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Industrial Effluents Threaten Lagos Lagoon

By Kunle Awosiyan

The Nigerian Institution of Environmental Engineers has raised the alarm over the threat the indiscriminate discharge of industrial effluent is having on the sanity of Lagos lagoon. The institution called for quality regulation by the state government in its technical paper, "Industrial Pollution and its Impact on the Lagos Lagoon," stating that the regulatory challenges had constantly hindered pollution control in the state. The presentation noted that the continuous discharge of untreated

industrial effluent pose a severe and recurring threat on the water bodies in the state.

The Chairman of NIEE Lagos, Engr Yusuf Majolagbe, said that instead of the large volume of water in Lagos to serve millions of people, the Lagoon faces increasing threats from industrial pollution.

The stance of the institution corroborates a 2021 study by the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LAEPA) that industrial operations along the lagoon are responsible for more than 60% of its pollution load.

The manufacturing, oil,

and chemical industries are identified as significant contributors to this environmental challenge.

The Lagos Lagoon, spanning approximately 635 square kilometers, is a vital ecological and economic asset for Nigeria's most populous city, however it has become a dumpsite for most industries that do not have effluent treatment facility.

According to 2018 report by the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research, over 75% of the industrial effluents released into the Lagos Lagoon exceed permissible limits for pollutants such as heavy

metals, oil and grease, and suspended solids.

In another study, "Physicochemical characteristics of industrial effluents in Lagos State, Nigeria by Tolutope Oluwasegun Siyanbola, Ajanaku Kolawole Oluseyi, Olusola O. all from Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, except Olusola O. James from Institute of Environmental and Sustainable Chemistry concluded that, there are high industries discharge effluents with high degree of acidity, high BOD and COD values which are not in compliance with FEPA set standards in the lagoon.

The study questions the functionality of the treatment plants in these companies, adding "Should these companies continue to discharge untreated wastes into the environment there will be building up in the metal concentrations of the water bodies and this may pose serious threat to both the aquatic habitat and human beings that consume these aquatic animals.

It called for strict environmental laws to curb this stress, even though the heavy metal content profile of the effluents fell considerably within the tolerable limits stipulated by FEPA.



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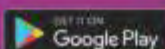
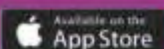
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Industrial Effluents Threaten Lagos Lagoon

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However, NIEE had criticized the stance of environmental agencies in Lagos, particularly LASEPA for not adequately monitoring industrial effluent control, calling on it to adopt new methods to trace pollutants to their origins and apprehend nighttime dischargers.

The engineers sought the strengthening of legislation, enforcing stringent regulations and also involving local communities through awareness campaigns and empowering citizens to participate in pollution control efforts.

Reacting, the Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Environment, Engr. Olakunle Akodu said that the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) has begun a statewide awareness and sensitisation campaign with a call on Manufacturing Industries across the state to stop the discharge of untreated effluent into the drains and water bodies.

Akodu stated that the sensitisation is aimed at

addressing the pressing issues of air pollution and indiscriminate discharge of untreated effluent into the environment and water bodies, adding that there was a need for all stakeholders to take responsibility for environmental protection.

According to him, the campaign will highlight the serious health risks posed by pollutants from industrial activities, emphasising LASEPA's ongoing efforts to promote environmental awareness and protection.

As he put it "In Lagos State, the government's focus is not solely on revenue generation from sanctions. What is key is compliance with environmental rules and regulations. We must protect our environment; industries must treat their effluent before discharging it, that is the practice globally", he stated

While calling for collective responsibility towards environmental sustainability, the Special Adviser urged all stakeholders to join hands with the State government in the fight against climate change and its global warming effect.



Speaking, the General Manager of LASEPA Dr. Babatunde Ajayi, stated that there is an urgent need for ongoing dialogue regarding the management of effluent in Lagos State, a region grappling with rapid industrialisation.

"We are all too familiar with the environmental challenges posed by industrial activities, the untreated effluent from these industries is not only dangerous but also

endangers the well-being of our communities", Ajayi stated.

He highlighted the importance of sensitising industries about their responsibilities in managing effluent.

According to him, every industry must have pollution abatement and effluent treatment plants. "Many industries in Lagos discharge untreated effluent directly into the drains and water bodies with disregard

to its long-term effect on the environment and public health", he said.

The General Manager also referenced the disturbing rise of heavy metal pollution which poses severe health risks, including kidney problems and developmental issues in children, warning that the global standard regulations must be adhered to achieve a sustainable environment that is safe, secure and free from degradation.



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LASODA Celebrates Special Needs Children, Caregivers, Parents

... Harps on Need for More Support, Understanding

The Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) today hosted over 150 children with special needs, caregivers, and owners of homes in an atmosphere of fun to celebrate the uniqueness of the children and encourage their continued growth and inclusion.

The programme, held at the Dr. Oluyomi Abayomi Finnih Recreational Park in Oregon, Ikeja, was organised in line with the state's THEMES Plus Agenda with a focus on the social inclusion of children with disabilities. Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tertiary Education, Mr. Adeniran Kasali expressed gratitude to the caregivers and parents for not isolating their children with special needs out of fear of discrimination.

He emphasised that keeping these children at home limits their access to valuable privileges and socialisation opportunities, which are crucial for their mental and intellectual development.

"By bringing their children out into the community, parents provide them with essential opportunities to grow and integrate into society", he added.

The Permanent Secretary, who was represented by the Deputy Director of Tertiary Education, Mrs. Olubunmi Ibidapo-Obe, further highlighted the importance of community support and understanding in fostering an inclusive environment, urging the society to continue breaking down barriers and challenging stereotypes about disabilities while ensuring that every child



has the chance to thrive. He called on all stakeholders to maintain their commitment to inclusivity, as continued support and engagement are vital for achieving long-term positive outcomes for children with special needs.

Addressing the special needs children, their parents and caregivers at the event, the General Manager of LASODA, Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal emphasised the importance of supporting children with special needs, ensuring they are included and empowered in the community.

She highlighted the state government's efforts in promoting the rights and well-being of people living with disabilities, noting that the programme was a step towards fostering a more inclusive society.

The event, according to

the General Manager, aimed to foster a supportive community and highlight the importance of understanding and embracing diversity, reinforcing the government's commitment to inclusivity and social welfare.

She encouraged the parents of children with special needs to accept the reality of the 'special nature' of their children instead of dwelling on the type of children they hoped for.

This, she said, will assist them in providing adequate care for the special children and also improve their well-being. "By embracing the unique needs and strengths of their children, parents can better tailor their support and interventions, fostering a more inclusive and supportive

environment. This approach not only benefits the children but also enhances family dynamics and overall quality of life", she opined.

The resource persons at the event took turns enlightening participants on how to best cater to the unique needs of children with disabilities. They made presentations on several topics including the "Importance of Therapy" delivered by Mr. Oni Ayooluwa, an Occupational Therapist at Lagos University Teaching Hospital, LUTH; "Psychology for Children with Disabilities and Their Parents" delivered by Mrs. Mabel Okorefor, a Psychologist; "Importance of Education for Children with Special Needs" presented by Mr. Aliyu Azeez and "Self-Care for

Parents of Children with Special Needs", presented by Mrs. Adedoyin Otitoloju, CEO of Iya Ni Wura Foundation.

The celebration was attended by parents, caregivers, and representatives from several NGOs and support groups.

Also present at the event were, the Executive Chairman of Lagos SUBEB, Dr. Hakeem Shittu, represented by Mrs. Hilda Twinx and The Permanent Secretary, Parastatal Monitoring Office, Mrs. Adetutu Ososanya, represented by Mr. Kola Olufuwa.

All the representatives reiterated the importance of inclusivity in the development of children with disabilities and commended the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs for championing the cause

of Persons with Disabilities in Lagos State.

The event also featured various activities, entertainment, and interactive sessions designed to engage and uplift the children, while also providing a platform for their caregivers and families to network and share experiences.

One of the parents, Mr. David Adedigba lauded the Lagos State Government for the support, describing the event as a step in the right direction aimed at improving the quality of life for special needs children.

According to him, the celebration, beyond mere words, demonstrated the state government's commitment to ensuring that all children, regardless of ability, are provided with the opportunities to thrive.

The Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH) has officially opened a brand new ultra-modern 15-bed Male Medical Ward situated at the Paediatric Sickle Cell Centre within the hospital premises.

The Chief Medical Director, Professor Adetokunbo O. Fabamwo, in his address at the commissioning ceremony on Monday, reaffirmed LASUTH's Management commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare and providing a conducive environment for medical professionals.

Prof. Fabamwo said, "The hospital management is keen on continuously providing a conducive working environment for its patients and staff. Most of the recent infrastructural developments in LASUTH have inbuilt provisions for the welfare of all, particularly the staff, in terms of consultant offices, call rooms, changing rooms, and other facilities".

While handing over the ward to the Head of the Medicine Department, Dr. Folashade Daniel, who was represented by Dr. Adeola Ajibare, the CMD stated that the ultra-modern Male Medical Ward B is meticulously designed to enhance

LASUTH Opens Exquisite 15-Bed Male Medical Ward

excellent patient care while maintaining the highest standard of medical services.

Professor Adebowale O. Adekoya, the Director of Clinical Services and Training noted that the ward boasts of contemporary architectural designs integrated with smart technologies, which enhance workflow efficiency for doctors and nurses.

"The 15-bed ward is equipped with private rooms, fire exits, doctors' call rooms, nurses' room, nurses' station, domestic staff room, spacious waiting areas, and other essential amenities that contribute to a patient-centred experience", he said.

On her part, Mrs. Temitope Sikaiye, Deputy Director of Nursing Services and Head of Nursing for Clinical Services commended Professor Fabamwo for his visionary leadership and members of the management committee for ensuring that the



promise made to deliver a state-of-the-art facility that is fully equipped to meet the needs of both patients and healthcare provider, was well kept.

She assured the management of the nurses' continuous commitment to delivering excellent

healthcare services to all patients.

In response, the representative of the Head of the Medicine Department, Dr. Adeola Ajibare conveyed the department's appreciation to the Chief Medical Director and the

Management Team for their relentless efforts in bringing the project to fruition.

Also speaking, Mrs. Fatoke, the Acting Deputy Director of Nursing Services praised the team for their dedication to enhancing patient care.

Dr. Olanrewaju Abdulafeez, speaking on behalf of the Resident Doctors, expressed gratitude to LASUTH management for providing such modern facilities, which will translate to improved and efficient medical services.

LASODA Urges Parents To Prioritise Education For Children With Disabilities

The General Manager of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA), Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal, has advised parents never to deprive their children of education due to a disability, emphasising that education is a fundamental human right upheld by the Lagos State Special People's Law of 2011.

She reiterated the state's commitment to ensuring inclusivity and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities, particularly in the education sector. Oyetunde-Lawal made this statement during the 8th Annual Conference of

the Deaf Teachers Association, held recently at Wesley School for the Hearing Impaired in Surulere, Lagos.

Highlighting the critical importance of education for both personal and societal development, the GM described education as a powerful tool for reducing discrimination, fostering social cohesion, and promoting peace.

She warned that denying education to any group based on disability would be a grave injustice, adding that the deaf community possesses immense intelligence and creativity, which society cannot afford to overlook. "Teaching is a profession that shapes the future,

and in the context of the deaf community, it takes on even deeper significance. You, as educators of the deaf, are not only teachers – you are champions of inclusion, role models, and agents of change", she averred.

The General Manager commended the teachers for their unwavering dedication to deaf education, praising them for giving hope to parents and children with hearing impairments.

She emphasised the critical role these educators play in fostering self-worth, confidence, and the belief that every child, regardless of ability, can

succeed. Oyetunde-Lawal also reaffirmed LASODA's commitment to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's "Leaving No One Behind" agenda, assuring the audience that the office is working tirelessly to fully integrate persons with disabilities into Lagos society.

She outlined Agency's ongoing efforts to eliminate discrimination and provide equal opportunities in education, employment, and daily life.

As part of its strategy, LASODA has been actively raising awareness about disabilities to reduce stigma and create a more

inclusive community.

Oyetunde-Lawal highlighted the success of the agency's sign language workshops, which have trained law enforcement officers, public service officials, and other stakeholders in basic sign language skills. She assured the attendees that these initiatives would continue to expand, fostering better communication and understanding between hearing and hearing-impaired individuals.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Acting National President of the Deaf Teachers Association of Nigeria, Dr. Tola Odusanya expressed gratitude to the General

Manager for her presence and emphasised the importance of collaboration with the disability community to champion the cause of inclusive policies and initiatives concerning deaf teachers and students.

The 8th Annual Conference of the Deaf Teachers Association focused on promoting inclusivity and improving the quality of deaf education, brought together educators, policymakers, and advocates from across the state to exchange ideas and strengthen the network of support for hearing-impaired students in Lagos State.

Lagos Govt Revamps Scholarship Board, Boosts Automation

The Lagos State Government has disclosed that it has revamped Lagos Scholarship Board and also boosted its automation as part of efforts to make the agency more effective and efficient

Ms. Adenike Adekanbi, General Manager of Lagos State Infrastructure Asset Management Agency (LASIAMA) made this disclosure recently at the Iyana Ipaja office during the final inspection of the revamped office.

She disclosed that the renovation is part of a broader initiative by the Lagos State Government to modernise infrastructure and enhance service delivery. Adekanbi said, "The renovation reflects the Lagos State Government's commitment to improving public service facilities. Under my leadership, we have ensured that the project not only met but exceeded its objectives, resulting in a more functional workspace".

Board Secretary Abdurahman Lekki expressed his appreciation for the upgrade, highlighting its positive impact on the Board's operations.

"The renovation has dramatically transformed our office environment. We now have a more spacious and conducive workspace, increased staff morale, and upgraded toilet facilities", he said

Lekki also pointed out that the renovation aligns with the Board's ongoing digital transformation, adding that the Board has fully automated its processes, including online interactions with beneficiaries via platforms like Zoom, to streamline operations and enhance efficiency.

He commended Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for his crucial support in both the physical renovation

and digital modernisation efforts.

"Governor Sanwo-Olu's administration is deeply committed to modernising public services. The Governor's support for automation and infrastructure improvements demonstrates a strategic vision for boosting government efficiency", Lekki remarked.

The revamped Lagos State Scholarship Board office now stands as a testament to the state's dedication to upgrading its facilities and services. The modernised workspace is expected to enhance both staff productivity and beneficiary satisfaction, marking a significant advancement for the Board and its role in supporting students across Lagos State.

The renovation, executed by Ardent Waypoint Ltd, represents a major upgrade in the Board's operational environment.



The General Hospital Somolu has been visited by the Hospital Transformation Support Initiative (HTSI) Team from the Health Service Commission.

The visit is in line with the Health Service Commission mandate to ensure that all state-owned General Hospitals in Lagos are working in tandem with the laid down status quo for health facilities. The Permanent Secretary, Health Service Commission, Dr. Ademuyiwa Benjamin Eniayewun, who led the inspection team, commended the management of the hospital, stressing that the team is highly impressed with what they met on ground.

According to him, the periodic tour of general

Lagos Health Service Commission Inspect General Hospital, Somolu

hospitals in the state is to appraise the quality of healthcare service delivery to residents by the facilities.

Eniayewun, while applauding the competency exhibited by the medical personnel in the hospital despite the challenges of space constraints, maintained that more can still be done to enhance healthcare delivery.

Responding, the Medical Director/Chief Executive Officer of GH Somolu, Dr. Mustapha Adebola Quadri, who was on ground with members of the management staff to



receive the team, promised that the workers will do everything in their capacity to continue to improve services and make the facility the

cynosure of all eyes. Some of the places inspected by the HTSI include The Accident and Emergency Ward, Ante-Natal Clinic and The General Out-

Patients Department, Post and Neo-Natal Wards, Labour Room, Consulting Rooms, Laboratory and Paediatrics Ward among others.

Sanwo-Olu Emphasises Importance of Health Insurance Schemes In Nigeria

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has tasked the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) to lead the advocacy on the importance of health insurance schemes in Nigeria for citizens to be able to have access to good healthcare. The Governor stated this during a courtesy visit by the National Leadership of Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), led by the President, Dr. (Prof.) Bala Mohammed Audu, to the Office of the Deputy Governor, Alausa, Ikeja, stressing that the move would ensure citizens have access to quality healthcare services and promote a healthier

population through increased insurance coverage. Sanwo-Olu, who was represented by his Deputy, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat said there is a need to find a way to explain to our people that a health insurance scheme is important. "As people find it difficult to fund their health on their own. As such, every nation or state in the world must take the health of its citizens paramount and seriously", he said. The Governor noted that the Lagos State government recognises the crucial role of health insurance in catering for the healthcare

needs of the state's rapidly growing population, which is why health insurance is a top priority in the state. While speaking on the number of private hospitals in Lagos, compared to the number of general hospitals, the Governor stated that there is a need for the association to make sure that private hospitals are also at the level where people's health can be well maintained and managed properly with the help of insurance schemes. He reiterated that the present administration is about to establish the University of Medicine and Allied Science, to increase the number of

medical doctors the state produces, from 150 to about a thousand and more. "We are trying to increase our Primary Health Centres so that we can treat people better under our Lagos State Health Insurance Scheme. As part of our health insurance, we include more private hospitals to join the scheme and I think that is what we need to push to every part of the country so that people can have access to health insurance", Sanwo-Olu said. Earlier in his Address, the President Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Prof. Bala Muhammed Audu

said the association is committed to partnering with the Lagos State government to achieve universal health coverage and international best practices in healthcare. While acknowledging Sanwo-Olu's administration achievements in healthcare, Prof. Bala noted that its impact on the Ilera Eko programme, the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, and during the COVID-19 pandemic is commendable. Speaking on the responsibilities of the association, Prof. Bala noted the association is dedicated to advocating for facility regulation,

universal applicability of standards of care, and welfare for healthcare professionals. The President, therefore, requested that the Lagos State Governor should champion the advocacies to the Nigerian Governors Forum and Mr. President. He also solicited support for the association's National Secretariat building project and requested welfare packages for doctors in Lagos State, including implementation of the reviewed CONMESS, non-taxable call duty allowance, housing/car loan, and a bus.





Lagos Govt Reiterates Commitment To Youth Development Through Empowerment

The Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, has once again reiterated its unwavering commitment to youth development by empowering and supporting the creative sector.

This was disclosed by the State Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka during an art exhibition by a young creative, Somtochukwu Obi, at Thought Pyramid Arts Centre on Norman Williams Street, Ikoyi, Lagos, on Sunday. While addressing the gathering, the Commissioner expressed

her amazement at the talent displayed by the young artist, saying “I was amazed at the talent. He showed us his story, which is part of some of his paintings, which speaks of his existence, his being in art”.

“I always say that our brains are wired differently from that of young artists, songwriters, and singers. They think very differently from us”.

She added that Somtochukwu shared with her a painting titled the 'Jesters' which resonated deeply with her because it told the

story of how his parents, like many of them, wanted him to pursue a traditional profession like architecture, engineering, or law. But his passion for art shone through, and here he is today, showcasing his incredible talent.

Benson-Awoyinka further emphasised that the Sanwo-Olu-led administration remains deliberate in its efforts to support the creative industry, which comprises a significant portion of Lagos' youth population.

“The Sanwo-Olu-led administration will continue to be deliberate in youth

development through unflinching support for the creative industry”, she stated. The Commissioner equally expressed her pride in Somtochukwu's work, noting that he didn't need to do too much to catch her attention. Within an hour, he showed that he was exceptionally talented.

“Looking at the volume of work displayed and the creativity involved, I am so proud of him. We will continue to promote and support him and other talents like him out there”, she enthused.

In his remarks,

Somtochukwu's lecturer at Covenant University, where he studied architecture, Eghosa Ekhaese recalled noticing his immense talent from his first year as a student. “I have been mentoring and cheering him on since then and I am particularly happy that he understands the business side of art and has been making money steadily throughout his time in school without allowing it to affect his academic performance”. The Curator of the exhibition/owner of Thought Pyramid Art Centre Ikoyi, Mr. Ovie Omatshola praised Somtochukwu for his level-headedness and

great talent. “I believe he is going to go places because of the uniqueness of his art”. Somtochukwu, who graduated with a degree in architecture from Covenant University in 2017, shared how he began using the architectural ink pen meant for architectural drawings in his paintings out of curiosity. “I've never looked back since then”, he said. His work is influenced by the happenings around him, through paintings like City Boy, which depict how smart Lagosians are due to the daily hustles compared to other parts of the country.

Lagos Govt Trains Public Toilet Operators On New Sanitation Practices

The Lagos State Government, over the weekend, trained and rallied Public Toilet Operators on new sanitation techniques and operations for efficient service delivery in the state.

Addressing participants during the Training Workshop for Public Toilets Operators and Janitors in Lagos State held at the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ikeja, the Special Adviser on Environment, Engr. Olakunle Rotimi-Akodu reiterated the government's commitment to eradicating open defecation and other environmental nuisances to reduce vulnerability to disease outbreaks and promote social security across the metropolis. Akodu said the State Government recognises the crucial role of janitors and public toilet

operators and the need to build capacity to meet the challenges of service delivery in tandem with the T.H.E.M.E.S plus agenda of the present administration.

He added that the training was aimed at inculcating best practices in toilet management with a focus on eradicating Open Defecation in line with the Federal Government's target of achieving Open Defecation in Nigeria by 2025, adding that the State Government adopted the "Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet" Campaign flagged off in 2021.

He stressed that the Campaign has been taken to the grassroots and launched in 11 Local Government Areas across the State, noting that the campaign is in addition to regular Sanitation Advocacy

programmes being carried out in Markets and Communities across the State.

Akodu maintained that the Government is determined to deal decisively with anyone engaging in Open Defecation in accordance with the extant laws of the State.

According to him, Lagos will not use billions to build infrastructure and some people will mess it up. Lagos has taken it upon itself to recruit officers that will man the different areas, especially the Berger area so that it will not degenerate.

"Enforcers have started arresting people who defecate on the median along Lagos/Ibadan Expressway (Lagos Axis) and they will be prosecuted accordingly. I hope this will put fear amongst

other culprits. I will use this opportunity to appeal to the government of Ogun state to take it from where Lagos stopped and do same on enforcement as Lagos government is doing so that open defecation will be brought to the barest minimal", he said.

He explained that the Government, in addressing the trend of Open Defecation across the State, developed a four cardinal points roadmap, which are Advocacy, Regularization and standardization, Bridging the gap and Monitoring, as well as Evaluation and Enforcement.

Akodu added that the training workshop comes under Regularisation and standardisation, saying the Ministry

has also rolled out a comprehensive operational guideline to guide the operation of public toilets in the State.

He informed the participants that the present administration has decided to construct 100 Units of Public toilets across strategic locations in the State to bridge the infrastructural gap.

He said the ongoing training workshop and capacity building was to equip operators with the skills and knowledge required to excel in their roles for a sustainable environment and to ensure access to clean and welcoming toilets thereby encouraging positive behavioural change.

He emphasised that the workshop was organised to expose toilet operators to global standards, guidelines and best practices for public toilet operation and

maintenance, which will not only benefit the participants but also improve the state of the environment and health in the State.

Earlier in his remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Dr. Tajudeen Gaji noted that the Government is committed and would continue to ensure good working conditions for toilet operators and janitors. The Permanent Secretary who spoke through the Director of Sanitation Services, Dr. Hassan Sanuth, added that the workshop topics focused on Promoting Clean, Safe and hygienic toilet facilities - the role of Government and proper hygiene practices and Sanitation techniques for public operators and janitors.



Eco-Circulate: Badagry Residents Benefit From Lagos Waste-To-Value Initiative

Badagry Residents, at the weekend, received various rewards like food items, cash, free transport vouchers, health insurance admission and more from the Lagos State government's new Circular Economy initiative aimed at boosting sustainable development practices in the state. The event, tagged: 'Eco-Circulate', was organised by the Office of the Special Adviser on Climate Change and Circular Economy, led by Mrs. Titilayo Oshodi, was held at the St. Thomas Primary School, Agbalata Market. Residents thronged the venue to exchange their waste, ranging from pet bottles, rubbers, and other disposed household items, to get food items like rice, garri and instant cash rewards through transfers into their bank accounts.

According to the Special Adviser, "Eco-Circulate is a waste valorisation, data aggregation and circular education programme used to enlighten and teach the community about the value around waste recycling, reusing and reducing".

Oshodi said, "Every community needs to be educated and enlightened. They need to understand that effective and responsible management of their waste will affect their health and productivity, financial

capability and improve their overall quality of life".

"The programme will feature a vibrant waste-to-value bazaar offering health insurance enrollment opportunities, free transportation vouchers, food items and more" she added.

Oshodi stated further that the government had been doing a lot on Circular Economy in the city of Lagos through the Ministry of the Environment and LAWMA, but that there is a need to sustain the practice from the rural areas which necessitated the need for Eco-Circulate to engage

communities.

Her words, "There is a need for us to begin to stimulate the ideals and the models of the circular economy. We already started doing this over some time in Lagos. There has been a lot of work done with the Ministry of Environment through LAWMA.

"So, this Programme is bringing to the fore the ability for the government to partner with the private sector in rewarding a responsible waste disposal whether cans, pet bottles, sachets, e-wastes, and textiles at designated collection centres are positioned to provide value which

comes in different ways such as discount in transport (BRT, Rail and Waterways); Health Policy schemes and many more".

The Special Adviser said her Office partnered with other government Agencies like Lagos Wealth Management Authority (LAWMA), Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), Lagos State Residents Registration (LASRRA), Ibile Oil and Gas Corporation (IOGC) and some private entities who are already into the waste-to-wealth business to ensure

that the aggregate measures of reward meet the waste collected at the designated centres.

Highlighting the sustainability of the initiative, Oshodi added "Badagry is our first because we want to use it to draw the data that would help us to build the necessary business case so that we can scale it. We plan to run this Programme across the 57 local councils in Lagos. And that is the mandate Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has given us".

In his remark, the Commissioner for Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mr. Bolaji Roberts, who hails from Badagry,

urged residents to take full advantage of the initiative.

While assuring residents' cooperation in the exercise, he thanked the Office of the Special Adviser on Climate Change and Circular Economy for considering Badagry worthy of hosting the flag-off campaign.

Eco-Circulate is a One-Day sensitisation campaign to enlighten communities on the values waste can offer for their needs, activate and engage communities, especially businesses on the Nano and Micro level, as key beneficiaries in the state's drive towards a Circular Economy.



Happy Birthday

May God give you longer life and everlasting happiness. May your animate and inanimate possessions multiply and may good health be your portion always.

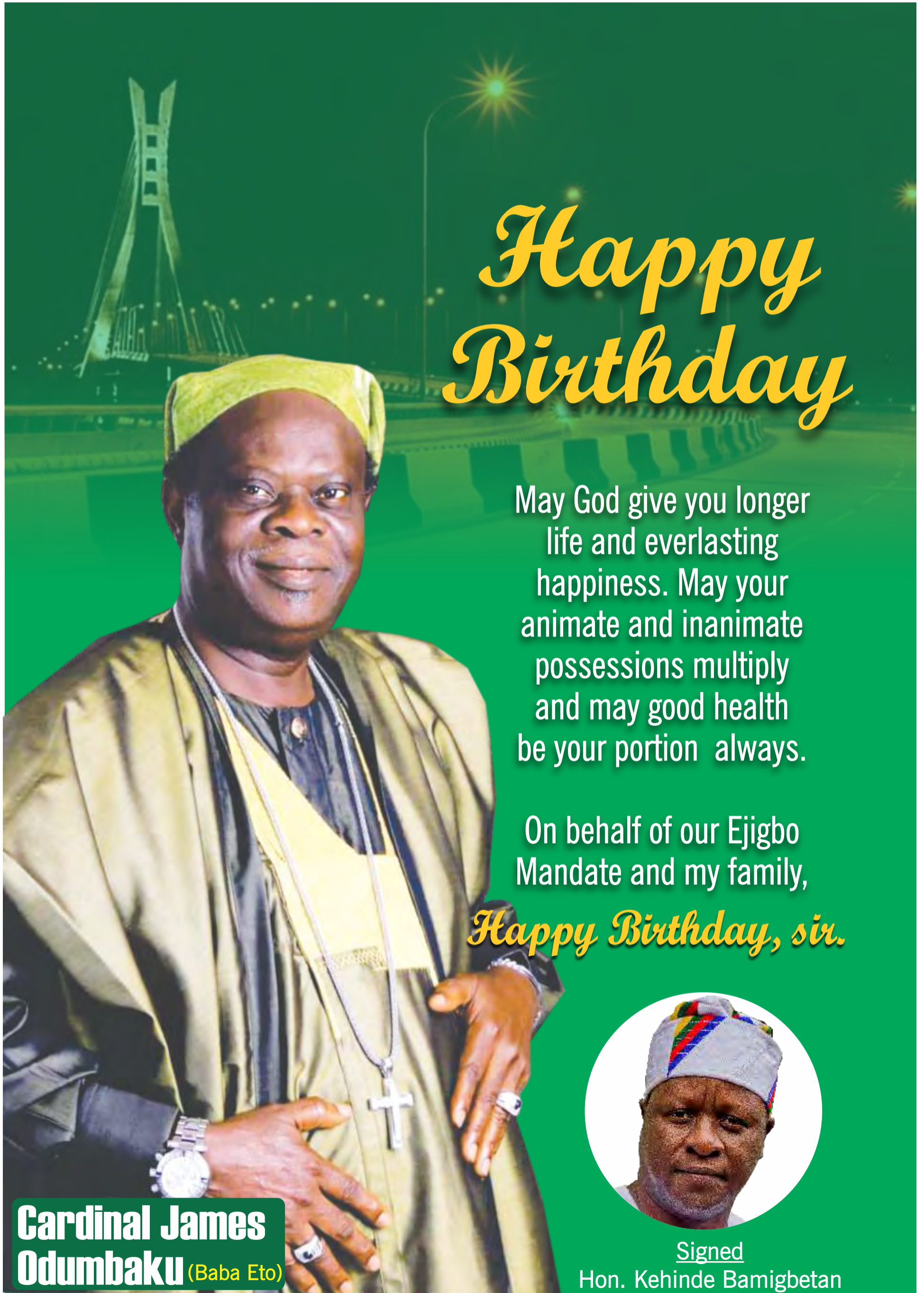
On behalf of our Ejigbo Mandate and my family,

Happy Birthday, sir.



Signed
Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan

**Cardinal James
Odumbaku** (Baba Eto)



Lagos Govt Trains 200 Youth on Specialised ICT Programme

... Training To Run Simultaneously Across Five Divisions

The Lagos State Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, in collaboration with Mac Tay Consulting Ltd, has organised a specialised training programme on Information Communication Technology for 200 Youths as part of efforts to enhance high-tech proficiencies and employability in the State.

Speaking at a Press Briefing held recently at The Secretariat, Alausa, on the initiative, the Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment, Hon. Akinyemi Bankole Ajigbotafe stated that the training aims to close the digital skills gap and boost participants' employability.

He added that the ICT training will also equip the youth with the skills needed to compete in the 21st-century competitive market while bridging their skill gap in Information Communication Technology.

Ajigbotafe further noted that the training marks a significant step in the quest by the State Government to empower the youth and foster a vibrant economy in the State. "The initiative is an integral part of Lagos State's broader vision to build a digitally inclusive and economically empowered society and also in tandem with the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus agenda of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu administration".

"The jet age is fast growing with the use of hi-tech, which has

contributed significantly to our day-to-day operational activities. It is pertinent to equip the youth with specialised technology skills to foster creativity and innovation at workplace and homes as well as to drive the economic growth of the State", he added.

While informing that the ICT training will create job opportunities for the youths, he charged trainees to utilise the opportunity offered by the programme to improve their status in life, revealing that the training will cover important areas like Data Science and Full Stack Web Development.

According to him, the duration of the specialised ICT training is four Months, commencing in October

2024 and concluding in January 2025, adding that sessions will be held three times a week - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm to ensure that participants receive comprehensive,

He pointed out that upon completion, participants will earn globally recognised certifications that meet international standards and this certification, including industry credentials like Information Technology Specialist - Data Analyst and Adobe certified

Professional - Web Authoring using Adobe Dreamweaver, will provide participants with competitive qualifications, making them attractive to employers and enabling them to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.



IFAKO

Ifako-Ijaiye Council Boss Empowers Indigent Students With Free GCE Forms

Kehinde Adeleye

Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat, the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, has once again demonstrated his unwavering commitment to academic excellence and equal opportunities for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Echonews reports that building on his ongoing efforts to empower young learners, Hamzat has offered free GCE

forms for the third consecutive year, in addition to providing hundreds of students with free tutorial classes at UNA Primary School, Iju, and African Church Primary School, Ifako. Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat's dedication to educational equity was further underscored by the meticulous organization and large-scale implementation of the free GCE form distribution program.

Following the initial screening and data capture process, which commenced on the 30th of August and extended through to the 1st of September, the actual distribution of the forms took place at African Church Primary School and the Local Government Secretariat, Idiagbon. This expansion of distribution centers reflects Prince UAH's commitment to maximizing access and ensuring that all qualified beneficiaries

have an opportunity to benefit from this life-changing initiative.

Alhaji Lawal Adelani, Supervisory Councillor for Education, represented Prince Usman at the event, where he encouraged beneficiaries to strive for excellence in the upcoming exams. He also announced the Council Chairman's plan to recognize and reward outstanding students, thereby motivating them to achieve academic success.

This initiative is an

annual tradition for the Chairman, who has consistently provided free GCE and JAMB forms to underprivileged students in the Local Government, fostering equal access to education and opportunities for all. Going beyond the provision of free GCE and JAMB forms, Prince Usman has consistently showcased his unwavering dedication to education and the

well-being of Ifako-Ijaiye's youth through a wide range of landmark initiatives in the education sector.

These initiatives include the distribution of free exercise books, furniture, uniforms, and school bags; perimeter fencing and renovation of schools; the establishment of an arts and crafts centre and a public library; as well as the training of 100 public school teachers, among numerous other efforts.

Lagos Plans Physical Planning Summit For October

The Lagos State Government has said that it is set to host a landmark Physical Planning Summit in October that will bring together stakeholders from far and wide to discuss and shape the future of physical planning in the State.

The summit, themed: "Lagos, Africa's Model Mega City: Issues and Prospects", slated for October 15th and 16th at the Eko Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos, aims to explore the challenges and opportunities facing Lagos as it strives to

become a smart mega city and identify strategies for sustainable physical planning and development.

According to a release by Mukaila Sanusi, Head of Public Affairs, Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, some of the pivotal issues to be discussed include "Urbanisation and its impacts on physical planning", "Innovative approaches to physical planning and urban design" and "Stakeholders' engagement and participation in



LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Physical Planning & Urban Development

development plans". Others, according to him, are "sustainable development strategies for a resilient Lagos", "Effective governance" and 'policy frameworks for physical planning". While revealing that more information on registration details will be announced soon, he averred that the summit promises to be a groundbreaking event, offering a unique opportunity for stakeholders to contribute to the development of a comprehensive physical planning framework for Lagos State.

Lagos Govt Trains Parents of Out-of-School Children

The Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA), Mrs. Bolaji Dada has commended all participants at the just concluded Life Skill Economic Empowerment Programme (LEEP) held recently at Maryland, in collaboration with State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).

The programme, which was organised by the Ministry for parents of enrolled out-of-school children, is aimed at providing essential skills and resources for economic independence. Dada commended the Governor of Lagos State,



Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for his numerous support on the initiative, emphasising the importance of empowering these set of parents as a vital

step towards achieving sustainable development while reducing poverty and providing means of livelihood to get them back on their feet. She said, "As we

empower women with skills and resources, we are not only lifting individuals out of poverty but also transforming families". Also speaking at the event, the Chairman of

SUBEB, Dr. Hakeem Babatunde Shittu also lauded the state Governor's efforts in making sure no child is left behind because every child deserves to be educated.

Highlights of the Life Skill Economic Empowerment Programme included workshops, health talks by staff of Lagos State Health Insurance Agency (LASHMA), practical training in various fields such as entrepreneurship, financial literacy, vocational skills in catering and confectionaries, make up, gele tying, hair and wig making, soap, pomade, insecticide, throw pillows and duvet, ankara crafts and leather works, events planning and decoration, tie & dye, fabric stoning and embellishment.

The event also featured presentation of certificates to all the participants and kits to

enable them kick start their business.

The participants expressed gratitude to the Lagos State government for the opportunity to learn and grow, with many expressing how the skills acquired have instilled a new found confidence in their abilities to contribute economically to their households and communities.

Also present at the event was the Permanent board member in charge of social mobilisation for out-of-school children, Amudalat Idowu Tiamiyu and Director of Women Department, WAPA, Mrs. Funke Shyllon.

Meanwhile, the Ministry has also organised a similar programme for staff of the Lagos State Government preparing for retirement at the Women Development Centre (WDC) in Agege.

Lagos Govt Reiterates Commitment To Nurses' Welfare

The Supervising Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board, Dr. Abimbola Bowale has reaffirmed the Lagos State Government's commitment to the welfare of nurses.

He gave this assurance at the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board Nurses Assembly 2024, held recently at the NANNM House in Ikeja, themed: "Our Nurses, Our Future: The Economic Power of Care".

In his address, Dr. Bowale highlighted the pivotal role nurses play in the healthcare system, acknowledging their unwavering dedication and tireless efforts in ensuring the well-being of Lagos State residents.

He emphasised that their contributions are critical to advancing the state's healthcare goals and improving overall public health outcomes.

"The dedication and professionalism exhibited by our nurses are exemplary. Your work transcends duty, and it is this level of commitment that truly makes a difference in our healthcare system", Dr. Bowale remarked.

Furthermore, the Supervising Permanent Secretary reassured the attendees that the Lagos State Government has deeply invested in the welfare and continuous development of its nursing workforce.

Earlier, Mrs. Anne Olasimbo Oyesanya, Director, Nursing Services, Primary Health Care Board, described the event as a celebration of the



nursing profession, a reflection on past achievements, and a strategic planning session for the future. She added that the theme, "Our Nurses, Our Future: The Economic Power of Care," is particularly relevant in the current evolving healthcare landscape.

Oyesanya emphasised that nursing is central to healthcare delivery, as nurses are often the first point of contact for patients, meticulously monitoring their progress and providing compassionate care. She stressed the importance of recognising the economic value of

care, which includes cost savings, efficient resource use, and enhanced patient satisfaction.

She urged nurses to advocate for better policies, adopt new technologies, and drive innovations that positively impact both patient health outcomes and institutional finances.

Furthermore, Oyesanya also acknowledged the contributions of male nurses, commending their efforts to break down gender barriers within the profession.

In her keynote address, Dr. Adenike Kadri, the Postgraduate Coordinator at Lead City University, Ibadan, emphasised the crucial role of nurses in various

healthcare settings.

She pointed out the lack of respect often accorded to the profession and stressed the need for collective efforts to invest in and protect the nursing workforce to ensure timely and effective care.

Dr. Kadri further highlighted the transformative impact nurses have on healthcare systems and called on stakeholders to provide greater support for this essential profession.

In a presentation on "Shattering the Barriers: The Rise of Male Nurses in the Healthcare Industry", by Oluwafemi Mobolaji Folajimi, an Apex Nurse with the Board,

averred that the once female-dominated field of nursing is presently seeing a remarkable shift as more men are breaking down long-standing gender barriers and entering the profession.

He added that today, male nurses are not only more visible in hospitals and clinics but are also making their mark in specialised fields like pediatrics and obstetrics, adding that these men bring unique perspectives and skills to the profession, helping dismantle stereotypes and demonstrating that compassion and caregiving are not gender-specific traits.

He, however, noted that despite the growing numbers and impact, male nurses continue to

face challenges, including workplace discrimination, societal prejudice, and a lack of male mentors.

Folajimi informed that the nursing profession stands to benefit from increased male representation in the profession, stressing that a more diverse workforce is key to addressing the complex needs of modern healthcare systems.

The event also featured the recognition of male nurses and a special training session on public service rules, led by Mr. Ebenezer Otubu, a Director from the Ministry of Establishment.



COWLSO: Governors of Osun, Nasarawa, Akwa Ibom, Among Special Guests

As the much anticipated 2024 edition of the annual National Women Conference organised by the Committee of Wives of Lagos State Officials, COWLSO kicks off next week Tuesday, the First Lady of Lagos State and Chairman of COWLSO, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu has disclosed that the hybrid event will feature both physical and virtual participation, expecting to draw 4,500 participants from across Nigeria. Speaking at a press conference on Monday at Lagos House, Alausa, Ikeja, Dr. Sanwo-Olu noted that at least one Governor each from the South-West, North-Central, and South-South regions of Nigeria will be in attendance at the two-day event,

scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, and Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at Eko Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos.

According to the First Lady, the host Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, will be present at both the opening and closing sessions of the conference with some top state government officials, while the Governor of Akwa Ibom, Umo Eno, is expected to grace the opening ceremony as the Special Guest of Honour.

In addition, Dr. Sanwo-Olu informed that Governor Ademola Adeleke of Osun State had been invited to attend the Gala Night on the second day, while Governor Abdullahi Sule of

Nasarawa State will serve as the Special Guest at the closing ceremony of the Conference.

The Governor's wife emphasised that this year's conference theme, "Soar Beyond Boundaries... Enrich Communities", was thoughtfully chosen to inspire meaningful discussions aimed at empowering women to overcome barriers and make significant contributions to their communities.

She added that the event will explore critical topics such as gender stereotypes, women's health, political participation, climate change and food security.

Other discussions at the conference, according to the Chairman of COWLSO, will focus on communicable disease

prevention, smart garden farming, emotional intelligence for the boy-child, and the role of women in advancing political participation.

Apart from the plenary sessions that would be led by seasoned facilitators, Dr. Sanwo-Olu informed that the conference will honour a distinguished woman with the "Inspirational Woman of the Year" award for her outstanding contributions to society.

The First Lady said COWLSO will also host virtual and physical markets during the conference, providing participants the opportunity to purchase household items at discounted rates.

She assured

participants that the Gala Night would be a memorable experience, featuring entertainment, exciting raffle draws, prizes, and scintillating musical performances.

As part of the pre-conference activities, the Governor's wife encouraged women to join the awareness walk, themed: "Women Rising Together", scheduled to hold in Badagry on September 2, 2024.

The First Lady appreciated the dedication of the conference planning committee, chaired by Prof. Olufunke Adeyeye, urging the media to continue spreading awareness of the conference's positive impact on women across Nigeria.

Earlier in her Welcome Address, the Chairperson, NWC Planning Committee,

Prof. Olufunke Adeyeye averred that this year's conference is aimed at sharing ideas and discussing topical issues to drive needful change for the society like previous editions.

Prof. Adeyeye while seeking the support of the media in publicising all activities of the conference, implored women across the country to continue to break barriers and foster inclusivity.

The Pre-Event Press Conference for the National Women's Conference had the attendance of the Vice Chairman, COWLSO, Mrs. Oluremi Hamzat, NWC Planning Committee, COWLSO members and gentlemen of the press.

Company Accountant On Trial Over Theft Of N4.5m

By Felix Kuyinu

An employee in a firm identified as Ayoke Dowe has been arrested by the Police operatives at the Maroko Division, Lekki, over accusations of stealing the sum of N4,505,700 at his workplace.

The 35-year-old suspect who was alleged to have stolen the sum while being an accountant at the firm identified as Midak Property Limited was arraigned before the Magistrates' Court in Ebute-Meta.

Police Prosecutor, Gbenga Salami, told the courthouse that the defendant fraudulently

withdrew the sum from the company's account and converted it to his use.

Salami also claimed that Dowe withdrew the money at different times. However, the company discovered the fraudulent act when an audit was conducted. The prosecutor disclosed that the accused was unable to provide satisfactory details for the unaccounted sum.

Further information provided by the police held that the suspect absconded. However, the Divisional Police Officer of the police post, Monday Otolor, directed for a manhunt against

the defendant. He was after apprehended in his hideout in Lagos.

While prosecuting the suspect in court on a count charge bordering on stealing in a suit marked T/40/2024, Salami said that the defendant committed the offence between May and August 2024 at plot 19, Olowoeko Close, Jose Maria Escrive Estate, Ikate, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, where the firm is located.

He further said that the offence committed is punishable under sections 287(7) of the Criminal Law of Lagos



State, 2015.

The defendant, however, pleaded not guilty. Thereafter, his defense counsel, Anayo Agbo, prayed to the Court to grant him bail in the most liberal terms promising that

he would not jump bail if granted.

The court granted the defence counsel's request as a bail in the sum of N500,000 bail with two sureties in like sum was granted to the defendant.

The court also ruled that the defendant be detained at the Correctional Centre in Ikoyi pending when he will perfect his bail terms.

The matter was adjourned till 20 September.

Nigeria Police Declare ENDSARS Photographer, Lawal, Wanted

Barely four years that youth of Nigeria protested against the brutality of the Nigeria Police Special Anti Robbery Squad, SARS tagged ENDSARS, the law enforcement agent is still looking for one professional photographer Mr. Bolaji Suraju Lawal.

The authorities have declared wanted Mr. Lawal who is also an erstwhile victim of the SARS for reporting and protesting against the inhuman activities of this unit of law enforcement agent.

During the peaceful protest at Lekki Toll gate that would later led to riot due to the involvement of the Nigerian Army, Lawal was whisked away by the police but escaped with his camera on the way to the custody.

The Lagos Police

arrested hundreds of other protesters, many of whom are still languishing across various cells in the country. In a list released by the law enforcement agency, a copy of which was given to our correspondent, the name of Lawal appeared.

The police authority declared him wanted, asking him to produce himself and provide explanation on his role during the protest.

CNN reported that some of the protesters were killed at the scene of the protest with videos and pictures shared across media space.

Findings show that CNN got some of the clips it used in its reports from Nigerian bloggers and photographers who covered the event.



The Lagos State government set up a commission of enquiry to look into the scenario that led to the alleged killings of the protesters on which it took records of all the visuals during the protest.

The state Governor, Mr.

Babajide Sanwo-Olu threatened to prosecute all those that were involved in the vandalism of public property, including photographers who covered the event and maliciously released pictures to international

media outfit.

Against this backdrop, Mr. Lawal, who is a professional photographer was declared wanted even when investigation did not establish that he released any picture to any foreign media outfit.

Investigation revealed that Lawal had since relocated outside Nigeria to seek asylum elsewhere so as to secure his life from the brutality of the Nigeria police who had once waylaid with him while on official duty.

Recall that the Federal Government challenged the CNN to provide evidence of the massacre of protesters at Lekki Toll Gate, Lagos.

The media outfit released some footages but the government of Nigeria was not satisfied as it wanted the media outfit to name those who provided the visuals.

The then Minister of Information, Alhaji Lai Mohammed threatened to sue the media organisation for alleged practising jaundiced journalism in which it depended on clips from protesters to file its reports.



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Man Jailed For Impersonating Nigerian Singer, Flavour

By Felix Kuyinu

The Ikeja High Court has sentenced on Courage Ipaka to two-years in prison for impersonation against Nigerian Afro-Pop artist, Chinedu Okoli, popularly known as Flavour. Ipaka used the musician's identity to defraud on Yvelte Thompson, a woman base in the United States of America, USA, the sum of \$53,000, as claimed by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC. Prosecuting the suspect for EFCC at the court proceedings on Tuesday was Azibagiri Dan Ekpar who stated that the former received payment of the sum after



promising to organize shows in the USA. Ekpar said, "After receiving a petition from Eytayo Tolulope

Abiodun and others on behalf of the victim, we invited Flavour, who claimed innocence of the

allegations. "Upon investigation, we discovered that one Ipaka Courage who lives in Benin City was

the perpetrator. The defendant admitted in his statement that he impersonated Flavour by obtaining \$53,000

from a woman who is a United States citizen in 2021. "He wired the funds through Bitcoin wallets and converted them into his Access Bank account where he received the value in Naira. "The sum of N7.9 million was recovered from the defendant through Zenith and Access Bank manager's cheques." Presiding over the matter, Justice Dehinde Dipeolu, in his judgment, imposed a two-year prison sentence on Ipaka with the alternative of paying a fine of N2 million. Additionally, Ipaka was ordered to forfeit the sum of N7.9 million to the fraud victim.

Lagos Records 24,965 Sexual Abuse Cases

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency, DSVA, has informed that there have been 24,965 sexual and domestic violence cases in the state from 2019 to July 2024. The agency's Executive Secretary, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, mentioned that over 50 judgments have been passed against perpetrators in the duration. Vivour-Adeniyi said that over two million Lagosians have been sensitized through the agency's various engagement and outreach programmes through the social



media and public engagements. "The DSVA is committed to

ensuring that survivors have access to comprehensive care and support, including medical, legal,

psychosocial, and empowerment services, as well as rescue operations and access to justice.

"Our efforts, driven by collaboration with government departments, partner organisations, gender

experts, law enforcement, NGOs, mental health professionals, social services, healthcare providers, and the legal system, continue to play a crucial role in addressing and reducing the incidence of domestic and sexual violence in Lagos State. "The Lagos State government remains resolute in its mission to protect vulnerable populations and provide a safe environment for all residents." She urged Lagosians, NGOs and all stakeholders to join the agency as it propagates the SGBV message across the state throughout September.

Oshodi-Isolo LG Chairman, Oloyede, Commissions Alade Street

Kehinde Adeleye

On Sunday, history was made as Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, the chairman of Oshodi-Isolo local government, presided over the inauguration of the newly completed Alade Street, Oshodi. In a bold statement of his commitment to improving the lives of his constituents, Oloyede vowed to continue his efforts in the development of public infrastructure, ensuring that residents have access to the resources and amenities they need to thrive and grow. Echonews reports that for many years, Alade Street in Oshodi-Isolo had languished in disrepair, a neglected symbol of neglect and poor governance.

However, under the visionary leadership of Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, the street was transformed into a model of modern infrastructure and amenities. Starting with a comprehensive overhaul of the street's drainage system, the chairman then introduced interlocking pavement and solar-powered streetlights, vastly improving the appearance and functionality of the road. Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede also commissioned a newly installed pipe borne water system, providing residents with access to clean, reliable water for the first time.

This crowning achievement was met with rapturous applause and cheers from the gathered crowd, with many residents expressing their gratitude to the chairman for his unwavering dedication to the betterment of their community. In his address on the occasion, Oloyede while thanking the residents for organising themselves for the street commissioning, assured them that in no distance time, he will commence the rehabilitation of Banjoko Primary Health Care Centre on Ogunlana street, Oshodi. He said, the hospital when completed will be able to attend to both primary and secondary health care within the

council. The vice chairman, Mrs Modupeola Badmus-Aregbe who cut the tape to commission the water project thanked the council chairman

for people oriented projects he is doing, promising to continue her support for the council chairman. A party chieftain and leader of the All Progressives Congress

(APC) in Oshodi, Alhaji Kehinde Olorunjo commended the council chairman as he unveiled the plaque to commission the street.



Outstanding Staff Members Get Cash Gifts In Isolo LCDA

Kehinde Adeleye

A spirit of camaraderie and excitement filled the air as the staff of Isolo Local Council Development Area converged at the council's multi-purpose hall for their monthly forum meeting, eager to meet and welcome their newly appointed council manager, Mrs. Mojisola Folaremi Ogabi. In a show of solidarity and commitment to the success of the new management, employees from across all departments and service centers came together, transforming the hall into a hub of energy and enthusiasm. The council boss, Olasoju Adebayo, took the opportunity to address the gathered staff, extending heartfelt gratitude to the "engine" of the council - the

dedicated employees who have been tirelessly working to drive the organization

forward. Taking a moment to prioritize the staff's well-being, Adebayo emphasized the

importance of maintaining good health, urging them to be proactive in monitoring their health

and seeking medical attention when necessary. This demonstration of care served to further bolster the council's positive working environment. Updating the present employees, Olasoju reeled out ongoing projects assuring them of completion in due course. Among such undertakings of the council were Finance block, gate house/rebranding of the council premises and upgrading of Alagbeji PHC, which upon completion, will also serve as staff clinic. Various categories of cash prize award such as best departmental staff award, diligence & dedication award etc were discussed apart from the cash gift to ten housekeepers who mounted the floor of the day's meeting on his

request. Olasoju went on to announce to the gathering that plans have been concluded to hold an educational programme "welcome back to school" before the month ends as he prayed that the new council manager's tenure bring good tidings for all and sundry. In her own words, council manager, Mrs. Mojisola Ogabi charged the staff to be united and eschew bitterness among themselves if the overall good of the council and individuals manning it must be achieved. The day's meeting had curtains drawn on it ceremoniously as all August-born among the staff joined dignitaries on the high table to perform the cake-cutting.



LOGMA 2024 Award: Bamigboye Clinches Best Chairman In Roads Development

[Kehinde Adeleye](#)



In recognition of his exceptional leadership and transformative infrastructure projects, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye has emerged as the winner of the prestigious "Best Chairman in Roads and Rural Integration in Nigeria" award. This accolade, awarded based on a rigorous verification process that included field reports and public opinion, highlights Mr. Bamigboye's outstanding efforts to connect rural communities and improve transportation networks throughout the country. His visionary leadership in this area has not only improved the lives of countless Nigerians, but also set

a new benchmark for excellence in local governance across the nation.

Rev. Gbento Omolere Endurance was the recipient of a letter from the panel of Judges and Nomination Committee of the Nigerian Local Government Chairmen Merit Award (LOGMA) to Chairman of Mushin Local Government. In this communication, Rev. Endurance was informed that the award-winning projects executed by Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye had gone through a rigorous vetting process, involving in-depth assessments at various stages. This meticulous evaluation ultimately led to the selection of Hon. Bamigboye as the winner of the coveted award. In a letter presented to

Mr. Bamigboye by the organisers of Award, the project coordinator, confirmed that the council mayor has demonstrated responsible and accountable political leadership with impact on the lives of the people in his local government and Nigeria in general. The award, which goes with a star prize of Ten Seater bus, will be presented at the awards ceremony scheduled to hold in Abuja in October, 2024, with the Hon. Ministers of Interior as the Special Guest of honour while the Chairman, Senate Committee on States & Local Government Affairs, is expected as Chairman of the award ceremony.

Rep Member Commits Self To Senior Citizens' Welfare In Mushin

[Kehinde Adeleye](#)

In his unwavering dedication to improving the lives of senior citizens, Honourable Adeyemi Alli, the elected representative of Mushin I Federal Constituency, has continuously advocated for the rights and well-being of this vital section of society. Inspired by his belief that elders are the bedrock of any community, Mr. Alli has pledged to prioritize their happiness and recognition, demonstrating his relentless efforts towards uplifting their status and ensuring that their invaluable contributions are duly acknowledged and celebrated. The Lawmaker a trailblazer in

championing the rights and welfare of the elderly, initially introduced a revolutionary program in support of senior citizens during his tenure as Council

Chairman of Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA. The program, acclaimed for its efficacy, inspired state governors to emulate it, solidifying Alli's vision and leadership. Now, as a member of the National Assembly, he has

ensured the continuation of this legacy, marking the fifth consecutive year of executing this visionary program. In a remarkable display of his unwavering commitment to securing the financial



stability and well-being of senior citizens, Honourable Adeyemi Alli has once again championed their cause with the introduction of a groundbreaking bill within his first six months in the National Assembly.

This bill, which mandates the federal government to allocate a monthly stipend to elders across the nation, has been proposed for approval by the President. This landmark initiative, if ratified, would mark a significant step towards securing the dignity and financial security of senior citizens, solidifying Mr. Alli's vision of a society that upholds respect for its elders.

Mr. Rasak Ajala, a prominent figure in the community, recently voiced his commendation for the unwavering dedication and commitment to the welfare of senior citizens

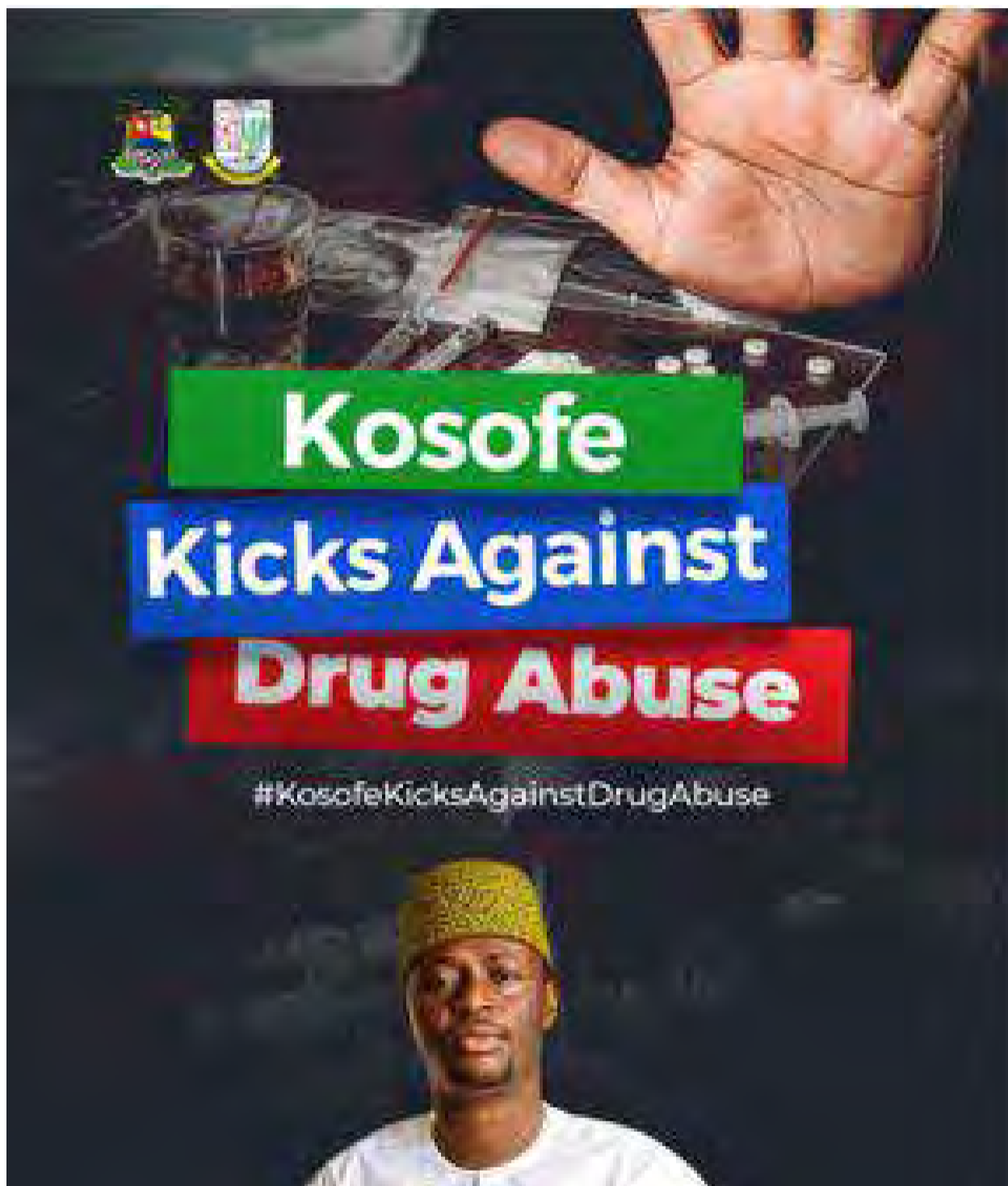
demonstrated by Honourable Adeyemi Alli, Member of the National Assembly.

During the event, Mr. Ajala announced the reinstatement of the 'feeding program' for elders, which had previously been suspended due to instances of abuse by certain individuals. He also praised Hon. Alli for his sustained efforts in upholding the spirit of the initiative and ensuring the continuation of this essential program for the benefit of the elderly population.

The event highlighted the distribution of palliative packages and 5000 to over 400 beneficiaries, demonstrating Hon. Alli's tireless efforts to support the elderly.

Echonews reports that through his actions, Mr. Adeyemi Alli has proven himself to be a true champion of senior citizens, and his legacy continues to inspire and uplift the community.

Ogunlewe Launches “KosofeKicks Against Drug Abuse” Campaign



Kehinde Adeleye

In a recent address to the residents of Kosofe Local Government, Chairman Barrister Moyosore Adedoyin Ogunlewe outlined a far-reaching initiative to combat the mounting issue of drug abuse in the area.

In his speech, the Council Boss reaffirmed his commitment to eradicating this destructive societal problem, acknowledging the devastating impact drug abuse has on individuals and communities alike stating, “Our beloved community faces a grave challenge, but we are not standing idly by.”

In an effort to stamp out the insidious effects of drug abuse, Chairman Barrister Moyosore Adedoyin Ogunlewe launched the “#KosofeKicksAgainstDrugAbuse” campaign, a comprehensive strategy that seeks to educate and empower the community.

The Chairman emphasized the devastating impact of drug abuse, saying, “It shatters individual lives, rends the fabric of our society, and robs our youth of their boundless

potential.”

Open dialogues, rehabilitative programs, and concerted collaboration with community stakeholders are all part of the multi-pronged approach to address the problem from its roots.

He called on residents to join the campaign, saying, “Together, we can reclaim our streets, restore hope, and build a Kosofe where all our citizens, particularly our young people, can flourish in a drug-free environment.”

The Chairman expressed his faith in the community's strength and resilience, saying, “United, we shall overcome this obstacle and create a safer, more prosperous Kosofe for generations to come.”

The “#KosofeKicksAgainstDrugAbuse” campaign is a timely response to the growing concern of drug abuse in Kosofe, and residents are urged to support the initiative to create a better future for the community.

IKORODU

Daini Marks Purple Day with Students, Pledges to Combat Domestic Sexual Violence

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Builder Olusesan Daini, Executive Chairman of Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA, commemorated Purple Day with students of Zumratul Islamiyyah Senior Grammar School in Igbogbo kingdom.

The event, themed “#SGBV Not On My Watch,” aimed to educate and sensitize

students on the dangers and signs of domestic and sexual violence. Daini emphasized the importance of creating a safe and nurturing environment for children, free from fear and abuse.

“As leaders and mentors, it is our duty to ensure that every child grows up in a safe

and nurturing environment, free from fear and abuse,” Daini stated. “This year's theme, ‘#SGBV Not On My Watch,’ is not just a slogan; it is a call to action for each of us to be vigilant and proactive in preventing violence in our communities.”

Daini encouraged the students to become ambassadors of peace

and respect within their communities, highlighting the role of education in combatting violence. “You are the future leaders of our society, and it is imperative that you understand the power of your voice and actions in shaping a safer world,” he told the students.

The event concluded

with a pledge by all participants to stand against domestic and sexual violence, echoing the sentiment of the day: “Not on my watch.” Builder Daini's engagement with the students fostered a sense of community resilience and responsibility among the youth.

As the awareness event

came to a close, students expressed their appreciation, stating they felt more empowered to speak out against violence. This Purple Day, Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA took a significant step towards creating a safer and more informed community, reminding everyone that the fight against domestic and sexual violence begins with education and awareness.

Itire-Ikate LCDA Partners MultiChoice, Launches Youth Empowerment Programme

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Itire-Ikate LCDA, Dr. Ahmed Olanrewaju Apatira has launched a capacity training program in partnership with MultiChoice Nigeria. The initiative, titled "The Showmax DSF Scheme," aims to provide job opportunities for indigent youths in the area. Represented by Deputy Majority Leader Olaoluwa Agbeyangi, Dr. Apatira urged participants to take advantage of the program to create wealth and become self-sufficient. He emphasized the administration's commitment to fostering an enabling environment

for youth development. Recognizing the need for skilled youth, Dr. Apatira highlighted the administration's various initiatives to equip young people with vocational skills, including annual skill acquisition training programs, tuition-free polytechnic scholarships, the Apatira tricycle initiative, annual summer training programs, and the distribution of free JAMB/GCE forms. The Showmax DSF project aims to accelerate Showmax activations nationwide. Successful candidates will earn a base pay

and commissions and may work independently or in partnership with other brands. Com. Ayodele John Oshodi, Coordinator of the National Youth Council of Nigeria, Itire-

Ikate Branch, urged youths to avoid social vices and emphasized the importance of capacity building for future success. He highlighted the program's objective of reducing

unemployment rates. MultiChoice's Regional Sales Manager, Mr. Olalekan Gambari, stated that the program is designed to address youth unemployment and targets individuals aged 18-30, with a focus

on women. He emphasized the importance of equipping youth with the necessary skills to contribute to their communities and the nation.



Coker-Aguda LCDA Residents Urge LASG to Maintain OUNJE EKO Discount

By Saheed Afolabi

Residents of Coker-Aguda LCDA and surrounding areas have appealed to the Lagos State Government to continue the 25% discount offered at the OUNJE EKO Sunday Market until the rising cost of food items subsides. Commending Governor Sanwo-Olu for his prompt response to residents' requests, they expressed satisfaction with the second phase of the initiative, which began on September 1st. The State Commissioner for Agriculture and Food Systems, Ms. Abisola Olusanya, announced the Governor's approval for the second phase,

highlighting that the OUNJE EKO Market will be held in 64 centers across the state for eight consecutive Sundays, as well as on Fridays at Alausa Secretariat and Wednesdays and Saturdays at the Mushin Market Food Hub. Residents participating in the market at Aguda Grammar School praised the initiative as a valuable effort to alleviate hunger in the community. They urged the Governor to prioritize farmer support and address challenges faced by those bringing food items to Lagos, such as multiple checkpoints. Council Chairman, Rasaq Olalekan

thanked the Governor for the partnership and explained that measures were in place to prevent

price gouging. The Coker-Aguda LCDA exercise adhered to

government directives, including medical and security presence. Items sold at a 25% discount

included rice, beans, garri, tomatoes, bread, eggs, palm oil, pepper, and onions.



Olaleye Market: Traders Commended Somolu LG Boss

By Saheed Afolabi



Chairman of Somolu LG, Abdulhamed Salawu has attracted commendation from

traders of the newly constructed Olaleye Ultramodern Market. Following the recent

commissioning, is bustling with activity as traders eagerly restock their stalls. The market's transformation, a

project spearheaded by Somolu Local Government Chairman has breathed new life into the historic trading

hub.

The project, expertly executed by Premium Heights Integrated Solution Limited, has been hailed as a significant achievement. It marks the fulfillment of a promise made following a devastating fire that ravaged the market in May 2020. Salawu's commitment to prioritizing the original subscribers has been widely applauded. The new Olaleye Market boasts 116 lock-up shops, chicken sheds, meat sellers' units, and modern amenities, providing traders with a conducive environment to conduct their businesses.

The reopening ceremony was graced by prominent figures, including the Iyalaja General of Nigeria, Chief Mrs. Folashade Tinubu-Ojo, who commended the council chairman for

his dedication to the traders' welfare.

Salawu emphasized the crucial role of local markets in driving economic growth and creating jobs.

He highlighted his administration's ongoing efforts to support small businesses, citing the recent disbursement of N50 million to 1,000 petty traders.

The successful reopening of Olaleye Market not only signifies a new beginning for the traders but also sets the stage for continued economic development in Somolu Local Government.

With its modern infrastructure and commitment to maintenance, the market is poised to become a thriving hub of commercial activity.

Salawu Surprises Residents With 50% Cash Refund At Ounje Eko Centre

By Saheed Afolabi

Abdulhamed Salawu, the Chairman of Somolu Local Government, delighted residents with an unexpected gesture at the Ounje Eko discount center located at Agunbiade Primary School.

While the original discount offered under Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's Ounje Eko program was 25%, Salawu surprised shoppers by personally refunding 50% of their

purchases in cash.

Accompanied by key officials, including Yomi Osunkoya, Lateef Ashimi, Mike Oikeh, and Ayo Coker, among others, Salawu visited the makeshift market to share this generous offer.

Residents were overjoyed by the unexpected relief, which provided a much-needed boost to their finances.

This act of kindness follows Salawu's recent distribution of N110 million in cash grants to 4,000 Somolu residents over four

phases, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to supporting the community during these challenging times.

The Ounje Eko program, designed to make essential food items like rice, beans, bread, eggs, and garri more accessible, has been widely praised for its effectiveness.

Salawu's additional contributions have further solidified his popularity among Somolu residents and beyond.



Igando-Ikotun LCDA Wears New Look

Kehinde Adeleye

Under the leadership of Comrade Lasisi Ayinde Akinsanya, Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has experienced a dramatic transformation, with impressive improvements in infrastructure and public works making a visible difference across the community.

This renewed focus on infrastructure has given the area a striking facelift, as the council's development efforts continue to yield tangible results, resulting in the creation of a more attractive, functional, and vibrant environment for the residents of the area.

Residents and



businesses in Igando-Ikotun LCDA are expressing their gratitude as the local government makes remarkable strides in upgrading the area's roads and drainage system.

According to Echonews, the DOSU EKUNRIN RD and OYISA STREET projects are well underway, with new asphalt layers and interlocking surfaces being installed alongside upgraded drainage systems.

The transformative effects of these improvements are already being felt by local residents, who are enjoying smoother, safer travel, reduced flooding risks, and an overall better quality of life.

The ongoing construction site of an

Ultra-modern shopping complex at POTOKU MARKET IGANDO road is also a testament. The complex which is expected to be completed soon, will provide modern shopping facilities, parking spaces, and amenities for traders and customers.

The council's commitment to infrastructural development and economic growth is evident in these projects, which are set to transform the landscape of Igando-Ikotun LCDA.

The Chairman's efforts to deliver quality infrastructure and promote economic development are commendable, and the council's transparency and accountability are noteworthy.

RAPE: Igando Ikotun Council Boss Urges Parents To Be Vigilant

Kehinde Adeleye

Comrade Akinsanya Lasisi Ayinde, Chairman of Igando-Ikotun LCDA, made a passionate appeal to parents to assume the primary responsibility of teaching their children about sexual morality and proper conduct.

In his address at the event, Akinsanya emphasized the crucial role of parents and guardians in shaping the values and behaviors of their children, cautioning that if these values were not instilled by responsible adults at home, they risked being acquired from less savory sources such as friends and peers in school.

According to him: "I will

advise parents to pay special attention to the emotional needs of their children given the gross reduction in moral values in the society."

Akinsanya, recognizing the profound influence of technology and media on the development of children's attitudes and behaviors, urged parents to take an active role in monitoring and controlling their children's exposure to adult content online.

Echonews reports that in addition to this, Akinsanya called for a collective effort on the part of schools, religious institutions, and communities to provide comprehensive sexual morality education,

ensuring that children receive a balanced and well-rounded understanding of these crucial issues. This he posited, would provide a firm foundation for children to navigate the complexities of sexuality and relationships in a healthy and responsible manner.

Akinsanya, however, noted that rape was a crime against humanity, adding that victims suffered unimaginable pains and humiliation, including social exclusion and depression resulting in suicide in up to 10 percent of cases.

He appealed to community leaders to rise up to help support victims and create a wider campaign help rape victims get back on their feet and lead



productive lives again. Speaking on the theme: Say No To Rape and Domestic violence, Akinsanya explained that the platform would ensure the culprits of rape were brought to book; therefore reducing the incidence of rape in the society.

According to him, the campaign was unveiled to change the narrative of rape victims in the society as the platform will give them the opportunity to speak

up. "There have been increasing incidences of rape in different communities in Lagos and other parts of the country.

"Therefore, our core objectives include promoting, protecting and preserving the rights and interests of indigent and vulnerable members of the society, especially women, children and persons with disabilities."

Akinsanya regretted that

the few victims of rape with an understanding of their rights were scared of stigmatisation and threats from the perpetrators.

This to raise awareness of the prevalence of and advocate for a society free of rape, sexual and gender-based violence. The current reality of 1 in 4 girls who would have before the age of 18 is a narrative that needs to change.

Rep Member Hosts Igbo Political Elite In Alimosho

The House Committee on Interior's Deputy Chairman, Mr. Ganiyu Adele Ayuba, Esq., recently welcomed the executives of the prominent Ndigbo socio-political group in Alimosho to his constituency office. This significant meeting, held at his Constituency office served as a platform

for the distinguished guests to engage in constructive dialogue and share insights on critical issues affecting the region. The Lawmaker began his address by extending his gratitude to the Ndigbo socio-political group for their unwavering support during the

recent elections. He also highlighted that advancing the party's agenda, particularly the 'Renewed Hope' vision espoused by President Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, was of paramount importance. This emphasized his commitment to building on the existing progress and taking the nation

forward through collaborative efforts and strategic initiatives. "At this stage of our nation, we must set aside sentiments for the collective prosperity of our dear country, Nigeria." He posited. The seasoned administrator admonished the Igbo business elites in the All Progressives

Congress, APC, to key into the progressive principles and ideology devoid of tribal sentiments and bigotry. "Our founding fathers built Nigeria on a progressive path to achieve a more prosperous nation that will give hope to all and sundry. This belief is what the Asiwaju Agenda for a Better Nigeria stands

for." The group, ably led by Mr. Onyeka, expressed their happiness to further renew their support and loyalty to the party and promised the distinguished lawmaker their unwavering support and commitment for his pro-active impacts in his constituency.



Egungun Shrine Commissioned in Orile Agege LCDA

Kehinde Adeleye

In a significant cultural event held on last week, the Chairman of Oril - Agege LCDA, Mr. Johnson Babatunde, was ably represented by his Chief of Staff, Mr. Olabode, at the commissioning of the historic EGUNGUN SHRINE, located in Alaagba, Iyàna Ipaja. Echonews reports that the shrine is a sacred

site that holds immense cultural and religious significance for the local community, and its commissioning marks a significant milestone in the preservation and celebration of the rich heritage of the area.

Chairman Johnson Babatunde, through the words of his Chief of Staff, Mr. Olabode, extended warm greetings and

congratulations to the spiritual leader of the EGUNGUN SHRINE and its worshippers on the commencement of their traditional festivities.

The Chairman emphasized the importance of maintaining law and order during the celebration, urging the worshippers to ensure that their festivities do not

breach the peace and safety of the community. His remarks were a testament to the priority he places on promoting harmony and respect between different religious and cultural groups.

Olabode, speaking on behalf of Chairman, stressed the inclusive nature of the administration, highlighting its commitment to

recognizing and supporting all religious beliefs within the community.

He then pointed out the renovation of the EGUNGUN SHRINE as a prime example of the administration's efforts to provide traditional worshippers with a comfortable and dignified space for their religious practices. This gesture, he emphasized, underscores the

administration's dedication to fostering harmony and respect between different faiths, ensuring that every citizen's beliefs and practices are valued and respected.

Present at the celebration were the Alaige of Oril -Agege, HRM ba Ambaliu Hakeem Agbedeyi; the Olú of Oril -Agege, HRM Oba Kamila Ilibà; All the Baales, Chiefs amongst other.



Adekunle Gold Urges Men to Stand Against Gender-Based Violence

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Nigerian music star, Adekunle Gold, has issued a powerful message to men following the tragic death of Idowu Christianah, a student from the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB). Christianah was abducted and

murdered in a chilling incident that has shocked the nation. Christianah went missing after her abductors contacted her parents via her WhatsApp account. They sent disturbing photos of her in captivity, demanding a 1.5 million ransom. After negotiations, her parents managed to send

350,000, yet the kidnappers failed to release her, and Christianah was tragically killed. Investigations later revealed that Adeleye Ayomide, an undergraduate from Olabisi Onabanjo University (OOU), was responsible for Christianah's abduction and murder.

Shocking reports suggest Ayomide buried her on his property. Further allegations have surfaced, linking him to the deaths of his ex-girlfriend in 2018 and his sister in 2020, both under similar suspicious circumstances. In response to the

tragic event, Adekunle Gold took to his X (formerly Twitter) account to address men, urging them to take a stand against abuse and violence towards women. He wrote: "Men, true strength is not about staying silent but about standing up to your friends who abuse, rape, or demean

women. Let's redefine masculinity by holding each other accountable. #JusticeForChristianah." The singer's message has resonated with many, adding to the ongoing outcry for justice for Christianah and a call to action against gender-based violence in Nigeria.

Rudeboy Shares Heartwarming Moments with Wife, Ivy Ifeoma, in Atlanta

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Veteran Nigerian singer Paul Okoye, popularly known as Rudeboy, recently shared a series of heartwarming moments with his wife, Ivy Ifeoma, while on a trip to Atlanta, USA. The singer, known for his hit songs and as one half of the defunct music duo P-Square, took to

Instagram to express his appreciation for life and his relationship. In a post featuring photos and a video of the couple enjoying their time together, Rudeboy captioned the content: "Life is gooooooood in ATL @ivy_zenny." The couple appeared relaxed and happy,

drawing attention from fans and followers who flooded the comment section with admiration and playful remarks. One fan, @madona_simeon, humorously noted, "In this life, make money oo, make you no go dey hold another man's wife shoe." Another user, @panadakyng, asked a

more personal question, "How far bro, you done call your brother today?" hinting at the ongoing tension between Rudeboy and his twin brother Peter Okoye. Several comments encouraged Rudeboy to reconcile with his brother, including @samuel.mabiah, who

wrote, "Rudeboy, please try to let everything go and work with your brother Peter. I don't think Peter has any jealousy or envy in his heart for you." Despite the light-hearted jabs and serious sentiments, most fans praised the couple's stylish appearance and expressed admiration for

their relationship. The couple's public display of affection and Rudeboy's positive outlook on life continue to inspire many of his followers, who remain hopeful for a future reconciliation between him and his brother Peter.

In a bid to combat rising immorality and anti-social behaviours among the youth, Leadership of Bado-Oba youths in Epe, has launched a powerful sensitization and enlightenment campaign. Partnering with the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and Human Rights Official, the initiative which was held in Epe, to steer young people away from negative influences and towards a more positive, community-driven future.

Speaking on the motivations behind the campaign, the President of the Bado-Oba Youth Association, Mr. Abolaji Onabanjo, expressed deep concern over the pervasive cycle of cultism, drug abuse, disregard for education, prostitution, lack of moral values, and growing disrespect for religious principles among the youth.

"This initiative was born from a genuine desire to see our young people thrive. We believe that every child has a potential and a dream that, if nurtured in the right environment, can transform their lives and contribute significantly to society," Mr. Onabanjo stated.

Officers from the NDLEA highlighted the crucial role of young people in combating drug abuse, emphasizing that the fight against narcotics begins at the community level. Human rights officers delivered an eye-opening discussion on gender-based violence, urging youth to stand against all forms of abuse.

Mr. Obedat Lateef, who also spoke at the event, voiced his disappointment with the current attitudes

Epe Youths Partner NDLEA HRO Against Drug Abuse

By Mohammed Adekola



of some youth in the community but expressed hope for change through such initiatives. "I believe this campaign will have a lasting impact.

The commitment shown by the association is commendable, and I hope the government at the grassroots level will join in and expand this effort to involve

more stakeholders. Together, we can build a better community, state, and nation," he said. Youth participants at the event expressed their appreciation to

law enforcement agents for their support. They pledged to work closely with the authorities to tackle the menace of anti-social behaviours. Many

shared personal stories of how the campaign had impacted their lives and called for continued efforts to promote positive change.

ASSEMBLY

Lagos Assembly Recommends Sexual Violence Enlightenment Units In Schools

By Felix Kuyinu

Lawmakers at the Lagos State House of Assembly have called for an awareness unit against sexual violence in schools.

The legislators, in a plenary, urged for a provision of enlightenment units in schools in order to curb the existence of the unlawful act.

Presiding over the

sitting, the House Speaker, Honourable Mudashiru Obasa, mentioned the significance of guiding and counseling students through religious institutions units to sharpen the minds of pupils positively.

While urging the state's Ministry of Information to continue its enlightenment campaigns, Obasa stated the complexities involved in cases of

domestic violence have more negative impact on children.

The lawmaker said "We thank the agencies in Lagos for their continuous efforts in raising awareness among residents.

"However, no law can eliminate any crime. We must go beyond sensitization and help people understand why relationships, which should be loving, sometimes turn

sour.

"There is a big concern on the lifestyle choices of some young people, particularly boys in their teens doing everything they can to own homes in affluent areas like Lekki, and young girls who spend days out of school in a bid to make money.

"There should be an educational programs that would go beyond mere enlightenment to actively teach children about domestic violence." Lawmaker representing

Lagos Island Constituency 01, Honourable Omolara Olumegbon, said that further intensified efforts on necessary sanctions on erring individuals and imposing of laws will help in eradicating the menace in the society. Honourable Ladi Ajomale urged the concerned agencies to increase their efforts in encouraging victims to speak out.

Encomiums on Raji as Work Begins on Mafowosofo Road



By Mohammed Adekola

much-anticipated road project.

The Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Hon. Wale Raji for his unwavering commitment to facilitate transformative and critical projects throughout the Epe Federal Constituency, particularly in Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA. He emphasized the numerous benefits the community will gain upon the project's completion, including improved road usability, enhanced commercial activities, better connectivity between two major communities,

and significant erosion control.

Otunba Nurudeen Yusuf, Chairman of the Wale Raji Think Tank, praised Hon. Wale Raji for consistently being a source of pride to his supporters. He highlighted Raji's track record of performance, which has made his multiple re-elections highly beneficial to the constituency. Yusuf called on the local youth to support the contractors and avoid any actions that could delay the project.

The road construction includes drainage on both sides and it is expected to be completed by December, 2024.

Member of the House of Representatives, Hon. Tasir Wale Raji, representing Epe Federal Constituency, received encomiums from residents at the groundbreaking

ceremony for the Mafowosofo Road, located off Mosafejo Road in Agbowa Ikosi, linking Methodist road in Owu-Ikosi. The brief yet significant event marked the commencement of the

Senator Abiru Distributes Fertilizers To 1,200 Farmers

By Mohammed Adekola



Over 1,200 farmers in Lagos East Senatorial District have benefited from a Federal Government initiative led by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. Fertilizers were distributed during an event in Ikorodu on Tuesday as part of the Renewed Hope Agenda, which aims to lower food costs and boost local agricultural production. Senator Tokunbo Abiru, who was represented by the former Honourable Member, Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. (Mrs) Adebimpe Akinsola, at the distribution exercise in Ikorodu, commends the laudable programme, stressing

that the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu was working assiduously to reduce hunger and hardship in the country.

He added that the intervention from the President, will complement other supports that Senator Abiru had facilitated to farmers in the district, like the distribution of farms inputs containing fertilizers, seedlings, and herbicides to over 300 crop farmers, and the provision of fully vaccinated chickens, feeds, and cages for over 100 livestock farmers in the Senatorial District. Dr Hakeem Adetugbobo, the coordinator of Agric-related empowerment for Senator Abiru, eulogised President Tinubu for the tremendous support he has been providing to farmers in Nigeria. He

expressed optimism that the food insecurity will be addressed with the number of interventions in the sector under President Tinubu.

Beneficiary from Lekki LCDA, Waheed Olaide Kareem, expressed profound appreciation to the President for the food security programme, and also lauded the exemplary leadership of Senator Abiru.

An executive member of All Farmers Association of Nigeria, AFAN, in Eredo LCDA, Mrs Folake Olaide, confirmed that members of the Association who got similar support from Senator Abiru are doing well in their farming business.

Lekki Youth Holds Vocational Skills Acquisition Training Programme

By Mohammed Adekola

Lekki LCDA Community Youth Development Association (LLCYDA), in collaboration with Lekki Local Council Development Area, held a vocational and skills acquisition training program, themed; "Developing Skills in Youths and the Effect of Drug Abuse Towards Balancing the Economic Meltdown in Our Society."

The initiative aimed to empower young people with essential skills while addressing the critical issue of drug abuse and its impact on economic stability.

Various vocational skills, such as the making of hair cream, medicated hair cream, baby vaseline, shea butter, balm bar soap and managerial skills, were taught to the participants. The sessions were designed to equip Youths with practical knowledge and abilities that can help them secure gainful employment or start their own businesses;

thereby contributing positively to the local economy.

A significant focus of the program was the impact of drug abuse on individuals and society at large. The organizers highlighted the dangers



of substance abuse and its negative implications on personal growth, productivity, and the broader economic landscape. By raising awareness about this

issue, the program aimed to discourage Youths from engaging in drug use and encourage them to pursue productive, skill-based careers.

Certificates were

awarded to participants who successfully completed the program as the gesture was meant to recognize their commitment and encourage them to use their new skills to improve their economic

circumstances and contribute to community development.

The event witnessed the launching of the Lekki LCDA Community Youth Development Association (LLCYDA)

Constitution, which aims to guide the association's activities and promote transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in its future programs.

Ward A Emerges Champions Of Bamigboye U13 Championship

By Saheed Afolabi

The Under-13 kids from the ward of Senator Ganiyu Solomon (Atewolara - Ward A), defeated Odo-Eran Ijesha (Ward I), to win the 2024 edition of Bamigboye Under-13 Kids Cup in Mushin Local Government. The team defeated their opponent by 4-3, to clinch the Gold medal and cash prize of 250,000 to emerge as champions of the tournament, which commenced on August 10, among the ten wards in Mushin. Being the second of the tournament which commenced in 2023, the Executive Chairman of Mushin Local Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, initiated to discover and groom young talented kids into football stars in

future.

The first edition which was won by the Under-13 team from Itire (Ward H), had this year's winner (Ward A), as the first runner up after receiving a defeat from the kids in the council chairman's Ward (H), who overpowered them in the final match to bag the gold medal. It was a return match between the two wards as Ward A defeated the defending champion (Ward H), to reach the 2024 final. According to the Supervisor for Youths & Sports Development in Mushin Local Government, Mr. Tunji Okelola who emphasized that the Council chairman is always passionate about engaging the

youths in professional tasks and skills development.

He thanked the council mayor for throwing his weight behind the tournament with approval and support for the event.

The second place winners (Ward I), also went home with silver medals and cash prize of N150,000, while those defeated in the Semi finals got a cash prize of N30,000 each.

As part of arrangements to encourage all the kids who played in the tournament, the Chairman gave out cash prizes to all the wards that participated as quarter finalists got N20,000 each while those knocked out at the preliminary stage also went home with N10,000 each



Lagos Go Agog As Badagry DFA Endorses Atlas Cup

The Badagry Divisional Football Association (BDFA) have thrown its weight behind the annual elite grassroots football tournament, Atlas Cup.

The Atlas Cup is set for kickoff as 64 teams battle for the top prize with breathtaking performances providing competitive atmosphere. The competition which is in its 11th edition is scheduled to start on Saturday, August 31 at the GBAJABIAILA mini stadium Coker Atlas toll gate Orile

The LOC of the competition is spearheaded by Mr Chukwuemeka Onyebuchi and other sport enthusiasts. Chairman of BDFA, Dr



Osondu Martins said he's ecstatic over the success recorded by previous editions of the Atlas Cup as he's optimistic this year's event will be glamorous.

Managing Director of Alzico company, Mr Abraham Santhosh pledged that this year's edition would be spectacular as they would ensure an hitch

free tournament.

The Alzico company have a huge contributions to the growth of mankind as 15000 youths have benefited hugely from the previous editions.

Over ten million naira is up for grabs at the five tourney and the 64 participating clubs will be given set of jerseys at the football event.

2025 President Federation Cup: Lagos FA Reveals Registration Timeframe

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) have disclosed the 2025 President Federation Cup registration timeframe ahead of next year.

The Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) has announced the sum of N200,000 for registration fees for the 2025 President Federation Cup.

Following the directive from the NFF, registration for the tournament would begin on October second and end on November One 2024.

In the timetable released by the NFF, the registration for men is N200,000, while women's clubs are to pay the sum of N150,000.



January 20 and end on February 23 2025.

Secretary of LSFA, Rabi-Okioposun Akeem said the club owners should come and obtain their registration forms at the LSFA secretariat by next month.

He explained

The timetable also indicates that late registration attracts a sum of N250,000 for men, while women's clubs are to pay N200,000.

According to the guideline, late submission attracts the sum of N500,000 while each club are to register maximum of 40 players.

The Lagos State FA Cup will commence on

further that the registration fees are not fixed by the LSFA saying that the directives came from the Nigeria soccer ruling body.

The final of the 2024 edition of the President Federation Cup was held at the Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan. Rivers Angels defeated Naija Ratels to win the women's category and El Kanemi Warriors thrashed Abia Warriors to emerge winners in the Men's final.



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