

953,803 LAGOS VOTERS QUEUE FOR PVCS TODAY

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953,803 Lagos voters queue for PVCs today

By Abolaji Adebayo

As the collection of Permanent Voter's Cards (PVCs) commences today, no fewer than 953,803 newly registered voters are expected to line up in INEC offices across the state to collect their PVCs..

The statistics by the Independent National Electoral Commission, Lagos State chapter revealed that there were 6,570,291 registered voters before the commencement of the just concluded Continuous Voter Registration (CVR). Another 953,803 voters were registered during the CVR, making the total number in Lagos reach 7,524,094.

The Commission had announced that the collection of PVCs will commence today and last till January 22, 2023.

The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Lagos State, Mr. Olusegun Agbaje stated that out of the 6,630,661 PVCs received between 2011 and 2021; 5,676,858 have been distributed as of December 2, 2022.

Agbaje who disclosed that 13,325 Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) machines that would be used for the polls had been received, urged people to visit the INEC offices to collect their PVCs.

He appealed to the people to cooperate with the commission to ensure hitch-free elections in the state.

"Uncollected cards and expected PVCs for the registrants who did fresh registration, transfer or review between January and July 2022 would be available for collection in all INEC offices across the state from next Monday, December 12, 2022.

"The Commission has fixed the collection of Permanent Voters Cards between Monday 12, till January 22, 2023, at the local government area offices of the commission and between January 6 and 15, 2023, at the Registration Area, and Ward level," he said.

He added: "The Commission has continued to work round the clock towards ensuring that no stone is left unturned for the creation of a very conducive electoral environment for all-inclusive participation of all stakeholders.

"To ensure seamless access of voters to polling units, the number of polling units has risen from 8,464 to 13, 325 in Lagos State which is the largest in Nigeria."

Meanwhile, it is expected that there will be massive votes in the state. A survey carried out by ECHONEWS across the state indicated that 80 per cent of the registered voters are ready to vote during the 2023 general elections.

While a section of them was undecided, majority of those who spoke to ECHONEWS said they will participate in



the elections to elect their choice of those who control their affairs both in Lagos State and Nigeria as a whole.

Few people said they would only vote in the presidential election, saying they are more concern about the Federal Government than the state.

As earlier reported by ECHONEWS, about 16 political parties are presenting candidates to compete for the coveted topmost political post in the state and each party has commenced running around seeking electorate's support for their victory at the poll.

Some of the parties and their candidates include the incumbent Governor Sanwo-Olu of All Progressives Congress (APC); Abdulazeez Adediran (Jandor) of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP); Funso Doherty of African Democratic Congress (ADC); and Dickson Olaogun of Accord Party.

Other parties contesting for the governorship of the state include Balogun Abdulrazaq, AA; Layiwola Olajide, AAC; Bamidele Ishola, ADP; Kupoliyi Funmilayo, APM; Adeyemi Roseline, APP; Oluwo Wasiu. BP; Jim-Kamal Olalekan, NNPP; Braithwaite Ishola, NRM and others.

While the preparation for massive campaign by each party is in top gear, public opinions across the state indicate that the APC candidate is currently at the top while PDP and Accord Party are also making frantic efforts towards victory.

In a chat with ECHONEWS, the Zonal Organising Secretary of South West All Progressives Congress (APC), Lateef

Ibirogba, said the party is looking at getting at least 4 million votes for the governor and 5 million for the APC presidential candidate in Lagos State.

According to Ibirogba, Lagosians are already keying behind the APC because they want continuity in the infrastructure development engineered by the former governor and the presidential candidate, Asiawaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and continued by the subsequent governors.

He noted that governor Sanwo-Olu has been doing fantastically well in the development of the state which has endeared the party and its candidates to the electorate.

"Every party would wish to have it all. As a party we believe we have Lagos state's votes based on the achievements daily recorded in the state. But to be specific, we are not expecting less than 4 million votes for the governor in Lagos State and 5 million for the president," he said.

He said that the party has been putting up strategies to win the elections but refused to divulge the strategies, saying: "We cannot reveal our strategies for the opponents not to corner us but we are surely strategizing. Lagos State is for APC and we are fully ready to achieve a landslide victory during the 2023 general elections for all the positions right from presidential to the governor to the national and state house of assemblies."

On his own, the NNPP spokesperson/presidential campaign, Ladipo Johnson said his party is aiming at getting all the votes in Lagos State.

He said the party has also been putting all

what it requires to be victorious at poll in place.

"If there are 7 million voters, everyone will be targeting seven million. Though it is not possible most times to get what you want. But the party is working towards winning and ensuring that our party gets the maximum amount of votes we can get from Lagos especially for our presidential candidate. We're energizing our faith. In Lagos as well we are getting our party ready for the elections. Within next week, we shall present our manifesto and thereafter commence our campaign."

He said the party will soon hold mega rally in Lagos to sensitize the voters. He, therefore, urged the INEC to make the entire process of the elections to be transparent to avoid rigging.

An official of the PDP who spoke to our correspondent also boasted of victory for his part at the poll.

He said that the party has been strategising from the beginning on its own to win the Lagos State governorship election and also win substantial amount of votes for its presidential candidate.

While it seems that the contest is between AOC and PDP, political analysts believed that it would be difficult for Adeniran of PDP to break the stronghold of APC in Lagos State.

Kehinde Samuel said: "The contest is between Jandor of PDP and the incumbent governor from the ruling party, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu. The other guy whose name you just mentioned will barely get sizeable votes and Jandor will only try, Sanwo-Olu will win for the second time because the calculations are in his favor.

"He is the incumbent and his party leadership is strongly with him. In governance, Sanwo-Olu has been at his best and he will hope to consolidate his achievements when he gets reelected. Jandor might come near but Sanwo-Olu will win."

Another political watcher, Saheed Akintunde said: "PDP seems to be a stronger force now and I have this belief that they will give APC a run for their money this time around. It won't be business as usual come 2023.

"Jide Adeniran is contesting to win, unlike the party's last gubernatorial candidate who was just contesting to make money through negotiation. It will be a serious contest between APC, PDP and let's say Accord party too because they are there to spoil the vote.

"If either APC or PDP can approach Accord for negotiation it will be a plus to their side because having a loose end might be costly to either of the two strong forces. I can't say who will win now because it will be a keenly contested election."

Councillors assure of development

By Motola AbdulGafar

The legislative arm of Orile-Agege LCDA has assured the general public that it will continue to strive for the upgrade of the council. They made the pledge following the submission of the 2023 budget of continuity by the executive body to the legislature.

The council leader, Hon. Wale Fayemi, noted that as a member of the Legislative Arm, he assures all residents that all councillors would ensure approving community-oriented projects that have been proposed as they are

more concerned about the necessary developmental drive they need to put in place for more success of the council.

He said proposed infrastructural facilities that need readjustment-employment opportunities and entrepreneurial activities among others would be thoroughly examined before approval.

He noted that all councillors are for the interest of the community as they have related more with people at the grassroots level which makes them familiar with the needs of the people.



Hon. Wale Fayemi while assuring community stakeholders

Council to raise funds for education development

By Motola AbdulGafar

Agege Local Government has declared its intention to raise funds for the development of educational activities in the council.

The fundraising section would be carried out between stakeholders within and outside the council with a targeted sum of N500m.

The chairman of Agege Local Government, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi said the donation would be made at the still-to-come 7-day Agege day celebration which will kick off on 16, December 2022.

He noted that the celebration was to build cohesion, networking and familiarization among Agege youths and all that would be beneficial to them after the occasion.

He said he hoped that the general public would value the gathering and make the best out of it for their development.

Rescue team solicits support from public

By Motola AbdulGafar

The rescue team of an identified young boy in Orile-Agege LCDA has solicited financial support to cater for the young lad.

The boy was said to have been found injured on a roadside in the council.

The team consist of the council's Supervisor for Works, Hon. Kazeem Abatan and other good samaritans were said to have helped locate the boy's parents at Owode, Idiroko, Ogun State.

Investigation revealed that the boy ran away from his guardian in Agege and joined a suspected teenage cult, Awawa boys in the council.

He was said to have been abandoned after being pushed out of a moving vehicle as a means to escape from security operatives chasing his gang at night.

At present, he has



Picture of Hon. Kazeem Abatan, rescued boy and family members

reunited with his allocated to a primary school. At present, he has

attention and was Abatan and his group further appealed to the general public to contribute towards the survival of the young lad to sustain his growth and education



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iStarter Hub trains 250 young women in creative activities in 3 years

By Edith Obioma

Fast-growing creativity organisation in Lagos, iStarter Hub, has announced plans to extend its programmes to other parts of the country in a bid to further tackle unemployment among women in the country. Speaking at the graduation ceremony of its intensive creative designing, entrepreneurship and leadership skills acquisition programme for young women recently, the Managing Director, Mrs. Modupe Adeoye explained that the female-based organisation is perfecting plans to extend its scopes beyond Lagos to adopt more women into the scheme and ultimately empower them in a bid to make them independent and increase their employability. She explained that since its inception in 2019, the initiative through support from the Graduate Women-USA, World Connect, the US Consulate in Lagos and the Isolo LCDA, has taken no fewer than 250 young women through intensive creative designing, entrepreneurship and leadership programmes. She added that this year alone, 13 of its trainees were equipped with start-up kits and assisted in registering their business names with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC). Her words: "The initiative is an intensive Creative Designing, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership skills acquisition programme for out-of-school girls and unemployed young women between the ages of 16 and 35. Since its inception, the initiative

has reached 250 young women, both online and onsite. "In 2022, the Girls Creativity Hub initiative commenced training in January. It deployed two cohorts, having pivoted the project this year to equip 13 beneficiaries with startup kits for their new businesses and registered 6 Business names." Explaining further, she said "The weekly engagements covered three days of creative designing classes, a Mentorship/Career and Leadership workshop and one day of teamwork practical sessions, running for three months per cohort. Over the years, the trainers and facilitators are mostly volunteers from the Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) Network

with proven leadership records. "The Girls Creativity Hub initiative has helped the beneficiaries start lucrative businesses in the creative designing and branding industry, thereby increasing their earning power. Many beneficiaries had no personal money before enrolling in the training programme and could not afford basic needs like toiletries and data subscriptions. Since the training, many have started their business and employed at least one other woman. "In 2023, the project will expand our curriculum to have more creative designing programmes to give the creative designing hub various skills to the young women we are working with to live more expressively and be more

productive. We will also deploy our programmes in other parts of Nigeria to create jobs for unemployed young women," she said. A trainee, Michelle

Ogunniyi, said: "Getting access to the machine has also helped to contain my expenses because I don't have to spend so much money on outsourcing as I used to. I have worked

with about 60 clients, both individuals and organizations; between April when I joined the training, my business has had a turnover of N2,311,000."



iStarter trainings

The Chief Whip of the Legislative Arm of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Grace Nwankwo-Okere has empowered 100 beneficiaries in Ifoshi Ward which she represents. The empowerment was made available to youths both within and outside ward which increased the number of beneficiaries tremendously, which lasted two weeks. Activities like Gele and Makeup, Liquid soap, and Fascinator among other entrepreneurial skills, were taught at the programme. Nwankwo-Okere noted that as a business tycoon, a thrive to empower more youths has been an area of focus that she had always concentrated on.

Chief whip empowers youths

By Edith Obioma

She urged the beneficiaries to live up to the expectations of

the council chairman, Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) as he continues to encourage employment

opportunities in the council. She promised to continue to contribute towards the development of her

ward and Ejigbo in general while donating free clothing materials for all graduating students at the training.



Hon. Grace Nwankwo-Okere and beneficiaries showcasing their practice work

Traditional rulers commend Baale Sulaiman's impact at 15th anniversary celebration

By Motola AbdulGafar

Traditional rulers in Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro Local Government Area have applauded Baale of Oluwo Iju land, Chief Semiu Sulaiman as he celebrated 15th anniversary on the throne and absorption of four new chiefs. The monarchs praised Sulaiman's exemplary leadership as the Baale overseeing the affairs of the people in a peaceful and harmonious way. They recognized Sulaiman's 15 years Baale title to be highly significant and impactful following his unprecedented achievements. The first class king

overseeing the chieftaincy affairs in Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro, Oba Rilwan Oluwalambe gave his approval to absorb four chiefs in accordance with the custom and tradition of the land. People absorbed into the chieftaincy fold include, Chief Oseni Habeeb as Otun Asiwaju of Oluwo land, Chief Sonibare Saubana as Oluwo of Oluwo land. Others are Chief Tolulope Asaolu as Olori Odo of Oluwo land and Chief Olarenwaju Kalejaiye as Otun Olori Odo of Oluwo land. Oba of Iju, Ogundimu Gbolahan performed the traditional rites for the newly installed chiefs in accordance with the



Baale and new chiefs in Oluwo Iju land

custom. He advised the new chiefs to be morally upright as their new status demand responsibility and uprightness. He appealed to the new chiefs to work more on youths to promote productivity that will eschew negative attitude but restore peace in the community. Chief Sulaiman commended Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government

chairman, Prince Usman Hamzat for the transformational leadership role. He urged Hamzat to continue in the good projects and programmes that will develop the Local Government. He, however, sought his intervention on rehabilitation of Agbado road and others within Oluwo community for the people to enjoy dividends of democracy.

Ijede LCDA urges students to shun social vices

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Ijede LCDA, Hon. Motunrayo Gbadebo-Alogba has called on students to be role models for their families and community as the yuletide season draws closer. The council boss, speaking at the maiden edition of a leadership and orientation programme organised for public schools by the LCDA, enjoined pupils to abstain from every aspect of social vices to keep the community free from cynical effects. Themed 'December To Remember, Creating Awareness to Caution Students Against Social Vices', the programme hosted all five primary public schools across the local council area, with the support of the National Orientation Agency (NOA). The pupils were taught

that every leader of tomorrow must be ready to comprehend and follow optimistic strides to create a favourable corridor for the generation unborn. Urging students to be security mindful about their vicinities, the council boss, who was represented by her vice, Hon. Femi Kareem, advised the young scholars to imbibe the habit of asking questions whenever they are faced with odd scenarios in their immediate environment. "You should be apt to say something if you see anything which is not part of your everyday formalities and constructive actions. "Understanding that as a student, your first place of knowledge is your home and second is your school, every order pattern of influence must be questioned and honestly verified before accepted. "As young lads, you must remember that it takes a



Speakers at the Ijede LCDA program with students on the need shun social vices

good follower to become a better leader, listening very well to your parents and teachers will prevent you from the hostile side of life which harbours guilt," she said. She informed that more insightful programmes will be organised in the council to enhance the educational sector. Highlighting the numerous forms of social vices, Mr. Ajayi Taiwo



from the National Orientation Agency explained to the students that social vices are bad traits, unhealthy, and negative behaviours that are not in the morality of the community and are frowned upon by members of society. According to Ajayi, social vices are considered abnormal behaviour in society that violates social norms and expectations.

Be security conscious, CDC charges community leaders

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Community Development Committee (CDC) of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Pastor Samuel Opajobi has urged Community leaders to be security conscious of their environments. Opajobi urged the leadership of Community Associations (CDAs) to make security a paramount issue in their respective CDAs. He said this during a

monthly meeting between the CDC and the CDAs held recently at the council. He said nefarious activities will be curbed in the community if security is held firmly. The council authority also appealed to the CDA leaders to do the needful on registration and payment of CDA dues. At the meeting, representative of National Orientation Agency (NOA) educated the residents on voting rules and regulations



Ifako-ijaiye CDC meeting

Ikorodu-Itoikin road rehabilitation ready May 2023, Fashola assures Abiru

By Saheed Afolabi

The Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Fashola, has assured the Senator representing Lagos East Senatorial District, Hon. Adetokunbo Abiru, that the rehabilitation of 32-Km Ikorodu-Itoikin Road will be completed by May, 2023.

Fashola gave the assurance when Abiru, who is the chairman, Senate Committee on Industries, paid him a courtesy visit in his office recently.

During the visit, the Senator talked on the planned rehabilitation of 32-Km Ikorodu-Itoikin Road and the accelerated work on Ikorodu-Sagamu Road, which is almost completed.

The Minister specifically informed the Senator that the Federal Executive

Council (FEC) had approved complete rehabilitation of the Ikorodu-Itoikin Road.

He assured Abiru that the total rehabilitation of the road will commence in January, 2023.

Meanwhile, critical sections of the 30-Km Ikorodu/Sagamu road, from; Sabo, Okegbegun, First Gate, Odogunyan, Ita-Oluwo, Ogijo, Gbaga, Sotubo, Mosimmi to Gbara Village have been fixed, remaining less than 8 Kilometre to Sagamu.

The Minister assured that the road would be completed before the end of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration.

These milestones were made possible through the instrumentality of legislative intervention via a motion moved by Senator Abiru, 'On The Urgent Need For The Rehabilitation Of The Ikorodu-Sagamu And Ikorodu-Itoikin-Epe Roads



The senator representing Lagos East, Senator Tokumbo Abiru and the minister of works and housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola

To Further Bridge The Infrastructure Gap And Enhance Economic Growth In Nigeria' in April 2021.

Abiru convinced the Senate by highlighting the importance of the two roads to the nation's economic growth as they serve as access points from other parts of the

country: Ogun, Edo and the Northern parts of the country and also routes to New Lekki- Ibeju corridor where we have a major refinery, Lagos Deep Seaport and Free Trade Zone etc.

The motion was fully supported and approved by the Nigerian Senate, and thereafter obtained

the cooperation and support of the Ministry of Works and Housing, particularly, the Honourable minister, His Excellency, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN.

Before Abiru's intervention, Ikorodu-Sagamu road, which was awarded on June 5, 2018 to Messrs Arab

Contractors O.A.O. Nigeria Limited with a completion period of 36 months only attained 24.04 per cent completion due to paucity of funding.

However, the current intervention by the Senator has ensured the advancement of the 30-km Road to about 85 per cent completion.

Ikorodu LG holds consultative forum on 2023 budget

By Saheed Afolabi

Ikorodu Local Government chairman, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, hosted stakeholders and members of the general public to the year 2023 Budget Consultative forum at the Council Hall.

The forum, with the theme: 'An Effective Budget Formulation', created an interactive session for the council and paved way for the government to ascertain areas of adjustments and modifications.

The head of budget department, Mr. Kazeem Adesanya, enlightened the attendees on the benefits of annual

budget, explaining reasons taxes must be paid for the council to fulfil its numerous obligations.

The presentation gave participants the avenue to suggest other ways the council could create employment, engage the youths and provide more empowerment and training hubs.

In his official address, the council chairman reviewed various projects embarked upon by his administration in the 2022 fiscal year.

According to him, the administration was able to complete 96 per cent of projects in all sectors, with additional provision of welfare packages for teachers, programmes for students and various

ongoing infrastructural development projects in Ikorodu.

Adesina also explained that his administration has consistently increased the IGR of the local government from N20 million to N120 million without obtaining loans or incurring debts.

"We're able to accelerate the council's productivity through proper planning and strategy formulation," he said.

Stakeholders in attendance, who acknowledged the council's challenges examined, lauded the chairman for his relentless efforts on the development of Ikorodu Local Government.

The council boss further called on the residents



The chairman of Ikorodu LG, hon Wasiu Adesina speaking at the Ikorodu LG consultative forum on the 2023 budget

to support his administration through prompt payment of taxes and due proceeds to enable the government serve the people with dividends of democracy.

"Despite our managing

allocations, most projects were carried out successfully on roads and construction works which has enhance growth. I want to appreciate the good people of Ikorodu Local Government for their

unwavering support and also the contributions of all stakeholders, their steadfast encouragement and backing of this administration," Adesina concluded.

Rep Balogun says rehabilitation of education system's to improve standard of learning

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa, has said the evacuation of waste at the Magbon Alade Community Beach is to ensure cleanliness and orderliness at the relaxation centre. He said for a habitable atmosphere, environmental sustainability is key towards development. Recall that the beach front has been for years used as a dump site but it looks more appropriate after the

evacuation. He noted that the council is trying to protect the environment from pollution or any form of contamination that could affect the health of the community. He further disclosed that the dirt is not completely wasted as they just need to be placed in its rightful position for them to become recyclable materials due to its value. Olowa, therefore, cautioned beach visitors to comply with the order set by the council as the health of the community is its priority.



Hon. Adebayo Balogun while inspecting newly built education structure

Council chairmen pledge support for new monarch

By Edith Igbokwe

Female Local Council chairmen have come together to sensitise women on Permanent Voters Card (PVC) and electoral enlightenment. The Female chairmen include, Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Princess Bolanle Bada, Apapa Local Government, Hon. Idowu Senbanjo, Apapa Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Funmilayo Muhammed and Epe Local Government, Mrs. Surah Animashaun. They all gathered at the Lagos Mainland Local Government Secretariat to properly orientate women on the importance of votes in an election. She emphasized that aged women should be carried along in the participation of electoral process and the task of building the nation. The national coordinator of the group, Alhaja (Dr.) Adenike Lawal advised women to cast their votes to All Progressives Congress (APC) party candidates from the federal level to the state level candidates.

Council states reasons for waste evacuation

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa, has said the evacuation of waste at the Magbon Alade Community Beach is to ensure cleanliness and orderliness at the relaxation centre. He said for a habitable atmosphere,

environmental sustainability is key towards development. Recall that the beach front has been for years used as a dump site but it looks more appropriate after the evacuation. He noted that the council is trying to protect the environment from pollution or any form of contamination that could affect the health of the community. He further disclosed that the dirt is not completely wasted as they just need to be placed in its rightful position for them to become recyclable materials due to its value. Olowa, therefore, cautioned beach visitors to comply with the order set by the council as the health of the community is its priority.



Dirt evacuation process at Ibeju-Lekki

We're running community-based governance - Olowa

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa, has said he is running and will continue to run a community-oriented governance that would have a listening ear for the people.

He made this known at the stakeholders' forum organised for the preparation of the 2023 Budget of the council. Olowa noted that his promise which is to reaffirm to the community of his dedication is not to be taken as mere speech as they would continue to put in their best to execute all proposed projects from the community. He said the essence of the stakeholders' meeting is to get to know more about the needs of the community. He confirmed that all proposed projects from the community as

tendered by the stakeholders would be reviewed and worked on in the coming year. He, therefore, appealed to the community for their continuous cooperation as he stated that the council can not fully actualize their needs without their support.



Hon. Abdullahi Olowa

Female council chairmen seek aged women's participation in electoral process

By Edith Igbokwe

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The national coordinator of the group, Alhaja (Dr.) Adenike Lawal advised women to cast their votes to All Progressives Congress (APC) party candidates from the federal level to the state level candidates.

In preparation for the presentation of 2023 budget, management and staff of Mushin Local Government, headed by the Chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, gathered in the ancient city of Ibadan, to review the performance of 2022 financial activities in compliance with International Key Performance Indicators. The vice chairman, councillors, council secretary, supervisors, council manager, council treasurer, heads of department and some staff members of the council, deliberated on activities of the current year and projected for the coming year 2023.

The chairman appealed to them to devote all their attention to the retreat to learn and have more knowledge about financial appropriation. He reiterated his commitment towards executing more

Mushin LG departments review 2022 budget performance

By Saheed Afolabi

developmental projects. He mentioned that he has been able to rehabilitate 12 roads in Mushin in 2022 as promised, tasking the management to support him in his mission to ensure that he rehabilitates at least ten roads per year.

The council boss frowned at the under performance in some departments and promised to introduce a stimulating and motivating reward system for staff and department with outstanding performance at the end of every financial year. A brief to sensitize participants was delivered by the Assistant Head of Budget Department,

Mrs. Aminat Ariyibi, on the change in budget system of Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), as stipulated by the office of Accountant General of the Lagos state, in

accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS).

She highlighted the introduction of new template for budget and accounting with

provision for Social Service Expenditure to be captured on a different schedule.

At the beginning of deliberations, an assessment of performance of each

department was carried out and observations were raised with corrections and projections for the new year (2023), made for every department with targets.



The chairman of Mushin LG, Hon Emmanuel Bamigboye speaking at the Mushin LG Budget retreat

NAFRC gives back to host community

By Saheed Afolabi

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility to the host community, the Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre (Oshodi), has

again executed another round of Free Medical Outreach in Mushin Local Government.

The programme which was aimed at fostering cordial civil-military relations between the two parties, took place at the Palm Avenue

Primary Health Centre (Omodigbo), Mushin.

Speaking, the Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, expressed appreciation to the Armed Forces, for their consistence in the

annual medical outreach despite the periodic changes in the leadership of the centre.

He thanked them for helping his administration to invest in the health being of the members of his community, knowing fully well that health is wealth.

While flagging off the event, the Commandant of NAFRC - Air Vice Marshall I. G. Lubo, stated that the programme was borne out of the good working relationship between the centre and its host community.

The Commandant outlined the various medical services available to the people during the exercise to include free screening

exercise for Malaria, Sugar test, hepatitis and HIV.

He also mentioned free dental care, free eye examination and distribution of eye glasses, toothbrushes with toothpastes, with insecticide as well as treated mosquito nets.

He corrected the wrong impression that military medical facilities are not accessible by civilians, as he openly declared that provisions will be made for the treatment of patients whose medical conditions may require further treatment at their medical facilities in NAFRC, Oshodi.

The commandant also used the opportunity to take his Covid-19 vaccine provided by Mushin Local Government.

The Commandant thanked the council boss and members of the community, including the Royal father, for hosting the medical outreach.

In response, the Supervisor for Health, Hon. Femi Nuga, thanked the Armed Forces for the great investment in the health of the people of Mushin. Members of the community trooped out as they enjoyed free medical services with distribution of medications, eye glasses, toothpastes and brushes go or all the patients in attendance. The council leader, Hon. Olamide Williams, Councillors, Council Secretary, Supervisors, Chief Imam of Mushin Central Mosque, Sheikh Sulaimon Olanijo, community leaders and party leaders all enjoy the services.



L-R: Chairman of Mushin LG, Hon Emmanuel Bamigboye shaking the hand of the NAFRC commander, Air Vice Marshall I.G Lubo

Medical school joins Safe-Blood Project

By Motola AbdulGafar

The Eko University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Ijanikin, has joined Safe Blood Project in Nigeria. The World Health Organisation has recommended meeting the safe blood requirements of at least 2,000,000 units in Nigeria. The Acting Vice Chancellor of the institution Prof. Dayo Ejiwunmi said the

private institution has taken interest in organising a voluntary blood donation drive to contribute towards achieving the 2,000,000 units goal. He said the institution, to promote volunteers in the cause, has partnered with Lagos State Blood Transfusion Service. Ejiwunmi noted that as an institution of learning, they are making efforts to address social issues,

engender positive behavioural change and encourage students to research blood and blood products in the system. He said the donation would help save countless unidentified lives as its availability in all medical institutions will be guaranteed and urged every individual to join hands in advocating for blood donation as it can one day save a close relative, friend or important person to us. Blood bank



Teacher remanded for allegedly raping 8-year-old boy

By Motola AbdulGafar

A Basic four school teacher, Mr. Chinedu Okeke in Patphina International School, Ojo, has been remanded by the Ogba Magistrates Court for allegedly raping an 8-year-old boy inside the classroom. The 17-year-old teacher was reported to have defiled his pupil through his anus. The incident was reported to have taken place during closing hours but was detected when the victim later complained to his

parents.

The Presiding Magistrate, Mrs. B. O. Osunsanmi ordered that Okeke who pleaded guilty should be remanded in custody for fact and a sentence to be later deliberated on. Implicating the school proprietress, an order was made for her to also be remanded at the Correctional Centre, Kirikiri, pending when she perfects her bail conditions. She was granted bail in the sum of N300,000 with two sureties in like sum, who must show evidence of means of livelihood.



Oniba Ekun described as a decisive leader

By Motola AbdulGafar

The Oniba Ekun of Iba Kingdom, Oba Sulaiman Raji-Ashade has been described as a leader who takes decisive measures in resolving community issues. Raji-Ashade was described as a hero following the leadership method he

has showcased since he was coronated two years ago.

The Lagos House of Assembly candidate under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Ojo Constituency, Hon. Olusegun Ege made the description as a way of commending the monarch's efforts towards the development of Ojo

Local Government.

He proclaimed that Oba Raji-Ashade had on many occasions shown his willingness to listen to the complaints of his people which has birthed a cordial relationship between him and the community. Ege said that the Oba has self-awareness and integrity that he

has solely established as he relates with his people with honesty and respect despite being in a leadership position.

He, therefore, congratulated the royal father on his achievements so far while commending him to keep up with his good reputation for the development of Ojo.



The Oniba Ekun of Iba Kingdom, Oba Sulaiman Raji-Ashade

LCDA summons stakeholders to beef up security in community

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Eredo LCDA, Hon. Ismail Akinloye, has summoned security experts to discuss and strategize on the security of the community.

This was necessitated following the increase in security breach such as land grabbing, kidnapping, terrorism, cultism and other evil practices which are on the rise.

The security personnel and stakeholders were to seek solutions to the security threats and challenges in the community.

At the security meeting, which had representatives from all security agencies - the Nigeria Police, Nigerian Army, Civil

Defense, VGN, environment. In another development, the council inaugurated a revenue committee to handle revenue collection.

While presenting a bus to the committee at the council secretariat, the

council boss charged members of the committee to see the task as a statutory responsibility and call to service.

Akinloye implored the revenue committee to remain focused, dedicated and loyal to the council authority

in the discharge of their responsibilities, disclosing that the local government is

poised to realise its set target for the year in the area of IGR which if not achieved could pose danger to the financial engineering of the local government likewise the environmental team. Members of the executive and legislative arms as well as the leaders of the council's management team were also present at the event.



The Chairman of Eredo LCDA, hon Ismail Monsuru Akinloye with security architecture in Eredo LCDA

Akinloye procures transformer for communities

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Eredo LCDA, Hon. Ismail Akinloye, has procured brand new 500KVA transformer for Hilltop and New Town Community Development Associations (CDAs). While handing over the transformer to the community, he also promised to make sure that the transformer is installed for usage immediately. He appealed to the members of the

community to vote for APC at all levels to further enjoy more dividends of democracy. The Hilltop CDA chairman, Mr. Amoo, who spoke on behalf of the community, appreciated the council chairman, confirming that he has consistently put in all his best for Kula Community ranging from security mechanism, grading of roads and the recent provision of a brand new transformer. The CDC boss also pledged total support to governments of Lagos State and Eredo LCDA.



The 500kva transformer given to Hilltop and New Town CDA

The Chairman of Itire-Ikate Local Council Development Area, Hon. Dr. Ahmed Olanrewaju (Apatira) has distributed school bags to public primary school pupils within the council area as a means of supporting them in their pursuit of a sound education. The council boss, who was represented by the secretary to the local government, Hon. Kehinde Baruwa, said the gesture was aimed at fulfilling the statutory functions of his administration in the education sector. He added that it was to meet the educational needs of the students and also ease struggling parents and guardians' financial burden. While listing some of the achievements recorded in the area of education, Apatira noted that he has made education a priority for his administration, saying it is the bedrock of the nation

Apatira distributes bags to public primary school pupils

By Motolani AbdulGafar

and the best investment for a child. Some of the achievements he listed include the renovation of dilapidated blocks of classrooms and toilets at Duro-Oyedoyin Primary School, provision of notebooks, school sandals, bags, desks, chairs, provision of tuition free scholarships for indigent students, annual distribution of JAMB and GCE forms. "The drive behind giving the school bags is nothing short of the fact that most students go to schools with polythene bags, some don't even have anything to carry their books which makes the books get tattered and as a responsive government, this could be a way of

supporting the parents. It is also a motivation for the students to put more interest in their studies," he said. Supervisor for Education, Prince Yomi Lawrence while speaking at the event

commended the council chairman for the benevolence as he encouraged the pupils to remain focused in their educational pursuits and strive for excellence while urging them to make judicious use of the

bags in order to improve in their studies. The beneficiaries include pupils of Aguntasholo Primary school, Animashaun Primary School, Odo-Olowu Primary School, Sijuade

Primary School, Duro-Oyedoyin Primary School, Ijeshatedo Primary School, Akanji Primary School, Erinoshosho Primary School and Immam Shuaib Primary School.



Pupils of Aguntasholo primary school in a group photograph with the SLG of Itire-Ikate LCDA, Kehinde Baruwa

LG organizes stakeholders consultative forum on 2023 budget

By Saheed Afolabi

In preparation for the 2023 fiscal year and draft of budget, the chairman of Surulere LG, Hon. Sulaiman Yussuf, has called stakeholders within the council area to a budget consultative forum tagged 'Continuity Of Good Governance Towards Economic Development In Surulere LG'.

The head of budget department, Mrs. Folashade Adewale, while giving the opening remarks said the purpose of the forum was to strategise on new initiatives for the local economic development "and to actualise this, the stakeholders are given opportunity to submit their requests and deliberate on how they can be achieved within a short period of time. For example, Medium Term Expenditure framework which is a three-year rolling programme which simply means that any project that cannot finish this year, will definitely continue next year."

The council boss said the forum was held to give sense of belonging to everybody, adding that it was also

targeted at building a sustenance government and rebuilding citizens trust in governance as an administration that has the interest of the people at heart. He highlighted some of the achievements of his administration in the last one year and assured them of more dividends of democracy in 2023. He said he has completed 85 per cent of the project embarked on this year, which include the new legislative building and renovation of the council secretariat. He appealed to all tax paying residents in



The chairman of Surulere LG, Hon Sulaimon Bamidele Yusuf speaking at the Surulere LG stakeholders consultative forum

Surulere to ensure prompt payment of their rates and levies. The forum was well attended by the

traditional rulers, the party leaders, the religious leaders, the CDC members, the youths, the artisans,

market leaders, the legislators, the executive members, the management team, and the staff members.

Eight teams compete for honour in first edition of SheFootball Tournament

By Saheed Afolabi

Eight women teams will fight for honour in the first edition of SheFootball Initiative Tournament a brain child of Aiysha Yusuf Aromire Foundation which will kick off on January 7, 2023 at Legacy Pitch, National Stadium Surulere, Lagos. The football tournament is aimed at promoting women in football and also using various means to highlight the positive social impacts the game has on women and girls across Nigeria, Africa and the World. The participating teams are: DreamStar Ladies, Royaltoms Queens, Phoenix Queens, Lakeside Queens, Ijamido Queens, English Queens, Future Stars Queens, Nakamura Queens.

Meet the Teams CLUB PROFILE

DreStar Ladies

DreamStars Ladies was founded in 2017, they played in the Nigeria Women Football League based in Ejigbo, Lagos.

Lakeside Queens

Lakeside Queens is a Bariga based women's football club founded in 2007.

They presently played in the second division of the Nigeria Women Football League (NWFL) Championship.

Future Stars 99 Football Academy

Founded in 2016 in Igando, Lagos State, they currently played in WAFA league.

Royaltoms International Football Academy.

A football Academy established in 2002, based in Sango-Ota, Ogun State. They have produced known women footballers in recent years.

Ijamido Football Academy

Established in 2002 in Sango Ota, Ogun State, the team has produced some promising female footballers who are plying their trade in Nigeria and abroad.

Nakamura FA (The Black Arrows)

This is a women's football club based in the heart of Lagos State (Mushin). Their aim is to harness the potentials of girls through sports in one of the densely populated area in Lagos State and arguably in the South West of Nigeria. The club was founded in 2017.



SheFootball Conference

FC Phoenix Queens, Orile Iganmu

It was established in 2007 to provide enabling environment to youthful girls in Orile-Iganmu and its environs. They currently play in

the WAFA League in Lagos State.

English Queens (Best Vale FC)

Founded in 2005 in Owode Egba in Ogun State, a football academy combining education with football for the youths of Owode-Egba. The SheFootball is an initiative of Aiysha Yusuf Armoire and is powered by Nigeria's private airline ValueJet Airline.

Ilasamaja Youth Football Tournament's to spread love in the community - Muritala Bankole

By Saheed Afolabi

The Ilasamaja Youth Football Tournament is in its 11th edition where it's used to celebrate and foster unity among the youths of Ilasamaja, Isolo, Lagos. The tournament which kicked off on the 6th of November is scheduled to end on the 18th of December 2022. Ajumoni Grammar School have been the host venue for matches of the tournament. Speaking to ECHONEWS, the President of Ilasamaja Youth, Muritala Bankole popularly known as Muab Chemical said the purpose and aim of the tournament is to foster unity among the

residents of Ilasamaja and to engage the youths productively. "The reason for the Ilasamaja Youth Football Tournament is to engage the youths productively, have the best of fun using football and to also unite the youths in Ilasa. "This tournament have been on for over 11 years and it's only unity and cooperation that has kept us together for this long. "The tournament is also used to bring together the youths of Ilasa that are scattered all over the country and play with each other in different clubs where a winner will emerge." The Ilasamaja Youth Football Tournament have reached the semifinal stage.



Muritala Bankole (Muab) president of Ilasamaja Youth Football

Ifeanyi Chiejine should not be forgotten, Perpetua Nkwocha declares ahead of maiden ICMC

By Saheed Afolabi

Four-time African Women's Player of the year winner, Perpetua Nkwocha has stated that Late Ifeanyi Chiejine should not be forgotten. The former Super Falcons captain while lauding the brain behind Ifeanyi Chiejine Memorial Cup (ICMC) described her former teammate as an intelligent player. "The tournament organised in her honour and remembrance is a great one for such good and outstanding player who should not be forgotten. It was so sad we lost her but the tournament is a great initiative." Nkwocha told pressmen. At 16 years and 34 days, Ifeanyi Chiejine holds the record for the youngest player at the FIFA Women's World Cup during the Super Falcons game against North Korea on June 20, 1999.

Perpetua added: "Ifeanyi Chiejine was a very good, strong, and skillful player. She was so intelligent on and off the pitch. The youngest player to play at the FIFA Women's World Cup. "A disciplined player who wanted everyone around her to do well. She was dedicated to whatever task you gave her and she always encouraged the young players to be serious and disciplined. When I played with her in the national team, I can say

that she possessed all the good qualities on and off the pitch." The maiden Ifeanyi Chiejine Memorial Cup will see eight teams compete from December 15 to 21, 2022, in Asaba, Delta State capital. Delta Babes, Kwara Ladies, Fortress Ladies, Castmogh FA, Moje Queens, Imo Strikers Queens FC, Anambra Angels, and Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens will trade tackles for the maiden Ifeanyi Chiejine Memorial Cup.





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