

# EXPERTS SEEK MEASURES TO CURB UNDERAGE MISDEMEANORS

PG.2



Lekki seaport to  
generate \$201bn  
revenue, create  
170,000 jobs

Ebute-Metta Building  
Collapse: We're taking  
care of the Victims  
- Essien

Mixed reactions  
greet central  
motor park  
project

Lagos 2023: Igbo group supports Sanwo-Olu for second term

Babatunde supports Digital Skill trainees with N500k

# Experts seek measures to curb underage misdemeanors

By Abolaji Adebayo

Concerned about the growing trend of misdemeanors such as fornication, smoking, access to hotel, alcohol and drug and other immoral activities, social analysts and concerned Lagos residents are now calling for stiffer measures to curb the trend.

The call for a stiffer measure followed the leaked sex video involving a 10-year old female student of Chrisland Schools Lagos and male a pupil of the school, during a trip to the World School Games in Dubai.

There are also leaked videos of underage children involved in smoking. Illegal behaviour by minors known as juvenile delinquency is now common in the society.

The rate of the menace has become worrisome, making the residents to call on the right authority to find ways of stopping it.

The juvenile justice system deals with individuals who are specifically under the age of 17, who have committed a criminal offense. Juveniles who commit crimes are considered to have been delinquent.

Nearly every society since the dawn of history has looked on youth crime and juvenile offences as a serious problem, experts believed that Nigerian society should not be different.

The underlining philosophy of Juvenile justice as the history of child welfare in Nigeria became very interesting and of concern for all because it touches every human life; the government, the homes/family and the legal system.

Juvenile offenders are children who committed an offence before they reached eighteen years of age, as defined by the international standards contained in the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

ECHONEWS sampled opinions of Lagosians on the rising case of illegal behaviours by minors in the society.

Some of residents who spoke to ECHONEWS said the responsibility to check the act rests majorly on parents while others believed the government has the legal power to curb the menace. Mrs. Opeyemi Adebayo, a teacher, said the family had a major role to play on deciding how a child would turn-out or behave in the society.

"Parents need to spend more time with their children, yes Lagos stress is there but you should create time to monitor the activities of your children since you are capable of bringing them to the world.



Underage drinking

"If you can't do this everyday, create time. Parents should also be good examples because children mostly display what they see or learn from home," she said.

Mr Samuel Oseni, a clergyman, said children should be taught in the way of the Lord so that the society would be a better place for all.

"The Sunday schools are there to teach these children what they may not teach them in school. Teach them to be better persons and lay good examples while at home with them," he said.

Mr Chijioke Nwokonko, a teacher, said that checking underaged access to hotels, alcohol and drugs is one difficult thing to do in this part of the world, adding that government's policies also make it difficult.

"I mean government policy like the citizens having their national ID card once they get to their secondary level of education.

"It should be strongly implemented by the government that before allowing one entry into a pub, club or a hotel, the ID card should be checked to be sure that

such a person has attained the required age limit to enable them to visit such an environment.

"Also, there are instances where these underaged children already have strong influences, they can call the manager to gain access and make the security man asking for ID card look useless," he said. Nwonkoko said to correct or check this, law enforcement agencies that would act as the watchdog of such acts should be created and adhere strictly to instructions by the government.

"Such agencies should visit hotels and clubs at random in disguise and once they see anyone perceived as underage, their ID cards should be requested and if found wanting, both the management and the underaged children should face the law.

"Drug abuse is drug abuse. This has nothing to do with age though, as such, anyone that is caught engaging in such an act should be apprehended and should be made to go through the complete process of rehabilitation," he said.

Mr Oluomo Talabi, the President, Lagos

Hoteliers Association, said there had been measures to check underage persons from gaining access to hotels as the association strongly condemns the act.

"The measures have been on from time, it's just that this issue of immorality on the part of our children is just coming up now, no thanks to social media, but notwithstanding, it is not something we condone as individuals and as an organization.

"We have put measures in place and at every of our gatherings, we do lecture ourselves on how to combat such a thing.

"You know that it's not possible for a proprietor of the hotel to always be on ground at all times, even some of our staff can be funny but we ensure that all our members have CCTV cameras to monitor what goes on within their premises.

"We organize seminars, lecture one another on the conduct of our staff and the dos and don'ts that should be applicable in all of our branches, even though not all hotels are members of our

association," Talabi said.

Talabi added that experts like university lecturers were sometimes invited to speak to the hoteliers on the current trend in the hospitality industry to make their business run smoothly.

"Even on the issue of drugs, you are aware that NDLEA invaded some hotels. This is not a palatable thing for us, in order for us not to fall victim to such, we talk to ourselves and of course we speak with security agencies by way of collaborating.

"We ask them what they want us to put in place, the dos and don'ts, we take it back to our members so we try as much as possible to adhere to the rules and regulations," he said.

The president said that every member of staff working in hotels had been issued a warning not to allow underage persons access into the premises and to the bars.

"We run bars in our hotels too, no underage can come into our bars. They don't even have access to the hotel in the first instance, not to talk of access to the bar," he said.



# Mixed reactions greet central motor park project

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Different reactions have been trailing the demolition of shops at Powerline bus stop, Ejigbo. The demolition followed continuous meetings between community stakeholders and the chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) on his ambition to construct a central motor park in Ejigbo. However, victims of the demolished shops while speaking to ECHONEWS expressed shock over the incident. A male seamster, Mr. Sulaimon Ilyas whose shop was demolished, disclosed that the council's interest to construct a central park is a good move but the inadequate information dissemination about the project should be efficiently considered as most traders

were not aware of the development until two days before the day of demolition. He appealed to the local council to compensate traders or allocate another trading space to them. A Point of Sales (POS) operator, Mrs. Zainab AbdulRahman on her part appreciated the council authority, saying she believed that the establishment of a central park will aid transport coordination in Ejigbo while praying that the park would be favourable for her sale. However, in a related development, a resident of the area who preferred anonymity told ECHONEWS that the demolition exercise was being taken up by the Lagos State Government as an intervention over the Power line infringement in the area. He said constitutionally, there



A section of the demolished Power line shops in Ejigbo

should be no encroachment of a power line area with a minimum of 50metres from where it ends but which the demolished the area is totally opposite to. He revealed that the issue of

power line encroachment in Ejigbo has been on for almost 2 years or thereabout but residents negligented the government's warning. He noted that the state government had earlier given a

6 month notice, first 21 days notice, second 21 days notice, 7 days notice, first 2 days notice and second 2 days notice before the demolition began. He said that the state

government's action is to curb the residential infringement of the land while advising residents to take note of places they intend to rent or lands they intend to buy on future occasions.

Community Development Committee (CDC) in Ejigbo LCDA has urged residents of the area to actively participate in activities that would bring development to the community. The appeal was made by the CDC chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku in a speech on "Bringing dividends of democracy to the community: Community Development, Committee's perspective". Atiku noted that the basis of democratic dividends is the full participation of the general public/residents in the activities of not only the government but their environment which is what denotes their existence in the grassroots level. He said that their participation is what would facilitate the approval of government projects as they would have the direct access to any government in power. He also noted that residents' full participation would trigger the opportunity to have a say in any political administration as their impact would be greatly felt.

Atiku cited the example of how the establishment of Ejigbo LCDA which was previously a ward in the whole Oshodi-Isolo Local Government became an officially recognized council area on its own. He said community participation is not restricted to age, educational qualification/achievements or

## CDC boss, encourages residents to participate in community activism

By Motolani AbdulGafar

indigeneship as government benefits would be extended to all residents.

He, therefore, urged residents of Ejigbo to participate in Ejigbo community development

processes while commending the efforts of the committee's Public Relations Officer, Mr Toyin

Saka for his participation and contributions so far towards the development of Ejigbo.

## Beneficiaries commend Rotary's donation

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Beneficiaries of Rotary Club of Okota's donation have expressed their gratitude towards the club's service. They explained that their contribution towards them has brought about a new narration to their livelihood. The Rotary Club of Okota donated sets of make-up kits to indigent artists and computer sets to two schools in Okota. Speaking to ECHONEWS, a beneficiary who is a Make-up

apprentice, Mrs. Mayowa Demilade disclosed that the kit has eased one of her major worries in purchasing her personal equipment, promising to utilize it for her business. The young entrepreneur who is a Higher National Degree holder in Computer science revealed that her interest to indulge in the entrepreneurship world was triggered from her ability to create new things from an old version. She assured that she will utilize the equipment to attain her 5-year goal of owning a training school and rendering her

creative service to those in need. The principal of Okota Senior Secondary School, Mr. Ifedayo Akinya expressed utmost gratitude towards the commitment of the rotarians for their consistent contributions towards the development of the school. Akinya said the efforts of RC Okota was an obvious hard work that could be seen in school surroundings within the realm of education among others. He pledged to ensure proper care and utilization of the computer set to improve the educational standard of the students.

The principal of Okota Senior High school, Mrs. Dara Oyefeso also commented that the provision of a printing machine in her school would make available fund for managing materials needed and promised to maintain its usage. In the same vein, the Change Maker President of RC Okota, Rotarian Gabriel Ogogua explained that the essence of the donation is to produce students that are technologically competent and able to freely compete with their peers and also making talented youths relevant in their desired skills.

In his words: "In the world we are today, everything is now technologically driven and you can imagine the challenges incompetent students will encounter when they need to do computer based test in external examinations which will most likely make them unqualified to pass the examination. "Apart from the fact that they need this for examinations, the effective use of digital learning tools in classrooms can increase students' engagement, help teachers improve their lesson plans and facilitate personalized learning process in students."



# Babatunde supports Digital Skill trainees with N500k

By Motolani AbdulGafar

In the just concluded Digital Skill Training for Youths in Orile-Agege Local Government, the council Chairman, Hon. Johnson Babatunde has awarded the sum N500,000 to support the participants. He stated that the act was motivated by the request of one of the participants who sent him a message on his Facebook Page and showed gratitude to him while making it known that many of them are willing to practice all they have learnt but are limited as a result of

lack of phones and laptops. He stated that the money would be used to purchase required gadgets for the participants to aid their learning course. Babatunde said his administration would continue to contribute towards improving the youths, education sector, among others in the council to improve the living condition of his people. He, therefore, encouraged all participants to implement all they have learnt and use the gadgets for its primary purpose for purchasing it.



Beneficiaries of Agege Digital Skill Training

## Council chairman, Egunjobi appoints new SA

The chairman of Agege Local Government, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi, has appointed Mr. Olayiwola Rasheed (Jebba Hamilton) as his Special Adviser on Environment and Community Engagement.

The appointment, according to Egunjobi, was a move as part of the trait to consolidate the existing community development in Agege.

He noted that his administration has so far included able hands to establish a new era for the people of Agege as promised in his manifesto during electioneering. Egunjobi noted that his portrayed integrity in leadership positions, service to humanity, good morals, and strong family values had shaped his life trajectories and inspired his commitment to social change which was part of the conditions considered to have him on board.

Meanwhile, Rasheed as he is best known, is a serial social crusader, professional writer, motivational speaker, researcher, strategist and media expert popularly known in Agege.



Mr Olayiwola Rasheed during his appointment

An aspirant to the Federal House of Representatives under the umbrella of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Hon. Sola Osolana has appealed to rival youth groups involved in recent violent activities and killings in communities within Agege Local Government Area to stop the killings and embrace peace. He made the appeal on completion of the Muslim religious fasting and festival, saying the preachings of the completed holy month should be adhered to. According to him, killings and brutality would not end vengeance but would continue to destruct the orderliness of the society. He noted that part of the essence of their survival is the

## Aspirant urges youths to embrace peace

By Motolani AbdulGafar

fact that most innocent lives among them are the future leaders while urging them to find a common ground to resolve their grudges peacefully.

In his words: "We can't afford to turn our communities to abattoirs where humans are slaughtered daily. This is unbecoming of our great Agege."

"These violent activities has led to loss of lives, and leaving scores badly injured and properties destroyed."

"I appeal to the perpetrators to stop the violence and allow government to address their problems."



Agege youths on the run

Osolana, a former chairmanship candidate of PDP in the last Lagos State Local Government election disclosed his concern about

the continuous violence and attacks by some youth groups in Agege in the last few days. He said the incident have been having an adverse effect on

the economic status and trading activities in Agege Local Government which might becoming unfavourable if it continues.

## Council to commence environmental aids in flooded areas

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Agege Local Government has promised to provide a lasting solution to flooding in the community.

The promised was made through the Council's Special Adviser on Environment and Community Engagement, Mr Olayiwola Rasheed who informed the public on the chairman's facebook page. The response was triggered following the plea made by residents of Agege for the Local Government to proffer

solution to the usual flood cases in their surroundings.

The plea however arouse, having experienced the heavy downpour on May 6, 2022.

Report has it that areas like Abimbola street, Alfa Nla Road and the streets around were fully flooded causing inconvenience for residents.

Rasheed, therefore, implored residents to properly distill their refuse and sewages as it has been noticed that improper distilling of refuse have blocked available drainages in the affected areas.



A section of one of the affected areas in Agege LGA



# Council chairman charges workers on productivity

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Alimosho Local Government, Hon. Jelili Sulaimon, has commended the workforce of the council for their commitment to ensuring development in the council area while charging them to be more productive. He noted that their relentless pursuit has geared Alimosho from being stagnant to a working area where all ideas and dreams are manifested under their watch. Sulaimon described their essence as the engine room of the so-called council area that boasts the world's

economy right from the grassroots. According to him, each working department in Alimosho consists of a phenomenal set of people that move the wheel of society. He noted that since the commencement of his administration, their contributions towards making his manifesto come to life had helped to build a kind of economy in the council that responds to the yearnings and aspirations of the populace in their little way. He urged them to continue to remain resilient, hopeful and focused as they build Alimosho environs with resolve and determination amidst different challenges.



Hon. Jelili Sulaimon

## Vice Chairman tasks community on public properties maintenance

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Vice Chairman of Igando-Ikotun LCDA, Hon. Mojisola Badmos has tasked the residents to maintain and protect the infrastructure provided by the government in their environment.

Badmos made the call with regards to the council's contributions towards the development of the education sector in the area.

She revealed the immediate commencement of the renovation of Igando Primary School to enhance the learning environment for the students in the area.

According to her, the council is on the verge of reconstructing dilapidated school structures such as toilets, roofs, tables, chairs, fences and more as part of ongoing reforms in the education sector.

Badmos who doubles as the Supervisor for Works and Infrastructure, noted that the renovation work, which includes various levels of repairs and/or overhauls in selected schools, will pave way for a conducive learning environment for primary and secondary school pupils in the communities.

She said Akinsanya's administration will no longer be just about awarding contracts, "we are also focusing on learning outcomes and having a synergy between the learning environment and what is learnt."

## Group endorses Yemi Alli for second term

By Saheed Afolabi

The SOKO Group of Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA has endorsed Hon. Adeyemi Alli's second term bid to represent Mushin Federal Constituency I at the House of Representatives.

The endorsement followed the lawmaker's declaration at the meeting held with the members of the group on Wednesday ahead of the party's primary election to be conducted this month.

The hitch-free political gathering was presided over by the LGA Chairman, Hon. Ismail Babatunde Kazeem.

Alli, in the company of his campaign field Marshal and Executive Chairman of Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA, Hon. Rasak Ajala, was warmly received at the venue.

While speaking at the meeting, Alli appreciated all party members for their support so far, since his emergence as the representative of Mushin Constituency I at the House of Representatives.

He further highlighted some of his achievements which are being adjudged by the constituents as unprecedented.

The Executive Chairman of Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA, who also doubles as "Yemi Alli for 2nd Term Campaign" Field Marshal, Hon. Rasak Ajala, urged all party leaders in attendance to support and vote for Alli as the party candidate for the House of Representatives in 2023..

## CP warns officers over unprofessional activities

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Lagos State Commissioner of Police, CP Abiodun Alabi, has warned officers of the command to stay away from all unprofessional and unethical conducts, saying any officer found guilty of the acts will be severely sanctioned.

Alabi issued the warning following the death of a birthday celebrant and his guest in Alimosho Local Government after being shot by a police officer and a pictured police officer smoking Indian hemp at the Ijora axis of the State.

ECHONEWS gathered that the police

officer from Lagos police command shot dead two persons at a birthday party in Egbeda area of the state.

The incident was said to have happened at La Silva Hotel, Egbeda during a birthday celebration.

The celebrant, a businessman at Ikeja computer village, had hired the service of the police officers for security cover at the party but had unexpectedly become a victim of circumstance.

During the party, the police officer who was said to have been drunk, while attempting to shoot into the sky, accidentally shot at those dancing and spraying money.

A video of the incident shared on social media platforms showed how gunshots were fired at those dancing at the party with two persons lying lifeless on the ground after the incident.

In the video, a man who was shot in the leg was seen writhing in pain. Some persons who attended the birthday party also sustained injuries.

However, provisions of the Nigeria Police Act 2020 stipulate that a police officer should not take alcohol and other psychotropic substances while on duty. Section 100(1) of the Act states: "While on duty, a police officer shall not take any intoxicating liquor, psychotropic



CP Abiodun Alabi

substances, or stimulants; where he does, he shall be punished in accordance."

## Bamigboye urges workers on continuous effort

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has urged the workers not to relent in their pursuit of development and greatness to the country.

"I salute our workers in Mushin Local Government for the joy and happiness and the hope of fulfillment of life desire.

"I am with you especially my dear members of the Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) and other Labour Unions in Mushin Local Government.

"I rejoice with you today and wish you many many many more years of celebration in life. I want to use this medium to encourage you towards having positive perception about our country and be optimistic about the beauty and greatness that the future has for Nigeria,



Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye

Lagos State and Mushin Local Government in particular.

"Don't relent in your drive and efforts for the progress and development of our country. Our current challenges are parts

of the turbulence in life and we shall soon overcome all the menace of insecurity, economic disparity and social vices ravaging and threatening our journey to the glorious destination as visioned by

our great leaders during their struggle for independence.

"Let's continue to pray for peace and stability in all aspects of social, political and economy of Nigeria. Don't be discouraged. Be hopeful. Be prayerful and always prophesy positively into the life of our country. Pray for the wisdom of God for our president, governors, legislators, commissioners, council chairmen and all political appointees, to govern with guidance and principles of the Almighty God.

"Sooner than later, members of the Labour force shall have cause to smile and live comfortably in peace, abundant wealth, better working conditions with good salaries and wages. Our efforts and labour shall be handsomely rewarded with abundant blessings for enjoyment of life in God. It shall be well with you all."



# Party chieftain commends GAC for endorsing Sanwo-Olu

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Few days after All Progressives Congress (APC) chieftain in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Captain Adebayo Dosunmu presented a cheque of N1million to the National Leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC) and front-liner in the coming general elections, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu at his Abuja residence, the Marine Captain has once again pledged to support the

**Council gives 7-day ultimatum to retrieve seized vehicles**

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Vehicle owners in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government have been asked to reclaim their seized properties.

It particularly directed the owners of seized trucks and vehicles to visit the council Secretariat to reclaim their abandoned properties.

The council gave a seven-day ultimatum after which the vehicles would be auctioned to the general public.

The directive was issued in a statement signed by the Head of the Information Unit, Prince Semiu Olawale-Cole, stating that several warnings have been given to owners of properties to claim ownership, but unfortunately, nobody has approached the government with proof of ownership till this moment. Sequel to the previous publications in the Vanguard Newspaper on June 18, 2021 and October 11, 2021; The Nation Newspaper on September 26, 2020, January 11, 2021 and December 29, 2020; and Tribune Newspaper on November 12, 2021, respectively, the council told the owners of the abandoned trucks and vehicles on the government's roads, that they have created gridlock, environmental nuisance and posed security threats to Amuwo Community.

second term bid of the Governor of Lagos State, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu with N1 million for his campaign.

This development came after a meeting held by the highest decision making body of the party, the Governing Advisory Council (GAC), approved and sealed a second term ticket for the working governor.

Captain Dosunmu mentioned that seeing the giant strides recorded in the health sector especially during the thick of the COVID 19 pandemic, infrastructure growth in roads networking, health, transport and education

sector in Lagos State within the last 3 years is highly commendable that the Governor was approved by GAC to continue in office.

He said that the governor's efforts so far has given a no vacancy option for other parties in Lagos.

He also noted that the governor has done well in rallying support for the National leader for his presidential ambition and he applauds him for that.

The philanthropist, MD/CEO Dosunmu Holdings Nig Ltd, assured that in coming days, he would pay a courtesy visit to the Lagos State Governor to fulfill his pledge.



Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and Captain Adebayo Dosunmu

## Lagos 2023: Igbo group supports Sanwo-Olu for second term

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Traders under the umbrella of Ndigboamaka Progressive Market Association have endorsed the re-election of Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

Ahead of 2023 election, the association's chapter at Amuwo-Odofin Local Government officially declared its support for Sanwo-Olu after his endorsement by the Lagos elders.

The President of the association, Lagos State chapter, Chief Solomon Ogbonna, at the endorsement disclosed that his representation did not only enclose the Amuwo-Odofin chapter but Lagos factions in general.

He noted that specifically the endorsement is coming from all 58 Igbo markets in Lagos.

Ogbonna said the association had made such move as a result of the favourable business policies and Infrastructure development



Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu in a group picture with Ndigboamaka Progressive Market Association leaders

that had aided their trades in Sanwo-Olu's first tenure.

He said Sanwo-Olu has so far been working in the interest of the people as he empowers and

sustain the citizens of Lagos irrespective of their social status or background.

He said the Igbo community expect a consolidating

governance if re-elected to keep the good work going in Lagos State.

He, therefore, pledged his total support in campaigning for

Sanwo-Olu and the All Progressives Congress (APC) National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu towards their aspirations.



# Pastor bags life imprisonment for raping friend's daughters

By Edith Igbokwe

Ikeja Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences Court has sentenced a 54-year-old pastor, Michael Oliseh, to life imprisonment for defiling his friend's 12-year-old twin daughters. Delivering judgment, Justice Abiola Soladoye described Oliseh, the assistant Pastor of the Anointed Chosen Vessel Ministry in Okota, Lagos, as a "serial rapist" who took turns in defiling his friend's daughters. She held that the prosecution had convincingly proved the charges of defilement against Oliseh beyond any reasonable doubt.

The judge sentenced Oliseh to life imprisonment on two counts bordering on defilement.

"The testimony of the defendant portrayed him as a serial rapist who took turns to defile the survivors. "What a disloyal and untrustworthy pastor, who shamelessly and audaciously had sexual intercourse with his friend's children who were entrusted in his care. His conduct is unbecoming of a pastor.

"Having been found guilty as charged with the two offences, the defendant is hereby sentenced to life imprisonment," adding that he would have his name entered in the Sex Offenders Register of the Lagos State Government.

Soladoye also berated the parents of the survivors for lack of discipline by sending the survivors to stay with the convict.

"Parents of the survivors lack discipline and ought not to have sent their children to go stay in Oliseh's house.

"Children are not to be entrusted with rowdy adults. They should be kept in the hands of responsible adults who have their goodwill at heart.

"The need for responsible parenting cannot be over emphasised," the judge said.

Five witnesses testified at the trial and five exhibits were tendered.

According to the prosecution counsel, Olufunke Adegoke, Oliseh

committed the crimes sometime in November 2017 in Ago, near Okota, a suburb of Lagos.

Adegoke explained that the defendant defiled the survivors after their father had entrusted them in his care and travelled to the village for a burial.

She said Oliseh then threatened the survivors that their father would become jobless if they told anyone about the sexual encounter.

She also submitted that Oliseh was caught by one of the neighbours after he had chased one of the survivors in the compound and dragged her with her pant.

The prosecutor said the offences violated Section 137 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

## Teacher arrested for defiling 8-yr-old

By Edith Igbokwe

A teacher with a private primary school in Ibeju-Lekki, Mr. Ibikunle Francis has been arrested for defiling an eight-year-old primary four pupil of the school.

The police spokesman in Lagos State, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the arrest, adding that the case has been transferred to the gender unit at the police headquarters in Ikeja.

Francis was the victim's class teacher but was transferred to another class.

It was gathered that the secret leaked when the girl fell ill and was taken to a hospital where she was diagnosed with a urinary tract infection.

After being probed by her mother, she opened up that Francis had sexually harassed her twice.

The father of the victim, Mr. Leo, said: "She told us that the teacher touched her private parts and had sex with her in the classroom during closing time.

"She said she wanted to go

and call her sister who is in a kindergarten class when the teacher called her into a classroom and took her to the back of the door."

The Coordinator of a human rights group in Lagos, Advocates for Children and Vulnerable Persons Network (ACVPN), Mr. Ebenezer Omijalile, disclosed that the case was reported at the Akodo Police Station as at the time the victim informed her parents.

"We are following up a case involving an eight-year-old girl who was defiled by her teacher, Mr. Francis, on two different occasions. The perpetrator is in detention at the Akodo Police Station," he said.

Omijalile noted that the matter was the second incidence of sexual assault reported at the station by the group last week.

"We also got a report of a five-year-old residing at Oshoroko area who was sexually abused by her neighbour, a 49-year-old man identified as Baba Favour. The case was reported at the Akodo Police Station on Thursday and the suspect is currently in police custody."

## Commercial driver in police net over illicit drugs found in his vehicle

By Edith Igbokwe

A young commercial driver, Amodu Agbaje, has been arrested for carrying 10 bags of illicit drugs in his car.

The suspect was transferred to Police Command Headquarters, Ikeja for further investigations.

The Lagos State, Police Public Relations Officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin,

stated that the Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Alabi has directed the Commander of Rapid Response Squad (RRS), CSP. Olayinka Egbeyemi, to transfer the suspect and the exhibits to the Command Headquarters for further investigations.

Luck ran out on the suspect when vigilant Rapid Response Squad (RRS)

operatives on routine patrol stopped a yellow commercial bus at about 4am at Stadium Bus Stop, Surulere.

The operatives intercepted the bus and found 10 bags of illicit drugs suspected to be Indian hemp in the bus.

The drugs were packed in ten sacks inside the Lagos colour commercial bus with registration number LND 995 XT from Iddo to a destination in Mushin.

Two occupants of the vehicle escaped, and the driver, Amodu Agbaje, was apprehended.

The arrested driver claimed he was offered N25,000 to convey the drugs with a street value of N3,000,000.

The Commander RRS has transferred the suspect and the exhibits to the police Command Headquarters for further investigations.





# Agunbiade woos electorate with empowerment goodies

By Saheed Afolabi

As the next general elections in Nigeria draw nearer, the member representing Ikorodu Constituency 1 in the Lagos State House of Assembly (LAHA), Hon. SOB Agunbiade has distributed mini buses, sewing machines, and POS machines to some of the constituents to empower them. Agunbiade, who is the majority leader, said the empowerment programme was to take residents away from penury and improve their standard of living.

"When breadwinners take possession of their work, you'll find out that self-policing maybe even more satisfactory than leadership supervision.

"Empowerment of this nature

opens up the community to new ideas and strategies. This puts responsibility and decision making power in the hands of every constituent. It brings a new paradigm shift of prospects and growth catalysts to the grassroots."

The substantial aid was accepted with utmost joy and profound gratitude by both benefactors and stakeholders present, who in turn pledged their overwhelming support for the majority leader as the primary election for the Lagos State Assembly in Ikorodu Constituency 1 draws closer.

The lawmaker had earlier emphasized owing a multitude of appreciation to his constituents for the opportunity granted him repeatedly to represent Ikorodu Constituency 1 in the Lagos State House of

Assembly over and over again to date.

"This opportunity and the resultant mandate have accorded me the magnitude of legislative experience which has equipped me to accomplish the dividends of democracy that I have brought to the constituency in different forms and areas over the years past.

"With this current term now winding up, it becomes imperative to improve on the glowing face of Ikorodu Constituency 1 in the House of assembly and make bolder efforts to further chisel our image as a people on the granite of history with attendant benefits to our people" Agunbiade concluded, simultaneously canvassing his constituents support towards his re-election bid.



Empowerment items

## 'Many investment opportunities available in Epe'

By Saheed Afolabi

In order to establish the assertion that Epe is the new Lagos, co-founder and Head of Strategy & Growth, Dukiya Investments, Mr Bayo Lawal, has affirmed that the city is, without doubt, an environment waiting to be tapped by various investors with the enormous scale of development which is gradually turning the city into Dubai in Nigeria.

Lawal said this at the dinner marking the firm's celebration of its one year anniversary that was recently held at Raddison Blu, Victoria Island, adding, "a lot of people are going to Epe because it has been opened up with many infrastructures, in such a way that all the roads that link Epe to other towns like

Ijebu, Eleko, Lagos island and others have been done, meaning people can go in and out of it without hindrance."

"Having in mind that wherever there is infrastructure in real estate, that is where development is and Epe happened to have affordable properties, where people can invest. Also, some of the ideas that government intends to implement are looking impossible in some already developed areas; they therefore, bring them to Epe because the environment is still a 'virgin' place."

He further expressed that a lot of organizations are now going towards the area, the like of Berger with their cashew plants and other companies going there to set up facilities that can bring future into Lagos or Nigeria in extension.

Speaking on the firm's

contribution to the country, Lawal asserted that "Dukiya has contributed immensely to the development of real estate in Nigeria because when you look at the property owners in Nigeria with Dukiya as an extension, you will see that we have created room for over 200 people to be landlords in Lagos and that may have been impossible if Dukiya investment hasn't come into the market.

"Also, looking at the development of real estate in Nigeria, we are a structured organization to the core, we have an organization that runs whether the leaders are available or not, it is not a one-man system, and that has also helped the real estate organization in Nigeria because many organizations used this system also to help their business and now we have many of them."

## Tinubu has our unflinching support - Seriki

By Saheed Afolabi

Lagos Governor's Advisory Council (GAC) member and the Apashe of Epe, Alhaji Shakirudeen Seriki has described the national leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Asiwaju Bola Tinubu as a God sent whom he prays to be the next president of Nigeria because of how he has trained and nurtured successful politicians who have gone on to be ministers, governors, senators, reps members and others.

Seriki also advocated for Sanwo-Olu to return as Governor of Lagos State, saying he has done very well by carrying party members along in his governance.

"Our prayers are that he becomes the next president of Nigeria. He has trained a lot of politicians including ministers, governors, senators, reps etc. We pray that he becomes the best president Nigeria ever had. He has turned



Asiwaju Bola Tinubu

Security, economic, social, technology etc. He will fix everything if elected. I can assure you that. He will take us to the promised land. People are saying that he is old and weak. He is better and stronger than most of others. We need his intelligence and capability."

The Apshe of Epe land also showered praises on Governor Babajide Sanwo-olu for his great strides in the development of Lagos State and for carrying party members along.

"He is the best governor in Nigeria. He takes care of everyone including party men and women. He is the listening type. He does what we want. He deserves a second chance. We need to know that he is there for us all. Though, he can't satisfy all our needs but he is trying his best possible. I will score him 80% now. We are all supporting him for his second term."

things well in this country. He is God's sent to us in Nigeria. He is only been witch-hunted for nothing. We love him here in Lagos State and we are giving him our support by His Grace.

"I'm a member of all the groups for the actualization of his ambition. We all love him. We want him. He is our hope.

"Look at the state of the nation. Everywhere is messed up.



The Vice Chairman of Lagos East Conference 57 and Executive Chairman of Agboyi Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Dele Oshinowo, led his colleagues across five local governments and 11 LCDAs to throw their weight behind a lawmaker, Senator Tokunbo Abiru for his second term in office. Senator Abiru's second term bid received a major boost as members of Lagos East Conference 57 and All Progressives Congress LGA Chairmen threw their weight behind his return to the Senate as the lawmaker in Ikorodu axis. He emerged as the Lagos East senator after the death of late Senator Adebayo Oshinowo. ECHONEWS gathered that no other contestant purchased expressions of interest or nomination forms against the him.

Abiru emerged as the APC's

# Abiru second term bid unopposed

By Edith Igbokwe

2020 Lagos East bye election candidate, and defeated the candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party, Babatunde Olalere Gbadamosi, and others.

APC Chairmen across the 16 LG/LCDAs affirmed with the leaders in Lagos East, led by Otunba Bushira Alebiosu, alongside other members, Pa. Bashorun Olorunfunmi, Chief Akanni Seriki Bamu, and Former Commissioner for Finance in Lagos State, Wale Edun, in the endorsement of the lawmaker for another term.

The party leaders, while reeling out the senator's achievements within the space of 16 months in office, said he was the first of his kind in the Senatorial District since the return of democracy in 1999.



Senator Abiru

## 2023 House of Reps: I'm well prepared - Owokoya

By Edith Igbokwe

One of the aspirants for the Federal House of Representatives on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Hon. Abiodun Owokoya (Cheche) has said that he is well prepared and ready to

represent his constituency. Having purchased the forms to contest the 2023 Kosofe Federal Constituency seat, Cheche claimed that the payment had made him a well-prepared aspirant and the young people's choice for the House of Representatives race. He reiterated that Senator

Tokunbo Abiru has proven within 16 months in office that one does not have to spend years in the National Assembly before giving quality representation. He urged the delegates to choose the best aspirant for the job without fear of harassment and intimidation during the party's primary.



Cheche with his interest and Nomination forms

## 2023: Adebayo declares to run again

By Edith Igbokwe

Former aspirant of Kosofe House of Assembly Constituency II seat in 2019, Hon. Samuel Adebayo, has said he would soon make official declaration to run the race again. The USA-based founder of Succour for Health and Education Foundation, recently returned to the country ahead of the All Progressives Congress House of Assembly primary election.

In the past four years, he said he had organized free medical care and drugs for the people and as well distributed comprehensive HMO plans worth millions of naira as his contribution to the people of Kosofe.

Other empowerment programmes executed, according to him, include distribution of home appliances and working tools, scholarship and cash grant to beneficiaries across Kosofe wards.

Recently, he shared N25,000 each to 20 beneficiaries and 20 bags of



Hon. Samuel Adebayo

rice to the constituents through Abdulwahid Islamic Foundation.

Political stakeholders who align with his empowering people's programme, described him as a philanthropist who had made significant socioeconomic contributions by touching lives without discrimination.

He once contested for Kosofe Constituency II seat in 2019 on the platform of the All Progressives

Congress (APC) but withdrew for the late Hon. Tunde Braimoh, who later died on July 10, 2020, after a brief illness.

He also succumbed to the party's supremacy during the 2020 Kosofe Constituency II Bye-election and supported the party candidate, Hon. Femi Saheed materially and financially.

He said he would soon make official declaration of his ambition.



# Methodists Bishops endorse Sanwo-Olu for second term

By Saheed Afolabi

The Prelate of the Methodist Church of Nigeria, Dr. Samuel Uche, has promised that the church will continue to pray for the development of Lagos State.

He also said the votes of the entire bishops of the church must go to the Lagos State governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, for his second term bid.

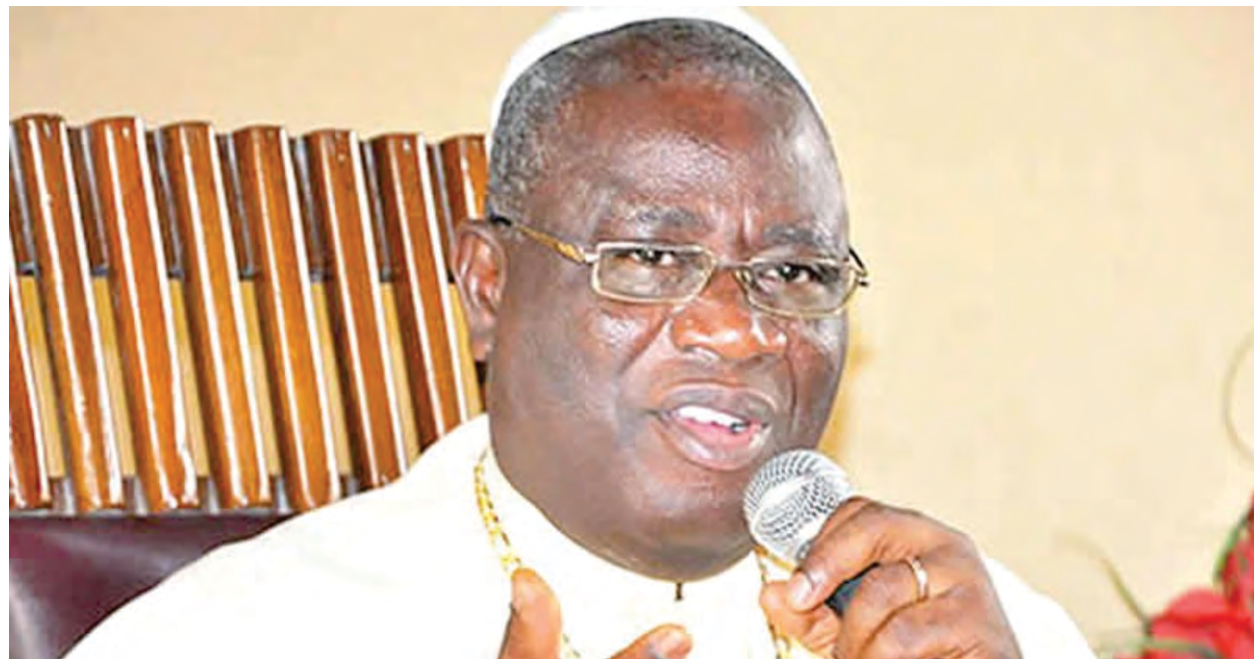
The Prelate, who spoke on behalf of the bishops, disclosed this on Tuesday during the opening session of the 39th Bishop Council held at the Methodist Church of the Trinity, on Lagos Island.

He said: "You (Sanwo-Olu) are among the best in governance we currently have in Nigeria. For this reason, I urge that you be allowed to go for a second

term in office so as to complete the enviable projects that you started and others that are in the pipeline. All the bishops in Lagos will mobilize our members, our votes must go to Sanwo-Olu.

"Though, I am not a card-carrying member of any political party neither am I partisan, yet I value people for who they are and not their political affiliation. I believe people like you are the one we should replicate all over the world. The Bishops' Council will pray for you and other government functionaries so that we continue to have a very progressive and development-oriented Lagos State."

Sanwo-Olu acknowledged the Methodist Church bishops for their endorsement of his administration for a second term and assured Lagos



Rev Samuel Uche speaking at the event

residents of the greatest good.

"I humbly acknowledge and thank you for your quiet endorsement of my second term. We cannot afford to fail.

We cannot afford to give excuses. We cannot afford to give reasons, untenable reasons why we cannot take our country forward.

"I stand before you and I have said this over and over, with every fabric in my body, I will continue to serve the people of Lagos.

"We will serve them without fear or favour, ensuring that the greatest good is for the greatest number," he said.

## Eshinlokun, Adu, Alawiye-King urge parents to preach good morals to children

By Saheed Afolabi

Deputy Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Wasiu Eshinlokun-Sanni; Chairman of Iru/Victoria Island Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Rasheedat Adu and Chairman of State Universal Basic Education (SUBEB), Wahab Alawiye-King, have enjoined parents to consider their children upbringing as paramount than other activities, in a bid to curb moral decadence in the society.

While lamenting the manner in which parents have continued to abandon the moral upbringing of their children to chase money, they stressed that the society where they aimed to get the funds might become uninhabitable as well as inaccessible if every parent refused to retrace their

footsteps and embrace their role on their children.

According to them, working to earn money is not wrong but completely abandoning their role as parents remains an attitude every mother and

father should desist from.

The deputy speaker, in his address, stated that being a working mother does not indicate that all responsibilities should be abandoned to nannies and

other relatives, calling on parents to create a close relationship with their children.

"Parents need to be very observant of their children's activities. And this will help them to be able to teach their

children what they believe is good and bad.

"We should not preach prosperity to them but rather educate them on the need to be hardworking and not about the other way round," he added.

Also speaking, the council chairman argued that the role of parents does not end with giving birth to a child, saying rather it includes nurturing the child to become a responsible citizen.

The Lagos Police Command said it has arrested a middle-aged Lebanese, John Greg, who allegedly drove against traffic recklessly, knocked down a pedestrian and escaped.

The command spokesman, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the arrest.

According to Hundeyin, on May 4 at about 7.45a.m., a middle aged Lebanese by name John Greg drove a Toyota 4Runner recklessly and against traffic on Sanusi Fafunwa Road, Victoria Island.

## Lebanese arrested on Victoria Island for reckless driving

He said the suspect knocked down one female, Omotomi Akinsanya, which resulted in serious injuries to her leg.

"He sped off but was chased and arrested. Suspect in our custody. Vehicle impounded and in our station.

"Victim undergoing treatment at Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH). Victim's family duly informed. Embassy of Lebanon duly informed. Investigation ongoing," he said.





# ASUU Strike: UNILAG students say no to education commercialization

By Edith Igbokwe

A group of students, having team of security officials including the police, protested at the main gate of University of Lagos (UNILAG), over the lingering strike of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU). They carried banners with captions like "we say no to commercialization of education", "every one of us must rise to defend education", "we stand with ASUU revitalization demand."

One of the students at the scene, identified simply as Tolu, confirmed the development at UNILAG to

make their voices heard.

Student groups had earlier declared mass protests across the country.

The almost four-month strike has left public universities shut following the lecture's demands, which the Federal Government had, allegedly, not met.

ASUU had accused the government of poor commitment to the payment of academic earned allowance; the continued use of the Integrated Personnel Payroll Information System and refusal to adopt the Universities Transparency and Accountability Solution, among others.



UNILAG gate during protest

## 33 years old man docked over alleged N31m fraud

By Edith Igbokwe

A 33-year-old man, Babatunde Sanni, who allegedly defrauded his employer of N31 million, was brought before a Yaba Chief Magistrate Court in Lagos.

Sanni is currently facing three counts of conspiracy, obtaining by false pretence and stealing.

He, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Police prosecutor attached to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) Panti, J.I. Enang, said the defendant committed the offences sometime in 2018 at Ilupeju area of Lagos.

He disclosed that the defendant was a staff of the complainant's company, IC Outsourcing Ltd., and was responsible for collecting money from investors on behalf of the company.

According to him, the defendant diverted the sum of N31million to his personal use, claiming that he mistakenly sent the money

to a customer of the company, a representation he knew to be false.

The offences contravened sections 411, 314 and 287 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015 (Revised).

Section 314 is punishable by 15 years imprisonment for obtaining by false pretences, while 287 stipulates three years imprisonment for the offence of stealing.

Chief Magistrate Adeola Adedayo admitted the defendant to bail in the sum of N10 million with two sureties in like sum.

Adedayo held that the sureties must also submit copies of their National Identification Number (NIN), and Bank Verification Number (BVN) to the court.

She further directed that one of the sureties must be a landowner, both must reside within the court's jurisdiction and gainfully employed with evidence of three years tax payment to the Lagos State government. Adedayo adjourned the case until May 18 for mention.

## Ebute-Metta Building Collapse: We're taking care of the Victims - Essien

By Edith Igbokwe

The Lagos Mainland LG Chairman, Hon. Mrs. Omolola Essien, said the council made effort to rescue the victims of the recent building collapse by taking care of them.

During her visit to the survivors at Ebute-Metta Comprehensive Health Center, the council boss confirmed that majority of the survivors sustained minor injuries and have been treated accordingly while the only major case was referred to the Ebute-Metta Federal Medical Center for further treatment. She said she had summoned all relevant stakeholders for an emergency meeting on the need to tackle the incessant building collapse within the LGA.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Zonal coordinator, Southwest, Mr. Ibrahim



Collapsed three storey building in Ebute Meta

Farinloye confirmed the recovery of two dead bodies from the building collapse.

Farinloye also confirmed that 23 persons were so far rescued since the building collapsed.

The recovered bodies were those of a mother and her

child, while the rescued persons included seven children and 16 adults.

He added that nine of those rescued from the building alive have been treated and discharged from the hospital.

"They returned to the scene,

but have been taken away for proper custody while psycho-social and post trauma counselling are being arranged for them by the Nigerian Red Cross," Farinloye said.

However, rescue operations were still ongoing at the site.



# Church integral part of society - Apostle Korede

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman and General leader of the Cherubim and Seraphim Movement Church, Surulere District, Ayo Ni O, Senior Special Apostle Prophet S. F. Korode has condemned the high rate of desperation by the youths in the country, saying there is need for urgent action by the government and the religious

bodies. The Senior Apostle made the remarks while speaking on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the church Wardens Band symposium titled, "The State, The Society and The Church", with the theme "Beacon of Hope for a new Nigeria Today". He said the symposium could not have come at a better time than now, considering the many

challenges facing the nation, "coupled with the normal election period tension and anxiety". According to the Senior Apostle, the Church, as a religious body not for profit organisation, is an integral part of the society. "It cannot afford to be a passive participant in any community or society it finds itself. In fact, the church by its divine mandate is a capacity builder, whose main

purpose is to ensure that its members are heavenly kingdom candidates. This implies that the church must strive to raise disciplined, law abiding and morally upright citizens. "The church definitely has a role to play in the growth and development of our nation. The despair in the nation is almost palpable. The structures of state seem grossly inadequate, ill-

equipped and ill-prepared to tackle these challenges. "And society has been the worst for this ineptitude. There is an urgent need to reverse the trend. We cannot afford to be stagnant, while other economies are rapidly developing their societies. The percentage of our youth and young adults migrating or seeking to migrate to other countries is staggering. We need to be creative

to address this and other challenges." He further said the church holds the belief that the coming "national discourse will contribute meaningfully to the emergency of a better nation, where the citizens will benefit maximally from the abundant human and material resources for which Nigeria is divinely endowed".

Minister of Information, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, has projected that the federal and Lagos governments will generate \$201 billion from the Lekki deep seaport when completed. The minister said this while making a tour of the three free trade zone facilities in the Ibeju Lekki area of Lagos. Mohammed described the Lekki deep seaport as a massive project, a game-changer, and a

## Lekki seaport to generate \$201bn revenue, create 170,000 jobs

pacesetter. "It is the deepest seaport in Nigeria and West Africa, and that in itself is a unique advantage. It covers a land area of 90 hectares and it has a

concession period of 45 years," he said. "It is a consortium that includes China Harbour Engineering Company, Tolaram, Lagos State Government, Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), and Lekki Port Investment Holding Inc." The minister expressed optimism that the project would significantly impact on the unemployment status of the country. "I called it a game-changer because of the impact it will have on the nation's economy and the jobs it will create, among others. The investment is huge: \$1.53 billion on fixed assets and \$800 million on construction," he said "But the aggregate impact has been put at \$361 billion in 45 years, which will be over 200



Lekki Seaport

times the cost of building it. "In addition, it will create 169,972 jobs and bring revenues totalling \$201 billion to the state and FG through taxes, royalties, and duties. "The direct and induced

business revenue impact is estimated at \$158 billion, in addition to a qualitative impact on manufacturing, trade and commercial services sector." The minister also noted that, beyond the revenue and jobs

creation, when the project is completed and operations kickstart, it will make it possible for Nigeria to regain the maritime business that was lost to ports in Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana.

## Police arrests drug baron in Surulere

By Saheed Afolabi and Edith Igbokwe

The Lagos State Police Command has intercepted 10 bags of illicit drugs suspected to be Indian Hemp. The police said the drugs, packed in 10 sacks, were being conveyed in a Lagos colour commercial bus with registration number LND 995 XT from Iddo to a destination in Mushin. The command in a series of tweets on its Twitter handle on Sunday said the bus was stopped by the Rapid Response

Squad at Stadium Bus Stop, Surulere, during a routine patrol. "Luck, however, ran out on the suspects when vigilant Rapid Response Squad (RRS) operatives on routine patrol stopped the bus at about 0400hrs on April 29, 2022 at Stadium Bus Stop, Surulere." The command said while two occupants of the vehicle escaped, the driver identified as Amodu Agbaje was apprehended. "The arrested driver claimed he was offered N25,000 to convey the drugs with street value of N3,000,000."



The Suspect

## SHCJ gets land title document at Intercontinental Park

The Catholic Church Society for Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ) has been presented with its land title at the Intercontinental Park Estate, Ibeju-Lekki, Lagos. The title document of a part of the world-class hub for social, economic, business, religious and recreational activities, within the Ibeju-Lekki was awarded to the Society's representatives, Reverend Sister Christianah Olagunju and her colleague, Reverend Sister Juliana Onyeoke. The Head of Real Estate and former Auditor of the church,



Reverend Sister Olagunju, recounted the reasons they chose to invest in Intercontinental Park instead of the other estates in the

neighbourhood. She said that the association plan is to build a school on the landed property to educate and inspire children of God for a

better nation. Olagunju appreciated the efforts of the promoters among other officials that had made the purchase a success.



# Putting smiles on people's faces through Notayo's Cup gives me joy, happiness - Notayo

By Saheed Afolabi

Notayo's Cup is a seasonal competition pit together to nurture and expose grassroots football players to their dream clubs, it's a competition organized to showcase the numerous talented young players at the grassroots and give them a platform to excel. Speaking to ECHONEWS, sport philanthropist and the sponsor/originator of Notayo's Cup, Mr Lucky Notayo said he is highly impressed with the players that have played in the Notayo's Cup Competition so far and how it gives him joy and happiness putting smiles

on the faces of the youngsters as he duly noted that plans are underway to take the outstanding players of the tournament to clubs in the UK and Italy.

"I can say that I am 80% satisfied with the performances of all the teams so far, I had the privilege to watch the matches live and I must confess that I was really impressed. I know am not suppose to mention any team's name but I have to break the law. I was really impressed with the way the SGH Sports Academy team played.

"Talking of Notayo's Cup, It is a project that I have been wanting to do for many years

now, is just that I always come across the wrong people to work with. Until I met Segun Akoni (Boaz) and Yemi Fortune (Unstop) and they gave me the assurance that, I will get what I want.

And also, Notayo's Cup is something that gives me joy and happiness as I am happy putting smiles on peoples faces.

"My plan is to create and establish the brand first (NOTAYO'S CUP) make it a solid and well respected tournament.

I have teams that I can work with here in UK and Italy in League 1 and 2, that will sign up the outstanding players in the tournament."



Mr Lucky Notayo

## I'm committed to being a great player - Waliat Bello

By Saheed Afolabi

Freekick specialist and highly talented playmaker, Waliat Bello has said that she is committed to being a great player as she commended her coach, Rotimi Diego, for nurturing her to become a world class player.

Bello, who has dribbling skills, long range passes ability and long range shooting accuracy, said her mentor is Rasheedat Ajibade.

She appreciated Nakamura FA for always providing her needs, saying she hopes to become famous and wealthy with football to give back to the society.

"I started playing football at a young age during my primary school days and I was always playing with the boys, so people use to commend me that I am a very good player, then I was brought down to my present club (Nakamura FA) by a man who likes the way I play and since then, I have enjoyed every bit of football at Nakamura FA and kudos to my coach, Rotimi Diego for making me a better player.

"Nakamura FA is one of the best team for me because they

provide everything we need from clothing to shelter and they make us comfortable for us to focus on our career and I pray, I get to be called up to the national team soon."

Bello also talked about how she was convert to a midfielder, which gave her room to explore and enjoyed the game more.

"When I was converted to a midfielder from a winger, it wasn't a difficult one to me but I later preferred it to my former role as a winger because I have more freedom to dazzle, dribble, play long passes and shoot from long distance. Though I know how to play free kick but my coach, Rotimi Diego taught me more on free kick taking accuracy and how to locate the best angle to put the ball at the back of the net.

"Rasheedat Ajibade remains my favorite player because of how she holds on to the ball and dribbles past her opponent with ease and Manchester City is my dream club to play for because of their mesmerizing playing pattern.

"My aim in football is for me to be famous and be wealthy, I want to make my parents rich and empower the less privilege in the society."



Waliat Bello IN BLUE

## Notayo's Cup: 16 teams to compete

By Saheed Afolabi

A total of 16 teams have sealed a place in the round of 16 of the Notayo's Cup Competition and the last 3 teams to make their way to the next are Brenner Sport FC, Success FC and MS Success FC.

The game between Brenner Sport FC and Surulere Warriors was a highly competitive one as both teams showed eagerness to

qualify for the next round but Brenner Sport showed resilience in their play as they won with a slim margin 2-1.

Success FC, who were the runners up in the previous edition of Notayo's Cup was given a tough time by Kings FC as they ended the game with a barren draw which took the game to the penalty shootout, where Success FC emerged winner 4-2.

In the Mushin derby, MS Success

FC defeated Ghetto Tigers FC 4-1, Ghetto Tigers FC had lots of chances in the game but failed to convert it in the final third, while MS Success FC made sure the chances created by them were converted successfully to also book a place in the round of 16 of the Notayo's Cup Competition.

So far, 16 teams have through to the next round of Notayo's Cup Competition that is starting on the 20th of May 2022; they are, SGH

Sorts Academy (Alimosho), Oloke FC (Oshodi), Ultimate Warriors (Sango), Fortune FA (Oshodi), Jogo FA (Oshodi), Agada United (Sango), Nakamura Strikers FC (Mushin), Young Planners FC (Ijesha), Kendoo FC (Oshodi), H.O.P FA (Oshodi-Isolo), Unstoppable FA (Oshodi), Diadem Stallion (Isolo), Shola FC (Ikorodu), Brenner Sport FC (Isolo), Success FC (Oshodi), MS Success FC (Mushin).





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