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# EchoneWS

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## COUNCIL CHAIRMEN MAY INAUGURATE EXCO THIS MONTH

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# Council chairmen may inaugurate exco this month

## ■ chairmen to choose SLGs

By Abolaji Adebayo

After waiting for eight months, local council chairmen in Lagos State may inaugurate their cabinets this month.

There are indications that the list will be ratified by the state governor to allow the chairmen have their cabinets to work with. Eight months after their swearing-in, none of the 57 Local Council Chairmen in Lagos State has inaugurated their cabinet, the lists have been delayed due to some factors as reported by ECHONEWS. The highest ruling organ of the All Progressives Congress, the Governor's Advisory Council, GAC has also allocated the appointment of the Secretary to the Local Government to council chairmen.

Echonews also gathered that the GAC also increased the number of executive positions from six to eight to ensure that groups involved in the local government

elections are duly compensated. Statutorily, the council chairmen are expected to constitute their cabinets within three months of their assumption of office after the list should have been ratified by the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs.

According to the administrative guidelines, the offices to be occupied in the cabinet include the Secretary to the Local Government, Supervisors for Works, Education, Health, Environment, Agriculture and special advisers on revenue and boundary matters. Stakeholders have been impatiently waiting for the announcement of the cabinets as tension rose in the 57 Local Governments (LGs) and Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs).

Initially, the lists of the cabinet members were expected to be released to commemorate their council chairmen's 100 Days in office.

However, the hope was dashed as

none of the council announced its cabinet - the lists were not released by the state government. According to the norm, the list of each local council has to be submitted to the state government for ratification which was done by many of them though it was gathered that few of them could not submit theirs due to leadership tussles in the council areas. It was gathered that the delay in the submission of the list by some local councils delayed the ratification of the lists by the state governor. ECHONEWS reported in January that there were some factors delaying the constitution of local council executive cabinets across the state.

First, it was gathered that the delay was due to the fact that some of the elected council chairmen are new in the system and need to be familiar with the system before making any political appointment of those who would work with them.

Again, those council chairmen who

were returned for their second term in office are expected to pay the severance payments to those who worked with them as cabinet members during their first administration.

They were asked to settle them within two months before constituting new cabinets.

The returned council bosses had pleaded with the state governor to give them some time to settle the payment.

The Governing Advisory Council (GAC) gave them 100 days to pay the severance of their former cabinet members and constitute new ones.

Few days to the political stakeholders have been waiting impatiently to see the lists to know who makes the cabinet as it is expected that each council chairman would release the list any moment from now.

Another factor that further delays the lists in some local council areas is caused by party stakeholders as the chairman has to properly consult the party

leaders to come up with the list.

ECHONEWS gathered that in some local governments, the lists were delayed due to party leadership tussles over the selection of candidates.

This created more tension among party loyalists and many others anticipating to be part of the cabinet.

Meanwhile, it was gathered that the council chairmen were given the power to produce SLG.

Sources in some local governments have different reasons for the delay of the lists.

While someone said the chairmen are waiting for February JAAC to pay the severance of their former cabinet members before inaugurating the new ones; a former Secretary to the Local Government (SLG) told ECHONEWS that all local councils have paid the severance to their former cabinet members.

The SLG explained that it is only furniture allowance agreed by Conference 57 to be paid to both former elected and political

appointees between February and June.

As gathered by ECHONEWS, Conference 57 offered each former councilor a sum of N1.4million as compensation to be paid by all the local council chairmen before June, this year.

Another source claimed that they are planning to inaugurate a new cabinet to commemorate their one year in office.

Meanwhile, sources close to the state government told ECHONEWS that the governor was initially waiting till after the APC convention earlier scheduled to hold in February before approving the lists, saying since the convention could not hold in February any longer, hopefully, the lists will be released after the convention this March.

The sources said every local government has submitted their lists, adding that the lists are with the executive of the APC party at the state level.

The lists, as gathered, would be forwarded to the governor immediately after the party's convention for ratification, and the cabinet in each local council may be inaugurated this month.

According to the source at the APC state level, hopefully, the cabinets in all local councils will be inaugurated this month as the lists have been perfected, only waiting for the governor's ratification.

Persons with special needs in Ejigbo LCDA will remember Friday March 11, this year for a long time to come.

At 1pm that day, their dream of interacting with the Lagos State Office of Disability, LASODA became real.

Welcoming participants to the forum which took place at the conference room of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, the host, Kehinde Bamigbetan, who is aspiring to be the next member of the House of Representatives for Oshodi-Isolo II, explained that he discovered that many persons with special needs in Ejigbo were suffering in silence in the course of his consultation with 42 communities on their needs and aspirations.

He said many physically challenged alleged that they were not empowered by LASODA and both the deaf and blind, believed the agency wasn't doing enough to

## Aspirant organises forum for LASODA, persons with special needs

get them jobs in the state public service.

"I promised them that I will not wait till I become their representative in the Lower House of the National Assembly before addressing their demand. I set up a meeting of the leaders of persons with special needs and we sent a letter to LASODA articulating our demands and requesting for a meeting" He said.

He thanked the General Manager of LASODA, Mr. Dare Dairo for responding promptly to the correspondence when he followed up the letter and opted to come to Ejigbo to meet persons living with special needs in Ejigbo instead of waiting for them at the LASODA office in Alausa.

His words: "This is a rare community-friendly approach to engagement that reflects the leadership style of Governor

Babajide Sanwo-olu."

Also addressing the participants, the chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Bello Obe commended LASODA for responding to the persons living with special needs. Aably represented by Hon. Lanre Adebawale, the Leader of the Legislative Arm of the Ejigbo LCDA, Obe pledged the support of his administration to the implementation of LASODA's policies which seek to improve the condition of persons with special needs.

Explaining the plans of the agency, Dairo unveiled the prototype of a footwear factory and braille computer unit to be built in each of the five divisions of the state.

He also announced plans to build LASODA office in three council areas, including Ejigbo LCDA and organise the largest Empowerment programme in



LASODA General Manager, Mr. Dare Dairo and Kehinde Bamigbetan at the event

recent times.

Dairo urged participants to acquire skills and engage in self-employment as there not enough government vacancies to absorb everybody.

He said people without special needs are also competing for the

same jobs

Dairo added that the peculiar requirements of employing persons with special needs such as walking aids and compliant office environment discourage employers.

Assuring them of LASODA's

determination to roll out programmes and projects to enhance their chances, Dairo said Governor Sanwo-olu has approved the Empowerment programme initially slated to hold last year implying that there will be two programmes this year.



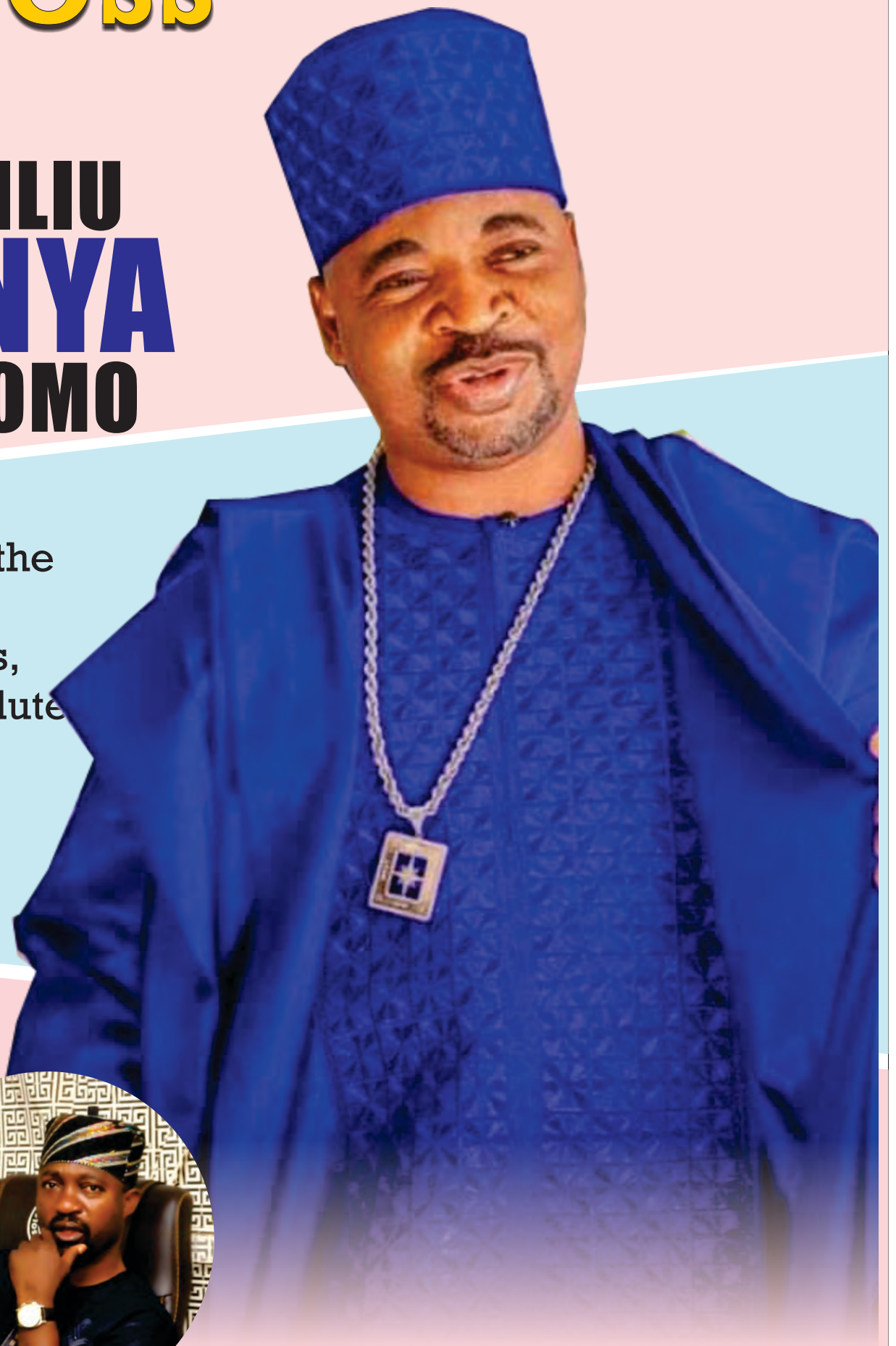
*Happy  
Birthday*  
**To The BOSS**

**ALHAJI MUSILIU  
AKINSANYA  
AKA MC OLUOMO**

The entire members of the  
National Union of  
Road Transport Workers,  
Ejigbo LCDA branch salute  
our Boss and Leader  
on the occasion of his  
birthday today.

**Solidarity Forever**  
**Victoria ACERTA**

**Comrade**  
**Femi Olowu**  
NURTW, Ejigbo





*Happy  
Birthday*

# TO A GREAT BROTHER

On behalf of Ejigbo Local Council  
Development Area and  
the community, I join well  
wishers to wish my brother,  
Alhaji Musiliu Akinsanya ,  
Chairman, NURTW,  
Lagos State a Happy Birthday

**I wish you many Happy returns.**



**HON. MONSURUDEEN  
OLOYEDE BELLO (OBE)**  
Executive Chairman, Ejigbo LCDA



**Alhaji Musiliu Akinsanya**

# *Happy Birthday*

## THE FORMIDABLE STAKEHOLDER



The Kehinde Bamigbetan Campaign Organisation  
hereby congratulates the chairman, Lagos State Council of the  
National Union of Road Transport Workers,  
Alhaji Musiliu Akinsanya MC OLUOMO  
As he adds another year today.

**Many Happy Returns.**

**KEHINDE BAMIGBETAN**  
ASPIRANT  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS  
OSHODI- ISOLO CONSTITUENCY II





# Orile-Agege Vice Chairman urges students to exhibit hidden talents

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Vice Chairman of Orile-Agege LCDA, Hon. Kafilat Pedro, has urged all students in the council area to always exhibit their hidden talents. Pedro stated this during the flag off of 2022 Quiz and Debate Competitions organised by Orile Agege Local Council Development Area. She said: "To integrate Extra-Curricula activities in Orile Agege Students, we organise this Competitions: Quiz and Debate Competitions for 24 Primary Schools and 7 Junior

Secondary Schools.

"These competitions are important for our students to showcase their knowledge about germane topical issues.

"As the Competitions begin, I want to urge all students to exhibit their hidden talents in this Competition. It is an avenue to showcase you to the world."

The Vice Chairman commended the council Chairman, Hon. Johnson Sunday Babatunde, for his great vision for education. Pedro thanked all the public school teachers, head teachers and principals for their cooperation and love. She noted that the

Babatunde led administration has in the last seven months of its second term consolidated majorly on education.

"Our administration has built and renovated several schools: primary and junior secondary schools.

"In fact, with the partnership of a Non-Governmental Organisation, we just distributed exercise books to selected public primary school in Orile Agege.

"And to the teachers, let us continue to imbibe reading culture in the students and motivate them to break barriers of self development, confidence among many other virtues," she charged.



**Boys Scout Association inducts Orile Agege Chairman as grand patron**



Hon. Johnson Babatunde

Boys Scout Association of Orile Agege LCDA has inducted the council chairman, Hon. Johnson Babatunde as the Grand Patron of Orile-Agege Scout Local Association.

The Lagos State scout Commissioner, Alh. Adebeshin Oloruntoyin, who conferred the title on the council chairman, stated that the decision was made solely based on the council chairman's excellent leadership skills and for being a good role model to other council chairmen in Lagos State through the execution of various projects in the LCDA which earned him the name, "MR PROJECT".

Alhaji Adebeshin further employed the chairman to invest in scouting and make Orile Agege stand out in the comity of Local Governments.

## Orile Agege GH sensitises residents on glaucoma prevention strategy

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Orile Agege General Hospital has flagged off campaign to combat irreversible blindness, sensitising the residents of strategies to prevent glaucoma.

Speaking, the General Manager/CEO, Dr. Sola Pitan said the goal of the initiative is to alert everyone to have a regular eye check to detect glaucoma as early as possible because prompt diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma can prevent needless vision impairment. "In this case, Orile Agege General Hospital has joined the rest of the world to decimate Irreversible Blindness through various health enlightenment lectures and health engagement campaign to the populace.

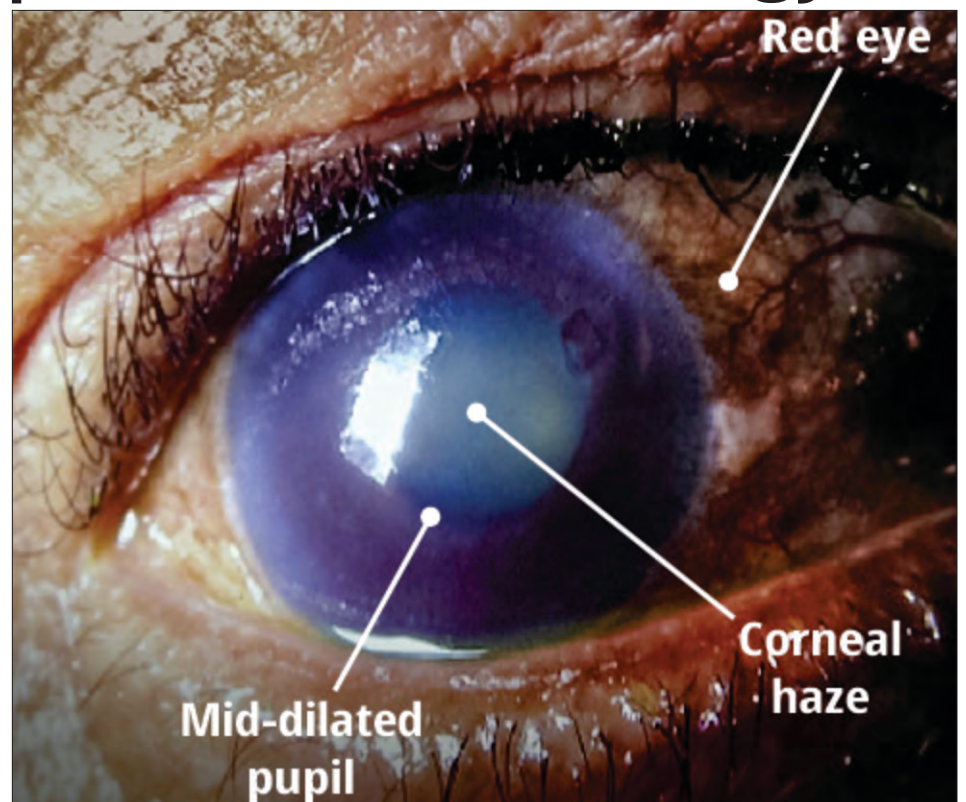
"Starting from today March 7, 2022 our hospital will be providing Comprehensive

Glaucoma Screening Services to 2,000 people within Agege and its environs at zero cost," he said.

The GM added: "Together we can beat the invisible glaucoma noting that our hospital, especially the Eye Clinic Department is working assiduously towards achieving the State Government's goal of expanding access to quality health care services."

According to the Dr. Taiwo Oluyemi, Director Clinical Service/HoD, Eye Clinic, Orile Agege General Hospital, glaucoma is a group of diseases affecting the optic nerve of the eye and could lead to Irreversible Blindness. it is caused by pressure build up inside the eye damaging the optic nerve, which is the nerve connect to the eye to the brain.

"Globally blindness affects 36,000,000 individuals and is projected to increase to



Glaucoma

115,000,000 people by 2025. The prevalence of blindness in all ages in Nigeria according to the Nigeria National Blindness and Visual impairment survey 2017 is 0.78% and over 80% is avoidable.

"The exact cause of glaucoma is not fully known, however, risk factors associated include increasing age, family history, short sightedness, previous insult or injury to the eye, long term use of

steroids, medical conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, amongst others.

"Symptoms for the disease are blurring vision, redness of the eyes, haloes around vision among others."



# Make use of the opportunity, Tijani advises free JAMB forms beneficiaries

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Hammed Tijani has charged the beneficiaries of his free JAMB forms to make use of the opportunity for their success.

He said the support was to fulfil promise made during campaign as well as being one of the cardinal principles of the All Progressives Congress (APC) party.

"We will not relent in our efforts

at ensuring that all the youths of the council become great ambassadors of this country by making education affordable for them."

According to him, his administration started giving out free forms to indigent students since his first tenure in office with the aim of cushioning the effects of educational expenses usually incurred by parents on their children and wards in Ojokoro LCDA.

He urged beneficiaries to try to

become successful and ensure that the forms are correctly filled as they study hard for the examination.

The council vice chairman, Hon. Oladipupo Coker appreciated the chairman for the initiative, urging the students to justify the opportunity given them by the council.

One of the students, Femi Yusuf, who spoke on behalf of other beneficiaries applauded the chairman for assisting them to attain greater heights in pursuit of their academic goals.



Hon. Hammed Tijani

## Expect more projects, Akinsanya assures residents

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Igando-Ikotun LCDA, Hon. Lasisi Akinsanya has promised residents that his administration would make sure each of the seven wards in the council area get developmental projects.

While giving the assurance,

the chairman said that his projects would prove his commitment towards equitable distribution of projects in the wards.

He revealed that a massive operation of road grading has begun and would continue to spread across the council.

Akinsanya noted that many of the requests of the

community have been addressed in the 2022 fiscal year budget.

He also noted that so far, the distribution of free GCE and JAMB forms for brilliant and indigent students in the council including tutorial classes have so far been organized.

He urged all residents to pay their council levies, rates and tolls promptly.



Hon. Lasisi Akinsanya

## Law students honour Hamzat

In honour of his achievements across the local government area, the Law Students Association (LAWSA), National Open University of Nigeria, Lagos State Chapter has awarded the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat (UAH) as Senior Advocate of the Masses (SAM) at one of its events.

The award plaque was officially presented to the council chairman at the local government secretariat by the

president of the association, Onadeko Edwards.

According to Edwards, the award was given in recognition of the positive impacts and innumerable acts that Hamzat contributed at the grassroots adding that LAWSA as an association has also benefited immensely from the council.

He said the association decided to honour the council boss for his grassroots developmental milestones in Ifako-Ijaiye within few months.

## House passes vote of no confidence on council leader

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The legislative arm of Agbado Oke-Odo LCDA has passed a vote of no confidence on their council leader, Hon. Tunji Ogunyemi, for alleged misappropriation of fund and misuse of his office while carrying out his duties.

The council leader was told to step aside until further resolution to assume office is pronounced.

The decision was reached in a quasi session while the Deputy Leader, Hon. David Akinsuyi was nominated to oversee the affairs of the House until further notice.

All effort to hear from the embattled council leader proved abortive.



Accused leader of Agbado Oke-Odo LCDA, Hon. Tunji Ogunyemi

## Council creates special traffic control team

By Motolani AbdulGafar

To tackle the incessant traffic jam and reduce the rate of accident, the Chairman of Igando-Ikotun LCDA, Hon. Lasisi Akinsanya has set up a Special Traffic Team to ensure efficient flow of traffic in the area. The action was taken to ease the

headlong gridlock that has become an eye shore in the area.

Akinsanya revealed that the team comprises trained personnel who volunteered to be part of the selfless service. He said its purpose was to maintain physical presence and ensure traffic compliance

at identified spots in the area.

He, therefore, expressed his goodwill that the council believes that the officers would showcase their professionalism and experience to compliment and synergize with existing traffic team in ensuring a traffic free flow control in the area.



Hon. Lasisi Akinsanya



Award presentation



# Aspirant canvasses for electoral support

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A House of Representatives Aspirant in Amuwo-Odofin Constituency, Comrade Ayodele Adewale has assured residents of good representation as he sought their support on his aspiration. Adewale, who is aspiring under the All Progressives Congress (APC), expressed trust in the electorate. The former council chairman said there will be credibility in the electoral processes by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) with the adoption of results transmission electronically right from the polling units. According to him, the advancement of technological

practices as compared to the era of ballot boxes and ballot papers will AIF the electoral processes. Adewale said his essence of reiterating INEC's mode of operation is to calm residents who refuse to register or update their Permanent Voters Card on the premise that electoral practices are corrupt. He opined that to redirect the pathetic situation of the country, the power of voting the right representatives to each political position should not be underestimated. He, therefore, urged all party loyalists in Amuwo-Odofin to do a house to house publicity on the registration of PVC before it ends while seeking their support to vote for him in 2023.



Comrade Ayodele Adewale addressing the people

## Buraimoh appreciates NGO for donating medical equipment

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Motivated by the recent donation medical equipment to the healthcare centres at both Amuwo-Odofin LGA and Oriade LCDA respectively, the chairman of Amuwo-Odofin LGA, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh has applauded the National Council of Women Societies (NCWS), a non-governmental organisation for the gesture. He said the equipment would aid in early tracking of high blood pressure in patients. He enjoyed health workers to maintain the equipment and continue to strive harder in protecting the lives of their patients.



Hon Buraimoh making his speech at the event

He urged the organisation to keep the good work, saying its positive attitude towards

community development is highly acknowledged by the council.

## Council to get new administrative building

By Motolani AbdulGafar

In fulfilment of the promised reconstruction of Amuwo-Odofin LGA's old administrative block, the council chairman, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh has begun the demolition of the old building. It was gathered that the building will be raised to a three storey building structure for convenience of all workers. The old building housed the office of the Executive Chairman and other principal officers in the

council. According to Buraimoh, the working process years to come. He assured that the essence of reconstructing the building is to ensure a conducive working place for officials council in time to avoid any which would aid their workdelay.



Ongoing demolition of administrative block

## Residents urged to be dutiful

Residents of Amuwo-Odofin LGA have been urged to carry out their responsibilities to aid the government in the development of the community. It was stated that carrying out their basic responsibilities within the community would help the government to be successful in the

administration of the council. The council chairman, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh, stated that it is necessary for the citizens know the roles of the government, saying it will help them to also understand their own duties in engaging themselves with their community. He stated that their responsibilities include regular tax and levy

payment, maintaining a clean environment, community participation, electioneering among others. Buraimoh noted that there are different organisations in the community that would guide the masses towards discharging their duties which becomes a win-win case for both parties.

## Council chairman preaches against gender inequality

The chairman of Lagos Mainland, Hon. Mrs. Omolola Essien has encouraged women to remain focused towards achieving self development as she preached against gender inequality. She said this while reflecting on the Year 2022 International Women's Day celebrated last week. She said the theme of the Day 'Gender Equality Today for

Sustainable Tomorrow' symbolises the need to break the individual and collective bias against women that fuel gender inequality. Essien implored all to join hands together to celebrate women whether professionally or personally, women from all walks of life regardless of their cultural or ethnic divide, to commemorate their battle for peace, justice, equality, and progress.

She encouraged the women to overcome all obstacles in all areas of life in order to achieve significant progress. She stated that either deliberate or unconscious bias makes it difficult for women to move ahead. She further explained that knowing that bias exists is not just enough rather, action is needed to level the playing ground.



## Ibeju-Lekki LG to partner Business Sch on education devt

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki LG, Hon. (Engr.) Abdullahi Sesan Olowa, has met with the management of University of Lagos Business School to seek partnership with the school for the development of education sector in the local government area. "Educational development is one of the major challenges our dear country is facing today. Knowing this, it is pertinent for government, particularly at the grassroots to be proactive in several ways to invest in

educational growth by engaging relevant bodies in achieving desired goals," Olowa said. He reiterated the need for his administration and the other party to synergise to develop a formidable workforce through Human Capacity Building to improve productivity. There was, however, an agreement to strategies to achieve the two germane issues raised in order to pave way for future collaborations between Ibeju-Lekki LG and the Business School. "We look forward to a favourable and productive relationship," Olowa said.



Hon. (Engr.) Abdullahi Sesan Olowa

## Lekki LCDA to enforce traffic control

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The authority of Lekki LCDA has concluded plan to set up task force to enforce traffic control on major roads prone to gridlocks. The resolution to set up the task force was reached during a meeting between the local council and other stakeholders to address the traffic gridlock caused by Pinnacle and NUPENG operations. At the meeting, it was agreed that a task force that will collaborate with the police,

FRSC, Pinnacle Oil and Gas, and NUPENG, in monitoring and controlling the trucks be set up. It was also agreed that some of the trucks would be moved away from the roadsides into virgin lands and open fields. The gathering also concluded to eliminate double parking on the roads and that drivers should park appropriately; to sensitise and put measures in place that will ensure people are not smoking in certain areas around the trucks. The council said it will sensitise and ensure that

people are not burning bushes in certain areas, stating that some of the resolutions have already been enforced while others will follow in due time. "The organisations involved were cooperative and showed willingness to abate the situation." Having heard the grievances of the people, the council held that the situation can be a case study to allow the council to manage the situation better when the refinery will eventually be in full operation.

## Gbajabiamila canvasses support for Rep Raji's re-election

By Saheed Afolabi

The Speaker, Federal House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila has rallied support for another term of the member of House of Representatives in Epe Constituency, Hon. Wale Raji. Gbajabiamila said Raji's performance has earned him another opportunity to re-contest for the post in 2023. He made this known at the commissioning of various school projects facilitated by the lawmaker in Epe. The Speaker said that Raji has excellently performed beyond imagination in giving back to his constituents the dividends of democracy. He said: "The love Hon. Wale

Raji has for Epe and his people is standard. Knowing that what he does will be acknowledged by the people and that propelled him to do all he is doing. Under the sound of my voice, I want to plead to the people of Epe that as long as he continues to do well I want you to stand with him. "There are two things which are used to determine whether a legislator has done well. These are his performance and the seat of power in the National Assembly." He appealed to the royal fathers to endorse Raji for another term, urging the residents to give him full support during election. As part of his next agenda, Raji promised to reconstruct Aiyetoro market with the help from the office of the Speaker.



## Epe LG chairman assures of timely delivery of projects

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Epe LG, Princess Surah Animashahun, has assured the residents that all the ongoing projects across the local government area will soon be delivered. She said the local government will strive to make sure the projects were

completed as and when due. She gave the assurance during the inspection of the projects. Animashahun said the project inspection was an opportunity for her to speak with traders and assure them of security. "I inspected the progress of a couple of projects being executed within the community and ably

facilitated by Lagos East Senatorial District Representative, Senator Adetokunbo Mukhail Abiru. "The first port of call was the ongoing construction of a mini stadium at Local Government Primary School, Epe - which is at its completion stage and all done at a remarkable pace. "I also visited the reconstruction site of the

ancient Oluwo Fish Market and was impressed by the level of work carried out on both projects so far. "It was also an opportunity to speak with the traders and reiterate my commitment to their well being and convenience while also assuring them of the security of their store allotments once the construction is completed."



Princess Surah Animashahun during projects inspection



# Ikorodu council chairmen pledge to tackle insecurity within domain

By Saheed Afolabi

As part of efforts to tackle the challenges of growing insecurity in Ikorodu area of Lagos State, the Chairmen of the six Local Government and Local Council Development Areas in Ikorodu Division have declared zero tolerance on insecurity, mandating all private security agents to register with the local council under which they operate. In a communiqué jointly signed by all the six local council chairman and security agencies after a security meeting held on Tuesday, they promised to commit more resources to the security of lives and properties of their people, working with the police, military, all the paramilitary establishment, as well as all the lawful and constitutional corporate bodies, registered entities, traditional institutions, political leaders, among others. The meeting was conveyed following the gruesome

killing of a 22-year old lady who reportedly boarded BRT bus from Lekki recently. The local council chairmen in the meeting are Hon. Wasiu Adeshina (Ikorodu Local Government); Hon. Sulaimon Lanre (Ikorodu West LCDA); Hon. Adeola Banjo (Ikorodu North LCDA); Bldr. Olusesan Daini (Igbogbo Bayeku LCDA) Hon. Motunrayo Gbadebo-Alogba (Ijede LCDA); and Hon. Wasiu Agoro (Imota LCDA). They held a security meeting with the six DPOs in Ikorodu Division, the Civil Defence, NDLEA, LNSC and DSS. The communiqué read in part: "In response to the growing security challenges in almost all parts of Lagos State and our country, Nigeria, and as a proactive measure to bolster the security architecture of the Ikorodu Division in Lagos State, we the Chairmen of the Local Government Area and the Local Council Development Areas in the Ikorodu Division of Lagos State, Nigeria, in

consonance with our legal and constitutional duties and responsibilities, issue this press statement to inform the general public about the security matters in our Division. "Whilst we shall continue to work and remain committed to the security of lives and properties in our geographical jurisdictions in the Ikorodu Division by working with all the Nigeria Police Force, the Nigerian military, all the paramilitary establishment, as well as all the lawful and constitutional corporate bodies, registered entities, traditional institutions, political leaders, among others, we shall neither abdicate nor abandon our prerogatives and responsibilities of making sure that the good and patriotic people of Ikorodu Division are not left unprotected from any form of unconstitutional and/or unlawful activities contrived not only to whittle down the efforts of the government but also to make the Ikorodu Division people

undeservedly susceptible and vulnerable to all manners of vicious elements and/or impostors and/or entities without any credible records on security matters and/or bodies with records and antecedents of working against the success of the government. "All private security outfits (registered or yet to be registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission) and/or Vigilantes and/or any other entities, however so described, with interest in security in Ikorodu Division of Lagos State, Nigeria must be registered and/or officially documented with their local government and the local council development areas where they intend to operate. "In registering, all private security outfits (registered or yet to be registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission) and/or Vigilantes and/or any other entity, however so described with interest in security in Ikorodu Division of Lagos

State, Nigeria, must submit the profiles (Resumes) of all their directors and personnel as well as their equipment (arms and ammunitions) to the local government and the local council development areas where they intend to operate for onward submission to the Nigeria Police Force and other government-established security outfits. "The Chairmen of the Local Government Area and the Local Council Development Areas in the Ikorodu Division of Lagos State in Nigeria shall only be willing and ready to work with private security outfits (registered or yet to be registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission) and/or Vigilantes and/or any other entity however described with interest in security in Ikorodu Division of Lagos State Government that have satisfied the above requirements. "It is directed that all private security outfits (registered or yet to be registered with the Corporate Affairs

Commission) and/or Vigilantes and/or any other entities, however so described, with interest in security in Ikorodu Division of Lagos State, Nigeria that have not satisfied the requirements above are prohibited from carrying out any form of activities or launching or inauguration, howsoever called in any part of the Ikorodu Division of Lagos State, Nigeria. And any form of breach shall be deemed not only as unlawful but as a breach of the relevant sections of the extant Nigerian Constitution and the Criminal Code. "Suffice it to express, at this juncture, our collective gratitude for the efforts and cooperation of the Nigeria Police Force, the military, NSCDC (Civil Defence), and all the other security establishments that have been working with us in the Ikorodu Division for ensuring peace, order and security of lives and properties in the division; we urge you to keep up your good works."

## Sanwo-Olu appoints Olaleye LASUST acting Vice Chancellor

By Saheed Afolabi

Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has appointed Dr. Nurudeen Olaleye, a PhD holder in Microbiology and current Rector, Lagos State Polytechnic (LASPOTECH) Ikorodu, the acting Vice-Chancellor of the Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUST), Ikorodu. Dr. Olumide Metilelu, Chief Lecturer, Hospitality Management Technology would serve as LASUST'S Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), while Dr. Gbemavo Kolawole Godonu, LASPOTECH's current Deputy Rector (Administration) will serve as the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) of the

Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUST) respectively. This was according to a statement signed by the Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Education, Barrister Tokunbo Wahab. He explained further that Dr. Olumide Metilelu, Chief Lecturer, Hospitality Management Technology would serve as LASUST'S Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), while Dr. Gbemavo Kolawole Godonu, LASPOTECH's current Deputy Rector (Administration) will serve as the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) of the Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUST) respectively.

The Special Adviser said: "The appointments are also in compliance with Section 4, Subsection (1) (C) and Section 14 Subsection (1) (A) and (B) of the Lagos State University of Science and Technology Law 2021 and Section 8 Subsection (1) (C) and (D) of the Lagos State University of Education (LASUED) Law, 2021 respectively. "The appointments of Acting Vice-Chancellors and other Management Heads for our new Universities are not only by the laws establishing them, but they will also serve to provide academic and administrative leadership to the Universities, including representing them externally, both within and outside the State."



Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu



# Agboyi-Ketu councillor bags Sanwo-Olu award

By Edith Igbokwe

The councillor representing Ward 'B' in Agboyi-Ketu LCDA, Hon. Oluwatoyin Odegbesan has been honoured by Lagos State governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu for her contribution towards the development of humanity and progress of Lagos State. Odegbesan bagged the Lagos State Government's Women Achievement Recognition Award for Agboyi-Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA). As a mark of appreciation, the female councillor paid an unscheduled visit to present the plaque to the Executive Chairman of Agboyi-Ketu LCDA, Hon. Oladele Oshinowo. Receiving the awardee, the

chairman reiterated his administration's drive to embark on more projects that will improve the welfare and well-being of women in the LCDA. Oshinowo urged her to keep her foot on the ground of progress, while urging other women in the LCDA to emulate her lifestyle for them to be celebrated and honoured too. It would be recalled that the female councillor recently provided a borehole for the people in her ward. She has also undertaken several other people-oriented projects since she assumed office. Her contributions got her state award at the 2022 International Women's Day Programme organised by the Lagos State Ministry of

Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation held at Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan. "This is unbelievable, when I started my political journey, I never believed I could become a councillor, as God's grace has found me, I have vowed to use my office as a fulcrum to inspire humanity," she said. She expressed appreciation to her husband for giving her the opportunity to participate in politics. She also appreciated Oshinowo for providing conducive atmosphere for women to progress under his leadership watch. Odegbesan further stated that the award is dedicated to all the hospitable women of Agboyi-Ketu LCDA, without prejudice to creed, calling or political leanings.



Agboyi-ketu councilor, oluwatoyin Odegbesan receiving meritorious award from Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu

## LG boss charges residents on healthy environment

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Princess Abolanle Bada, has charges the residents of Orile-Ketu, Ward E to maintain healthy environment by engaging in constant sanitation. She warned that defaulters will be sanctioned as the local council is posed to make sure the environment is always clean. She gave the warning during her weekly environmental sanitation tour and enforcement train to Orile-Ketu. She enlightened residents on the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment. She, then, commended those who engaged on the exercise, encouraging them to continue.



Princess Abolanle Bada

# LASG constructs jetties in Agboyi-Ketu

By Edith Igbokwe

Lagos State Government has commenced the construction and upgrade of Agboyi-Ketu and Boundary Jetties to boost water transportation in Lagos State. Commissioner for Waterfront Infrastructure Development, Arc. Ahmed Kabiru Abdullahi disclosed that the state government decided to upgrade the jetty in consideration of the need of the inhabitants of Agboyi I, II and III and Island inhabitants who commute daily to other parts of Lagos as well as the surrounding communities in Ketu and Alapere. Abdullahi pointed out that the water would be dredged,

adding that "a proper route channel will be established to allow bigger vessels berth at the jetty in order to further boost the standard of living of residents in Agboyi-Ketu and its environs while reducing travel time along the axis," and emphasised that Governor Sanwo-Olu is committed to improving all transportation systems in the

State. The commissioner charged the people of the community to take ownership of the project and cooperate with the contractor for prompt delivery. He visited the Boundary in Ajegunle where he flagged off the construction of another modern reinforced concrete jetty with a shelter to serve the people of Ajegunle.

Particularly the traders of the popular Alayabiagba Market who daily transport goods from Ajegunle to Takwa Bay, Ilado and other Islands within the axis would benefit from the project. He promised the people that the water will be appropriately dredged and enhanced with good passage to accommodate bigger vessels.

## Residents commend Ogunlewe over empowerment support

By Edith Igbokwe

The residents of Kosofe Local Government Area have commended their council chairman, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe for his

empowerment programme. The chairman while launching the programme said it was an effort aimed at reducing poverty among the community members. According to him, the

programme is targeted at youths, women and the vulnerable in the council area. He noted that registration has commenced for the distribution of welfare packages to the

beneficiaries. Each beneficiary would receive a N10,000 voucher to pick up items at approved retailers within the council area. He explained that grassroots support is about providing assistance to grassroots people and informed that registration would be done according to the scheduled date for each ward.

## Adire fabrics makers laud Gbajabiamila over business grants

in Surulere is part of his constituency outreach as he urge local and international tourists to patronise Adire fabrics market in Surulere. "As part of our constituency outreach activities in Surulere 1 Federal Constituency, we were able to support the Adire (African fabric) producers in Surulere with financial grants to

boost their trade yesterday. Our Adire and African fabrics market in the Akerele area of Surulere is a reflection of one out of the numerous economic potentials abound in Surulere, Lagos. "I urge lovers of African fabrics, local and international tourists to patronise the Adire Market in Surulere. It's Surulere to the world," he solicited.





# Oluwabamise: LBSL begins safety measures review

By Saheed Afolabi

The management of the Lagos Bus Services Limited, the operator of bus rapid transit where the slain lady, Oluwabamise Ayanwola got missing, said it has begun a review of its safety and security procedures.

The management also promised to implement recommendations made by the authorities to ensure safe operations.

The LBSL Managing Director,

Idowu Oguntona, who disclosed this in a statement, said members of the public would be sensitised to safety features in BRT buses in the coming weeks.

The statement read in part: "The management of Lagos Bus Services Limited (LBSL) is deeply saddened by the devastating tragedy which resulted in the demise of Miss. Oluwabamise Ayanwola, the 22-year-old lady who went missing in transit while on board our bus on 26th February 2022 and was

unfortunately found dead by the Lagos Police Command.

"The Management and staff of LBSL acknowledge the emotional trauma of the Ayanwola family at this time and identify with them as mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters ourselves. We condemn this inhuman act in its entirety.

"Yesterday (Wednesday), Mr. Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu in his press release promised that the Lagos State Government will leave no stone unturned in the

investigations and everyone found culpable in the kidnap and death of Miss. Oluwabamise Ayanwola will be made to face justice accordingly."

The franchise promised to support the deceased's family and the appropriate authorities to ensure prompt conclusion of investigations and "bring the perpetrator(s) of this evil act to justice."

It added: "Our customers are at the heart of what we do, therefore at LBSL, we are not unaware of the concerns of

Lagosians at this time. In our 3 years of operations, we have maintained an excellent safety record and this isolated incident notwithstanding, we wish to reassure our stakeholders/commuters, that we have already begun a review of our safety and security procedures.

"We remain committed to putting in place, any recommendations by the authorities to ensure that our buses remain safe to travel in. Over the course of the next few weeks, we shall engage the

public, reminding them of all the safety features in our buses and how to use them."

Ayanwola was returning to Ota, Ogun State from Ajah and boarded the BRT bus en route to Oshodi around 7pm at Chevron bus stop.

Sensing danger as the bus did not pick any other passenger at subsequent bus stops, she engaged a friend using voice notes on her phone.

Her body was later found on the bridge around Ebute-Ero, Lagos Island, and the fleeing driver arrested.

The Lagos Island Local Government has flagged off additional COVID-19 vaccination Centres within the Council area.

During the flag off ceremony, the Council Chairman, Hon. Prince Tijani Olusi said the aim is to bring the vaccine closer to the people.

He also encouraged the residents to take advantage of the existing centres and get vaccinated.

In his speech at the advocacy event which held on Thursday February 17, 2022 at Oluwole Car

## Lagos Island LG opens more vaccination centres

By Saheed Afolabi

Park, Lagos Island, he said the initiative was part of the determination of his administration to make well-being of the people, his priority.

"To our market women and men, we understand that time is money and so valuable to your trade, hence our decision to bring the vaccination points to your

markets by taking this job, you are not only protecting yourself but the entire community. As leaders and representatives of your various associations, we urge you to also take the message home as health ambassadors.

"The Local Government has added five (5) vaccination locations to run concurrently at the following centres: Idunmota/Ago-tawa Central Mosque (inside Oluwole

Car Park) Balogun CDA Hall CMS/Leventis Park Broad Street/Breadfruit Street. Please, look out for the Local Government banners at these locations and avail yourself of the opportunity."

While soliciting the support of people and corporate organisation to pay their taxes promptly, he advised them to pay directly to the council and avoid being swindled by unscrupulous

elements.

"For the Local Government to achieve its set objectives for this year and beyond, we are counting on you to pay your rates, levies and fines promptly. It is not enough for you to pay, but to also ensure that you pay directly into the local government consolidate revenue account and obtain your receipts.

"Be aware of fraudulent activities

of some unscrupulous people who go about collecting cash claiming to work for the Local Government. Please, do not give cash to anyone, if you do, you would have wasted your hard earned money.

"Monitoring team will come after you and if you do not have automated receipt to show, you will be made to pay again and prosecuted for wanting to steal government revenue."

Lagos Mainland Local Government Chairman, Hon. Mrs. Omolola Essien has organised free JAMB classes for the students who benefited from her free JAMB forms.

She made the public awareness of the coaching on Monday at the council secretariat.

According to her, the gesture is a follow up to ensure that the beneficiaries perform excellently in the examination.

## Essien organises free coaching class for JAMB students

She emphasised that organising free evening classes for interested students will adequately equip them for the forthcoming JAMB examination.

The free coaching commenced on Tuesday March 8th at Lagos Mainland Local Government (LMLG) Primary School, Ebute-Metta West to run from 4pm – 6:30pm on weekdays.

The organising partner of the educational exercise, Centre for Youth Development and Skills Acquisition (CYDSA), informed that more students are expected to join the free tutorial classes.

Meanwhile, the centre has guaranteed excellent teachings that will help students score good marks to secure admission into tertiary institutions.



Hon. Mrs. Omolola Essien

## Govt opens Murtala Muhammed-Yaba Road tomorrow

By Edith Igbokwe

Murtala Mohammed Way, Yaba, closed last week will be opened for commuters tomorrow, Tuesday, March 15.

The road was partial closed for eight days from Monday, March 7, 2022 to Tuesday, March 15, 2022 in preparation for the First

Phase of the Lagos Rail Mass Transit project from Oyingbo to Agbado.

In a statement, the Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Frederic Oladeinde, explained that a lane was closed for vehicular movement for extension of the capacity of the Murtala Mohammed Way from one lane

to two lanes.

The commissioner said signage will be placed on the access roads to assist LASTMA Officers in managing traffic flow and minimising inconvenience to road users.

Oladeinde also revealed plans for the extension of the Ojuelegba/Tejuosho slip road, which was scheduled to

commence on Monday, March 7, 2022 and lasts for a period of six months.

He commended motorists for their patience and cooperation as he reiterated government's commitment to the development of transport infrastructure within the metropolis.

He, however, maintained that

the development is vital for the multi-modal transport systems of the present administration.

The 37 kilometre Red Line rail project under the ongoing Lagos Rail Mass Transit project was flagged off by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, in April 2021, and is expected to be fully operational in the last quarter of 2022 with eight train stations

from Agbado to Oyingbo.

The Red Line is part of the state government's vision of an integrated multimodal transportation system contained in the State's Strategic Transport Master Plan (STMP), developed by LAMATA.

It is aimed to ultimately birth a world-class transportation network that will support the state's profile, as the economic capital of Nigeria and Africa.



# Alakija guns for House of Assembly

By Edith Igbokwe

**M**ayowa Alakija has been gathering supports from loyalists in Oshodi-Isolo LGA as he officially declared his intention to contest for Lagos State House of Assembly in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency I. Alakija is contesting on the platform of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC). At the official announcement, some party leaders were present to give

their support.

A former chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Prince S. O. Aina eulogised Alakija, describing him as a gifted youth that has carved a niche for himself in his personal endeavours and politics. He also described him as a lover of the people, who is always thinking of ways to better their lives. One of the party leaders, Chief Akeju reiterated that Alakija comes from a good background and will rightly

exhibit good traits. He disclosed that he knew his father way back as an upright man who did not tarnish his name while in active politics. He urged Alakija to live up to the name and good reputation of his father which he has already started building on. Another party leader, Elder Sunday Akinwale disclosed that Alakija is a resourceful youth with vast experience both in private and public sectors. He urged the youths to give their support to him as

he is one of them and that he will not disappoint them.

A former vice chairman of the local government, Barr. Kayode Tinubu also joined the leaders in describing Alakija as a perfect youth who will connect the youths with a superb output. He disclosed that Alakija is a youth with robust experience and the best person to represent Oshodi-Isolo at the Lagos State House of Assembly.

He opined that his age mates

should allow him take over mantle of leadership as it is their time and season.

Other party leaders including Hon. Ayodele, Animashaun, a former LGA woman leader, Chief Mrs. Alabi, amongst others also took time to shower encomiums on Alakija, urging other youths and women to massively support one of them for the post of Lagos State House of Assembly.

Responding, Alakija appreciated all the leaders,

women wing and youths. He thanked the coordinators across the seven wards and urged them to put in their best, saying it is the time for youths to use their massive strength, number and energy in ensuring that one of them emerged in 2023.

He noted that in the coming weeks/months, he will be rolling out his manifesto and roadmap that will ushered development and better synergy among the various levels of governments.

## ...Ladi Ajomale too

**T**he son of the former state chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Lagos State, Hon. Henry Ajomale; Ladi Ajomale has officially declared intention to contest for the Lagos State House of Assembly seat in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II. Ladi Ajomale is trying to succeed Hon. Jude Idimogu who is serving his second term in the House.

In a declaration statement, Ajomale, who is making a trial for the third time after failing in 2015 and 2019, expressed confidence to win the election. "I was asked to step down with an assurance and some promises including the opportunity to run again in 2023," he recalled.

Ajomale who is a lawyer and business consultant by profession expressed his belief in God's timing, saying it is the reason he had patiently waited till this time to contest for the seat again.

He said he has been gathering supports daily for his aspiration.

He declared that his readiness to contest to raise the bar of representation and facilitate "the necessary and much-needed development into our constituency."

"It is by the grace of God, your cooperation and support that I believe I can achieve this dream. Victory is assured and quality representation is guaranteed. I, therefore, seek



Ladi Ajomale

your support but most importantly your prayers to make this a reality. I will be there to answer your

questions and also listen to your wise suggestions and advice. I am your son, brother and friend and I pray that God

Almighty bless each and everyone of us as we pursue this ambition together," he said.

## Chi Ltd embarks on tree planting

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**A**s part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, Chi Ltd has embarked on tree planting in Isolo LCDA.

The exercise, according to the Managing Director of Chi Limited, Mr. Eelco Weber, is in furtherance of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility, especially in the area of climate and environmental concern.

He informed that about 100 trees have been planted on Chi Avenue, Ajao Estate where the multinational company is situated.

The council chairman,

Otunba Adebayo Olosaju, who participated in the exercise, commended the company for its encompassing CSR policy which he said, has brought into existence several developmental efforts undertaken across virtually all sectors of societal development.

He urge the company to sustain its CSR activities to continually complement government's efforts in developing the council area. Olosaju said Chi Ltd has remained a model to hundreds of companies in the council area, urging it to sustain the gesture.



L-R: MD, Chi Ltd, Mr. Eelco Weber with the chairman of Isolo LCDA Otunba Adebayo Olosaju during the tree planting exercise



# Abila lauds women support in LCDA

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Iba LCDA, Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila), has commended the women in the council area for their outstanding performance in support of the government. He said their support in various aspects has helped his administration in achieving and maintaining various community demands. He cited the instance of the Iyalaja General of Iba LCDA, Mrs. Folashade Adedeji-Ogidigbo whom, he said, has been maintaining the redeveloped of Ifelodun Market working with the Babaloja and other executive members of the market.

He also cited the political intervention of Lagos State Council Chairmen's Wives Association (LASCCWA), Ojo chapter, saying their support towards ensuring the socio-economic growth of residents complements the efforts of the council chairman.

He said their community outreaches and empowerment programmes among others have filled in some required spaces.

Abila preached for the unification of both genders to enhance equality, saying the women are the greatest asset to the world.

He, therefore, encouraged Iba women to have more impact that would showcase their selflessness towards community development.



Women folks in Iba LCDA

## Rotary Club donates books, computer sets to Ojodu schools

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Rotary Club of Ojodu has donated a shelf filled with recommended books to the library of Ojodu Grammar School, Lagos. The club also donated a set of computer to Ojodu Junior High School. The donations, made on Friday, March 11, 2022 by representatives of the

Rotary Club Ojodu, were said to be part of the club's regular projects aimed at giving back to the society.

President of the club, Ikpunuekhai Osi-Evans, while promising that the club will continue to reach out, urged the school to take good care of the books and put them to best use.

He explained that "as Rotary Club of Ojodu, we are no

strangers to the schools as the club has done notable projects over the years."

"Yearly, Rotary plans on projects in support of community services, which ranges from health, security, sanitation and more. Education is one very key area of focus and as Rotarians we believe in the esteemed value of Education — Knowledge is power," Ikpunuekhai Osi-Evans said.

On the computer set donated to Ojodu Junior High School, Osi-Evans noted that the gesture is geared towards computer literacy education, as most examinations are computer based now.

"It's most important to have a computer, so as to train the kids. This would avail them the opportunity of practicalising all they have been taught about it. Besides, the global trend now is information technology and there's urgent need to catch them young," he concluded.

In turns, representatives of the two schools thanked members of the club for a job well done and their great support over the years.



## Court remands couple for allegedly stealing N2.2m

A magistrate court in Ojo area of Lagos state has remanded a couple for allegedly stealing the sum of N2.2 million from their neighbour. The couple, Daniel Idoko 35 and Rose 32,, were arraigned before the magistrate, Ademola Adesanya.

The prosecutor, Dr Simeon

Uche, told the court that the couple committed the offence in December 2021. He told the court that Daniel stole the sum of N560,000 while his wife stole N1.68 million belonging to their neighbour at Jazz Avenue, Iba Town, Ojo Lagos.

The prosecutor stated that the defendants acts were in

contradiction with Section 9(b) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

The defendants were granted bail in the sum of N500,000 each with two sureties each in like sum after pleading not guilty to the charge. The case was further adjourned to May 13, 2022.



## Varsity fortifies school certificates with new technology

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Lagos State University has introduced a new technology to upgraded the authenticity of certificates issued to their graduates.

The upgrade was made by the Directorate of Information and Communication Technology department (DICT) of the college to further improve the security of the university's certificates and also ease verification process for students.

A certificate issued by the institution will now carry a unique instant verification feature that requires an interaction between the students and LASU directly.

According to the Acting Director, DICT, Dr Toyin Enikuomehin, "the technology implanted in the certificate and its photocopies will give access to an instant verification without compromise in the process life cycle." He revealed that the university has eased the verification by enabling the use of smartphones to do the verification.

Regarding the previously issued certificates for alumnus, he said the verification process will still be available to prove their authenticity. On completion of the verification, relevant information about the graduate will be generated for the verifier to print or save if genuine.



# My dream is to work with NFF, FIFA – Prince Oduse

By Saheed Afolabi

Certified Football administrator and coach, Prince Daniel Oduse in an exclusive chat with ECHONEWS, said his passion for sport started from childhood before moving outside the country to play professionally and get certified in FIFA executive management courses having several coaching qualification licenses such as the UEFA license B coaching certificate. "Basically my interest in sport is very large, a big passion from childhood and I started as a football player. Then after my football career, I decided to remain in the sport industry by going into several coaching

qualifications and also studying sport management to the highest level in the university as well. I did a lot of qualifications in the FIFA executive management courses also. I started with England FA coaching level 1, the French coaching certificate for youth. I have UEFA license B coaching qualification, Imperial regional college, I studied sport Science, I studied sport leadership in United Kingdom, FIFA executive sport management in Switzerland, first aid qualification in UK and so on. "I played in Charlton Athletic Academy before moving to Peterborough. My plan is to

come back to Nigeria to establish myself and be among the board of management of Lagos State Football Association, NFF and FIFA. "I will be giving back to the society by providing football boots, jerseys, playing kits and providing an avenue for football scouts and agents to come and pick the best players in the society and as well nurture them to greater height. "My advice to young lads playing grassroots football is to be focussed, determined and never give up. Besides, I will strongly advise them to have a plan B because football doesn't pay pension."



Prince Daniel Oduse

# We're determined to win Bolowantan Gold Cup – Shola FC

By Saheed Afolabi

Shola FC have qualified for the next round of the Bolowantan Gold Cup which is played at Ikorodu. The club did not really have it all rosy as they won 2 games, drew one and lost one to accumulate 7 points and advanced to

the next round of Bolowantan Gold Cup. Speaking with ECHONEWS, coach of Shola FC, Abdulfatai Abdulawahab, described the qualification to the next round of Bolowantan Gold Cup as fantastic, an eye opener for the boys, saying the team can win the competition if they

work harder, cultivate the habit of winning and have the desire to win. "It was fantastic and happiness for the qualification to the next round of Bolowantan Cup and it's an eye opener for the boys that we still need to work harder because the last round game was not easy.

"It's a game of football anything can happen but with the performance of this boys I believe we can go far if they work harder. "But to be sincere we still need to work on lot of areas to be able to compete now and in the upcoming EKO League. We still need to beef up the team."



Abdulfatai Abdulawahab

# Andy Murray secures 700th ATP Tour win at Indian Wells

By Saheed Afolabi

Andy Murray fought back from a set down to beat Taro Daniel 1-6 6-2 6-4 in the first round at Indian Wells as he secured a 700th win on the ATP Tour. The Briton passed up two break points in the third game before Daniel took the first set in 28 minutes. A more aggressive Murray won the second set only to drop his serve in the first game of the decider. Murray regrouped, levelled at 3-3 with a brilliant forehand and broke Daniel at 5-4 up to take the match. He will now play Kazakhstan's world number 33 Alexander Bublik in the next round. "It means a lot," Murray said

about reaching 700 wins. "I didn't have goals like that, even four or five years ago, but obviously after what's happened these last few years these are like small milestones. "At the end of last year my goal was to try and reach 800 match wins, but first things first, let's try and get to 700. "In my best years I was winning 65-80 matches, so if I was winning 40-50 matches for the next couple of years, it's certainly doable. I think I'm on nine wins this year and I'm not really playing that well." The match was the third time Murray had played Japan's Daniel this year. Daniel came out on top in the second round at the Australian Open before



Andy Murray

Murray won at the Qatar Open. Liam Broady, meanwhile, failed to progress past the

first round, losing 6-4 4-6 6-4 to Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic.

## OIERFL second phase resumes as North York, Cantonment FC record win

By Saheed Afolabi

The Oshodi-Isolo, Ejigbo Regional Football League (OIERFL) which went on break last year, resumed operations recently as the battle for supremacy heats up. In the matches that have been played so far, North York FC pound HOP 2-0 at Laspotech Sport facility, Isolo. In the other game, Cantonment FC recorded a valuable away win as they defeated Brenner Sport FC at their home ground in Jakande Rstate, Oke-Afa, Ejigbo. Both games lived up to the expectations as fans trooped out

to enjoy the beautiful game of football. North York FC blew their opponent away in the first 45 minutes of the encounter as they scored two early goals to take control of the game against HOP FC. HOP FC failed to gain control of the game as chances didn't come their way as they expected but North York FC would be hoping to build on their win to try and qualify for the super 4 of the league. Cantonment FC shocked Brenner Sport FC at their home ground as they ran away with the two goals they scored in the first half, which is a good result for the barracks boys as the league second phase kicks off in style.





# Exploiting the Poultry Industry Potential

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