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Eid-el-Kabir: Muslims lament High cost of rams,

By Abolaji Adebayo

Despite the high cost of rams and other food items, Muslim faithful still managed to celebrate this year's Islamic festival - Eid-el-Kabir.

Though the celebration was relatively in a low key for some average Muslims, it was celebrated at maximum level by some others.

The first factor that affected the Sallah celebration was the cost of rams, which was beyond the purchasing power of many average Muslim faithful.

While the buyers were incapacitated, the ram sellers kept lamenting the cost of fuel and transportation, which led to the astronomical increase in the prices of rams.

For instance, a medium size ram was sold at about N120,000, while the big ones went for about N400,000, though there were smaller one which were sold for about N75,000.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, a ram seller, who simply gave his name as Sunday at the popular ram market in Oke-Afa, Isolo stated that, despite the high cost of rams at the market, people still patronized them.

He said: "A small ram goes for N75,000, medium goes for N125,000, while the big ones are sold for N200,000.

"Though, the prices of the rams are a bit higher, this year compared to previous years, but we still made sales and the reason is because of the rising cost of goods and services throughout the country.

"The prices of these rams five years ago were comparatively low, the small rams were as low as N25,000, while the medium was N50,000 and the big ones was around N90,000."

When our correspondent visited some points of sales of cattle and ram, it was discovered that some rams were sold for N300,000, while there was a cow that went for N2 million.

At Kara cattle market, Isheri-Olofin along Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, the Chairman of the market, Badamosi Haruna said the soaring cost was a direct reflection of the economic situation in the country.

He said it would be incorrect to blame



insecurity in the North for the situation.

"I don't know if insecurity can be blamed for this, but what I know is that everything is costly now. Anything you go to market to buy now is 'costly'. It is not really the issue of insecurity.

"We only go to the north to buy at market; enter vehicle and bring it here. We don't go to villages. It is only when you begin to go into those villages that you can talk of insecurity."

While the buyers bemoan high cost of rams, others; travellers cried out over increasing transportation fares. Many Muslim faithful who had planned to travel to their home towns for the Sallah festivities had their plans disrupted as a result of the scarcity of premium motor spirit (PMS) also known as petrol, which hit Lagos, Ogun and other parts of the country.

Some days to the Sallah day, transport fares had gone up by 50 per cent, and more than 100 per cent a day to the Sallah day.

Transporters are known for hiking fares during festivals as passengers pay three times the usual fares or

they remained in their homes to celebrate the festival.

One of the Muslims, Taiwo AbdulSalam, who spoke to ECHONEWS said he decided to take his family members to the motor park early in the morning on the festival eve to travel down to Oyo to avoid rush.

"Unfortunately, when we got to the park in Oshodi, the transport fare to Oyo that used to cost N2,000 before Sallah was increased to N4,000 - N5,000. We managed to get that of N4,000 for each of the three of my family members travelling," he explained.

"We are not enjoying the country as citizens. Government should look into our problems because we cannot continue like this. A lot of us have lost hope in this country. Only God knows what will happen to those who have four to five children with their mother."

A resident of Ikotun, Mrs. Lateefat Oyekunle who was also travelling with her family to Ijebu-Ode for the Sallah said the present situation may force many people to stay away from home to celebrate the Sallah with their loved ones.

"We are being forced to pay through our noses to travel or stay in one place to celebrate. Because the economic situation of the country is bad and we the downtrodden are the ones most hit by the inflation."

A furniture maker, Mr. Abdullahi Ishola, said he could not travelled as planned because he could recoup the money people were owing him.

"As much as I have interest in going home to celebrate the Sallah this year, I couldn't make it. Those who were owing me money did not pay me. And I have to spend more money when I get home."

A driver, Monsuru Ariyo, told ECHONEWS at Oshodi Terminal 1 that the scarcity of fuel led to increase in the fares.

"Before now, Ibadan transport fare from Lagos was N1,000, but now it is N3,000, while Abeokuta is N2,500 and Sagamu N2,000. Aside the fuel, traffic is another terrible factor causing hike in the fares as we burn the fuel inside holdups," he said.

A livestock seller, Elizabeth Oloyede said that what is compounding the issue is the rise in the prices of food items.

"At the moment, the price of every

other food item has also skyrocketed, making live hard for many Nigerians not only during the festive period."

Faruq Adesola lamented difficulties while travelling out of Lagos every Sallah period as he complained of the unbearable hardship as a result of increase in the cost of petrol.

He said: "It is relatively harder to travel now, although I travel with my private car. The usual cost of fuel that would have cost me N4,000 to travel now ranges above N6000.

"The cost of interstate travelling via public transport has sufficiently risen due to the current scarcity of fuel and the price of bus fares keep on rising."

"Currently Lagos to Ibadan from Berger is between N4,000 to N5,000. Akure is currently N10,000, Osogbo is N7,000, Abuja is also currently N10,000," stated Lukman Saheed; a bus driver at Ojodu Berger park.

A passenger, Mr. Richard Egbu also complained of the hike in transport fare and the scarcity of fuel saying that it is the average Nigerian that is bearing the brunt.

"I was surprise when I got to the park and discovered that the fare to Ibadan from Lagos is now N3,000, we used to pay N1,500."

NYCN promises support for youths during general elections

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Amuwo-Odofin chapter has revealed its interest to engage and support more youths in politics ahead of the 2023 general election. The newly appointed executive members of the council gave the attestation in a promise to the Local Government as a commitment they intend to fulfill as they began a new administration. The newly elected president, Comrade Esho Adewoleto

said he will mobilize other executive members to engage in the current progressive community action that the chairman of the council, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh has made efforts to establish for the development of the local government. He said the essence of their establishment mere youth rehabilitation but to as well assist the general public as a peaceful society breads promising youths. He also promised the youths to facilitate the empowerment of more youths in the community.



How police harass us in Amuwo-Odofin - Resident

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A resident in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Mr Joe Thompson (real name withheld) has decried his experience with the police in Festac Town. He reported that he has been harassed by the police on the preface of security checkpoint at 2nd Avenue axis of Festac Town. While narrating the incident, he said he was stopped during their search patrol and asked a few questions but had a tense period because he had no valid means of identification. He was later compelled to go inside their office where

he was asked more about his privacy and asked to unlock his phone for identification verification of which he refused. Thompson said he was afterwards accused of committing various crimes for his noncooperation to their requests. He lamented how he saw stranded strangers of similar adventure who had been unjustly accused as they and their family members or friends plead for their release on bail. Thompson appealed to concerned security forces to strictly sensitize their officers to adhere to their primary duties rather than aggravating the public on false accusation(s).



The chairman of Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh has implored newly appointed Special Advisers and Senior Special Assistants to engage actively in the development of the community.

He said their appointment does not mean they have no use as each political office has its essence of establishment from the onset. He emphasized that his administration expect to feel the improvement of grassroots understanding through their office as their appointment is for a due cause. "The decision to appoint you is to make sure that no area of development is left behind across the local government. You are to be creative with your office in the interest of the people. People must begin to see and enjoy the impact of good governance." Buraimoh further promised residents that his administration would ensure that the impact of the policies and programmes of the local government would be felt across all communities within the Local Government.

Council tasks new excos on community development

By Motolani AbdulGafar



Hon. Valentine Buraimoh

Sanwo-Olu reiterates commitment to food security

By Edith Igbokwe

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has stated that residents of the state consume about N4.5 billion worth of food daily just as he reiterated commitment to food security.

He declared the statement at the opening ceremony of a two-day zonal sensitization workshop with the theme: "Implementation of Food Systems Transformation Pathways in Nigeria 2022," in Ikeja.

The workshop was organized by the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning in collaboration with Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture and Lagos Ministry of Economic, Planning and Budget.

Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Ekiti are participating with Lagos as coordinating state for Southwest geopolitical zone.

The governor, represented by the Commissioner for Economic, Planning and Budget, Mr. Sam Egube explained that the state had decided to take the bull by the horn in guaranteeing food security for people with different agricultural and food value chain.

According to him, Lagos has a rich history of economic growth and transformation. "Although it covers only 0.4 per cent of Nigeria's territorial land mass making it the smallest in the country. "It accounts for over 60 per cent of industrial and commercial activities. Lagos is a coastal state and has an extremely limited arable land space and home to about 21 million people.

"Its residents consume about N4.5 billion worth of food daily and 50 per cent of beef produced in the country running into several billions in other trading activities with markets cutting across all the local government areas in the state."

He called for joint collaboration among Southwest geopolitical zone to implement the Food

Systems Transformation Pathways 2022.

Sanwo-Olu is of the opinion that improving the food systems would influence positive changes and as well address multiple challenges being experienced in the country.

He said that the state agricultural roadmap was a deliberate effort to develop the agricultural sector by way of interventions from the public and private sector, international technical and donor organisations.

"I am aware that the need for states across the six geopolitical zones to be adequately sensitized on the implementation of the National Food Systems Transformation Pathways is the basis for this workshop.

"It gives me great pleasure to note that Lagos State was selected to host the South West geopolitical sensitization which I consider as an acknowledgement of the positive impacts our policies and efforts made in the agricultural sector.

"As a state government, we will continue to provide infrastructure and incentives to support all private sector initiatives where required.

"History has shown that any society that is unable to provide food guarantee, its security is open to abuse and utmost danger."

The governor commended the efforts of the Federal Government on its unrelenting efforts to ensure that the food systems summit in conjunction with the United Nations is developed.

"I assure you that the Lagos State Government is fully committed to achieving a food secured Lagos and Nigeria through partnership with all national and sub-national entities as well as private sector and international technical and donor organizations.

He urged all participants at the workshop to show commitment by sharing

ideas and opinions on the selected programmes slated to kick-start the implementation.

Mr. Mathias Schmale, the Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator, United Nations (UN) commended the Federal Government for its consistent efforts toward sustainable food systems in the country.

Schmale who was represented by Mr. Isiaka Ibrahim, UN Coordinator in Lagos, reiterated that the UN would continue to work with government and as well strengthen collaborations with all stakeholders in support of the transformational journey.

"Today marks another important step in the highly anticipated transformational change we have worked for in partnership.

"The zonal sensitization workshop is designed to onboard all of us as we begin to bring synergy across states and regions.

"The momentum at which the Federal Government is accelerating the national food systems transformation pathways is highly commendable.

"Today, the government has identified three critical priority actions to be addressed at all levels to achieve food security and reduce malnutrition among the most vulnerable and at-risk populations in Nigeria.

"They are to achieve a sustainable food system that works for all; to ensure the achievement of all SDGs in the next decade.

Mrs. Olusola Idowu, the National Convener/Permanent

Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning, said an implementation team made up of key stakeholders had been constituted to develop an implementation plan.

She added that it would help to define and assign roles and responsibilities for effective implementation of the priority actions.

Idowu noted that the workshop was being held in all the six geopolitical zones concurrently from July 4 to 8, focusing on three low hanging fruit programmes and 80 priority actions.

"Please, I make this passionate appeal that we all ensure that this implementation stage is truly for implementation.

Wherein, we do less talk and more action so that we can impact lives of Nigerians."



Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu

Mrs. Abisola Olusanya, the Lagos State Commissioner for Agriculture, said that food systems remained an important part of the national economy.

She said that effective food system had contributed to a variety of solutions to developmental challenges.

She said that there had been dialogues amongst all relevant stakeholders across the six geopolitical zones of the country since 2021 which gave birth to the National Pathways for Sustainable Food Systems.

Lagos gifts four teachers new SUVs

By Edith Igbokwe

Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has expressed that the Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board, LASUBEB's EKOEXCEL 2021 Teachers' Merit Award is an initiative of game-changer in the government's quest to improve learning outcomes by upskilling teachers.

At the award ceremony, four LASUBEB's EKOEXCEL teachers received brand new SUVs and other prizes from the state government.

During the awards at Sports Pavilion, Lagos House, in Ikeja, Sanwo-Olu said it was in line with his administration's commitment to use education as a weapon to develop Lagos and influence the teaching profession.

"One of the game-changers in the education development plan of our administration is the EKOEXCEL programme designed to support teachers to achieve better learning outcomes across all our public primary schools.

"The EKOEXCEL 2020-2021 Endline Fluency and Numeracy Evaluation has further justified the huge investment and affirmed the strategic interventions and impacts," the governor said.

Oladunjoye provides free surgery to elderly in Epe

By Saheed Afolabi

No fewer than 20 elderly persons with glaucoma and other health challenges, Thursday benefited from free cataract eyes surgery, glasses and drugs from the Thani-Oladunjoye Old People Care Center in Epe, Lagos State.

The Old People Care Center which is located at Oke-Owode, Oke-Oyinbo axis of Epe, was established about six month ago to take care of issues affecting the elderly including their health condition, recreation and social needs.

It was all smiles on the faces of the beneficiaries, as the centre presented glasses to the elderly, after they had completed the cataract eyes surgery, which was facilitated by the foundation for free.

Speaking at the presentation of glasses to the beneficiaries, Tunde Thani, founder of the centre



The elderly receiving care Thani-Oladunjoye Old People Care Center

said in the last six months since the centre was established, more than 1,000 elderly have successfully been treated of various health conditions.

He said the beneficiaries were selected after a test by an ophthalmologist in the centre to check their health condition before they embarked on the

surgery.

Thani, who is the Chief Executive of Explicit Communications, said the centre had made tremendous progress since it was established

six months ago, adding that beneficiaries cut across several local government areas in Lagos State.

The philanthropist said the facility

had become paramount in any society, considering the plight many old people endure at a time when it becomes difficult for them to cater for their needs.

Abiru unveils stadium, empowers farmers with startup capital

By Saheed Afolabi

The senator representing Lagos East, Tokunbo Abiru, Thursday unveiled a 960-capacity mini-stadium in the Epe area of the state.

The mini-stadium comprises a football pitch, basketball and volleyball courts, administrative offices, changing rooms, and other amenities.

Abiru also unveiled the remodelled Oluwo Fish Market, which comprises 240 open stalls, 82 lock up stalls, five open floors, 12 toilets and four new offices for the Iya Loja and Baba Loja, Tourism Board and Local Government Staff Security post.

The projects were facilitated through the office of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The senator also empowered about 1,250 market women and traders with N50,000 each as financial grants totalling N62.5 million.

The Iya Olojas within the 16 local government areas and local council development areas in Lagos East

were given the responsibilities of selecting 50 members each while the remaining beneficiaries were nominated by the party structure.

The empowerment also included the distribution of hand-planters to about 200 farmers, along with financial grants of N20,000.

"These projects and support for market women and rural farmers are part of the fulfillment of the social contract I solemnly had with the people of the Lagos East Senatorial District while seeking their mandate in 2020," Abiru said.

In his remark, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu lauded Abiru for the projects.

He said: "Over the last 18 months, Senator Abiru has dutifully delivered the dividends of democracy in several areas and on multiple fronts, not just in the primary mandate of law-making, but also in terms of life-changing empowerment and endowment.

"Today, we are here to commission a number of infrastructure projects by him, some of which are facilitated through the Office of the Special

Assistant to President Buhari on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), occupied by an esteemed daughter of Lagos, Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire."

Mrs. Orelope-Adefulire said the Office of the SDGs in the Presidency had facilitated rehabilitation of over 10 schools and four healthcare projects in the Lagos East Senatorial district.

A novelty football match was played on the new pitch between Tokunbo Abiru Football Club and Epe Alaro United.



Governor Sanwo-olu handing a trophy to the captain of the winning team of the novelty match played at the new stadium built by Tokunbo Abiru

Residents commend state's projects in Epe

By Saheed Afolabi

The residents of Epe LGA have commended the state government over the series of projects executed in their community.

The council chairman, Ms Surah Animashaun, specifically lauded Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on the delivery of the projects in the area.

She said the projects were impacting lives and promoting the area's prosperity.

She commended the governor on the on-going reconstruction of Ibeju-Lekki/Epe Express Road and the road modification project around Marina road.

Animashaun said the projects, when completed by September 2022, would ease the movement of people and vehicles in the area.

"Gov. Sanwo-Olu is the best gift that has happened to us in Lagos State. His achievements over the years are unprecedented and

commendable.

"I use this medium to express our appreciation to him for his administrative efforts towards remodeling Lagos to a better state.

"On behalf of myself and the good people of Epe Division, we say a very big thank you to Gov. Sanwo-Olu for supporting and remembering us in this part of Lagos State," she said.

The council boss appealed for more government presence in Epe Division and the delivery of more dividends to the people of the area.

Ahe urged Epe youths and residents to take ownership of the projects and put them to proper use.

"The better you use government projects carefully, the more the government will do additional community projects but If you do otherwise, It will reduce government presence in the community.

"Therefore, use government projects decently, in order to get more government presence at the grassroots," she said.

SADNESS: Couple loses four children to fire

By Saheed Afolabi

The atmosphere has been sorrowful in Ikorodu since Chukwudi Micheal and his wife, Bolani Micheal, lost four children to a fire that gutted their two-room apartment on Tapa Road, Oke-Oko, Isawo, Ikorodu. It was gathered that the incident occurred around 1am on Sunday, June 26, as one of the children, Jeremiah, a 12 years old, died on the spot. The three other siblings: Prayer, 18; Trust in God, 14; and Ebube, 10, sustained severe burns and were rushed to a hospital, where they died a few days later. It was gathered that the couple slept in a separate room with their eight-year-old surviving daughter, Esther. The fire was said to have engulfed the room where the four boys slept. The victims' father, Chukwudi, explained that he woke up to the scream of one of his children, who was calling for help.

He said: "After waking up, I alerted neighbours who helped me to break the windows of the room because their door was locked. We were able to rescue three of the boys from the fire, but one had already been burnt to death. We rushed them immediately to a hospital with the help of a

neighbour's car, but we eventually lost them." The 46-year-old noted that men of the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service only came in the morning when the fire had been put out by neighbours. However, the Public Education Officer of the state fire service, Amodu Shakiru, stated that the fire

was put out by firefighters, adding that five persons were rescued.

He said: "We rescued five persons and recovered the burnt body of a teenager."

The couple noted that they were oblivious to how the fire started as anything that could have started the fire had been put off.

Our correspondent

observed that both husband and wife also sustained varying degrees of burns, which they were treating at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja.

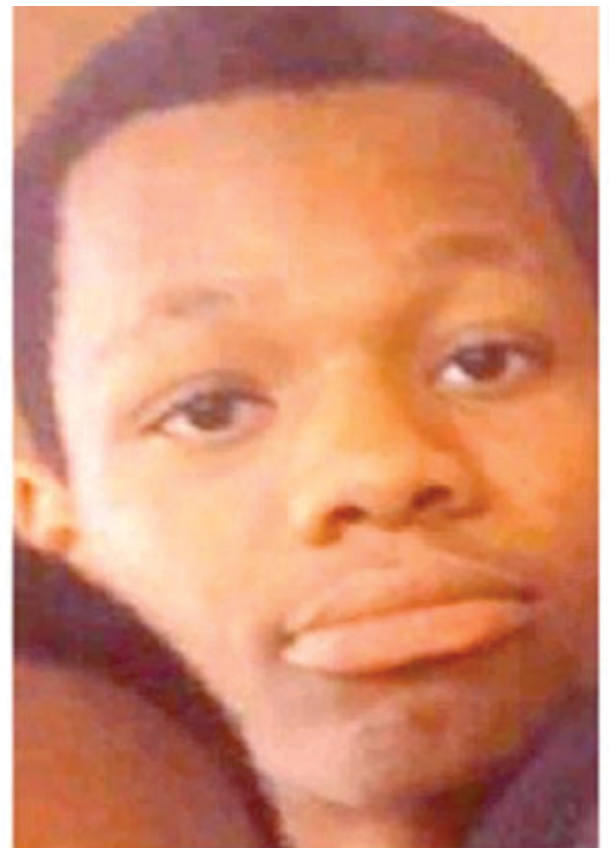
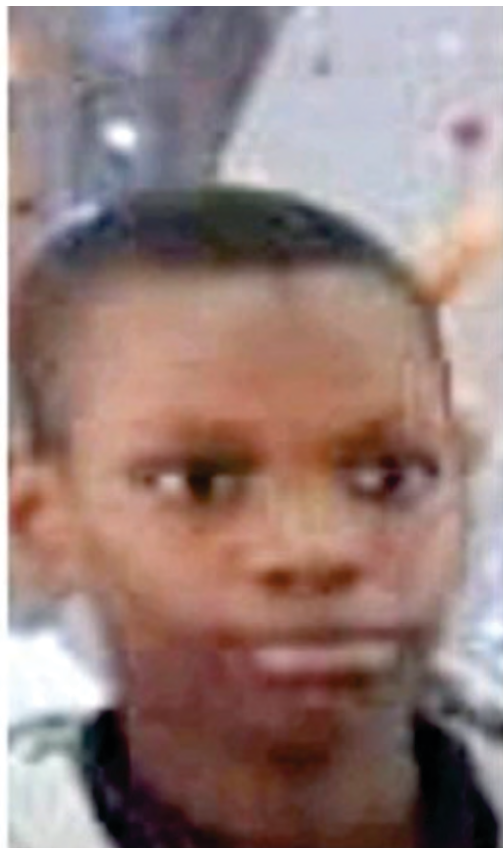
A pastor with Covenant Light Church, Ikorodu, where the couple and their children worshipped, Ayoshanu Samuel said that

the victims had been buried.

He said the incident was reported at the Owutu Police Station.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the incident.

He said: "Yes, it happened. The incident is still under investigation."



3 of the 4 children that was consumed by the fire

Operatives of the Lagos State Police Command have arrested six notorious robbers suspected to be behind the May 11, 2022 robbery attack on Mambillah Hotel, Owutu, Ikorodu. One of the robbers was killed during a gun-battle with the police. A statement issued by the command's spokesman, Benjamin Hundeyin on Thursday said the arrest of the suspects followed painstaking, diligent and discreet investigation ordered and closely monitored by the Lagos State Commissioner of Police, CP Abiodun Alabi. Hundeyin said the suspects

Police arrest six suspected robbers in Ikorodu

were traced to their hideout at Oju-irin Abattoir, Lagos State where they were eventually arrested.

They included Lekan Adeoye, 19; Ojo Akeredolu, 29; Quadri Balogun, 23; Ahmed Oke, 24; John Toluwalashe, 23 and Azeez Akinpelu, 20.

"The seventh suspect, Taye was neutralized during a gun duel with the police.

"Items recovered from the suspects are two locally made pistols with 11 live cartridges," he said.

Armed gang had invaded Mambillah Hotel, robbing guests of their valuables and shot dead the hotel security guard in their bid to escape after the police arrived the scene.

The earlier arrested supervisor and other staff of the hotel have since been released after further investigations cleared them of any culpability.

"Suspects are to be arraigned in court as the investigation is currently being wound up," Hundeyin said.



4 of the 6 suspects arrested by the police in Ikorodu

Court frees businessman of alleged fraud case

By Saheed Afolabi

The Court of Appeal in Lagos has discharged and acquitted a former Managing Director of Trans-Atlantic Oil, Mr. Akinyemi Jegede, of fraud charge leveled against him by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

Jegede was convicted by the Lagos High Court in June 2016 on a four-count charge of obtaining money by false pretenses contrary to section 1(3) of the Advance Fee Fraud and Other Fraud Related Offences Act No 14 of 2006.

The anti-graft agency had alleged that the convict obtained the sum of N27.6 million from his victims in a dubious forex transaction.

He was arrested based on two petitions written against him by

Amfidel International Limited and Sunny Ositez International Limited.

They alleged that one Ifeanacho Egbuna while being the Branch Manager of Fidelity Bank, Enu-Owa, Lagos Island, collected various monies with a promise that the dollar equivalent would be transferred to the account of their overseas suppliers.

To finalize the transaction, the petitioner issued a draft for the sum of N13.5 million and N14.1 million respectively in the name of Trans Atlantic Global Oil Services Limited, a company owned and operated by the defendant.

He had pleaded not guilty to the charge when he was arraigned by the EFCC.

During the trial, the prosecution called witnesses to testify against him.

The trial judge, in the judgment,

had convicted him after finding him guilty as charged. He was sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

Dissatisfied with the judgment of the lower court, the convict, through his counsel, Mr. E. D. Onyeke, filed appeal on four grounds, stating that the trial judge erred in law when she failed to evaluate or consider the crucial evidence adduced in favour of the defendant by the prosecution witnesses, which was extracted during cross-examination.

The appellant also said the court erred in law, by discountenancing the evidence significant in some of the exhibits tendered before the court.

The three-man panel of Justices, comprising Chidi Nwaoma Uwa, Tunde O. Awotoye and James Gambo Abundaga exonerated the convict of the charge.

In a lead judgment delivered by Justice Awotoye, in the suit mark no CA/L/ 1303C/2017, the court held that evidence presented by the prosecution was not in tandem with the charge against the appellant.

"It is clear that the evidence presented by the prosecution appears different from the charge against the appellant. In short, it cannot be used to prove the charge.

"This is unfortunate, as the prosecution should have promptly at the earliest time amended the charge to bring it in line with the evidence adduced. I have no hesitation in resolving this sole issue against the respondent.

"This appeal has merit. It is hereby allowed. The judgment of the High Court of Lagos State in suits No. ID/84c/2009 delivered in June 2016, is hereby set aside.

In its place, I hereby order that the accused is discharged and acquitted," the court held.

The presiding justice Uwa also adopted the judgment. He held that the appeal has merit.

The judge said he resolved the sole issue for determination against the respondent.

"I adopt his reasoning and the decision arrived at as mine in holding that the appeal has merit and accordingly allowed," he said.

Also, the appellant was exonerated of another fraud charge he was convicted of before Lagos High Court, Ikeja on March 31, 2011.

In that case, he was charged along with a company, ADNOC Petroleum Limited for conspiracy and stealing and was subsequently convicted.

But in a judgment delivered by the Court of Appeal, Lagos, presided

over by Justice Aminat Adamu Augie, Justice Sidi Dauda Bagel and Justice Rita Nosakhare Pemu, set aside the high court judgment.

The judges held that the best proof of fact in issue is the documentary evidence that tends to establish the fact alleged, unless and until the same is established, a conviction cannot be grounded.

"I am of the view that the prosecution has been unable to establish guilt against the appellants as required by law, and so appellants are entitled to be discharged and acquitted. The prosecution failed to prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt," the court held.

"The judgment convicting the appellants is hereby set aside, while the appellants are hereby discharged and acquitted," the court ruled.

Rotary Club donates cots to Lagos Island Maternity hospital

By Saheed Afolabi

The Rotary Club of Falomo has donated 25 baby cots worth millions of naira to the Lagos Island Maternity Hospital.

The gesture, which was one of the seven areas of the Club's focus for the year, was aimed at addressing the maternal and childcare needs of the hospital.

District Governor, Rotary International District 9110, Rotarian Omotunde Lawson, who presented the cots to the management of the hospital during her official visit to the Club, said the cots were part of the urgent needs of the hospital.

She stressed that nursing mothers face a lot of challenges sleeping on the same bed as their newborn babies, adding that there was a need to begin to address the problem in hospitals.

Lawson, who is the first female governor of the district, noted that the empowerment of the girl child is one of the major focuses of the district for the year, adding that the district would facilitate the vaccination of 2500 girls between the ages

of 10 to 14 to protect them against cervical cancer.

She said: "So, usually, on an occasion like this when the District Governor pays a visit to clubs as part of his/her official assignment, the club will carry out a good project in the area of need for the community. They were here before and they asked what they would require for them to function properly and the baby cot was part of the needs of this hospital.

"Every year, there are areas of focus, for this year, it is to empower the girls and to do this in our District we would ensure that they are protected against cervical cancer which is preventable by vaccination.

"This vaccination for girls between the age of 10 and 14 had been on in our district and we want to pursue it. We also have skill acquisition for the girl and also fibroid surgery management. We are looking at vaccinating 2500 girls this year. The job does not end in one day, it is a continuum."

Also speaking, the President of the Rotary Club of Falomo, Rotarian Tolulope Ogundipe, said despite the global economic downturn, the club is still able to raise money for projects because of the



L-R: Immediate-past President, Rotary Club of Falomo, Ijeoma Onyeador; District Governor, Rotary International District 9110, Omotunde Lawson; President, Rotary Club of Falomo, Tolulope Ogundipe; Medical Director, Lagos Island Maternity Hospital, Dr Olufemi Balogun; and Project Service Director of Rotary Club, Falomo, Ibrahim Sule

commitment and dedication of its members.

He urged the maternity hospital to make judicious use of the items donated.

"Despite the global economic downturn, we are still able to raise money to fund projects no matter the condition the world has found itself. Anytime we call up our friends to donate towards these services they are always happy to do it. We are glad

that it is a need area for the hospital and I promise we would do more to help out immediate communities," he stressed.

Project Service Director of Rotary Club, Falomo, Ibrahim Sule, disclosed that a total of N17.8 million has been earmarked for projects within the host community for the year, adding that the donation of the baby cots to the maternity hospital was one of

such projects.

Receiving the cots, Medical Director, Lagos Island Maternity Hospital, Dr. Olufemi Balogun, said the donation would be very useful to the hospital.

"This is a maternity hospital and we have a very high delivery rate of over 250 per month. So, the hospital faces a lot of pressure in terms of drug supplies and the sustainability of some of the

services. So, when we have donations like this it helps us to maintain our standards and provide comfort for patients. So, these kinds of gestures are always welcomed.

"We charge humanitarian organizations like the Rotary Club to keep up their good work. We need to continue to help each other and the Rotary Club has been very useful to us."

Yaba College of Technology (YABATECH) has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Bionomics, an innovative technology company to enhance the security architecture in the college.

The organization will install 300 Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) cameras around the campus with 75 poles which will be fixed with LED lights.

The Managing Director of Bionomics, Mr. Ogochukwu Onyedika said the 75-year-old college which accommodates about 20,000 students, needs security rather than complaint, there is a need to add value to such a system.

"We are trying to support and contribute our quota towards

YABATECH partners Bionomics to boost security on campus

stamping out insecurity in Nigeria by deploying cameras on campus. This is a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). YABATECH is not putting in any money, but we would fund and manage it so that the infrastructure does not break down after a few years."

He explained that the organization will generate its revenue from advertising technology products and services to the students, adding that the project will be

done in phases.

"We are coming here to complement the college and not to replace what is already existing, so we need to consider the financing and there is a lot to improve on and learn from. There could be different scenarios of insecurity that we would be responding to.

"We are using the best sensors and alarm systems available that will ensure that nobody touches it. With the

cameras everywhere, any infractions will be captured on those cameras. There is also comprehensive insurance, a control center within the campus where our personnel will monitor activities and ensure that the cameras are functioning as they should be."

The Rector, Mr. Femi Omokungbe said the MoA will upgrade its system aside from enhancing its security. He disclosed that the LED lights

will also monitor the perimeter of the college.

"The LED will serve as digital marketing advertisement to recoup the money they have invested."

He stated that security has been a challenge in the country and the college is not an exception. if we can have a situation to upgrade the security architecture of the college, we will welcome that."

He said the project will not

extend beyond its Yaba campus and that the initiative was mooted two months ago when the organization approached the management on it.

"They told us about their pedigree and that the initiative worked in the University of Benin. I am also sure that they have started such at the University of Lagos. So if that was done in UNIBEN and UNILAG, why not in YABATECH," the rector said.

LAWMA Academy wins Lagos Waste Forum award

By Edith Igboke

The academic arm of the Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) Academy has received an award as Government Agency of the Year at the 3rd edition of the Lagos Waste Forum.

The programme was organized by the Statewide Waste and Environmental Education Programme, SWEEP Foundation, at the University of Lagos, Akoka, Yaba.

The wife of the governor of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, commended the Foundation for sustaining its environmental advocacy, which it began three years ago.

She disclosed how impressive she was, saying the agency has sustained the good environmental sustainability advocacy work, which has already made them a champion in Surulere area.

While noting that she is considering going into a full-scale recycling business someday, she also challenged them to replicate the good impact in other parts of Lagos State.

The Managing Director/CEO of LAWMA, Mr. Ibrahim Odumboni, represented by the Executive Director, Finance, Mr. Kunle Adebiyi, expressed delight and showered

encomiums on the foundation for recognizing the modest contribution of the Academy to environmental education and advocacy.

He noted that the unit was established just over a year ago, with the mandate of teaching waste management, as well as environmental care and sustainability to the youth and children, which is gradually making an impact, and the recognition of this is what has given birth to the award.

Speaking further, the LAWMA MD enjoined Lagosians to tap into the huge economic potential in recycling and to embrace the twin-bin initiative of the Agency to solve waste management challenges in Lagos metropolis.

He noted that the role of the authority is to regulate the operations of the various players in the waste management space.

According to him, "LAWMA, as an agency saddled with the responsibility of regulating and ensuring proper waste management through community advocacy, has visited over 30 LCDAs, sensitizing people on the need to key into recycling by separating their waste at source.

"Recycling is the way to go, and that is a cause we



LAWMA Academy

champion in LAWMA. When we reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfills, we will have a saner and safer environment. LAWMA is not resting on its oars. That is why the management organized a stakeholders forum with communities across the state to discuss proper waste

disposal and the need to embrace recycling as a profitable enterprise.

"All organized estates have been advised to acquire bins, so as to separate organic waste from recyclables before PSP comes for evacuation, and by so doing, their waste bills will be discounted by 15 per cent."

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Dr. Tajudeen Gaji, commended the foundation for its result-oriented environmental sustainability advocacy, promising that the government would continue to fulfill its own part of the bargain for a people-friendly environment.

Mr. Ola Oresanya, a former Managing Director of LAWMA and now the Special Adviser on Environment to the Ogun State governor, also noted that the recycling space held abundant economic potential, urging people to get involved in order to combat unemployment and pervasive poverty.

Court remands man in custody till fulfillment of bail conditions

By Edith Igboke

A truck driver, Olatunji Alade who allegedly assaulted an official of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Lagos State Command would remain in custody until he meets the

bail of N200,000 with two sureties in like sum.

He has been arraigned before the Ebute Metta Magistrate Court for allegedly assaulting an official of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Lagos State Command.

It was gathered that the unnamed FRSC officer, while

on a patrol on July 3, 2022, was assaulted after being abducted to an unknown location.

Alade was arraigned in court on four counts. He, however, pleaded not guilty to the charges as the court remanded him in a custodial center.

The Public Education Officer of the FRSC, Bisi Sonubi, in a statement said Alade would remain in custody until he meets the N200,000 bail with two sureties in like sum for allegedly assaulting an official of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Lagos State Command.

LASBCA moves to stop building collapse, collaborates with Mushin LG

By Saheed Afolabi

As part of efforts to curb the incessant collapse of buildings across the state, the General Manager of Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA), Arc. Gbolahan Oki and members of his team have sought partnership with Mushin Local Government to take preventive measures against building collapse in Mushin.

The team visited the council chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye and members of his management at the Mushin Local Government secretariat, to solicit the support and cooperation of members of the community in order to carry out enforcement on building control policies and to ensure full compliance to standards in accordance with the regulations on building and renovation of buildings in Lagos State.

The LASBCA boss tabled some of the challenges being faced by staff of his agency in the course of their lawful duties.

He complained about harassment of his staff by members of the public and refusal to obtain building approval before embarking on building construction or renovations.

He also itemized steps that



Mushin LG Chairman in a group photograph with the LASBCA officials

must be followed before embarking on any construction which include application, test of fitness, insurance, fitness certification and approval.

Oki lamented series of confrontations from developers who violate the building regulations and prevent their staff from enforcing directives given to them to ensure that proper documentations are obtained on new construction and building renovation. He

stated further that any illegal construction without due process and approval from the agency, will lead to penalty or fine and any collapsed building will attract confiscation of the entire property (including the land) by the State government. He appealed to the chairman to let the people of Mushin understand that staff of the agency are not wicked but the rate at which building collapsed in the last few

months has necessitated strict enforcement of compliance on building control regulations. He said the agency has identified three distressed buildings in Mushin which are due for demolition while inspection is still in progress. The council chairman, in his response encouraged the agency, to improve on public enlightenment on steps and procedures involved, to secure approvals for new building and

renovation.

Commencing the Agency for its commitment towards preventing loss of lives and properties in Lagos through building collapse, Bamigboye said the council would render the needed support.

He also advised members of the agency to always inform the council whenever they plan to carry out any enforcement exercise in Mushin.

He promised to cooperate with

them in the realization of the THEMES agenda of the Executive Governor of Lagos State and forestall any reoccurrence of building collapse within Mushin and its environs.

Bamigboye told the LASBCA team to work with the Supervisor of works, Head of Environment Department and Head of Works and Infrastructure Department in the council, to carry out joint inspection across the 10 wards and identify distressed buildings in order to prevent any further building collapse.

He emphasized that he is more interested in the safety of lives and that he will do everything possible to protect the lives of his people in Mushin.

The council Manager, Mr. Sogo Osikoya, said the visit was a welcome development and indicated that the agency meant well for the people of Mushin.

He reiterated that the operations of Hon. Bamigboye led management team, is guided by the THEMES agenda of the Executive Governor of Lagos State.

He corroborated the assurance given by the chairman in support of the agency's activities aimed at actualising the vision of the state government.

Accolades as pupils receive Bamigboye's free exercise books

By Saheed Afolabi

Pupils, teachers and parents in Mushin L G A have commended the council chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye for distributing exercise books to the pupils in public primary schools across the local government area.

According to the chairman, the gesture was part of his Educational Support Initiative aimed at promoting and sustaining

the legacy of free education in Lagos State.

Distributing the exercise books on behalf of the council boss, Special Adviser to the chairman on Education, Hon. Semiu Karaole emphasized that the council chairman's commitment to education sector in Mushin as part of legacy towards building a future for the children and the local government as a whole.

He said that the chairman is always ready to invest in education as a way to

guarantee a rewarding and befitting future for the children in Mushin Local Government.

The former councillor commended the initiative of the council chairman while encouraging the parents to ensure that the efforts of government to make education affordable and accessible is not frustrated through negligence.

The books were distributed to 13 schools on the first day while other schools were waiting for their shares as the exercise continued.



The students of St Jude's primary school holding their note books

Lagos-Badagry Expressway experiences 500 per cent increase in death rate - FRSC

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) has reported that there has been an increase in the death rate of commuters on the Lagos-Badagry Expressway. It says the rate of accidents on the road has increased after the reconstruction of the road which ought to have reduced as a result of the nonchalant attitude of drivers on the expressway.

The Unit Commander, Badagry Unit Command of FRSC,

Sulaiman Taiwo said it recorded a 500 per cent increase in death rate along the expressway between January and June 2022, as compared to the first six months in 2021.

He urged all drivers to put safety first as the government wants the best for the masses which is the reason for the reconstruction of the road.

He assured that they will continue to ensure the safety of innocent masses by carrying out their duties as road safety workers to reduce the death rate in the area.



A picture of an accident scene at Lagos-Badagry Expressway

Be safety conscious, LASU urges new students

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Directorate of Lagos State University has urged resuming students to be safety conscious within and outside the university.

The call was made following the modification of the LASU Monitor App to ensure their safety.

The Director of DICT, Prof Oluwatoyin Enikuomelin urged students to download, install and maximize the LASU MONITOR APP which is available for free on Google Playstore and the University website () for precautionary measures.

The APP is a one-stop safety

application for a studentship at Lagos State University.

It was gathered that the application was developed at the Lagos State University and is available free for use by the public which has enjoyed thousands of downloads.

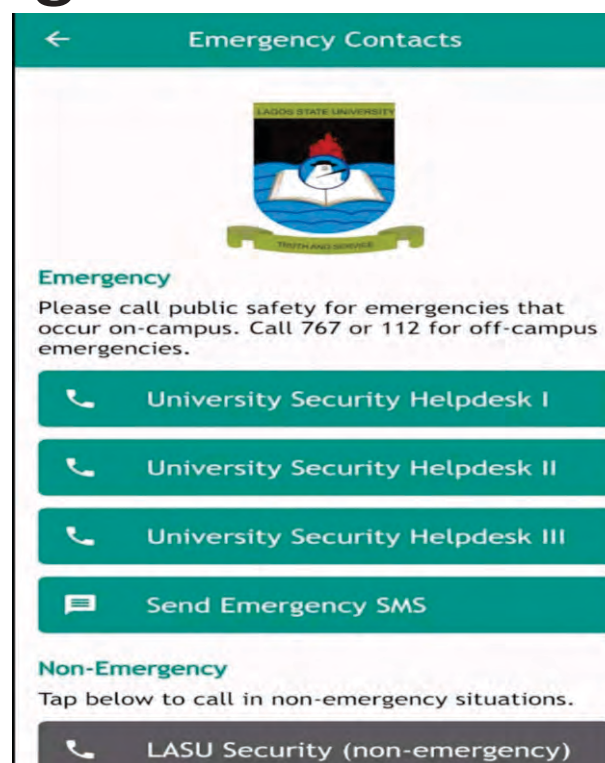
It allows users to make a real-time report of security and medical emergencies to relevant officers/offices of the University at the press of a button.

Enikuomelin noted that as part of the upgrade, staff and students can now download the App on Google Playstore with as low as 9MB only.

The App is said to pose the following features: Real-time

Locator System with which a person in a crisis can be traced; Panic Button to alert the Security Team on Sexual Harassment and other emergencies on campus; Real-time News from the Centre for Information Press and Public Relations; Medical Emergency Alert, designed to alert the campus medical centre/clinic of an urgent situation; Safety tips and direct contact line to report weapons on campus, a person in crisis, report an incidence, fire and smoke, guidance and counselling, etc, amongst others.

In addition, the application can be used by parents to track and monitor their children.



LASU Monitor App

APC reps candidate assures women of adequate involvement

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The flag bearer of the All Progressives Congress (APC) representing Ojo Federal Constituency at the Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Micheal Ogunyemi (HLO) has assured of absolute involvement of women in political affairs of the community.

He relayed his message in response to the recognition given by the Oto-Awori APC LCDA Women over his emergence as the party's flag bearer.

He noted that his stance exceeds their congratulatory visit as the power of women should never be undermined in any society.

He said they execute important roles in society reconciliation and proper community welfare that would enhance the wellbeing of the people.

Ogunyemi promised to continue to give them a fair deal in his political activities as he continues to widen his horizon.

He urged them to continue to work harder in their various wards to ensure the party's victory.

The chairman of Iba LCDA, Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has appreciated the large turnout of women in Iba LCDA over the vaccination exercise conducted in the council. He said their responsive attitude towards the government stabilized their connection between themselves and the government as his administration would be willing to bring more benefits to them. He noted that their action has

Abila appreciates women for impressive turnout

aided the children from being free from all kinds of diseases to becoming sickness free.

He said on another note the vaccination would help them as parents to greatly reduce spending on future healthcare because vaccines are tugboats of preventive health.

He said the council is fully in support of the exercise as vaccines are one of the most

important tools for preventing outbreaks and keeping the world safe.

Abila further enjoined mothers to talk to other people about the benefits of vaccines; to save lives, help children learn, grow and prevent serious illness and disability in society.

He promised to continue to give support to showcase the strength and contributions of the women folk in the council.



Abila on visitation to the vaccination site

Adebayo congratulates new Iyaloja of Aswani Market

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Otunba Olasoju Adebayo has sent his congratulatory message to the Iyaloja-elect of Oba Faronbi Aswani International Market, Alhaja Salawat Olasumbo Olusesi.

Olusesi who currently holds the office of the LGA Woman Leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Isolo LCDA Chapter emerged as the new Iyaloja at a well-attended family meeting of Aregbesola family of the Kobolu branch of Isolo earlier during the weekend.

In a statement, the council boss said her nomination and emergence as new Iyaloja was a reward for her good character and humble nature. He said: "Permit me to congratulate our able LGA Woman Leader, Alhaja Salawat Olusesi who's just emerged as the Iyaloja-elect of Aswani market. Her election is but a confirmation of her popularity before all and sundry."

Expressing his confidence in Olusesi's ability to live above the board in her task of steering the affairs of the market, Olasoju saw her political experience as enough impetus to deliver in her new office.

"I'm in no doubt that her vast political experience shall help her greatly to deliver in her new assignment of leading the big market to an enviable position in the comity of markets in the nation."

Olasoju wished the Otun Iya Sunnah of Isolo Muslims Community a long, prosperous and impactful tenure of office.

"My sincere prayer for her as she steps into her new office is that Almighty God, in his infinite mercies, should grant her, not only a long tenure of office but an impactful and prosperous one."

The office of Iyaloja Aswani Market became vacant following the death of the immediate past Iyaloja - Alhaja Sherifat Olalekan Faronbi on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Oshodi schools benefit from FG SDGs projects

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Three primary schools under Oshodi Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), have benefited new school buildings from the Federal Government on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the commissioning took place recently.

Construction and furnishing of 3-floor blocks of 18 classrooms with ancillary amenities was provided in St. Paul's Primary school and 2-floor blocks of 12 classrooms each in Methodist primary school and in Wisely Primary School, Oshodi.

The project was facilitated by the chairman Board of Directors of Federal Mortgage Bank, Mr. Ayodeji Gbeleyi and executed by the office the Senior Special Assistant to the President of Federal Republic of Nigeria on SDGs, Princess Adejoke Adefulire.

Gbeleyi charged the teachers to re-double their efforts in terms of their duties and use the new development to maximize advantage.

He advised the pupils to seize the opportunity to learn and concentrate on studies as the sky is their beginning.

As the project was handed over to the Lagos State, Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB) Chairman,

Wahab Alawuye-King appreciated SDGs for job well done.

He appealed to private organizations to come on board to assist the government as it cannot do it alone.

"We need intervention from time to time as we battle with education and social growth insufficient challenges and the issue of supply not meeting demands."

He, however, handed the buildings over to the (LGEA) Executive Secretary (ES), Barr. Femi Ogunwusi for proper maintenance.

Ogunwusi reiterated his commitment to be dutiful in education service, while he charged the head teachers in charge of the aforementioned schools and the School Basic Management Committee (SBMC) on proper care maintenance.

On behalf of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Chairman, Otuba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) his Special Assistant on Education, Miss Ajoke Onitolo appealed for more interventions on schools that are in bad condition especially the ones in Mafoluku axis.

The National Union of Teachers (NUT) chairman, Mrs. Abosede Adegbesan was excited that such a great achievement took place



SDGs project: three primary schools benefitted

during her tenure as the first female NUT chairman.

She promised that the union would do more than maintenance to keep the building in good shape.

She, however, appealed for

the flooring of Methodist Primary School premises to avert flood issues during the rainy season.

The clergy in charge of Methodist Church, Oshodi, Rev. David Daramola

appreciated all those involved in the development of the school, saying they are giving the children the future they deserve while praying for their success in their fields of endeavours.

iStarter Hub launches first female library in Nigeria

By Motolani AbdulGafar

In a bid to further empower women through technology and access to entrepreneurial opportunities, iStarter Hub has launched first female library in Nigeria.

The library located in Isolo, Lagos, according to the manager, Esther Muokwe, is to help womenfolk in the community have access to impactful books as well as

basic facilities such as electricity, internet and technology needed in expanding their scope of knowledge and in achieving their developmental goals. She explained that the innovation became imperative to further narrow the gap of gender inequality and increase women access to technological and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Her words: "iStarter Hub is a safe space for women to network, learn, grow and be empowered. iStarter Hub's goal is to bridge the gap of gender inequality by providing technological and entrepreneurial opportunities for women. "The female library is an extension to this goal, thus providing a comfortable environment for women of all ages in our community. The female library is a place

for female readers of all ages in the community to visit, learn and grow with their peers.

"In order to promote the empowerment of women and girls, the female library provides access to electricity, internet and technology needed for them to expand knowledge, reach their goal and most importantly, feel comfortable while doing so. It has a collection of fiction

and non-fiction books in an air conditioned environment."

Speaking further, she added that: "The library gives room for women to access their passion and explore new ideas."

The library was launched on Friday, 1st July at no cost to visitors but Muokwe noted that access to the facility will attract little charges beginning from July 10, 2022.

Some lawmakers in Lagos State have appealed to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to extend the voters registration exercise by at least 30 days.

The lawmakers include Lagos State House of Assembly member, representing Surulere constituency I, Hon. Desmond Elliot; the Secretary to the Surulere Local Government, Mr. Kehinde Agoro, and Council Leader, Surulere Local Government, Hon. Barakat Bakare.

Speaking, Elliot said everybody has a right to be registered, adding that they should be given ample time to do so.

"We are encouraging everyone to go and pickup their PVC because they registered and voting is their right. Moreso, we should also let them know that going to do another registration means double registration and that is not allowed.

"The best thing for them is to go back to their respective local governments and pick their cards up especially for those who registered since 2011 to 2021, while others for 2022 should still be expecting their own.

"I also want to be joining my

Politicians plead for PVC registration extension

voice with those clamouring that the registration exercise be extended. Please, INEC should try and extend it.

"We are praying and hoping that they will do so because everybody has a right to be registered," he said.

He urged Lagos residents to participate in the 2023 elections, pick the people of their choice and see how the country could be better.

Also speaking, Agoro said INEC should obey the voice of the majority that was calling for an extension of the registration.

"As a government representative, I will join my voice in calling for the extension of PVCs registration. I am calling for an extension because that is what the majority wants and it must be honoured. We in Surulere are also calling for the exercise to be extended. We hope that INEC



Sets of uncollected PVCs

will listen to our yearnings."

On his own, Bakare, urged INEC to extend the registration exercise by at least 30 days.

She said INEC should move the registration centre close to people at the grassroots.

"I want to clamour and plead

with INEC for an extension. Even if it is not up to the 60 days we're clamouring for but at least 30 days for more people to be captured.

"I am more worried about the market women who may for one reason or the other not

want to leave their petty business for a minute.

"Many business women don't want to leave their location.

"I will want to suggest that INEC moves the registration centre close to the markets. This way, more market men and women

can be captured.

"I will also discuss it with my council chairman on how INEC can expand its registration centre closer to the market.

"We are pleading with INEC for an extension, if not 60 days but at least 30 days," she said.

Nigerian Army donates learning materials, bore-hole to school

By Saheed Afolabi

Commander, 9 Brigade Nigerian Army, Brigadier General Isang Akpaumontia has donated over 1,000 books and a water project to the Premier Day School Surulere, Lagos State as part of activities to commemorate the Nigerian Army Day Celebration (NADCEL) 2022.

Also, the Nigerian Army Officers' Wives Association (NAOWA), 9 Brigade Chapter donated food items and clothing to 100 widows in Ikeja Cantonment.

Speaking at the event, Akpaumontia said the decision to give back to society was borne out of a need to address the scarcity of water resources in the school. He disclosed that he has observed that pupils of the school have been drinking from a well which he feared

could affect their health.

He appreciated the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Farouk Yahaya for playing a major role in the realization of the project.

He also applauded the General Officer Commanding 81 Div, Maj. Gen. Umar Musa, for his support towards its actualization while explaining that the Army Day Celebration was aimed at informing the Nigerian Army personnel and Nigerians of the tragic event in the civil war.

He said: "The Nigerian Army uses the Nigeria Army Day which terminates on July 6 of every year, for most effective production. We always watch the performance of the previous year in the Nigerian Army responsibilities in Nigeria in order to protect lives and property. This responsibility has become peculiar in view of security challenges.

"To this effect, the Nigerian Army undertakes different programmes for the celebration, which enhances military operations.

"It is also aimed at enlightening Nigerians that the Nigeria Army is not always about war, but about love because this personnel also

have children, mother, father and sisters who are civilians.

"As an old pupil of Lagos State school in Surulere, if you take a look at this building outside,

you will see that the roofs are leaking, so I have talked to the Surulere Local Government Area Chairman to try to do something about it."

Court remands Anyaocha for allegedly defiling 13-year old girl

By Saheed Afolabi

A Magistrate Court sitting in Surulere, Lagos has remanded 32-year-old Uzoma Anyaocha in a correctional facility for allegedly defiling a 13-year-old girl in his apartment.

Magistrate M. I. Dan-Oni, who declined to admit Anyaocha to bail, ordered that he should be remanded in Ikoyi prison.

Dan-Oni directed the prosecutor to duplicate the case file and forward a copy to the State Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for legal advice.

She adjourned the case until

July 20 for mention.

Anyaocha of no fixed residential address is charged with four counts of allegedly having carnal knowledge of minor, fraudulent transactions, stealing and unlawfully detaining a minor.

Earlier, the Prosecution Counsel, Insp Courage Ekhueorohan, had told the court that the offences were committed between February and May at No 1 Aborishade Road, Lawanson Itire, Surulere, Lagos.

Ekhueorohan alleged that Anyaocha tricked the victim into transferring a total of N93,000 through a point of sales (POS)



machine to different accounts at her guardian's shop.

He said Anyaocha also lured her to his apartment, where he allegedly held and had carnal knowledge of her.

The prosecutor said the offences contravened the provisions of Sections 137, 144, 287 and 314 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

Oba Akran Cup set to kickoff July 16

By Saheed Afolabi

The much anticipated Oba Akran football competition would officially kick off on July 16 at the Nathaniel Idowu sports centre, Ajegunle, Lagos. More than 50 teams from various places in the state are expected to take part in the competition being organized by Badagry Coaches Football Association. At the draw ceremony held recently, the chairman organizing committee, Dr. Osondu Martins Ibegbu, commended the teams that have completed their registration forms and payment, saying some teams that could not meet the deadline have been disqualified. He said the competition has received the support of Ajeromi Ifelodun council boss, Fatai Adekunle Ayoola and other sports philanthropists in Badagry and its environs who are interested in the competition. He explained further that the competition would kick off in four zones and urged the participating teams to abide the rules and

regulation governing the game. He disclosed that the organisers would not support any hooliganism during and after the competition and warned any teams to shun vices that can tarnish the image of the competition. At the draw ceremony held in Ajeromi Ifelodun council organisers have drawn all the teams to four zones. At the Ajeromi zone, group a comprises of Aj Inter FC, Ajegunle, Dream Team, Amuwo-Odofin, AJ Young Talented FC, Ajegunle and Coljenny FC, Festac. Group b are made up of Alaska FC, Oto-Awori, Macari FC, Ajegunle and Shekinah FC, Ajegunle. Group C consist of Emerald FC, Ajegunle, United Ajax, Ajegunle and Tiger FC, Coker, while group d are Top FC, Amuwo- Odofin, Shekinah two, Ajegunle and Living Spring, Ajah. Two groups were zone to Amuwo-Odofin zone. Group a are Romans 8 FC, Mile 2, Paddysco FC, Amuwo-Odofin, Capdan FC, Amuwo-Odofin and Aux Exclusive Media FC, Amuwo-Odofin. Group B is made up of Twins FC, Coker,

ECAS FC, Agboju, Nakamura Strickers FC, Mushin and Starlet FC, Ijesha. At the Ojo zone, Group A is made up of Destiny Reigns FC, Agege, Young Stars FC, Satellite, Razzi FA, Ojo Barracks and Divine Impact FC, Ojo. Group B consist of Chekas United, Abule Oshun, Lagos SouthWest, Iba and Crown FA, Agboju. Four groups were zoned to Oto-Awori. Group A are Alaska FA, Otto-Awori, Royal FC, Otto-Awori, Invisible Leopard FC, LASU and Roro FC, Ojo. Group B comprises of Tico FC, Otto-Awori, Evalight FC, Ajagbandi, High Klass FC, Cele Nica, JP Young Stars FC, Otto-Awori. Group C are Joint FC, Lucky FC, Micro Giant, Ashiribo and Fuji Top FC, Otto-Awori, while group D are made up of Emajus FC, Divine Blessed FC and Ajao FA. Four groups were zone to Badagry as Group A consist of Sky Rovers FC, Bethel Warriors, GGSi FC. In Group B are Hot Bees, Badagry, United and Black Beret. Group C is made up of New Era, Topmost and Rivas FC, while in Group D are GGSi, 36 Lion FA and PSSH FC.



Sepp Blatter and Mitchell Platini

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The much anticipated Oba Akran football competition would officially kick off on July 16 at the Nathaniel Idowu sports centre, Ajegunle, Lagos. More than 50 teams from various places in the state are expected to take part in the competition being organized by Badagry Coaches Football Association. At the draw ceremony held recently, the chairman organizing committee, Dr. Osondu Martins Ibegbu, commended the teams that have completed their registration forms and payment, saying some teams that could not meet the deadline have been disqualified. He said the competition has received the support of Ajeromi Ifelodun council boss, Fatai Adekunle Ayoola and other sports philanthropists in Badagry and its environs who are interested in the competition. He explained further that the competition would kick off in four

zones and urged the participating teams to abide the rules and regulation governing the game. He disclosed that the organisers would not support any hooliganism during and after the competition and warned any teams to shun vices that can tarnish the image of the competition. At the draw ceremony held in Ajeromi Ifelodun council organisers have drawn all the teams to four zones. At the Ajeromi zone, group a comprises of Aj Inter FC, Ajegunle, Dream Team, Amuwo-Odofin, AJ Young Talented FC, Ajegunle and Coljenny FC, Festac. Group b are made up of Alaska FC, Oto-Awori, Macari FC, Ajegunle and Shekinah FC, Ajegunle. Group C consist of Emerald FC, Ajegunle, United Ajax, Ajegunle and Tiger FC, Coker, while group d are Top FC, Amuwo- Odofin, Shekinah two, Ajegunle and Living Spring, Ajah. Two groups were zone to Amuwo-Odofin zone. Group a are Romans

8 FC, Mile 2, Paddysco FC, Amuwo-Odofin, Capdan FC, Amuwo-Odofin and Aux Exclusive Media FC, Amuwo-Odofin. Group B is made up of Twins FC, Coker, ECAS FC, Agboju, Nakamura Strickers FC, Mushin and Starlet FC, Ijesha. At the Ojo zone, Group A is made up of Destiny Reigns FC, Agege, Young Stars FC, Satellite, Razzi FA, Ojo Barracks and Divine Impact FC, Ojo. Group B consist of Chekas United, Abule Oshun, Lagos SouthWest, Iba and Crown FA, Agboju. Four groups were zoned to Oto-Awori. Group A are Alaska FA, Otto-Awori, Royal FC, Otto-Awori, Invisible Leopard FC, LASU and Roro FC, Ojo. Group B comprises of Tico FC, Otto-Awori, Evalight FC, Ajagbandi, High Klass FC, Cele Nica, JP Young Stars FC, Otto-Awori. Group C are Joint FC, Lucky FC, Micro Giant, Ashiribo and Fuji Top FC, Otto-Awori, while group D are made up of Emajus FC, Divine Blessed FC and Ajao FA.


Tottenham sign Barcelona outcast, Lenglet on loan

By Saheed Afolabi

Tottenham have signed France centre-back Clement Lenglet from Barcelona on a season-long loan. The deal is reported to have an option-to-buy clause included. Lenglet, 27, struggled to cement his place in Barcelona's first XI last season, starting just seven La Liga matches. The Catalan club signed Lenglet from Sevilla for 35.9 million euros (£32m) in 2018 and added a 300 million euro (£265m) release clause to his contract. He becomes Antonio Conte's fifth summer signing following the arrivals of Ivan Perisic, Fraser Forster, Yves Bissouma and Richarlison. Lenglet has won 15 caps for France since making his debut in 2019 and has made a total of 160 appearances for Barcelona, helping them win the 2018-19 La Liga title and the Copa de Rey in 2021.




Clement Lenglet








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