Omoni Oboli's triumphant return to the silver screen after her five-year break.



# Reminisce Gears Up for "Sui Generis" EP Release with Two New Singles

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**N**igerian rap icon Reminisce has dropped two powerful new singles, "Up As Fxck" and "Kupe", in the lead-up to his highly anticipated EP, Sui Generis. The release of these tracks has heightened excitement for the EP, which is set to drop on September 27. The Sui Generis EP will feature seven tracks, showcasing Reminisce's



signature style and lyrical depth. The project also boasts collaborations with notable artists like Bhadboi OML and Vector Tha Viper, adding to the EP's appeal. This marks Reminisce's seventh release in a career that has spanned nearly two decades. Throughout his career, Reminisce has established himself as one of Nigeria's most respected hip-hop artists, known for his ability to fuse traditional Nigerian

sounds with rap. He played a pivotal role in popularizing indigenous hip-hop with hit songs like "Local Rappers." The Sui Generis EP is expected to delve into significant themes, including social issues and personal experiences, cementing Reminisce's reputation for meaningful and thought-provoking lyrics.



# Lawmaker Presents 250 Free GCE Slips To Indigent Students In Ifako-Ijaiye

Kehinde Adelewe

In line with the vision to make Ifako-Ijaiye the most educated local government in Nigeria by 2037, Mr. Adewale Temitope Adedeji, representing Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency I, took a significant step forward by distributing 250 free GCE (General Certificate of Education) slips to underprivileged students in the Ifako-Ijaiye community. The distribution event, which took place at the Constituency Office in Unity Centre, Elliot, witnessed the gathering of students, educators, and prominent community and religious leaders. During the presentation,

Mr. Adewale Temitope reiterated his commitment to advancing education in Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency I. "Education is the foundation upon which we build our future," he stated. "I believe every student deserves access to the tools they need to succeed, and these GCE slips are a small step toward ensuring that every child can reach their full potential. In Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency 01, our goal remains the same - to make Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government the most educated in Nigeria by 2037. We

are on the right track to achieving this and I once again assure you that I remain committed to this goal." He also encouraged the beneficiaries to take their studies seriously and make the most of the opportunities available to them. Under the Adewale Temitope Adedeji Educational Initiatives (ATA-EI), Mr. Adewale Temitope has provided a total of 855 free GCE forms, 4,100 free JAMB forms, scholarships to 49 students, rehabilitation of public schools in Ifako-Ijaiye, donation of educational support materials to students, among other initiatives.



# Ifako Ijaiye LG Graduates Over 70 Participants In Digital Marketing & Graphic Design

Kehinde Adelewe



In a commendable move, Ifako Ijaiye Hamzat, recently Local Government, organized a graduation ceremony for youth and individuals living with

disabilities who completed courses in digital marketing and graphic design. The event, held on

September 30th at the council secretariat in partnership with GIZ, witnessed the empowerment of over seventy participants. The graduation ceremony was graced by distinguished guests, further elevating its significance. Representing the Executive council chairman, Vice Chairman Mrs. Oluwatoyin Akerele attended the event, along with council manager Mr. Akeem Adesanya and GIZ representative Mrs. Sandra Alonge. Their presence demonstrated the strong support and collaborative efforts between Ifako Ijaiye

Local Government, the council, and GIZ in promoting inclusive opportunities for the community. In addition, councillors, supervisors, and management staff played an instrumental role in organizing the event, working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure its success. Their collective dedication and hard work are commendable, as they contributed to the seamless execution of the ceremony and the recognition of the participants' accomplishments. Certificates were awarded to the graduants and laptops were generously distributed to the top five outstanding students: Olatuji Taiwo, Moses

Adams, Micheal Chidoze Oisagoje, Abosede Shittu, and Yusuf Oyinlola Ganiyat. The Vice Chairman encouraged the students to utilize this opportunity to further their careers and expand their knowledge, emphasizing the importance of giving back to society. This event marks a momentous occasion in the history of Ifako Ijaiye Local Government, showcasing a commitment to empowering and supporting the youth and individuals with disabilities. Congratulations to all the graduates, and may this achievement be the beginning of a successful and fulfilling journey in the fields of digital marketing and graphic design.



# LASUSTECH Student Wins Fatima Garbati Tourism Outreach Grant

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**N**wankpa-Vincent Odinakachi Juliet, a student from the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management (THM) at Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH), has been honored with the prestigious Fatima Garbati Tourism Outreach Grant. The award was presented at the 20th Akwaaba African Travel Market, the largest gathering of tourism professionals in West Africa, which took place at Eko Hotels Convention Centre, Lagos.

Juliet, who is a 100-

level student of the department, was recognized for her academic excellence and dedication to the tourism industry.

The Fatima Garbati Tourism Outreach, named in honor of the late Fatima Garbati, a prominent figure in Nigeria's tourism sector, aims to empower the next generation of tourism leaders across the country.

The Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management at LASUSTECH, led by Head of Department Dr. Juliette Fashakin, was also commended for its role in nurturing

leadership in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

The department and Juliet won a grant of N200,000, which was equally divided between the department and Juliet, in recognition of their combined contributions to the growth of Nigeria's tourism industry.

In an interview after the award presentation, Juliet expressed her delight and appreciation, stating, "Receiving the grant feels surreal, to be honest. If I was told a year ago that I would win a grant in my first year, I probably would not have believed it. I am immensely

grateful and ecstatic." She stated that her motivation stems from her family's sacrifices and support, which have spurred her to maintain an excellent academic record, with a CGPA of 4.68.

Discussing her passion, Juliet said, "The hospitality sector is where most of my passion lies. This grant has provided me with the financial support necessary to continue my educational journey, and I am deeply appreciative." She also noted the untapped potential of Nigeria's tourism industry, advising aspiring tourism professionals to "find their niche in the

industry and develop it."

Addressing one of the key challenges in Nigeria's tourism sector, Juliet remarked, "Travel for pleasure and vacations are not common among the Nigerian middle class. Making it more affordable would be a significant step in addressing this issue. In the future, God willing, the hospitality services I offer will be affordable for the middle class." Juliet also took the opportunity to thank her Head of Department, Dr. Juliette Fashakin, stating, "Mrs. Fashakin is one of the best women I have ever met. She supports and motivates my colleagues and me

every step of the way and ensures that any problem we brought to her is solved. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity she has given me."

The award was presented during the Youth Tourism Bantaba segment of the Akwaaba Travel Market event, which also featured sessions such as the Calabar Carnival, medical tourism awareness, and a keynote address by Nigeria's Minister for Tourism.

Juliet and her colleagues had the opportunity to tour the event, visiting booths from international airlines, tour operators, and travel agencies, including MTN, the event's headline sponsor.





# Adekanye's Education District 2 Emerges Most Outstanding In Lagos

Kehinde Adeleye

In a moment of celebration for the Lagos education community, Mrs. Adekanye Anike, the Permanent Secretary of Education District 2, was honored with the prestigious Governor's Commendation for Institutional Excellence as the Most Outstanding Education District in Lagos State.

Under Mrs. Adekanye Anike's visionary leadership, Education District 2 has experienced significant progress, particularly in raising awareness of

gender-based violence issues and fostering a safe, inclusive learning environment for all students. Her tireless efforts and commitment to excellence have not only contributed to the district's success but have also set a standard for educational institutions across Lagos State.

As the recipient of this distinguished award, Mrs. Adekanye Anike has solidified her position as a leader in the field of education, inspiring both her colleagues and the community at large. Her achievements serve as a shining example of the

transformative impact that dedicated educators can have on the lives of students and the betterment of society as a whole.

The glamorous event, tagged Governor's Commendation & Awards Night, took place at Marriott Hotel, Ikeja on 30th September, 2024.

Receiving the award, Mrs. Adekanye expressed heartfelt gratitude to Governor Babajide Olusola Babajide Sanwo-Olu, and his amiable wife Dr Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, appreciating their

that propel her passion to elevate the standards of education in Education District 2 and contribute to the holistic growth of students across Lagos.

Adekanye equally thanked the Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Dr Obafemi Hamzat, and his wife, Mrs. Remi Hamzat, for doing so much for Lagos Education, and particularly for always supporting education development.

She appreciated, most profoundly, the Head of Service of Lagos State, Mr. Shuaheeb Olabode Agoro, for being the leader of leaders, and an amazing inspiration to follow.

The #GameChanger also expressed her appreciation for the leadership of the Honourable Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun, whose encouragement and support have been crucial to the various achievements of Education District 2. His consistent backing has made the district a key

player in driving educational innovation and safeguarding students from societal challenges like domestic and sexual violence.

Adekanye later appreciated development partners and education stakeholders for their support.

She commended Mrs. Adeniyi Bolanle, the District Counselor, for her dedication and brilliance in delivering exceptional services to students and her role in GBV awareness campaigns and implementations. Mrs. Adekanye highlighted that the collaborative efforts of the entire district team have ensured the protection and welfare of children in schools.

Reflecting on the #GameChanger's journey as TG/PS; Adekanye has made courageous efforts in human and infrastructure improvement, achieved significant student and staff performance, and made enormous contribution in integrating technology into the learning process.

Over the past years, Mrs. Anike Adekanye has

achieved remarkable milestones, including producing ONE-DAY GOVERNORS, ONE-DAY DEPUTY GOVERNORS of Lagos State, and multiple winners of National/state Teachers' & Administrators' Awards. The #GameChanger has remarkably produced:

1. 3 One-day Governors & 2 One-day Deputy Governors Of Lagos State!

2. One-day Governor Winners Back To Back!

3. Winners Of Teachers/administrators' National Awards In 3 Years

4. 2017 One Day Governor & One Day Deputy Governor Of Lagos State!

5. 2018 One Day Deputy Governor Of Lagos State!

6. 2020 One Day Governor of Lagos State!

7. 2021 One Day Governor Of Lagos State!

8. 2019 Overall Best Teacher In Nigeria!

9. 2020 Best Public Senior Secondary School In Nigeria!

10. 2021 Best Senior Secondary School Teacher In Nigeria!

11. 2023 Overall Best Public School Administrator In Nigeria.

Among other notable achievements.



exemplary leadership and deep commitment to the development of education in Lagos State.

She emphasized how serving under the Governor's vision-driven administration is both a privilege and an inspiration

## LAGOS ISLAND

# Muibi Committed To Transforming Lagos

## Island East LCDA

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Muibi Folawiyo has reiterated his commitment in delivering good governance to the residents.

The council chairman made the remarks shortly after winning the best performing chairman award in Lagos state through the Yomafa Global Awards.

Folawiyo said he's elated to win the individual award which is a testament to his achievements as council chairman and relentless effort in uplifting the status of Lagos Island East LCDA with continued transformation.

"I am honored to announce that I have been recognized as the best performing chairman in Lagos State at the prestigious

Yomafa Global Awards, an annual celebration that highlights global icons, dignitaries and change-makers who leave an indelible mark on the world," he said.

"While I could not be physically present at the event, my able lieutenants, led by the LIELCDA Vice Chairman, Tosin Balogun, represented me with pride and

commitment.

"This accolade is yet another shining testament to our relentless dedication to uplifting Lagos Island East LCDA and delivering on the promises we made to the great people of Lagos Island East LCDA.

"We are deeply grateful for this recognition and I assure you all that we remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence, service, and the continued transformation of Lagos Island East."





# Water Project: Badagry Residents Praise Founder of Sanctuary Orphanage

By Saheed Afolabi



**B**adagry residents have lauded the initiative of the Sanctuary Orphanage for installing a water project in the community.

The Sanctuary

Orphanage Founder, Oluwaseyi Babatunde, commissioned a community water project in Hundeyin Quarters, aimed at improving the standard of living for residents.

Babatunde said the purpose of providing water to the community is to ensure the availability of water to everyone and also enhance healthy hygiene.

"To provide water for all, enhancing the community's quality of life."

He disclosed that the foundation plans to execute four additional water projects for next year, ensuring sustained impact.

He further explained that the water project would be strategically located within family compounds for effective monitoring and maintenance by the community.

Residents of the community praised Babatunde's philanthropic efforts while highlighting the importance of the water facility to their community.

## ASSEMBLY

# Lawmaker Promises Educational Welfare In Ifako-Ijaiye

By Felix Kuyinu

**L**awmaker representing Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency 01 at the Lagos House of Assembly, Adewale Temitope, has promised to facilitate more educational welfare in the community.

Temitope, while giving our free 250 GCE forms to shortlisted recipients in the area on

Wednesday reiterated his pledge to continue fulfilling his promise to make the community the foremost educated part in the state.

The legislator hinted that he has already distributed over 4000 JAMB forms and another 1,200 GCE forms to students within the constituency alongside free tutorial classes for a total of 8716 candidates for

the examinations.

He said: "Over 857 students have been given free admissions into tertiary institutions across the country while 49 outstanding students are beneficiaries of my scholarship scheme."

"Currently, 615 adults are in adult education programmes. It is exciting to note that out of this figure, 50 outstanding adults

have been registered for the NECO exams.

"We have also renovated the Ogundimu Primary School, the Fagba Grammar School (junior) complex and the Bishop Oluwole Complex School. "Beside these, we have given out thousands of school materials and books to pupils and students and facilitated employment for qualified residents of the constituency. These are

all done under the Adewale Temitope Adedeji Educational Initiatives (ATA-EI) which has metamorphosed into a foundation.

"It is important to make education a major means for societal growth and I believe every student deserves access to the tools they need to succeed and these GCE slips are a small step towards

ensuring that every child can reach his full potential.

"In Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency 1, our goal is to make this local government the most educated in Nigeria in the near future. We are on the right track to achieve this and I once again assure you that I remain committed to this goal."



# Ipaja-Ayobo PHC Wins Most Responsive Health Facility In Lagos

Kehinde Adeleye

In a remarkable achievement, the Ipaja Primary Health Center has been honored with the distinguished "Most Responsive Health Facility Award" by His Excellency, Governor Olusola Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State. This accolade recognizes the health center's unwavering dedication to providing critical medical services to survivors of gender-based violence, acknowledging the facility's vital role in the Lagos State healthcare system.

The Ipaja Primary Health Center has consistently demonstrated a commitment to offering compassionate, timely, and professional care to some of the most vulnerable members of society. This award highlights the exceptional work of the health center's team and serves as an inspiration for other healthcare facilities to follow in their footsteps.

As the Lagos State government continues to invest in strengthening



special letter of commendation for his exemplary leadership. His dedication to his duty, sacrifice of time, and the collective efforts of his entire team have been recognized as instrumental in providing crucial healthcare services to the community.

Governor Sanwo-Olu commended Dr. Adekunle and his team for their exceptional commitment, urging other health facilities to follow their example. This acknowledgment not only highlights the importance of dedicated healthcare professionals but also serves as a reminder of the Lagos State government's commitment to improving healthcare services and supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

The Ipaja Primary Health Center continues to set a high standard in healthcare delivery, and this recognition serves as a motivator to continue their exceptional work for the community.

the healthcare system, the Ipaja Primary Health Center stands as a shining example of the positive impact

that responsive and inclusive healthcare can have on individuals and communities.

In addition to the "Most Responsive Health Facility Award" bestowed upon the Ipaja

Primary Health Center, Dr. Meya Adekunle, the Medical Officer of Health at the center, received a

# Agege LG Distributes Over 13,000 Notebooks To Nine Primary Schools

In a heartwarming display of appreciation, teachers and pupils from all nine schools visited on October 2nd, 2024, lauded the Mr. Kola Ganiyu Egunjobi-led administration for their benevolence during the ongoing free distribution of 100,000 branded exercise notebooks. Echonews reports that

this initiative is just one of many educational support projects launched by the administration over the past seven years, including the provision of school bags, uniforms, and the construction and rehabilitation of school buildings. At the distribution event, which saw 13,384 exercise

notebooks handed out to pupils across nine schools, the Agege Legislative Arm's Leader, Mr. Najeem Olohuntoyin Sanjay, represented the Council Chairman. Members of the Legislative and Executive arms, along with administrative staff of the Council, were also present. Mr. Najeem Olohuntoyin Sanjay emphasized the

importance of the initiative in supporting education and serving the community. The exercise books are aimed at benefiting indigent pupils and their families by addressing their educational needs and alleviating financial burdens. In response, headteachers from Dopemu Primary

School and Salvation Army Primary School expressed their gratitude to the Executive Chairman of Agege Local Government Area for this valuable contribution. The distribution of free exercise books reflects the administration's dedication to improving access to education and ensuring the welfare of its constituents. Schools visited today includes, Salvation

primary School, Dopemu primary School, AUI primary School, Issa Williams Primary School, Jubreel Martins Primary School, Oniwaya, State Nursery and Primary School, Iloro, Oduduwa Primary School, Iloro, Community primary School, Idi Mangoro, Ifeoluwa Nursery and Primary School.



# Tipo Boxing Academy Gets Essential Training Kits From Flykite Productions

Kehinde Adeleye

**F**lykite Productions, the organizers of the popular GOtv Boxing Night, has reaffirmed its commitment to the growth and development of boxing talent in Nigeria by donating essential training equipment to Tipo Boxing Academy. The donation, which includes high-quality punch pads, gloves, headgear, and a punching bag, is aimed at supporting the academy in nurturing and grooming the next generation of boxing champions.

Tipo Boxing Academy, situated in the Egbeda area of Lagos, focuses on training young boxing talents from the age of six. During a presentation ceremony, Bamidele Johnson, Chief Operating Officer of Flykite Productions,



reaffirmed the company's dedication to promoting and advancing the aspirations of boxing athletes in Nigeria. Johnson stated, "This donation serves as a testament to our commitment to the growth of boxing in

Nigeria. We are here to provide support and resources that will help you realize your dreams of becoming world champions. These training kits are intended to contribute to your development and progress as

athletes."

Yusuf Alarape, the lead trainer at Tipo Boxing Academy, graciously acknowledged the donation from Flykite Productions and emphasized the significant impact it would have on the young athletes in the program. He said, "We are truly appreciative of this

support for Tipo Boxing Academy. As you can see, the kids are elated, and this generous gesture will undoubtedly serve as a morale boost for them."

Alarape's gratitude highlights the importance of such contributions in fostering

the growth and development of young boxing talent in Nigeria. The donation not only provides essential equipment but also serves as a source of encouragement for the aspiring boxers, motivating them to continue pursuing their dreams and aspirations in the sport.

Flykite Productions has been instrumental in promoting the sport of boxing in Nigeria, having successfully hosted 31 editions of the GOtv Boxing Night, as well as the GOtv Boxing NextGen Search – an initiative designed to discover and nurture promising young boxers across the country. Through these efforts, Flykite Productions continues to contribute significantly to the growth of Nigerian boxing both at the grassroots and professional levels.

# Badallion Communications Appoints Princess Bada as Matron

Kehinde Adeleye

**I**n an effort to elevate the annual Lagos Super4 Women's Table Tennis Championship and create a more engaging experience for participants and spectators alike, Badallion Communications has named Mrs. Princess Samiat Abolanle Bada as the Matron of the event. As the Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development

Area (LCDA), Princess Bada brings a wealth of experience and passion for community development to the role.

This appointment is expected to enhance the championship's visibility and appeal, attracting more talent and generating greater excitement around the event. With Princess Bada's involvement, the Lagos Super4 Women's Table Tennis Championship is poised to further its impact on women's sports and the

local community.

The announcement was made recently in Lagos by Mr. Sheriff Owolabi, Managing Director of Badallion Communications, who emphasized the strategic importance of this decision. "After due consultations, naming the Mayoress of Ikosi-Isheri as the Matron became necessary to create an enabling environment for the event to thrive and achieve the target goal," Mr. Owolabi stated. "There's no doubt about the fact

that we've just taken the right decision putting the right peg in the right hole, and we believe it will yield the needed result as expected. Don't forget that Mrs. Samiat Bada is not just a politician but a sports administrator who atop the management of Ikosi-Isheri Football Club."

Mrs. Bada's appointment is expected to bring a new level of prestige and support to the championship, which aims to highlight the discovery of talented female table tennis

players in Lagos and Nigeria at large. Her background in both politics and sports administration makes her a fitting choice to oversee the event, ensuring it runs smoothly and successfully.

In her acceptance speech, Mrs. Princess Samiat Bada expressed her gratitude to the organizers for the honour. "I thank Badallion Communications for finding me worthy of this revered position. I

will do everything within my reach to live up to the expectations," she stated. Her commitment to the role promises to bring a fresh and dynamic perspective to the championship.

The Lagos Super4 Women's Table Tennis Championship is set to be a significant annual event in the sporting calendar, attracting participants and spectators from across the regions. With Mrs. Princess Bada's support, the championship is poised to achieve new heights of success and recognition.



# How CATS Ladies Emerge Champions Of Maiden Girls Play Sports Football Tournament

By Saheed Afolabi

In a thrilling final at the FIFA Goal Project in Abuja, CATS Ladies from Lagos State emerged as the champions of the inaugural Girls Play Sports Football Tournament, defeating Plateau United Queens 2-1 on Sunday, September 29, 2024. The match was a keenly competed affair with Plateau United taking an early lead through Agnes Otata in the ninth minute. However, CATS Ladies fought back and leveled the score in the 50th minute through Ebube Anyanwu. Just four minutes later, Anyanwu completed her brace to secure the victory for her team. The win earned CATS Ladies a cash prize of two million naira, while

Plateau United Queens received one million naira as runners-up. Other participating teams also received cash prizes for their efforts.

The tournament, initiated by Honorable Ayo Omidiran, founder of the Ayomidiran Foundation, appreciated the support of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), the Federal Housing Authority, State Football Associations, and the participating teams for the success of the inaugural competition.

"This success reflects the power of collaboration and our shared commitment to advancing grassroots women's football and empowering the girl-child through sports." CATS Ladies gaffer,



Chinasa Ukandu complimented the efforts of the team for achieving a landmark feat. "These girls have shown tremendous determination and heart, and this win is a testament to their

hard work."

Managing Director of the Federal Housing Authority, Oyetunde Ojo lauded the excellent organization of the tournament in giving the girl child a productive event.

"We are proud to be part of an initiative that empowers young girls through sports

and promotes national unity."

NFF general secretary, Dr Mohammed Sanusi extolled the impacts of the tournament towards the growth of women's football.

"This competition lays a strong foundation for the

growth of women's football in Nigeria, and we are excited to see its future impact."

Nigerian Olympic legend Mary Onyali, a GPS ambassador, lauded the initiative for providing a platform for young female athletes to excel.

## Prince Kazeem Eletu FC thrash Clique

### Sports

By Saheed Afolabi

Prince Kazeem Eletu FC delivered a commanding performance, securing a resounding 4-1 victory over Clique Sports Football Club in a friendly match held at the Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan. Jude Obasi, the star of the show, opened the scoring early on with a stunning goal that set

the tone for the match. Despite a brief spell of possession from Clique Sports, Eletu's disciplined play and clinical finishing proved too much for their opponents. Usman Agboola, also known as Osimeh, extended Eletu's lead before halftime, giving them a comfortable advantage.

The second half saw more of the same, with Prince Kazeem Eletu dominating the midfield and creating numerous scoring opportunities. Obasi completed his brace early in the


second half, further cementing Eletu's dominance. While Clique Sports managed to pull one back through Faize Adeyemi, it was too little, too late. Akeem Olofin added a fourth goal for Eletu, sealing their impressive win. Coach Israel Adegolu praised his players for their commitment and professionalism, while team manager Muftau Eletu expressed satisfaction with the team's progress in their preseason preparations.







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