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Ten years after Lagos State made a law prohibiting smoking in public places, the government is still finding it hard to enforce it.

Echonews took a tour of some public places, including the state secretariat, Alausa and found out that many smokers are yet to comply with the law while there is no visible enforcement to stop this culture.

Our correspondent observed that smoking in the public places had gone beyond tobacco, cigarette, people now smoke Indian Hemp, popularly known as weeds in some areas across the metropolis.

At Ipodo an area within Ikeja the capital city of Lagos, people smoke on the streets without being challenged by law enforcement agents. At Oke-Arin on Lagos Island, people smoke indiscriminately.

Public places like the Mini Stadium at Elegbeta in Lagos, our correspondent observed that spectators, sportsmen who come to the place smoke at will. Sadly, some policemen were also caught in this habit.

In 2014, the Lagos State Government signed into law by the bill prohibiting smoking in public place. The law came to effect on August 17 2014 and prohibits smoking in all public places including factories and places of work. Any smoker risks six months jail term in Lagos, according to the law. However, 10 years after, investigation revealed that the government had never arrested a single offender even when the habit has now become a culture among the youths and adults at motor parks, factories and corporate offices. The Lagos State Regulation of

Smokers defying Lagos Law may go to jail

Smoking law has some implications for workplace in that the law places some obligations on the employers of labour and further specifically provides that directors, managers, partners and company secretaries shall be held liable for violations of the provisions of the law by corporate bodies.

The history of tobacco regulation in Nigeria is not recent. The earliest known statutory attempt to regulate tobacco usage in Nigeria was the Tobacco (License and Returns) Ordinance of 1958. This law, however, regulated the importation and not the use of tobacco. It was vide the Decree No. 20 Of 1990, the Tobacco Smoking (Control) Decree, that tobacco usage was first regulated in Nigeria.

The Lagos Tobacco Law does not forbid



Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu

the use of tobacco, it only regulates it by restricting the places where it can be used. There are criminal sanctions for non-

compliance with the provisions of the law and repeated violations may result in closure or sealing up of affected

premises. The Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) is vested with the powers to

enforce the law and may be assisted by the Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences



Smoking

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Enforcement Unit and other law enforcement agents. A duly authorised officer of the Agency also has powers to enter and inspect the premises to ensure compliance with the law and it is an offence to obstruct such officers in the performance of their duties.

However, this law has been docile without enforcement in the last ten years. Many public and private offices visited by our correspondent did not have notices on their walls prohibiting smoking as stipulated by the regulation.

At a bar along Ogunwusi Road, Ojodu, ladies were seeing smoking heated tobacco, “Shisha” in the public place. The bar operator (names withheld) told Echonews that he did not know that a law prohibiting smoking at bar existed.

“What kind of law is that? You don't go to bar now if you can not tolerate smoke. Here we smoke cigarette not “Igbo”. And Shisa is not Marijuana, our ladies can enjoy themselves now,” he said.

Another finding shows that most of those who smoke do not care about the health implications, despite the campaign by the Federal Ministry of Health that smokers are liable to die young.

According to a report by the Centre for the Study of Economies of Africa (CSEA), titled Health burden and economic cost of smoking in Nigeria, revealed that Nigeria records 28,876 preventable deaths related to tobacco annually.

Reacting, the General Manager, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) Dr. Babatunde Ajayi, said that the government is not looking away from the bad culture, adding that efforts are being made to enforce the law to the letter.

He reiterated the

Smokers defying Lagos Law may go to jail



Ajayi

importance of compliance, urging businesses to install smoke detectors, display clear smoking area signs, and adhere to laws prohibiting smoking near children or selling cigarettes to minors.

He noted that the penalties for violations include fines up to 500,000 for businesses and 10,000 to 50,000 for individuals, with repeat offenders facing stricter sanctions.

Ajayi said that the government would begin advocacy through public sensitization via media and visits to establishments such as Sabor Lagos, Ballr Lagos, and Eko Hotels, where “No Smoking” signs were distributed.

Speaking, the Director-General of the State Safety Commission LSC, Mr. Lanre MojolaLagos (LSC) emphasised the health

risks of indoor smoking, including lung cancer and respiratory diseases, and highlighted the dangers of secondhand smoke in shared spaces like lounges and bars.

“Our goal is to create a safe, smoke-free environment for all”, he stated, referencing

the Lagos State Anti-Smoking Law of 2014, which mandates designated smoking areas not more than 10% of their physical space for hotels, lounges, bars and nightclubs and prohibits smoking in public spaces such as schools, gyms,

restaurants and cinemas among others. With the festive season approaching, Mr. Mojola urged compliance, emphasising collaboration with business owners to ensure a healthy nightlife experience. While enforcement will

follow, the focus is currently on education and awareness through campaigns and stakeholder engagement, he said.

Both agencies reaffirmed their commitment to safeguarding public health and creating a smoke-free Lagos.



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In commemoration of this year's International Day For Persons With Disability, the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) has provided financial support of N200,000.00 each to 150 seniors with disabilities in Lagos State. Speaking on Monday at an empowerment programme held at the LCCI Conference and Exhibition Centre in Ikeja, with the theme: "Empowering Senior Citizens, Enabling Independence: A Commitment to Inclusion and Dignity", the General Manager of LASODA, Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal, said that the programme is a reflection of the state government's commitment to creating a supportive environment for all citizens, regardless of their abilities or age. According to her, the initiative is designed to provide healthcare support to disability clusters and empower them to foster their independence, dignity, and inclusivity in society. "Today, the state government is not only recognising our elderly, but we are also addressing their healthcare, general well-being, and providing a cash sum to persons above 60 with disabilities. The beneficiaries will

LASODA Empowers 150 Senior Citizens

... Offers Comprehensive Health Checks, Medication

undergo comprehensive health checks, including tests for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and other health assessments.

"We also have parents who are themselves over 60 years old and have been caregivers for their children with disabilities. We didn't want to exclude them because the administration of Babajide Sanwo-Olu is all-inclusive. Therefore, we are extending this gesture to parents with disabilities who themselves are over 60.

"Our biggest goal is to ensure that persons above 60 in Lagos know that we acknowledge their existence, understand the peculiarities of their needs, and encourage them to take advantage of healthcare schemes that Lagos State has set up, among other initiatives. Today, we have gathered only 150 of these individuals, with the

intention that this will be replicated across states and at the national level", the GM stated.

While outlining the activities of the agency to promote and improve the lives of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Lagos through impactful support and targeted

programmes, she assured that the state will continue to advocate for policies and initiatives that empower individuals with disabilities to live their lives to the fullest.

Also speaking, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youths and Social Development, Mrs.

Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu, represented by the Director of Admin and Human Resources in the Ministry, Mr. Abiodun Dina, emphasised the commitment of the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration to improve the well-being of elderly citizens. The gesture is a

way of promoting inclusion, which is part of the T H E M E S developmental agenda of the government.

Medical professionals were also present to check the beneficiaries' vitals, and free medication was administered where necessary.



LASTMA Female Elite Corps Commence Yuletide Traffic Sensitisation Campaign

The Female Elite Corps of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has inaugurated an extensive sensitisation campaign to foster adherence to traffic regulations and promote orderly conduct among motorists in Lagos State. This strategic initiative, slated to span an entire week beginning on Monday, December 2, 2024, is designed to enhance road safety and mitigate traffic infractions before, during, and after the Yuletide season. Themed: "Drive Safe, Stay Safe", the campaign underscores LASTMA's commitment to addressing the anticipated surge in vehicular activities during

the holiday period. The programme prioritises educating road users on the significance of compliance with traffic laws, discouraging reckless driving, and maintaining discipline to avert accidents and alleviate congestion on Lagos roads.

At the official launch, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa reaffirmed the administration's dedication to ensuring smooth vehicular movement across the metropolis. "The Yuletide season is synonymous with festivity, but it also heralds increased road usage. This campaign aims to reinforce motorists'

obligations to prioritise safety, thereby reducing accidents and traffic disruptions", he stated.

The Female Elite Corps, a highly trained cadre within LASTMA, will execute the campaign through dynamic roadshows, community interactions, and dissemination of educational materials across key traffic hotspots, including Ikeja, Surulere, Epe, Badagry, Ikorodu, Lagos Island, Agege, Lekki, Egbeda, Obalende, and Apapa. Furthermore, motorists and commuters will receive real-time updates and compliance tips via LASTMA's digital platforms, ensuring seamless communication throughout the campaign. The initiative underscores

pivotal traffic regulations such as strict observance of traffic signals and road signage, abstinence from driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics, adherence to lane

discipline and prohibition of one-way driving and ensuring vehicles are roadworthy before undertaking any journey.

Hon. Giwa encouraged motorists to cooperate

fully with LASTMA officials and report traffic violations through the agency's toll-free helpline, 080000527862. He also urged all road users to embrace responsible driving habits, fostering a safer, more harmonious holiday atmosphere for all residents and visitors in Lagos.



Over 120,000 PLWHIV on Life-Saving Therapy-LSACA

Over 120,000 individuals living with HIV in Lagos State are currently receiving life-saving antiretroviral therapy, with a particular focus on children, adolescents, and other vulnerable groups.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (LSACA), Dr. Folake Animashaun said this.

She said that Lagos State has made remarkable strides in the fight against HIV during the commemoration of the 2024 World AIDS Day, themed: "The Right Path: Sustain the HIV Response and Stop HIV Among Children in Nigeria by 2030"

Her words, "In Lagos State, we have made remarkable strides in the fight against HIV. Through the combined efforts of government agencies,

implementing partners, community stakeholders, and the resilient people of Lagos, we have significantly advanced toward the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets. These milestones reflect our commitment to a robust and inclusive HIV and AIDS response, giving us hope for a future free of HIV".

The commemoration, she said, is a global movement and a moment of collective reflection, and an opportunity to drive impactful action, reaffirm commitments, and strengthen the momentum towards ending the epidemic.

According to Animashaun, "The event serves as a platform of profound global and local significance to honour lives of those lost to AIDS-related illnesses, celebrate the progress made in the fight against HIV

& AIDS, and renew our collective commitment to ending the epidemic by 2030".

"It is also a clarion call to action that underscores the urgency of sustaining the gains achieved while prioritising children and gender equity and upholding the principles of gender equity and human rights in the HIV response. It compels us to ensure that every child, every family, and every community in Lagos State and beyond has access to the care, dignity, and protection they deserve", the CEO said.

In response to treatment and care for vulnerable populations in Lagos State, Animashaun said that 120,000 individuals in Lagos State are currently receiving life-saving antiretroviral therapy, with a particular focus on children,

adolescents, and other vulnerable groups.

The Agency, she said, has also developed a guideline addressing the intersection between Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and HIV, recognising the critical overlap between these two pressing public health challenges.

These pioneering efforts, she said, make Lagos State the first and only state in Nigeria to thoroughly examine and document a structured approach to addressing the GBV-HIV intersection. Through community-based engagement with the active participation of the general public, the agency has reached over 1,000,000 people with HIV through prevention education and testing services, reflecting the importance of grassroots mobilization in achieving epidemic

control.

LSACA, with support from implementing partners, has equally facilitated groundbreaking interventions, including mentoring visits to Local Action Committees on AIDS and community-based organisations, strengthening their capacity to deliver quality services.

Commenting on week-long activities in commemoration of World AIDS data, the CEO said there are various impactful activities to foster awareness, build partnerships, and accelerate the HIV response. These include Press Briefing (Friday, 29th November 2024 at Bagauda Kaltho press centre; HIV Testing Services (Saturday, 30th November - Tuesday, 3rd December 2024): This is a three-day state-wide initiative reaching over 100,000 individuals,

offering free, confidential HIV testing across all 20 LGAs of Lagos State.

There will also be a Novelty Football Match (Sunday, 1st December 2024) at Campos Stadium, Lagos Island, and a Road Walk for HIV Prevention (Tuesday, 3rd December 2024) starting from the Lagos State Ministry of Health to the Lagos State House of Assembly, where the Wife of Lagos State Governor Dr. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu will empower persons living with HIV.

Other activities include the World AIDS Day Symposium (Wednesday, 4th December 2024) at the Balmoral Convention Centre, Sheraton Lagos, Ikeja, to discuss critical HIV issues, focusing on children and sustainable HIV response strategies.

"These activities are not just events, but opportunities to make a real difference in the fight against HIV. "As we commemorate this year's World AIDS Day, LSACA reiterates the urgency and importance of sustaining our innovative and inclusive strategies, ensuring no one is left behind in the fight against HIV", Animashaun said.

Other goodwill messages came from the representative of the Director of Disease Control, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Oladipupo Fisher; Dr. Uloma Nwogu from Heartland Alliance; Mr. Patrick Akpan, State Coordinator, NEPWHAN; and Dr. Temitope Fadiya from UNAIDS.



16 Days of Activism : DSVA Visits Igbogbo Community

... As Monarch Condemns All Forms Of SGBV

Lagos Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has taken its advocacy against SGBV to Igbogbo Community, Ikorodu recently as part of the 16 Days of Activism celebration.

Dr. Bountiful Taiwo-Adelanwa reiterated the agency's unwavering commitment to eradicating abuse, stating that while the 16 Days of Activism spotlight gender-based violence annually, the DSVA remains steadfast in creating awareness and offering psychosocial support to survivors.

Taiwo-Adelanwa provided a comprehensive overview

of gender-based violence (GBV), underscoring the gravity of offences such as having sexual relations with minors, which is punishable by life imprisonment under the law, adding that ignorance of the law is not an excuse.

The Adeboruwa of Igbogbo Kingdom, Alaiyeluwa Oba Semiudeen Orimadegun Kasali, and Emugoriade I, gave the opening remarks, emphasising the significance of the event.

The revered monarch acknowledged the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) for its proactive efforts and affirmed that traditional rulers across the state

unequivocally condemn all forms of child abuse and gender-based violence.

Oba Kasali encouraged parents to prioritise their children's education, discouraging child hawking, which robs them of a future. He highlighted that the agency's advocacy extends to men and children, not solely women, showcasing a balanced and inclusive approach to tackling these societal issues.

Some of the encouraged vigilance includes Parental Responsibilities where Parents are urged to create a nurturing home environment by avoiding the use of derogatory

language toward their children or partners. Negative comparisons and verbal abuse that can cause lasting harm to a child's emotional well-being are to be encouraged to foster positive communication and mutual respect.

Dr. Taiwo-Adelanwa urged participants to pledge their commitment to eradicating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) within their communities and throughout Lagos State. She emphasised the collective responsibility of ensuring that abuse is neither tolerated nor ignored, advocating for a safer environment for all.

The Doctor further disclosed that the DSVA is utilising a holistic approach to combating abuse with Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and Case Management by providing survivors with a structured pathway to recovery; while the Field Officers engage with communities to identify and address issues on the ground; the Empowerment Unit equips survivors with the skills and resources to rebuild their lives while the Psychological Support by offering counselling services to address trauma; Virtual Referral and Response Service (VRRS) also operating

24/7 to ensure immediate response and support.

The DSVA's toll-free reporting line, 08000-333-333, was highlighted as a vital tool for reporting abuse, with assurances of strict confidentiality.

Participants were reminded that they are all mandated reporters, empowered to act when they witness abuse, regardless of whether it affects them directly.

The session concluded with a unifying resolve among participants to actively combat SGBV and support the DSVA's mission of fostering a violence-free Lagos.



Sanwo-Olu Reiterates Commitment To Tourism Development

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has reiterated his administration's commitment to the development of the tourism and creative industry, saying the State Government will continue to provide a conducive atmosphere for businesses to thrive. Governor Sanwo-Olu spoke at the weekend during the inaugural Isimi Lagos Festival, held at the Isimi Lagos Wellness and Polo Country Estate in the Epe area of Lagos.

He said Isimi Lagos is the birth of a new redefined hospitality, wellness and work-play environment in Lagos.

Isimi Lagos is a breathtaking facility, with nature as the main attraction for tourists, relaxation and retreats, among other things. The facility is a 100 per cent eco-friendly project with over 500,000 trees planted, focusing on renewable energy, with other facilities like Outdoor Gym, Jetty, Farm Shop, Tech Valley, Helipad and a Polo Turf. The facility is expected to

boost the tourism potential of the state, increase foreign and private investment, as well as create more employment for the youths in the creative industry.

Speaking during the event attended by the Ooni of Ife, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi; Olota of Ota, Oba Adeyemi Obalanlege; Erelu Kuti IV of Lagos, Chief Abiola Dosunmu; captains of industry and tourists, among others, Governor Sanwo-Olu said his administration is fully committed to fostering partnerships that enhance initiatives like Isimi Lagos because it recognises the importance of wellness and community engagement in promoting a balanced lifestyle.

He said: "I want to commend all of us for coming to the eastern part of Lagos to see the discovery of the new Lagos that we are talking about. It is the birth of the new, redefined hospitality in Lagos. It is the birth of a different kind of wellness and work-play environment. We are indeed happy that this is

happening in our time.

"This entire corridor is also the place where we are going to be seeing the Lagos Film City, Lekki Airport and a lot of the new Lagos that we are envisioning. And so Isimi Lagos has taken the first step to redefine the birth of the new Lagos that we had envisioned.

"We thank those who have come out to see what we are doing in Lagos. This is

a testament to a lot of things that are still on the way, and I am happy because this is about the young population. This is about the future that we see. This is about the age of the new leaders that we are birthing in the country and Lagos. You can see that it is a place for people under 40s.

"What I want us to take away from here is the discovery of the birth of a

new history of tourism, hospitality and creativity in Lagos and Isimi Lagos has shown that when you put your heart and mind to something, it will happen.

"They have been on this project for the past three to four years, but they have been tenacious and committed, ensuring that nothing stops them until we are here today, and this is just the beginning

because we know that there are so many things that are going to happen here.

"It is a full wellness centre in which they will grow what they could eat, and they will eat what they grow. It is going to be a complete end-to-end environment where everything you can imagine in the big cities is going to be here."



HOS Tells Governor's Aides To Align With Ethics of Public Service

Lagos State Government has charged all Senior Special Assistants (SSAs) and Special Assistants (SAs) to Mr. Governor to ensure they play very crucial roles in supporting the administration's policies and programmes and align with the structure and ethical standards of the State Public Service for effective performance.

The Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro, gave the charge during the onboarding session organised for the Senior Special Assistants and Special Assistants by the Office of the Head of

Service on Friday at the State Treasury Office Resource Centre, ASSBIFI Road, Ikeja.

Agoro stated that the onboarding is crucial in ensuring that these Aides to Mr. Governor understand their roles and responsibilities within the Government's framework.

According to him, the onboarding also underscores the need to sensitise them to adhere to the highest ethical standards and imbibe a culture of transparency, accountability and integrity in their decision-making and actions. He encouraged them to be undaunted,

dedicated and endeavour to make themselves relevant in their respective MDAs.

Emphasising the importance of relevance, the Special Adviser to Mr. Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa advised the SSAs and SAs to embrace humility and work with both the Political Heads and Accounting Officers of their various MDAs. He urged them to align themselves with the mandate of their MDAs and shun self-elevation. Also lending her advice, the Permanent Secretary, Public Service Office, Mrs. Sunkanmi

Oyegbola, charged the Senior Special Assistants and Special Assistants to work collaboratively with their various Political Heads and Accounting Officers to make a meaningful impact in the achievements of their MDAs as regards the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's administration.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transportation, Mr. Wale Musa emphasised the importance of teamwork, humility, and willingness to listen and learn. He appealed to all the Aides to relate very well with all

the members of staff in their respective MDAs, saying it is the best way to guarantee acceptance that will aid their effective performance.

In his remarks, Commissioner II, Teaching Service Commission, Mr. Abiodun Bamgboye stressed the need to familiarise themselves with the State's governance structure and the roles and responsibilities of various Departments and Agencies. He also urged them to understand the ethical standards expected of them as Aides to Mr. Governor.

He noted the need for them to embrace confidentiality and avoid conflicts of interest in the discharge of their duties. Speaking on behalf of all the Senior Special Assistants and Special Assistants to the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Motajo Kehinde, Senior Special Assistant on Youth Security and Governance, appreciated Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for the opportunity given to them to serve during his administration and assured that they will align themselves in driving the vision and programmes of the present administration positively.



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Lagos Unveils Revised Policy To Empower 10 Million Youths

In a bid to enhance the development and empowerment of the over 10 million youths residing in the State, the Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Youth and Social Development, has unveiled the Revised Lagos State Youth Policy. The historic event, which attracted various stakeholders within the youth ecosystem, took place on Friday at the Luxury Party Event Centre, Alausa, Ikeja. Delivering the keynote address at the event, the Secretary to the State Government,

Barrister Abimbola Salu-Hundeyin described youths as "The energy, strength, hope, invention, glory, agility, compass, light, and creativity of the Greater Lagos Rising". She underscored the central role youth play in the state's future and urged them to actively engage with the policy and complement the efforts of the state government by fulfilling their responsibilities as outlined in the document. The Commissioner for Youth and Social Development, Mr. Mobolaji Abubakre Ogunlende,

commended the partners who contributed financial resources and expertise towards framing the policy. He described the initiative as "A testament to the unwavering commitment of the Lagos State Government to youth development", just as he called on the youth to embrace the policy fully, emphasising the importance of "accountability and transparency" in its implementation. In her welcome remarks, the Permanent Secretary of the

Ministry, Pharmacist (Mrs.) Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu stated that the policy represents a pivotal milestone in creating an enabling environment for the youth to thrive. "It is a dynamic roadmap for unlocking the potential of the youth in Lagos State. By integrating new perspectives and realities, we aim to ensure the document remains relevant. This is a call to action for our youth to seize opportunities and translate the policy's provisions into tangible outcomes", she said. Goodwill messages

from various stakeholders, including Mrs. Esther Somefun (representing UNFPA), Engineer Olamilekan Adigun (Chairman, National Youth Council of Nigeria, Lagos State Chapter), Judith Gbagidi (representing ActionAid Nigeria) and Mr. Chamberlain (representing Youth Alive Foundation), reiterated the relevance of the document. They urged the youth to take full ownership of the policy and ensure its effective implementation over the next five years before its next review



Lagos Nurses Hail Sanwo-Olu's at Retreat

St r o n g commendations and accolades were showered on the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, for his positive disposition to matters affecting nurses working in the State Government hospitals. They were made at the Y2024 Strategic Leadership Retreat For Nurses held at the Orchid Hotel, Lekki. The two-day retreat, organised by the Lagos State Health Service Commission, witnessed the presence of 150 senior nurses, including Ward Managers and Apex Nurses, chosen from all the 32 General Hospitals in the state. Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary of the Commission, Dr Ademuyiwa Benjamin Eniayewun, commended Mr.

Governor for all he has done and is still doing for medical practitioners in the state, especially the nurses. He said, "Though it is bad that 'Japa' people are leaving with expertise and experience, Mr. Governor has done everything humanly possible to ameliorate the negative impact of the syndrome in the health sector, by giving a series of approvals for the appointment and recruitment of medical practitioners, especially Nurses, so operational activities wouldn't be grounded in our hospitals". He equally advised nurses to work smart and always collaborate with other disciplines for

enhanced service delivery. He further encouraged them to monitor the junior nurses under them, mentor them well, be good examples and show them love always for needed experience and good legacy so patients are not more worried about negative attitudes whenever they visit hospitals for medical attention.

In her welcome address, Director of Nursing Services, Nurse Adebukonla Cole, thanked Mr. Governor and First Lady, Mrs. Claudiana

Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu for their yeoman's role in ensuring Nurses are getting necessary attention and support to perform better in the line of duty. She, therefore, charged the nurses to develop a new mindset of duty for the sake of patients and hospital improvement.

Delivering a lecture on "Housekeeping Strategies for Customers Satisfaction", Nurse

Cole said the role of Ward Managers is to always ensure their Wards and environment are clean, in line with the dictates of Florence Nightingale's theory.

"You own the Wards, let our Wards be clean, let our environment be clean, as cleanliness is next to Godliness, be fully engaged in leadership and team management, take ownership of hospital equipment and care for it as your own", she said.

In their Goodwill messages, Commission

Members Dr. Olumuyiwa Adetokunbo Solanke and Dr. Mobolaji Ayotunde Olukoya, Commissioners I & II, respectively, duly encouraged the nurses not to rest on their oars but be more efficient in the line of duty and to always have patients' interest at heart.

They both thanked the nurses for staying back and not abandoning their duty posts for the so-called greener pasture overseas.



Lagos Affordable Housing Is A Model For Other States-Commissioner

The quantum of housing projects delivered by the Lagos State Government during the administration of Late Alhaji Lateef Jakande in the early 1980s and the subsequent replication by succeeding administrations made Lagos a reference point in Nigeria for affordable mass housing. Fondly called Baba Kekere, Alhaji Jakande was not just the first Civilian Governor of Lagos State, he was also an architect of hope and progress particularly in the realm of providing housing for the masses. The Commissioner for Housing in Lagos State, Hon. Moruf Akinderu-Fatai stated this while speaking recently at the International Conference and Fair on Land and Development

with the theme "Building on the legacy of Late Alhaji Jakande". The Commissioner, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State State Ministry of Housing, Engr. Abdulhafis Toriola, described Alhaji Jakande's period as a golden era of transformative power of purposeful leadership. He further stated that Jakande utilised his tenure to, among other achievements, provide affordable housing for the citizens regardless of social status. "His achievement in the housing sector truly remains a beacon of inspiration for leaders across generations", said the Commissioner.



The legacy of Late Alhaji Lateef Jakande in housing remains a cornerstone of Lagos State's development history, he was also known for his vision and dedication. Jakande's era saw the creation of over 30,000 affordable housing units setting a benchmark for subsequent administration.

Hon Akinderu-Fatai restated that Lagos State has created an enabling environment for private investors to increase housing stock among low, medium and premium house seekers. Investors seeking to buy into affordable mass housing delivery still enjoy a 40% rebate on all planning permits

and other flexible regulatory incentives from government agencies. The incentives and encouragement have helped the state to deliver 21 housing estates in the last five years. He noted that the State has also provided laws and regulations to protect house owners and tenants.

The event organised by the Real Estate Developers Association of Nigeria (REDAN) provided an opportunity for the Lagos State Government to showcase new strategies and innovations introduced by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration.

The 6th edition of the annual conference, dedicated to the memory of Alhaji Lateef Jakande, was attended by academia, leadership of professional bodies in the housing sector and family members led by Alhaja Abimbola Jakande.

The Vice Chairman of Odi-Olowo Ojuwoye Local Council Development Area, Mr. Seyi Jakande appreciated the organisers of the conference for investing time and resources to keep the good works, memories and legacies of their father.

Lagos Physical Planning Commissioner Bags Media Award

It is awards galore for the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development as its Commissioner, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide, recently bags a merit award conferred by the Property and Environment Writers Association of Nigeria (PEWAN).

The award, which follows other awards by other organisations to top functionaries of the Ministry, is in recognition of the innovative leadership skills of Dr. Oluyinka Olumide, who has repositioned the Ministry for better performance in the last one year.

Conferring the award, Chairman of PEWAN, Okwy Iroegbu-Chikezie, said "The prestigious award of the most versatile and innovative public servant in the planning and development of Lagos Mega City is hereby conferred on Dr. Oluyinka Olumide, Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development for his innovative ideas, exemplary leadership, and uncommon commitment to a sustainable built environment".

The award ceremony was part of PEWAN's annual conference, themed: "Resolving the Financial and Regulatory Dilemma to Achieve the Renewed Hope Agenda on

Housing", which addressed critical issues surrounding Nigeria's housing and urban development sector.

Earlier, the Ministry's Director of Regional and Master Plans department, Tpl. Kunle Salami received the City People Magazine real estate award for his excellent performance.

The future looks promising as the reforms continue to take shape with Dr. Oluyinka Olumide at the helm of affairs guiding the implementation of the Ministry's mandate towards the fulfilment of the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda of the Lagos State Government.



Education District II Holds Yoruba Culture Day

...As Dignitaries Commend TG/PS ADEKANYE For Promoting Heritage

The Honourable Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Ali-Balogun and the Oloworo of Oworo Kingdom, Oba Babatunde Saliu (Elebo II), have commended the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye for her unprecedented role in promoting the Yoruba Cultural heritage.

The commendation was made during the celebration of the Yoruba Cultural Day organised by the Education District II, themed: 'Ayajo Asa Ati Ise Yoruba - Ikeko Laafin Oba Alayeluwa' which took place at the Palace of the Oba of Oworo on Wednesday.

The Commissioner expressed delight at the level of commitment TG/PS displayed in upholding the Yoruba cultural identity, noting that for any society to develop, the cultural heritage and language of the people must be well preserved.

The Commissioner charged Lagos State Teachers to uphold the Yoruba language and

culture as an integral part of the curriculum, noting that it is the only way the identity of the people can be preserved.

"The Chinese and the Indians were able to develop rapidly because they gave priority to their languages. They do not understand the English Language as we do. Yet, they made a lot of progress technologically and economically", he stressed.

While urging parents and teachers to join in the effort not to allow the identity of the Yoruba people to be eroded by foreign culture and language, he gave kudos to teachers and students for their cultural displays which added glamour to the occasion.

In his remarks, the Oloworo of Oworo, Oba Babatunde Saliu, appreciated the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary for coming up with the laudable idea, which he said will go a long way in preserving the language and culture of the Yoruba people, mostly among the



Youths.

"Many of our children can barely count from one to 10 in the Yoruba language; all they are good at is speaking English fluently. This is a wake-up call for every one of us", he said.

He went further to show gratitude to the State Governor, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, his Deputy, Dr. Kadiri Hazmat and the Honourable Commissioner for supporting the programme.

The Oba assumed the role of the teacher by giving the history of the founders of Oworo Kingdom to justify the theme, 'Asa Ati Ise Yoruba - Ikeko Laafin Oba Alayeluwa' to educate everyone present at the occasion.

Earlier, the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye said that the programme was designed to encourage the teaching and learning of the Yoruba culture and language in all schools across the state so that the identity of the Yoruba people will not go into extinction.

Her words, "Let us be proud of our language and culture. We shouldn't allow anyone to refer to our language as vernacular. I am a proud Yoruba teacher and this is what I teach and this is what I teach that brought me to the level of Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary in the most vibrant state in Nigeria".

She noted that the event, where students have the opportunity to meet the Oba and learn from him, is the fourth of its kind in Education District II.

"We have had similar events at the Palaces of Oba Kabiru Adewale Shotobi, the Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Ajibade Agoro, Ranodu of Imota, and Oba Abdulsemiu Orimadegun Kasali, Adegboruwa of Igbogbo and now we are here with Oba Babatunde Saliu the Oloworo of Oworo".

She noted that the event underscores the importance of sustaining the rich cultural legacy while fostering unity and progress among Yoruba people and beyond.

Adekanye, therefore, urged all teachers to always be committed and do due diligence in

the discharge of their duties, as well as encouraged students to always stay focused so as not to let the efforts of their parents, teachers and the government be in vain.

The TG/PS expressed her sincere appreciation to the State Governor for his approval and support for the programme while not forgetting, the contributions of the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadiri Obafemi Hazmat, the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Ali-Balogun and the Head of Service, Mr. Shuaheb Olabode Agoro for their commitment to all-round education and development of students in Lagos State.

The colourful event showcased spectacular performances by the students with the thorough display of Yoruba Cultural dressing, music, dance, drums, exhibitions of traditional artefacts, fashion, culinary delights, storytelling, traditional games and cooking competitions.

Assembly holds public hearing on proposed local govt law

The Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, has said there are no plans to scrap the 37 Local Government Development Areas (LCDAs) of the state. Dr. Obasa, represented by Deputy Speaker Mojisola Lasbat Meranda, said this at a second public hearing on the bill to amend the Local Government Administration law of the state on Thursday.

"We are gathered here to consider and reflect on a bill that seeks to further enhance how our third tier of government should be administered.

"The LCDAs have come to stay and they would remain so by the special grace of God. Nobody is killing the LCDAs. Instead, we have come to say here is the Supreme Court judgement; how do we go about it? I know we all have the interest of this state at heart.

"Did we follow the right part in creating the LCDAs? The answer is 'yes'. So at this point, it is a call for every Lagosian to rise up and protect the LCDAs by reaching out to all our representatives at the national level.

"Our representatives and senators should lobby their colleagues there. We will continue to do our part and we are doing it to ensure that the 37 LCDAs are listed in the constitution," the Speaker said.

He recalled that just about two weeks ago, people were also gathered to deliberate on the electoral bill for the Local government election which he said is the first right step before the House could go into how the local governments should function.

"This Bill has passed the preliminary stages and the



RT. Hon Mudashiru Obasa

House is hereby subjecting it to public appraisal in our transparent convention. At this stage, we subject the bill to public assessment, gathering public observations and thoughts to reflect on them in the next stage of the bill.

"The bill is seeking to consolidate all laws on local government administration. The law, when passed, will allow the local governments function optimally with strict adherence to the rule of law and separation of powers," he added.

The Speaker stressed that the bill also made mention of four-year tenure for the elective offices in the local government, which, according to him, has finally removed the ambiguity of the past as regards tenure of these elective officers.

The bill, he said, has elaborated all that needs to be done for an effective administration of the local governments including declaration of assets, nomination of a chairman, removal of a chairman or vice chairman, discharge of functions of the chairman, local government area supervisors appointees, executive powers of the local government, street naming and many more.

Section 4(3) of the Bill states: "The 20 local governments shall have

designated local council Development Areas as listed in the First Schedule to this law for effective and efficient local government administration in the State.

Section 4(1) of the Bill further states: "There shall be 37 Local Council Development Areas in the State with the names specified in Schedule II of the Creation of local government (Amendments) of 2004."

Speaking after an overview by Hon. Noheem Adams, Majority Leader of the House, Lagos-based lawyer, Muiz Banire (SAN) identified some clauses in the Bill that needed further inputs.

Banire argued: "The import of the Supreme Court judgement is simple. The State Governor does not have the power over council chairmen, if any council chairman misbehaves, it is the councillors that can decide on what to do."

He also advised that section 38 of the Bill should be expunged, noting "It is no longer legal for the Ministry of Local Government to be issuing guidelines for local governments."

However, Banire was countered by former Deputy Speaker of the House, Hon. Kolawole Taiwo, who said: "The constitution gives power to the State House of

Assembly to create local government, the law has been tested, our LCDAs have been in existence but only not listed.

"Nobody can say the law is not in existence, I was the Majority Leader as at then. You are saying the House should not have the power to do some things again; we need to be very careful. We know some governors are making nonsense of the local governments but Lagos is an exemption."

Corroborating the position of Taiwo, another former Deputy Speaker of the House, Hon. Funmilayo Tejuoso said: "When you have a child that does not have a name, does it mean that the child is dead? It simply means that the LCDAs are still existing. The Supreme Court has recognised them, we are only waiting for the constitution to reflect the LCDAs."

She therefore stated that the LCDAs should continue to exist, noting "We shouldn't throw away the baby with the bath water."

Also speaking, Imam Ibrahim Tijani from Itire-Ikate said he supported the continued existence of the LCDAs.

A stakeholder, Ajose Agbejaye, suggested that elections into local government councils should start six months before the expiration of the four-year term of a current administration so that electoral issues would have been settled before the swearing-in of a new chairman.

President of Greater Lagos Initiative, Adeniyi Olutimehin also appealed to the House to allow the LCDAs to continue to function irrespective of whatever amendments it makes to the Bill.

Lagos Assembly To Wade In Over Ajah Monarch Tussle

The Lagos State legislative arm has promised to calm the ongoing uproar in Ajah over the imposition of a traditional ruler in the community.

This is sequel to an agitation at the state's legislative complex in Alausa, Ikeja.

A mob of protesters made way into the complex with disgruntlement over the issue, stating they the tussle to the throne remain pending in court, disclosing that all involved should maintain status quo.

While displaying placards and banners, the remonstrators claimed that the Lagos State government is attempting to impose an individual against the resident's choice. They also held that no one had the historical or judicial background to become the Oba of the community. They added that such will lead to fracas and breakdown of law and order in the area.

"They only recognised chieftaincy in Ajah eligible for the throne is the Baale (Olomodi) of Ajah," as stated by the Secretary General of Ajah Community, Kazeem Odunlami.

Odunlami added, "The Lagos State Government should save our souls in Ajah town. All the families in Ajah say no to the superimposition of a kind on us. The obaship of Ajah is still pending in court in suit N

o LD/6432GCMW/2019. Please, allow the court to determine who is entitled to become the Oba of Ajah before

enthroning anyone as such.

"The decision to impose a king over the Baale of Ajah is an alien to our culture and tradition. The rulership of Ajah lies on the Baale of Ajah. We should have a pedigree to that. The obaship tussle is still before the court. We have sustained an injunction and it should be respected. We want Chief Ismaila Adeleke, who is the Baale of Ajah, to be upgraded as King.

"The Baale of Ajah has been the ruler of our community for over 300 years in line with our culture and tradition."

Addressing the protesters, the lawmaker at the Assembly, Solomon Binu, who represents Badagry Constituency 01, assured that the issue would be conveyed to the House for deliberation.

"We appreciate your peaceful conduct," Samson said. "We will ensure this matter is addressed amicably, but we urge you to remain law-abiding and patient."

Similarly, Honourable Desmond Elliot, representing Surulere Constituency 01, pledged that the House would consider the matter during its next plenary session.

Elliot added that the legislators would not interfere with the ongoing court proceedings.

"I heard your grievances, and the House will deliberate on them," Elliot said.

"We must respect the judiciary's role and not interfere in matters under litigation."

Oshodi-Isolo LCDA Chairman Urges Residents to Pay Their Taxes

Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, the Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, has emphasized the importance of tax compliance in ensuring the continuity of life-changing projects within the community.

During a public hearing held by the Legislative Arm of the local government last week, Oloyede urged residents and business owners to fulfill their tax obligations in the new year, underscoring the role of these funds in driving progress and development.

Highlighting the gap between the local government's internally generated revenue (IGR) and the resources required to carry out major projects, Oloyede stressed that increased tax compliance would provide the necessary financial support for ongoing and future initiatives. He commended the legislative arm for their expeditious efforts in considering proposed bills, culminating in a recent public hearing. He expressed appreciation for their dedication and encouraged stakeholders to thoroughly examine the proposed legislation, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity.

Addressing the proposed bye-law aimed at prohibiting



Otunba Kehinde Almaroof

Kehinde Adeleye

the rearing of domestic animals in residential areas, Oloyede advised residents to adhere to the bill's guidelines once passed into law. This measure seeks to ensure a safe and clean environment for all community members, underscoring the council's

commitment to fostering a high quality of life for its residents. According to him; "I want to commend the leadership of our legislative arm for organising this public hearing which is an avenue for stakeholders and residents to scrutinize the proposed bills with a view to having an inclusive bill that will be beneficial to all.

I urge our people to

adhere to the dictates of the animal rearing bill. We must ensure we live in peace and harmony, stressing that a clean environment is required for a healthy living."

On the second bill, "I wish to appeal to our residents and business owners to pay their levies and taxes to enable us embark on more

viable projects. You all can see what and how we are using the paltry sum currently we are collecting. An improvement in our internally generated revenue will lead to increment in the number of roads and infrastructural facilities that we will execute in the new year."

He further announced that in order to block the loopholes in the collection of taxes in

the new year, e-payment will be further enhanced and will be strictly followed to ensure that all monies meant for the local government are received.

Otunba Oloyede equally appreciated the council staff, especially the Council Manager, Treasurer and other management staff for their cooperation.

Court Jails Pastor, Wife For Stealing N52M

By Felix Kuyinu

A clergyman, **H**arry Uyanwanne alongside his wife, Kristen Uyanwanne have been convicted for scam to the tune of N52,000,000 in Lagos.

The couple were arraigned at the Special Offences Court in Ikeja on Wednesday. They were sentenced to ten years in prison.

The court also ordered that the convict's Church, Temple International Church, be deregistered and closed down.

During their trial, the duo and their church were charged on seven counts bordering on stealing and fraud, as imposed on them by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC.

They were initially arraigned on February 25, 2020. During the

proceeding, they pleaded not guilty and trial went on. However, during their re-arraignment on Wednesday, Justice Mojisola Dada found them guilty as charged.

The judge held that the prosecution proved its case beyond every reasonable doubt.

Earlier, the prosecution claimed that sometime in March 2016, the convicts dishonestly converted the sum of N10 million, belonging to one Adeola Odemuyiwa, who is now deceased, to their personal use.

Furthermore, EFCC told the court that the lawbreakers sold a property located at Plot 32, Block 9, Magodo, Lagos, to one Kingsley Atere,

for the sum of N42 million, on false presentation that the first defendant was authorized by the complainant to sell the property.

According to the prosecution, the offences violate Section 1 (2) and (3) of the Advance Fee

Fraud and Other Related Offences Act 2006.

The offences also violated Sections 278 and 285 (1) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2011.

On count one, Justice Dada sentenced the

duo to three years imprisonment and sentenced the first defendant to seven years in prison on count two to six.

The court discharged and acquitted the second defendant, Kristen, on count seven.

The judge, however, held that the sentence would run concurrently and added that the convicts restate the sum of N31 million to the nominal complainant within 60 days of the judgment.



Court Remands Fake Midwife Over N1.6M Scam

By Felix Kuyinu

A self-acclimated midwife, Tina Aguocha, is under trial for allegedly defrauding a complainant the sum of N1,600,000 in Lagos.

The accused was appeared before the Magistrates' Court in Surulere, Lagos, for obtaining the sum under the pretext of facilitating a child adoption process. Aguocha, 43, who resides at No. 3, Sarim Street, Itire, Surulere, is facing trial on a charge



of obtaining by false pretences.

The Prosecutor, Inspector Sadiq Adewale, told the court that Aguocha committed the offence on May 17, 2023, at No.13, Alubarika Street in Ijeshatedo area of Surulere.

Adewale said that falsely presented herself as a midwife at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, LUTH, to defraud the comp...

Babatunde Unveils Newly Reconstructed Eko Junior College

Kehinde Adeleye

In a continued effort to revolutionize the education sector, the Chairman of Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mr. Johnson Sunday Babatunde (JSB), recently inaugurated the newly reconstructed blocks of classrooms at Eko Junior College in Orile-Agege.

Echoneews reports that this achievement follows closely on the heels of his unveiling of Orile-Agege Community High School, reaffirming his unwavering commitment to transforming the

community's educational landscape.

Babatunde, who has pledged to work relentlessly until his final day in office, consistently backs his words with action. The revamped Eko Junior College serves as a testament to his mission of Renewing, Restoring, and Rebuilding key sectors within Orile-Agege, with education taking center stage.

With this latest milestone, the LCDA Chairman solidifies his dedication to uplifting the education sector, ultimately improving the lives of students and contributing to the development of a well-educated populace.

This modern facility not only enhances the learning environment for students but also underscores the Council Chairman's unwavering focus on

fostering educational growth and development in the LCDA.

@everyone @highlight Omo'ba Shobande Oluwafemi

Agege Bracket Ismaeel Garba Ismaeel Nych Orile-Agege Political Platform Agege Agegetv Agege Ifako Ijaiye Dot Comm Agege Pulse Oya Obasa Adewunmi Feyisara Apc V Lagos

Agege ParrotTv Mustapha Tunji Funmilayo Abygail Osayemi Elizabeth Yemisi Folarin APC Newspaper Postacomm Nigerian Nigerian Newspaper.



Orile-Agege LCDA Secures Hectares Of Land For Farming

Kehinde Adeleye

In a significant development for the Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA), the Council Chairman, Mr. Johnson Babatunde, has successfully acquired hectares of land in Obada-Oko, Ogun State, earmarked for farming purposes.

The long-awaited farm project, which has been a key focus of the council's agenda, has now become a reality, bringing excitement and optimism to the community.

According to the Chairman, "this project is for the good people of Orile-Agege Lcda,

especially those interested in farming.

This initiative is one of such that has been at the top of my mind for a very long time, because I am concerned about our Youths and other stakeholders in Orile-Agege Lcda willing to venture into farming.

"We will make the lands available to them and also empower them with farm tools and other working implements to enhance and make easy their activities on the farm land."

"This is a dream come through for the people of Orile-Agege Lcda

whose mandate and Public resources was given to myself and my team in trust to deliver the dividends of democracy when we were re-elected some years ago"

"I promised never to disappoint them, never to let them down in all areas of community development as it affects both indigenes and non-indigenes of Orile-Agege."

"We will work and deliver more on the dividends of democracy and infrastructure development till the last day of this administration, Mr. Johnson Babatunde said.



Epe LG Chairman Assures PLWDs Of Well-being

By Mohammed Adekola

Epe Local Government Chairman, Princess Surah Animashaun, has assured the vulnerable, aged and People Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) in the society, especially those living in the council area, of her support to ensure that their wellness, well-being and welfare are prioritised.

Animashaun stated this at a stakeholders' sensitisation and

advocacy program for Epe Division on vulnerable, an

initiative of the Lagos State Government, Ministry of Economic

Planning and Budget (Social Protection Coordination

Department), in collaboration with Social-Functional Media and UNICEF, held at the council secretariat, Ita-Marun, Epe, Lagos State. She said her commitment to driving programs and policies that would prioritise social protection and uplift the lives of people in Epe Division is sacrosanct, saying together, they would continue to build a future where every resident has access to opportunities that empower and

inspire.

She said, "This event is a beacon of hope for our people and is a significant step toward advancing social protection policies that prioritise the welfare of the most vulnerable members in our society. The program is aimed to create awareness, foster dialogue, and strengthen the framework for social inclusion and development within our communities.



LASG Set To Begin Construction On Epe Mixed Development Scheme

By Mohammed Adekola

Lagos State Government is set to begin construction on the Epe Mixed Development Scheme and Labour City. The project aims to stop unplanned building activities in the area and provide necessary infrastructure for the people.

The announcement was made at a meeting with community leaders and residents held at Epe Resort. The meeting, organized by the New Towns Development Authority (NTDA), was to inform the public about the project and gain their support.

The General Manager of NTDA, Olakunle Aboyeji, explained that the project is necessary to control the fast growth of illegal buildings in Epe. "The Epe Development Scheme is planned to provide proper infrastructure like roads,



drainage, water, and electricity. It is also a way to ensure the area grows in an organized manner," Aboyeji said. He added that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu approved the project to develop

parts of Epe that are not meant for farming. Aboyeji called on residents to cooperate with the government to make the project a success.

Permanent Secretary of the Lands Bureau, Kamal

Olowosha, encouraged the people of Epe to support the project. "This is a great step forward for Lagos State. I ask everyone to be patient and work with the government to make this happen,"

he said.

Chairman of the House Committee on Land Matters, Mr. Olayinka Kazeem said the government must ensure local people benefit from the jobs and opportunities that will

come with the project. "The community must be well-informed and included in this development," he noted.

Project Director of Town Planning Services, Olusola Orebiyi shared details of the plan. He said the project will be carried out in three phases, with the first phase covering 781 hectares between Itoikin Road and the Epe-Ijebu Ode Expressway. "This project will not only bring infrastructure but also create new opportunities for everyone," Orebiyi added.

The NTDA General Manager urged everyone to support the project. "This is a legacy project that will change the future of Epe for the better. Let's all work together to make it successful," he said.

Olowa Presents Budget Of Growth And Innovation

By Mohammed Adekola

The Year 2025 Budget tagged "Budget of Growth and Innovation" was presented on the floor of the Legislative Chambers by the Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa to the members of the 9th Legislative Council.

Sesan Olowa acknowledged that indeed, the event was a testament to the collective efforts in participatory governance. While reflecting on the Year 2024 budget, the Council Boss emphasized on the budget performance which has been satisfactory as it included economic relief programmes, support for small



businesses, youth empowerment through sports and community cohesion, environmental sustainability and waste management, health care access and infrastructural development.

Speaking further, the Chairman said the year 2025 Budget is anchored on six (6) pillars which are Economic Development and Business Support, Infrastructure and Smart City, Technology and Digital transformation, Sustainability and Climate Resilience, Community and Social Service Innovation and Collaboration and Partnerships.

Leader of the Legislative Council, Hon. Mojeed Olayinka while appreciating the Chairman, acknowledged that

indeed the performance of the administration since inception has been exemplary. While calling on all to diligently discharge their duties as governance is a collective effort, he assured the Executive arm of their continued cooperation towards a greater Ibeju-Lekki Local Government.

This Year's proposed budget will be generated from the Federal Account Allocation Committee (FAAC), Internal Generated Revenue and the State Coordinated Revenue. It holds high prospects for the good people of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government as this administration will continue to pursue people oriented programmes for the benefit of all.

Olowa Awards 2 Million to Winner of Chairman's Cup 2024

By Mohammed Adekola

The grand finale of Ibeju-Lekki Chairman's Cup 2024 Track and Football Tournament, organized by the Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, concluded in spectacular fashion on Wednesday 4th December as Iba-Oloja FC claimed the championship title and the 2 million grand prize after a commanding 5-1 victory over Onidogbo FC.

The tournament, now in its second edition, showcased exceptional talent and reaffirmed the commitment of the



Chairman, Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa, to sports development in the council area.

Speaking at the event, Olowa highlighted the transformative impact

of sports, describing it as a thriving global industry and a platform for local talent to shine.

"Sports is not just a pastime, it is a thriving global industry. This tournament has revealed

incredible talent within our community, and I urge all participants to use this platform as a springboard to greater success," he stated.

The Chairman,

alongside Vice Chairman Hon. Isiaka Yusuf Olatunji and other council officials, praised the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for their dedication and the players for their outstanding performances.

Medals, certificates, and cash prizes were presented to winners across various categories, including 2 million for the champions, 1.5 million for the runners-up, and 1 million for the third-place team. Track and field athletes were also celebrated, with events like the 100m, 200m, and relay races drawing widespread acclaim.

Olowa announced the names of players selected for the soccer academy, further

emphasizing his administration's commitment to nurturing young talent. He expressed gratitude to sponsors and pledged to continue prioritizing sports in Ibeju-Lekki.

"Following the success of the first and second editions of the Chairman's Cup, we are determined to redefine sporting activities in Ibeju-Lekki for global recognition," Olowa added.

The Chairman's Cup 2024 has set a new standard for community sports events, cementing Ibeju-Lekki's status as a hub for talent development under Hon. Olowa's visionary leadership.



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In a remarkable feat, Engr. Mojeed Alabi Balogun, the Chairman of Ikeja Local Government, has successfully completed a series of infrastructural turnaround projects within the council

Balogun Transforms Ikeja With Landmark Projects

Kehinde Adeleye

secretariat. These projects, initiated less than two years ago, have transformed the local government area, improving functionality

and aesthetics. Early this year, the council chairman delivered the new Legislative House building, one of his key legacy projects.

Echoneews reports that this state-of-the-art facility is a testament to his administration's commitment to fostering a conducive working environment for lawmakers and driving good governance.

As part of the infrastructural turnaround, Engr. Balogun also oversaw the renovation and modernization of the council secretariat, ensuring a more

efficient workspace for staff members.

Additionally, various community welfare initiatives have been implemented, positively impacting the lives of Ikeja residents.

With a focus on transparency and inclusiveness, the chairman has actively engaged stakeholders through consultative forums, such as the Stakeholders Consultative Forum held earlier this year.

During the forum, Engr. Balogun emphasized his administration's dedication to delivering infrastructure projects that address the community's needs.

The latest completion,

the new administrative office complex within the council secretariat, marks a major milestone in the council's quest to provide improved facilities and working conditions for its staff.

In addition to the administrative office complex, there is an ongoing massive reconstruction of the Ikeja House building, further demonstrating the council's dedication to modernizing and upgrading its infrastructure.

It was gathered that the Ikeja local government council secretariat legacy projects will be officially commissioned by January/February 2025.



KOSOFE

Ogunlewe Empowerment Foundation Assists Senior Citizens

Kehinde Adeleye

The Moyosore Ogunlewe Empowerment Foundation has demonstrated its commitment to senior citizen welfare through a comprehensive healthcare and financial support initiative across 130 Community Associations (CDAs) in Kosofe Local Government.

Echoneews reports that the program provided door-to-door medical assessments, free medication, and a 5,000 stipend to 1,756 participants who shared their account details.

This initiative, sponsored by the Executive Chairman's Empowerment Foundation, aligns with the grassroots

development strategy promoted by President Tinubu and the THEMES+ Agenda of Governor Sanwo-Olu. The program's focus on integrated healthcare and financial assistance highlights the administration's dedication to supporting elderly citizens and improving their overall quality of life.



Rep. Babajimi Benson, member representing Ikorodu Federal Constituency, flagged off the construction of the Olu-Odo road.

Babajimi Benson Flags Off Olu-Odo Road Construction

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The project, which is expected to bring significant relief to residents and motorists, was announced by Mayor Deen Sanwoola, Director-General of iCare Foundation, who represented Rep. Benson at the ceremony.

He stated that the construction of the Olu-Odo road marks the beginning of a new era for the community.

He expressed his excitement about the project, saying it would bring about significant transformation to the area.

He stressed that the poor state of the road has led to increased maintenance costs for vehicle owners. He explained that the road's condition has made it difficult for residents to maintain their vehicles, resulting in increased costs.

He emphasized the premium advantage of having a well-maintained road, noting that it increases the

value of properties in the area. He explained that a well-maintained road would make the area more attractive to investors and residents.

He urged residents to take ownership of the project and ensure its successful completion. He cautioned youths against disrupting the contractor's work, noting that any hindrance would lead to the contractor being relocated to another area.

He emphasized the importance of community participation in the project, noting that it is crucial for the project's success.

He commended Rep. Benson for his dedication to the welfare of his constituents and his commitment to leaving a lasting legacy in the community.

According to Builder Olusesan Daini, the road construction will start from Oluodo junction, down to Igbo Agbowa,



and connect to the road constructed by the council from Nikemtex. Builder Olusesan Daini explained that this project is part of Rep. Babajimi Benson's efforts to improve

infrastructure in Ikorodu Federal Constituency. Builder Olusesan Daini highlighted Rep. Babajimi Benson's previous projects, including the

construction of roads in Maya, Ijede, Imota, Ikorodu West, Central, and Ikorodu North LCDA. Builder Olusesan Daini assured that the project will be completed, citing Rep. Babajimi Benson's reputation as a promise

keeper.

The Olu-Odo road project is expected to bring significant benefits to the community, including improved accessibility, reduced travel time, and enhanced economic opportunities. Builder Olusesan Daini stated that the project's completion will also contribute to the modernization of Oluodo, making it more attractive to investors and visitors, thanks to the efforts of Rep. Babajimi Benson.

Builder Olusesan Daini stated that a committee will be set up to ensure the smooth execution of the project, comprising representatives from the council, Rep. Babajimi Benson's office, the Community Development Association (CDA), and the traditional ruler.

The contractor handling the Olu-Odo road construction project, Lara Iek Nig. Limited, has appealed to the Community Development Associations (CDAs) and residents to exercise patience and cooperate with them during the construction period.

General Hospital, Ijede Wins Creative Catalyst Award

By Nurudeen Adebayo



General Hospital, Ijede, has been honored with the Creative Catalyst Award at the 2024 Ideas Day Innovation Competition.

The event, organized by the Lagos State Office of Transformation,

Creativity & Innovation (OTCI), recognizes institutions and individuals leading the charge in innovative solutions within the state's public service.

The Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro, presented the

award to the hospital's Medical Director and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Olufemi Aletan, acknowledging his exceptional leadership and dedication to fostering an inclusive, idea-driven work culture.

Celebrating Innovation in

Healthcare

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Aletan attributed the hospital's success to the collective efforts of its staff, emphasizing their commitment to advancing healthcare delivery through

innovative practices.

"This award is a testament to the dedication of our team at General Hospital, Ijede. It reaffirms our belief that every officer's idea has the potential to enhance healthcare delivery and positively impact our community," he said.

Dr. Aletan also expressed gratitude to the Lagos State Government for creating platforms like the Ideas Day Innovation Competition, which inspire creativity and reward excellence in public service.

High Praise from Leadership

Head of Service, Mr. Agoro, lauded Dr. Aletan and the hospital for their groundbreaking contributions to healthcare innovation.

He noted that the Creative Catalyst Award is reserved for organizations that exhibit outstanding ability to implement transformative ideas in

alignment with the state's vision for modernized public service delivery.

Driving Transformation Through Ideas

The Ideas Day Innovation Competition, an annual event by the OTCI, aims to encourage creativity, operational efficiency, and impactful problem-solving in public service.

It recognizes individuals and organizations that implement innovative strategies to address community needs effectively.

General Hospital, Ijede's recognition as a Creative Catalyst highlights its dedication to delivering quality healthcare and advancing the Lagos State Government's agenda for innovation-driven governance.

4,000 Teachers Graduate from Abiru's SAIL Teachers Programme

By Nurudeen Adebayo

No fewer than 4,000 educators graduated from the SAIL Teachers Fellowship Training Program, held at the SAIL Innovation Lab in Ipakodo, Ikorodu. Senator Adetokunbo Mukhail Abiru, representing Lagos East Senatorial District emphasized the significance of this initiative in advancing education.

The SAIL Teachers Fellowship Training Program, co-created by Senator Abiru and his wife under the SAIL Empowerment Foundation, in collaboration with the MTN Foundation and Re-learn by CcHub, has trained an impressive 6,417 educators across Nigeria.

The program aimed to equip teachers with innovative tools and techniques to revolutionize learning in their classrooms.

The training program consisted of two phases: a virtual training for over 6,000 teachers and an intensive, hands-on mentorship for 400 top-performing participants.

As a result, these teachers are now empowered to foster creativity, critical thinking, and engagement among their students.

Senator Abiru expressed his pride in the graduating teachers, stating, "We witnessed a monumental moment in advancing education. Classrooms are evolving into spaces of curiosity and innovation, touching the lives of



thousands of Nigerian students."

He emphasized the importance of human capital development and educational advancement, underscoring his commitment to scaling this initiative further with continued support from the MTN Foundation and other private-sector partners.

Senator Abiru's initiative is a testament to his dedication to education and human capital development.

As he concluded, "To our graduating teachers, take pride in your achievements today, but remember that this is only the beginning.

Use these skills to shape and empower your communities and aspire to be the change-makers who will not only inspire the next generation but

redefine Nigeria's role on the global stage."

Pastor Cornelius Ojelabi, Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Lagos State, commended Senator Tokunbo Abiru for his innovative approach to empowerment. According to Pastor Ojelabi, Senator Abiru has deviated from the traditional method of empowerment, which often involves distributing materials that are quickly sold, having little lasting impact on the community.

Instead, Senator Abiru's approach focuses on empowering individuals with skills and knowledge, preparing them to become employers of labor rather than just recipients of handouts. Pastor Ojelabi praised

this initiative, stating that it is a more effective way to elevate people from poverty and create a more sustainable impact on society.

The Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Abdulkabir Adewale Shotobi, shared his personal experience that highlighted the significance of technology in today's world.

Speaking about an incident that occurred in September, Oba Shotobi narrated how he had traveled to sign a document, only to be told upon arrival that his physical presence was not required. The second part of the document was subsequently signed via email.

He commended Senator Tokunbo

Abiru for his commitment to promoting technology among teachers, youths, and other groups.

The senator's efforts aim to empower individuals with the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Lagos State Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Tolani Sule, applauded Senator Tokunbo Abiru for his commitment to technology-driven programs.

Sule highlighted the alignment of Abiru's initiative with Lagos State's digital transformation agenda, which aims to position the state as a leader in technology-driven education.

According to Sule, the state government is not only upgrading physical infrastructure but also raising the quality of teaching delivery through

digitalization.

This deliberate move is designed to enhance the educational experience and better prepare students for the challenges of the digital age.

Mr. Timothy of CC Hub shared his firsthand experience of witnessing lives changed through the various programs offered at the Senator Abiru Innovation Lab.

Timothy highlighted the ripple effect of Senator Abiru's initiative, citing examples of students from different parts of the country, including Musa from Kano, Ngozi from Aba, Tega from Warri, and Adeola from Obalende, who have benefited from the training.

He noted that these students now experience better learning outcomes, while many young people have acquired skills and secured jobs as a result of the senator's efforts.

On behalf of the beneficiaries, Timothy expressed heartfelt gratitude to Senator Abiru, his wife Feyishola Abiru, and the MTN Foundation for their magnanimity and commitment to education.

Asmau, a teacher from Kano, shared her inspiring story of transformation through the SAIL Teachers Fellowship Program.

Asmau admitted that she, like many others, was initially uncertain about what to expect from the program.

However, through the various phases of the fellowship, she and her colleagues learned, relearned, and unlearned new teaching strategies, collaborative projects, and leadership roles.

Residents Applaud Council Chairman For Health Benefits

By Saheed Afolabi

Residents of Mushin LG have lauded the efforts of the council, Emmanuel Bamigboye on the free health benefits enjoined by the community.

The residents of Lawanson Community in Ward G, Mushin Local Government, recently benefited from free medical services provided by the local government's medical team.

The medical team embarked on their monthly Free Medical Screening and Treatment exercise,

setting up a clinic at the newly completed Okeolu Street.

The initiative offered a range of healthcare services, which includes, health education and counseling, blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, HIV screening and Medical consultations.

Others are Tuberculosis screening, yellow fever vaccination, family planning, provision of essential drugs, eye screening and free eyeglasses.

Community leaders, such as Pa. Sunday Oguntoyibo, expressed deep gratitude to the

council chairman for the free medical services and other development projects undertaken in the area. They actively mobilized residents to take advantage of the healthcare offerings.

This initiative underscores the commitment of the Mushin Local Government to improving the health and well-being of its residents. By providing accessible and affordable healthcare services, the government aims to enhance the quality of life within the community



(Mushin LG chairman, Emmanuel Bamigboye)

Bamigboye Urges Youths To Utilize Newfound Skills

By Saheed Afolabi



(Cross section of the recently graduands of the Mushin LG Skill Acquisition Center)

Over 200 young individuals have been empowered with valuable skills and

startup kits to embark on entrepreneurial journeys, thanks to the efforts of the Mushin Local Government.

Chairman of Mushin LG, Emmanuel Bamigboye tasks the graduands to utilize their new skills to create a financial

pathway to success. The recent graduation ceremony celebrated the successful completion of various

skill acquisition programs, including baking and confectionery, makeup artistry, hairstyling, tie-and-dye, bag making, and catering.

Bamigboye emphasized on the significance of skill acquisition in empowering youth and fostering economic growth.

He expressed his commitment to creating opportunities for the community's young generation and nurturing their potential.

The 250 graduates of the two-week baking and confectionery program, conducted in partnership with Bakery Initiatives, received essential equipment to kickstart their businesses.

Additionally, over 100

youths who completed the four-week program in other skill areas were also presented with startup kits.

Bamigboye urged the graduates to utilize their newfound skills and equipment responsibly, emphasizing that these tools represent an investment in their future.

He also extended his gratitude to the instructors, facilitators, and all those who contributed to the success of the training programs.

The distributed equipment included electric ovens, gas cylinders, cooking pots, sewing machines, makeup kits, and hairstyling tools.

Lawmaker Provides Succour To Alimosho Flood Victims

Kehinde Adeleye

A Member of the House of Representatives representing Alimosho Federal Constituency and Deputy Chairman of the House Committee on Interior, Mr. Ganiyu Adele Ayuba has distributed relief materials to victims of flooding in the White-Sand area, Isheri Oshun Town, Akesan Town, and Obadore Town in Alimosho Federal Constituency, Lagos State.

The intervention followed the motion moved by the distinguished legislator on the floor of the green chamber regarding the flood disaster in White-

Sand and other areas of the Alimosho Federal Constituency on November 9, 2023.

The relief materials were delivered on Saturday, November 30, 2023, by the President Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu-led administration through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). The relief materials, which included foodstuffs, clothing, and other essential household items, were channelled directly to beneficiaries through their respective Community Development Associations (CDA), ensuring an efficient and fair distribution process.

Ayuba, while addressing

the affected community, condoles the victims of the flooding and prays for such an occurrence not to occur again. He said the relief materials distributed encompassed essentials to provide immediate support and comfort to the affected residents.

While also calling for continued support for the present progressive administration in our nation, as more dividends of democracy will come.

The Board of Trustee Chairman of all Community Development Associations (CDA) in the White-Sand area, Alhaji Hakeem



Oladipupo, lauded Mr. Ayuba's proactive leadership and commitment to the

welfare of his people. He described him as a genuine representative of the masses and offered

prayers for his continued success and greater heights in his political journey.

IFAKO

Ifako-Ijaiye LG Commemorates World Disability Day

Kehinde Adeleye

In observance of the 2024 World Disability Day, the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat, honored individuals with disabilities, emphasizing their resilience and potential to transform challenges into strengths.

The event, which convened education and political stakeholders in Ifako-Ijaiye, underscored the significance of inclusion and empowerment for persons with special



abilities.

Representing the Chairman, Vice-Chairman Mrs. Oluwatoyin Awoniyi-

Akerele reaffirmed the administration's steadfast dedication to supporting the Ifako-Ijaiye Disability Network

(IIDN).

She pledged continued assistance and advocacy to ensure the progress

and well-being of its members, highlighting the local government's commitment to fostering an inclusive community.

Dr. Ola Solomons, the guest speaker emphasizing the inherent value and God-given potential of each individual. He encouraged participants to tap into their abilities for personal growth and societal progress, citing instances of individuals who overcame disabilities to achieve remarkable feats.

In addition, the Secretary to the Local Government, Mr. Kolawole Fasusi,

motivated IIDN members to remain determined and hopeful in facing challenges, assuring them of the administration's unwavering dedication to creating an inclusive community for all.

The celebration was graced by the presence of various executive members, well-wishers, and supporters, further demonstrating the council's commitment to solidarity with persons living with disabilities.

Badagry Chairman's Cup: Onilude Expresses Commitment To Sport Development

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude has expressed commitment to the development of sport in the community following the success of the Chairman's Cup. The city of Badagry recently witnessed a

thrilling display of football talent as the Council Chairman hosted the Chairman's Cup. The tournament, held at the prestigious

St. Thomas Nursery and Primary School, brought together the vibrant youth of Badagry, fostering unity, sportsmanship,

and a shared passion for the beautiful game

The final match between PSS Holding and Badagry All Stars was a nail-biting affair that kept spectators on the edge of their seats. Badagry All Stars emerged victorious with a 3-1 scoreline, thanks to a brace from the tournament's top scorer, Destiny Adedeji, while Adegoke Adekola netted the lone goal for PSS Holding.

Aj United secured the third position, and Aliu Raheem was recognized as the Most Valuable Player of the tournament. The council boss highlighted the importance of football in uniting and empowering the youth of Badagry.

He emphasized that the Chairman's Cup is more than just a sporting event; it's a testament to his administration's commitment to uplifting the community through various initiatives.

Mr. Towolawi, the Supervisor for Agric and Social Services, expressed gratitude to the council chairman for his unwavering support.

He explained that the tournament, which commenced in September, involved several stages before culminating in the exciting final.

The Chairman's Cup has left a lasting impression on the people of Badagry, and Onilude's vision for a united and prosperous community continues to inspire and motivate the youth.



(Chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude presenting the trophy to the captain of the victorious Badagry All Stars team)

Onilude Calls For Collective Action Against Violence On Women, Children

By Saheed Afolabi

Mrs. Bunmi Onilude, the Convener of the War Against Rape and Indirect Discrimination (WARAID) initiative has called for a collective and united action to combat violence on women and children. The WARAID members with some pupils after a successful exhibition against women and child violence. Onilude recently hosted the WARAID Solution Exhibition in collaboration with the Badagry Local Government. The event, themed "Unite To End Violence Against Women and

Children," aimed to raise awareness about the pervasive issue of violence against women and children and empower individuals to take action.

During the event, Onilude emphasized the critical importance of collective action in breaking the cycle of violence. She expressed gratitude to the Commissioner for Youth and Social Development, Mr. Mobolaji Ogunlende, and his RAK Development Foundation for their support, as well as to Moniepoint for their sponsorship.

Hajia Risikat Abimbola Padonu-

Hassan, Supervisor for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation in Badagry Local Government, delivered a keynote speech on behalf of Mr Olusegun Onilude. She highlighted the need for parental vigilance, particularly from mothers, in monitoring their children's behavior to prevent abuse.

Mrs. Folashade Rebecca Ajayi, a survivor of rape, shared her personal experience, emphasizing that violence often stems from underlying issues such as poverty and social injustice. Mrs. Agnes Funmilayo Sessi, Chairperson of the Nigeria Labour Congress, discussed her efforts to reduce rape cases in the Mile 12 area and urged

mothers to educate their children about sex.

The event culminated in an award ceremony, recognizing Favour Oshiokenoya for her outstanding artwork titled "Art for Zero

Violence." Oshiokenoya received a cash prize of 100,000, while the first and second runners-up, Abugu Victoria and Teniola Adewale Adeleke, were awarded 70,000 and 50,000, respectively.

Several schools, including Robinson Group of School, Ashapa, Seme-Badagry, Faithful City Mission School, and Master Hand Academy, participated in the event.



(The WARAID members with some pupils after a successful exhibition against women and child violence)

Taaoma and Husband welcome first child

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Popular skit maker Taaoma and her husband Abula Abdul Azeez Oladimeji have welcomed their first child.

The content creator shared the joyful news on Instagram with a touching video featuring her newborn resting on her chest.

Captioning the post, Taaoma revealed her baby girl's name and date of birth, indicating

that the baby arrived in November but the announcement was made just days before her one-month mark. She wrote: "AMANIKOREDEMA KEDAGREENE.7.11.24."

Fans and well-wishers have flooded the comments section with congratulatory messages, celebrating the new addition to her family.



Jibola Dabo's son graduates from university

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Veteran Nollywood actor, Jibola Dabo, and his wife, Binta Mogaji, are ecstatic as their son, Fareed, graduates from

Lead City University. Binta celebrated her son's remarkable educational achievement on Instagram, extending

gratitude to close associates for their steadfast support throughout the academic journey. Additionally, Binta shared photos from her son's convocation at Lead City University,

Ibadan, accompanied by a caption, "Alhamdulillah! I glorify God's name for witnessing my only son's graduation. Convocation 2024. "I'm grateful to my support systems: @kolayems4u,

@waleilebiyi, @olakunleakinyele, @iyaibeji04, @goldmender_global, Alhaji Abdullateef, Mr. Tunde Faloye (Aroplanla), @jibola_dabo, @seunawodele, Taiwo Adamolekun, Alhaji Mutiu Adepoju (Headmaster), Ms. Ayo

Adisa, Madam Bisi Mohammed, @epitome_schools, @performingartslcu, Kola Thomas Junior, House 5 Social Club members, and @jamalmogaji". "Thank you all, and to those who supported us in kind, though too numerous to mention".



Seyi Vibe's 'Different Pattern' ranks among Spotify's top songs of 2024

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Nigerian music sensation, Seyi Vibe achieves another milestone as his hit song “Different Pattern” ranks among Spotify's top songs of 2024.

It's worth noting that the track features on Seyi Vibe's album “Nahamciaga”, released in 2023.

This milestone is a testament to Seyi Vibe's growing influence in the music industry and the global appeal of his unique sound.

Different Pattern has not only topped the charts but has also resonated with listeners worldwide, solidifying Seyi Vibe's position as a leading voice in Nigerian music.

With over 30 million Spotify streams “Different Pattern” has broken records and defied expectations.

Seyi Vibe's achievement is not only a personal milestone, but also a victory for Nigerian music as a whole.

As the genre continues to gain global recognition, “Different Pattern” serves as a shining example of the talent and creativity emanating from the African music scene.

NNL: Lagos FA Pledges Support For State Teams

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Lagos-based teams competing in the 2024/2025 Nigeria National League (NNL) season. LSFA Chairman, Hajji Gafar Olawale Liameed, emphasized the importance of these teams performing well to elevate the standard of football in

the state. He expressed confidence in their ability to achieve success and bring pride to Lagos. "We believe in the potential of our Lagos teams to excel in the NNL. We will continue to provide them with the necessary technical support to help them achieve their goals," Liameed said. He further highlighted the conducive environment created by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, which has contributed to

Lagos's position as a football powerhouse in Nigeria.

"Our aim is to see more Lagos teams ascend to the Nigeria Professional Football League (NPFL). We eagerly anticipate the promotion of two additional clubs to join Ikorodu City FC next season," Liameed added.

Six Lagos State teams are participating in the current NNL season: Smart City, Madiba FC, 1472 FC, Inter Lagos FC, First Bank FC, and Sporting Lagos FC.



Lagos FA chairman, Gafar Liameed

Director General of the Lagos State Sports Commission (LSSC), Mr Lekan Fatodu is optimistic of the opportunities that will be created over the inaugural edition of the Lagos Liga.

The competition which has been earmarked for the growth of the grassroots through the participation of non professional players will give room for talented youngsters to find their feet through the tournament visibility. Fatodu said he's glad with the initiative of the Lagos Liga which will birth talented youngsters from the grassroots.

"I am happy to witness the beginning of this historic moment in Lagos sports," he declared, his voice filled with enthusiasm.

"His Excellency, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, is committed to this project, and we

Lekan Fatodu Excited About Opportunities Of Lagos Liga

By Saheed Afolabi

believe many stars will be identified and groomed."

The Lagos Liga, a revolutionary youth football league, was about to change the face of sports in Lagos forever. This ambitious project aimed to discover and nurture young talent, providing a platform for them to showcase their skills and potentially launch their careers.


As the conference progressed, details of the league's structure and objectives were revealed. The room was filled with nods of approval and whispers of excitement. This was more than just a sports initiative – it was a game-changer.



Director General of Lagos State Sports Commission (LSSC), Mr Lekan Fatodu



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