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Churches, Mosques, Event Centres Still Violating Lagos Parking Law

By Kunle Awosiyani

Some Religious and Event Centres around Lagos are yet to comply with the Lagos vehicle parking law even when the state Government has threatened to clamp down on this irregularity by October. Earlier this year, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu approved the introduction of regulated on-street parking, which was announced during a stakeholder's forum held on February 14, 2024, at the Lagos Marriott Hotel, Ikeja. However, our

correspondent went out at the weekend but observed that churches, mosques and event centres flagrantly broke the rules as their members and organisers had their cars parked on the roads instead of the designated marks. At the NERDC Road, Central Business District Agidingbi, Ikeja, our correspondent observed that hundreds of cars belonging to those attending event at the Nigeria Union of Teachers, NUT Pavilion were parked on the roads. Also, scores of cars belonging to funseekers

at the New Afrika Shrine were also parked on the roads. Though the two places have parking spaces, it is inadequate for the numbers of visitors who visit the place every weekend. As a matter of fact, street urchins have capitalised on this illegality to make quick money as they create space for car owners to park their vehicles on the road at a cost between N500 and N1000, depending on the duration of stay. At night, it was gathered that some funseekers parked within the premises of the Nigerian Education

Research and Development Council, NERDC to beat the state parking law. At the Alausa Central Mosque on Makinde Street and Kafi street beside Ikeja City Mall (Shoprite), cars belonging to worshippers and funseekers respectively were parked on the road. At Aina Street Ojodu, some vehicles belonging to worshippers at the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Solid Rock Parish, parked their cars on the road due to inadequate space within the church premises.

Even though, the Ikeja City Mall has one of the biggest parking space around, our correspondent observed that cars parked outside the premises belonged to those operating UBER. Parking on the road is illegal in Lagos and it comes with various penalties. For instance, abandoned vehicle on highway is fined N50,000 as cost of towing or six month imprisonment or both fine and imprisonment. Driving on the walkway or kerbs also attracts N50,000 fine while parking on the walkway or kerbs attract N30,000.



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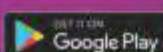
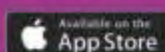
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Churches, Mosques, Event Centres Still Violating Lagos Parking Law

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Parking or stopping to pick passengers by a commercial vehicle on the highway attracts N30, 000 and driver training at the state Driving Institute.

When contacted, the General Manager of Lagos State Parking Authority, LASPA, Adebisi Adelabu said that government, in its effort to manage the traffic situation around religious and event centres, had created 1,800 parking slots.

According to her, the parking policy is designed to mitigate parking-induced traffic congestion across the state.

She said LASPA is implementing the



Lagos State Parking Policy to mitigate parking-induced traffic congestion across the state. “Like many other major cities worldwide facing

similar challenges, Lagos is experiencing a high demand for parking spaces that exceeds the available supply. Therefore, we are adopting a regulated on-street parking model to better manage parking resources efficiently.

Earlier this year, the Governor approved the introduction of regulated on-street parking, which was announced during a stakeholder's forum held on February 14, 2024, at the Lagos Marriott Hotel, Ikeja.

As part of the government's efforts to inform stakeholders, including religious organizations who were adequately represented at the forum, about the upcoming implementation in October, LASPA communicated with umbrella bodies representing these groups.

The aim is to ensure all stakeholders are informed and prepared for the implementation of the regulated on-street parking scheme.

Alebiosu said “Lagos State Government has designated and lane-marked suitable roads for on-street parking across major zones such as Ikeja, Surulere, Victoria Island, Ikoyi, and Lekki, creating approximately 1800 additional parking slots.

“The communication sent to religious institutions serves to notify them of their respective roles and the financial aspects of utilizing these designated parking lots. The management of these facilities will be overseen by concessionaires under the regulation of the Lagos State Parking Authority,” she said.

Reacting to NERDC being used as parking lot, a former facility manager of the place Mr. Tomilola Ololade, said that the enforcement of Lagos law has tuned many private property to potential car parks but that NERDC never condoned such when he was there.

He said government policy is not an excuse for anybody to illegally turn government

facility to a parking lot for those who had come to nightclub. place.

Speaking to the Chairman of the NUT, Lagos council, Mr. Hassan Akintoye, the teachers' leader described using the pavilion as a parking space for outsiders as illegal and totally unacceptable.

He said, “I must confess to you that I have an idea of it. We are planning to reorganise the outfit . It is indeed illegal.

However, a car owner, Mr. Dayo Adeyemi who worships at RCCG, Solid Rock Parish urged the government to create parking space in some strategic areas in Lagos. To him, government should try and provide parking facility before going after car owners.

He said, “I don't drive to church sometimes because of this issue of space. I think the government can make more money by establishing car parks in some strategic locations than imposing taxes on defaulters.

Traffic Offence	Penalty
Under 18 driving	N30,000. Fine
Driving without Driver' s Licence	Vehicle impounded
Fake Driver' s Licence	Six months imprisonment
Fake number plate	N30, 000- or Three-years imprisonment
Forged vehicles particular	Three months imprisonment
Disobey LASTMA law	N30, 000 fine or vehicle impoundment
Hackney permit	Vehicle impoundment
No road worthiness permit	Impoundment
Driving without full lights	N50, 000 fine
Driving with worn-out tyres	N30, 000 fine
Driving without a spare tyre	N3, 000 fine
Driving on a one-way	Three years Imprisonment
Driving without a seatbelt	N30, 000 fine

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Heads of Women Affairs in LG/LCDAs Sensitise Public on SGBV, Drug Abuse

Heads of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) Departments in the 20 Local Government and 37 Local Council Development Areas (LG/LCDAs) recently held a Sensitisation Awareness Walk on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and Drug Abuse in Ikeja Local Government Area.

The Walk, which coincides with Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness Month with the theme: "SGBV? Not On My Watch!", started from Ikeja Local Government Secretariat, through Computer Village – Ikeja UnderBridge – Ipodo Market and terminated at Local Government Service Commission Office, Old Secretariat.

Speaking during the sensitisation walk, the President, Body of Lagos State LG/LCDAs Heads of the Department of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and HOD of WAPA, Iba LCDA, Mrs. Wosilat Marotiwon said the theme of this year's sensitisation is based on the compelling need to ensure that Lagosians realise that ending the menace of Sexual and

Gender-Based Violence is indeed a collective effort, which requires the support and collaboration of all members of society.

According to Marotiwon, "The role of women in society cannot be overemphasised as the saying building a girl child is building a nation. Psychologically, SGBV affects both women and children, and occasionally, men equally fall victim. Engaging men to prevent violence can equally help to restore better relationships among families".

The President noted that the walk for fitness served as an effective platform to engage the community on the importance of reporting the SGBV menace whenever it occurs in their respective domains, as the State Government has declared a zero-tolerance stance on all sexual and gender-based cases in Lagos.

In her goodwill message, the Vice President of the Body and the Head of the Department, WAPA, Agboyi Ketu LCDA, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Somoye said Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness Month is typically observed in September to raise

awareness about the critical issues, support survivors, and advocate for prevention.

Her words, "Domestic violence is a serious and pervasive issue that affects individuals, families, and communities worldwide. It is a pattern of behaviour used by one person to maintain power and control over another person in an intimate relationship. This can include physical, emotional, sexual, and psychological abuse".

"On drug abuse, we should

talk to our children not to engage themselves in any form of drug abuse; when using drugs or injecting yourself that are not prescribed by the doctor, it is drug abuse", the Vice President added.

In her remarks, the Chairman, 2024 Organising Committee for the Sensitisation Awareness Walk, and the Head of the Department of WAPA, Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Mrs. Olamide Alale said gender-based violence affects every

person directly or indirectly. She noted that SGBV was rooted in gender inequality, patriarchy and power imbalance, describing gender-based violence as any violence which targeted individuals or groups based on their genders.

In a similar vein, Princess Adenike Akitoye, the Trustee of the Body of LG/LCDAs HODs WAPA, said there are cases where women abuse men when they know that the men are weak, when they know that their men love them and

take advantage of that love. She advised children and youth that the future is bright. Hence, they need to make their life worthwhile and need to be useful for themselves and their family, community and nation.

Many residents appreciated the efforts of the HODs, noting that the sensitisation awareness on SGBV and Drug Abuse serves as an eye-opener, especially for women, children and youth.



Lagos Procurement Agency Seeks World Bank's Support

The Lagos State Public Procurement Agency has appealed to the World Bank for support to further strengthen the Agency for a more effective and efficient delivery of its statutory functions.

The Director-General of the Agency, Mr. Fatai Idowu Onafowote made the appeal recently while receiving members of a six-man delegation of the World Bank led by the Bank's Procurement Practice Manager, Western and Central African Region, Ms. Nazaneen Ismail

Ali, who were on a one-day visit to the Agency in Lagos.

While expressing appreciation to the World Bank for its support to the Agency in the past, Mr. Onafowote stated that the Agency was in need of more support from the Bank in the areas of procurement reforms, modernization of its systems and processes and full roll-out of the e-procurement system in the State.

The Director-General also sought the support of the Bank for the Agency in other areas,

including capacity building and development of personnel, affirmative procurement, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and facilitation of exchange programmes for its personnel to enable them to learn from other parts of the world.

Mr. Onafowote explained that with only three pilot Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the State onboarded on the e-procurement platform at inception in 2019, a

total of 140 Ministries, Departments and Agencies are already onboarded on the platform while 19 others are also scheduled for onboarding before the end of this year.

He also pointed out that the deployment of technology into the public procurement system of the State has greatly enhanced transparency, efficiency and ease of doing business, thereby making the State a choice destination for investors.

Also speaking at the

occasion, another member of the World Bank delegation and a lead Procurement Specialist, Mr. Ishtiaq Siddique, stressed the need for the Agency to modernise its laws to ensure that it accommodates recent development, particularly with the financial autonomy recently granted to the Local Government Areas of the country by the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

The members of the six-man World Bank team are Ms. Nazaneen Ismail Ali, Procurement

Practice Manager, Western and Central African Region of the Bank! Mr. Ishtiaq Siddique, Lead Procurement Specialist; Mr. Daniel Kajang, Senior Procurement Specialist; Ms. Barbara Ziolkowska, Senior Procurement Specialist and Mr. Akeem Bello, Procurement Specialist and Mr. Sunday Osoba, Consultant.

The Directors and Heads of Departments/Units of the Agency were also present at the meeting.

LASEPA, LASPARK Host Inspiring “Eco Explorers Boot Camp” For Children

In a pioneering effort to engage the younger generation in environmental conservation, the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) and the Lagos State Parks and Gardens Agency (LASPARK) have held a one-day summer boot camp for children, tagged: "Eco Explorers Bootcamp" at the Dr. Oluyomi Abayomi Finnih Park by Opebi Link Bridge, Oregun, Ikeja, Lagos.

According to the General Manager of LASEPA, Dr. Babatunde Ajayi, the "Eco Explorers Bootcamp" is aimed at fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of nature among children, while inculcating in them sustainable environmental best practices.

He noted the significance of the bootcamp in shaping the environmental consciousness of young participants, saying "The Eco Explorers Bootcamp is an essential platform for children to learn about their environment and the importance of protecting it".

"We aim to impart knowledge on climate change, global warming, waste reduction, recycling, and energy conservation. It is crucial that these young minds grasp these concepts early on and carry them into adulthood, contributing positively to environmental sustainability".

Ajayi stressed the need to integrate environmental education into children's lives, just as he highlighted the State government's commitment to delivering a cleaner, safer and sustainable environment to the younger generation as part of the efforts to address the issue of climate change and its attendant effects on both humans and the environment.

"We are thrilled to witness the active engagement of the next generation in environmental conservation. This initiative is a crucial step in nurturing a culture of environmental responsibility from a young age", the GM added.

In her welcome remarks, Executive Assistant to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on Environmental Protection Matters, Ms. Tolulope Adebowale said the boot camp is a testament to the State government's commitment to promoting environmental awareness from an early age.

In her words, "By involving children in environmental

activities at a tender age like this, we aim to cultivate a lifelong appreciation for nature and inculcate in the younger generation sustainable living practices for a better tomorrow".

She noted the importance of the purpose of the advocacy programme, noting that it was designed to educate children on environmental protection and the

responsibilities of being a conscientious global citizen.

"Our goal is to ensure that as these children grow, they become responsible stewards of the environment. While efforts are ongoing to enhance our environmental practices, it is imperative that we also equip the younger generation with the knowledge and values needed to sustain these

efforts".

Adebowale averred that the Eco Explorers Boot camp, which is the maiden edition, would be made to become an annual and continuous event for kids across the State to learn and know more about environmental conservation. The event featured an engaging lineup of interactive activities designed to immerse children in the

principles of sustainable living.

Such activities included science experiments, painting, gardening and planting, recycling & upcycling, Natural Resources, a Library/video Exhibition and a variety of educational games that emphasised natural conservation, waste reduction and recycling.



PMO Assesses Operations of State Video Censors Board

The Parastatal Monitoring Office (PMO) recently conducted a working tour and on-the-spot assessment of the Lagos State Film and Video Censors Board (LSFVCB) as part of its ongoing efforts to ensure compliance and effective governance of parastatal agencies in the state.

During the tour, the PMO team, led by the

Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Adetutu Oluremi Ososanya, met with the Executive Secretary of the LSFVCB, Mrs. Adebukola Agbaminoja, and other senior officials to assess the agency's operations, identify areas for improvement, and evaluate its adherence to its mandate.

The working tour and assessment

underscore the PMO's commitment to ensuring that parastatal agencies under its purview operate within the ambit of their statutory responsibilities and in line with the state government's policy objectives.

The PMO team evaluated the LSFVCB's regulatory framework, operational efficiency, and

impact on the film and video industry in Lagos State. The agency's efforts in promoting the development of the entertainment industry were acknowledged, and areas for improvement were identified.

The on-the-spot assessment also provided an opportunity for the PMO to share best practices and provide

guidance on enhancing the agency's performance.

"We will continue to work closely with the Lagos State Film and Video Censors Board to ensure that it operates effectively and efficiently, and that its activities align with the state government's vision for the entertainment industry," said the Permanent Secretary.

Lagosians Urged to Get Tested and Vaccinated For Hepatitis

Stakeholders and Viral Hepatitis Control Programme Partners in Lagos have united to strategize on a comprehensive and collaborative approach to curb the menace of Viral Hepatitis in the State.

During a crucial Stakeholders' Meeting on Viral Hepatitis Control held today at the Main Auditorium of the Folarin Coker Staff Clinic, Alausa-Ikeja, the Lagos State Ministry of Health, through the Coordinator of the State Viral Hepatitis Control Programme, brought together key players in the fight against the disease. The gathering included representatives from various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, as well as private and public health practitioners, and international partners to discuss effective prevention and control measures.

Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye urged all residents to prioritise testing for viral hepatitis and commence vaccination if found negative. He emphasised that testing is the first step toward preventing the spread of the disease.

Dr. Ogboye stressed the need to raise public awareness about hepatitis, saying, "A lot of people are not aware of the disease and where to get access to treatment. This meeting allows us to plan effective prevention and increase public knowledge". He further urged Lagosians to get tested and vaccinated, highlighting that testing is the gateway to both prevention and care.



Expressing concern over the public's limited awareness of the disease, Dr. Ogboye said people need to know where to get tested and vaccinated. It's a crucial step in curbing the spread of hepatitis. He also acknowledged the efforts of the Viral Hepatitis Advocacy Committee, noting their pivotal role in the fight against the disease.

Dr. Ogboye concluded by expressing optimism about the future of the Viral Hepatitis Control Programme in Lagos. "With the collaboration of all stakeholders, I believe we can make significant strides in reducing hepatitis-related deaths and infections in the state", he said.

The State's Viral Hepatitis Control Programme Coordinator, Dr. Mazeedat Erinosh, echoed the call for

testing and vaccination. "Knowing your status is the first step. Anyone who tests negative should immediately start a three-dose vaccination regimen. Our general hospitals and primary healthcare centres are equipped for testing and vaccination", Dr. Erinosh explained. She added that care and treatment are available at specialist centres across the state.

Dr. Erinosh also highlighted the financial barriers to accessing care, noting that not all Lagosians could afford the subsidised cost of the vaccine. She emphasised ongoing efforts to make testing and vaccination affordable, with plans to eventually provide free vaccinations and treatment through various subcommittees. In her remarks,

Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist at Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), Dr. Emuobor Odeghe highlighted the silent nature of Hepatitis B. "It is a silent killer because many people don't know they have it until it's too late". Dr. Odeghe underscored the effectiveness of the vaccine, which offers 96% protection if the full dosage is taken. She urged the public to not only get vaccinated but also complete the full vaccination schedule. "If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. Completing the vaccination is key to protection and early detection through screening is crucial for timely treatment before severe liver damage occurs", she advised. The meeting also featured contributions from strategic partners

such as JNC International Limited, represented by Project Sales Manager Nneka Monye, who reaffirmed the company's commitment to supporting the fight against hepatitis through innovative healthcare solutions. "We are dedicated to partnering with the Lagos State Government to enhance awareness and advocacy around hepatitis. JNC International is also involved in cancer care initiatives that align with the fight against liver disease caused by viral hepatitis", Monye said. He also revealed that JNC International, alongside partners like Abbott Rapid Diagnostics, is working on bringing more solutions to combat Hepatitis B at both the state and national levels. "Our goal is to reduce the prevalence

of the disease as much as possible, even if we can't completely eradicate it", she stated.

Stakeholders at the meeting agreed that sustained engagement, awareness campaigns, and continuous testing and vaccination drives would be central to Lagos State's strategy. The Technical Working Group (TWG) was tasked with ensuring that all agreed actions were implemented and regularly reviewed to assess progress.

The meeting highlighted both the challenge posed by viral hepatitis and the growing momentum behind efforts to control it in Lagos State. As Lagosians are urged to get tested and vaccinated, the government's fight against hepatitis is set to intensify, with hopes of a healthier future for all.

Lagos Partners Food Bayt To Empower Youths

In pursuit of its policy of inclusivity, the Lagos State Ministry of Youth and Social Development has partnered with Food Bay to empower the youth, particularly the informal youths.

In his keynote address at an event held at Alausa today, the Commissioner for Youth and Social Development, Mr. Mobolaji Abubakre Ogundoro stated that the Ministry was partnering with the Food Bay to ensure that the youths in the State are financially empowered and upskilled to do better in food business.

He said, "This is to celebrate the vibrant culinary skills of the youth and upscale their culinary talents. It is also for them to develop their entrepreneurial skills. This is a powerful vehicle for the economic empowerment of the youth. This partnership will yield tangible results in the long run".

In her address, the Permanent Secretary, Pharm (Mrs.) Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu described the partnership as a laudable project that resonated well with the Ministry as it would help the state government in empowering the informal youths.

In her words, "This project is important to us as a Ministry because our youths need to be empowered. Street Food is a huge business across the globe that is yielding profits in billions of naira in Nigeria. The Ministry is more than

willing to start and sustain this partnership because it is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 2 and it is also in line with our Governor's policy of Social Inclusion".

Earlier, the Director, Youth Development, Mr. Abdulateef Saka stated that the Ministry decided to

key into the programme as part of efforts at implementing the Lagos State Youth Policy which encapsulates various aspects of the young people that need government attention, adding that the task of developing the youth cannot be accomplished by the government alone.

On his part, Managing Director/CEO, Food Bay, Mr. Femi Ogundoro appreciated the State Government for the partnership and promised to make the Season V of the programme being unveiled better than the previous one.

"Street Food Naija is a platform close to my

heart to reposition the way vendors in the business are perceived. Through branding and mentorship, we have been able to change the narrative. It is a game changer that has helped many youths to scale up their food business, create employment and increase profits through value

creation. It has also become an alternative source of income for many. We believe Nigeria is the next country when it comes to food business and we intend to put African food on the world map through branding and packaging", Ogundoro noted.



Lagos Applauds Mo Abudu on 20th Anniversary In Entertainment Industry



Lagos State Government has felicitated the founder of EbonyLife Academy, Ms. Mo Abudu, on her 20th Anniversary celebrations in the Media and Creative space held on Tuesday at the US Consulate Residence in Ikoyi Lagos. Speaking at the ceremony, the Honourable Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka said it was great to celebrate two decades of incredible achievement by an icon and a force to reckon with in Nigeria's media,

entertainment and creative industry. According to her, Mo Abudu has redefined excellence, creativity and innovation across various sectors, from film and television to fashion and beyond. The Commissioner also noted that her contributions to the Nigerian and global creative spaces have been monumental while serving as an inspiration not only to young and emerging talents but also to an entire generation of African storytellers, visionaries and dreamers. Mrs. Benson-Awoyinka affirmed that her impact through the various

partnership initiatives with the Lagos State Government is indelible and will forever be appreciated. She also noted that the event aligns beautifully with the values we hold dear in Lagos State, including fostering innovation, supporting arts, and providing platforms for diverse voices to shine. In her words, "On behalf of the Lagos State Government, I want to express our heartfelt congratulations to Mo Abudu for her remarkable accomplishments. We are proud of your dedication and look forward to many more years of excellence".

In his remarks, Consul General William B. Stevenson praised Mo Abudu for her steadfastness over the years, adding it's great to have someone like her, who had seen the opportunities in the sector over 20 years ago, being recognised for her investments in fashion music, films and arts. He also disclosed that the US had so many partnerships with the creative sector because they recognised the incredible power of creativity culture and diplomacy. The celebrant, Mo Abudu, responding to the well wishes, observed that

she wished she had started earlier than 20 years ago, stressing that she had the dream before she turned 40 but didn't dare to face the reality of leaving her 9 to 5 job. While encouraging the younger generation to pursue their passion and dreams to pursue it as quickly as possible, Mo Abudu also stated that she has observed that when Non-Africans describe Africa from their perspective, they never really did, and that's why Africans need to tell their own stories themselves. She also revealed that she had been thinking of the idea of the Lagos Canvas, which was

launched at the event, for a long time and is appreciative of the fact that God said it's time to do it now. The Lagos Canvas, according to her, is the beginning of many things and will be on show again for Christmas as well as taken around the world. Mo Abudu disclosed that she believes the creative industry in Africa will attain the \$20 billion mark as generated revenue from investments in the creative sector by the year 2050. The event featured live Music, a Film screening and an Arts exhibition.

Lagos Govt Seeks Partnership With NGOs To Tackle Challenges of Women's Development

The Lagos State Government has highlighted the importance of cooperation between the government and Women-Focused Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to address the various challenges faced by women in the State.

Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Hon. Bolaji Cecilia Dada, stated this during an interactive meeting with representatives from Women-focused NGOs in Lagos held at the Women Development Centre, Agege.

Hon. Dada emphasised that the state is experiencing growth but also faces hurdles that require collective action, particularly in

transportation and environmental sustainability.

"Transportation is the lifeblood of any thriving city, and in a bustling metropolis like Lagos, it is crucial for women who depend on public transport for their daily activities", she said.

The Commissioner also acknowledged the difficulties many women face in terms of transportation safety and affordability and called for greater engagement between the government and the public to improve the system.

She encouraged NGOs to collaborate with the government in raising awareness about women's rights within the transport sector,



advocating for initiatives such as women-only transport services and community campaigns to ensure safe commuting practices.

"Together, we can advocate for a transport system that prioritises the needs and safety of all,

especially the most vulnerable among us", she noted.

In addressing environmental concerns, Hon. Dada underscored the need for immediate action to combat environmental degradation, which disproportionately affects women.

She encouraged NGOs

to facilitate community workshops to educate women on sustainable practices such as waste segregation, recycling, and sanitation, saying "Our government is actively investing in improving waste management and green spaces, but we need your partnership to engage the community and

spread awareness".

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo, thanked all attendees for their active participation and valuable insights, emphasising the importance of collaboration in tackling the challenges facing women in Lagos.

"Your contributions have enriched our discussions and highlighted the pressing needs of women in our state. We all share a common goal of ensuring that every woman in Lagos has access to the support she deserves. As we move forward from this meeting, let us remember that our strength lies in collaboration and partnership to create a more inclusive, safe, and equitable environment for women in Lagos", she stated.

Lagos Govt Tasks Teachers, Students on Commitment as New Academic Session Begins

The Lagos State Government has enjoined teachers to show more commitment in the discharge of their duties as the new academic session begins. Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun, the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, made the call during the school resumption tour on Monday while addressing school teachers and students.

Alli-Balogun hinted that the monitoring of resumption was to ensure that school leadership complied with all pre-resumption guidelines and to motivate the entire school system at the beginning of the new session.

He advised teachers to always be at their duty post early and be punctual in classes, just as he also warned that

the Ministry will ensure adequate sanctions are applied to any school personnel found wanting.

The Commissioner reminded the teachers that Lagos State has maintained its policy on adequate staff welfare and motivation exemplified by prompt payment of salary and other welfare packages. He also called on the teachers to leverage technology to remain relevant and improve themselves through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Coding amongst others.

On the general assessment of the state of activities and readiness of the schools and principals, the Commissioner said it was obvious that the entire school system is ready for the



2024/2025 session, noting, however, that some school personnel need to do better on punctuality which will be achieved through further encouragement.

He described his observation in some schools as a work in progress while noting that there were some inadequacies, such as minor repair works, which the school principals can address with monthly subvention

allocated to schools.

He bemoaned the non-adherence to pre-resumption guidelines of ensuring the cleanliness of school environs, dusty chairs and cobwebs in some schools and classrooms. "In all of these, we still need to encourage them to do the right thing and ensure the regular attendance of students and teachers and do what they are assigned

to do at the right time", the Commissioner reiterated.

On the performance of students at the last WASSCE result, the Commissioner noted that there was a slight increase in performance compared to Y2023.

Some of the schools visited were Ransome Kuti Memorial Junior and Senior Grammar School, Mushin; Birch Freeman Junior and Senior High

School, Surulere; Oduduwa Junior and Senior Secondary School, Ladipo, Oshodi and Ojota Junior and Senior Secondary respectively.

Similarly, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Abayomi Abolaji also monitor schools' resumption in the Ikorodu area of the State. He enjoined the staff and students to strive for success in the new academic session.

He further reiterated the need for all stakeholders to embrace the tenets of curiosity, remain focused and make learning happen.

The school visited at Ikorodu include Luwasa Community Junior High School, Ijede, Ikorodu; Abule Eko Community Senior Grammar School, Ijede, Ikorodu; Luwasa Community Senior High School, Ijede.

GIPP: Lagos Commences Three Weeks Pre-Internship Training For Beneficiaries



The Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, on Monday, commenced the Graduate Internship Placement Programme (GIPP) for beneficiaries. The paid internship programme offers post-NYSC graduates

the chance to start a career while developing important behavioural competencies, emotional intelligence,

and soft skills. The Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment, Hon. Akinyemi Ajigbotafe, in his remarks before the commencement of the

training at the LCCI Training Centre, Ikeja, said the Pre-Internship Programme entails a comprehensive training and development stage that includes instructor-led sessions, virtual learning, and self-paced e-learning.

He established that Participants will receive stipends for the three weeks as motivation and performance enhancement while gaining essential employability skills.

Ajigbotafe disclosed further that the selected graduates will undergo rigorous training in employability skills covering essential areas such as the picture of success, understanding and making career choices, finding and securing dream jobs, professionalism and others towards

equipping them with the tools needed to succeed in the modern workplace.

He urged the participants to make the best use of the opportunity while expressing the determination of the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, to tackle unemployment in the state.

The training is also being held simultaneously in other centres, including Digital Age Training Centre, Public Service Staff Development Center, Centre for Management Development, Ojo Local Government Training Hall and Chemline Nig Ltd Training Centre among others spread across the five divisions of Lagos State.

Lagos Urges Solid Minerals Stakeholders To Avoid Environmental Pollution

The Lagos State Government has called on solid minerals stakeholders in the sector to avoid practices that can lead to environmental pollution, urging the stakeholders to focus on minimising the environmental hazards caused by sand spillage on roads.

Speaking at a stakeholders' forum organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources held in Alausa, Ikeja, recently, the Chairman of the Lagos State House Assembly Committee on Energy and Mineral Resources, Hon. Sabur Oluwa cited relevant laws governing the solid minerals sector and urged the stakeholders to comply. He stressed the

importance of stakeholders supporting government initiatives aimed at safeguarding the state's critical assets for the benefit of the entire residents.

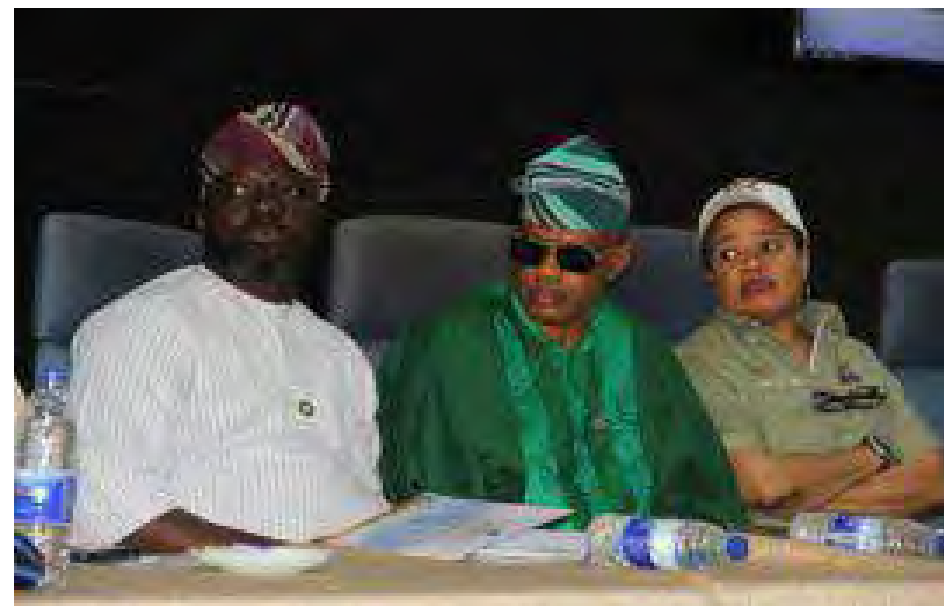
The Lawmaker called on stakeholders in the energy and mineral resources sector to comply with all guidelines and collaborate with the regulators in line with the THEMES Plus Agenda of the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu-led administration to ensure a safer environment for all. Delivering the Keynote Address at the event, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Mineral Resources, Okanlawon Olowu

emphasised the importance of proper coordination in mining operations to protect the environment.

While addressing the stakeholders on the theme of the forum, tagged: "The Menace of Sand Spillage on Our Roads and Its Environmental Impact", Olowu noted that the meeting was aimed at discussing strategies to develop Lagos' mineral resources sector through responsible mining practices.

"Permit me to recognize the indispensable role that mineral resources play in sustaining our existence and in powering the infrastructure development of our dear state".

"The minerals you mine



serve as the foundation upon which our urban landscape is built. However, this meeting should be seen as an opportunity to harmonise the responsible management of mining and dredging operations, ensuring environmental stability and sustainability while reducing the negative impact of mining to the

barest minimum", Olowu said.

Similarly, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Engr. Abiola Kosegbe urged participants to support the present administration's drive towards promoting sustainable mining and minimising related environmental impacts in Lagos State.

The forum brought

together top government officials, traditional rulers, representatives from associations of dredgers, miners, truck operators, and other participants in the mineral resources sector. They all contributed to the discussion on how best to move the sector and the state forward.

Lagos Assembly Meets NYCN To Promote Synergy

By Felix Kuyinu

Members of the Lagos State House of Assembly have had a dialogue session with the National Youth Council of Nigeria, Lagos State Chapter, to synergize and share ideas for developments in the state. The event held on Wednesday at the Assembly complex in Alausa, Ikeja also paved way for the visiting NYCN members to gain valuable insights in law making and knowledge on leadership roles. The youths were put through on constitutional activities and also what the residents in states will

gain from their representatives at the Assembly as part of democracy.

In a symbolic gesture, the NYCN presented a pictorial frame of all lawmakers in the Assembly and their respective constituencies. According to the team, such gesture was planned to foster a sense of unity and shared purpose between the lawmakers and the constituency they serve.

The youths retreated their commitment to continue collaboration and constructive dialogue ensure that the voices of Lagos Youths are heard and represented.



Lagos Assembly Moves To Strengthen Business Through Market Authority Bill

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State House of Assembly, LAHA, has recommended a bill to improve business activities in the state. LAHA, through its members, in a plenary recommended the Market Authority Bill which will ensure improved business activities and also contribute to the development of the metropolis. In full support of the

House, the legislators scaled through the second reading on the bill, while other necessities to make it implemented are handed over to the House Committee on Local Government. The committee is expected to report back to the House in two weeks. Speaker of the legislative arm, Mudashiru Obasa, stated that there

would be lots of positives to be gained if the bill gets implemented. Obasa mentioned that the bill, if passed, will provide for the registration, formation, organisation and operation of market operations in the State. In like terms, Chairman, Honourable Sanni Okanlawon, Chairman of the local government committee, said that the bill will seek to address some anomalies in the extant law and would

make it mandatory for all markets to be duly registered.

Another lawmaker, Rauf Age-Suleiman, noted that the composition of the board of the bill is all-encompassing.

A legislator, Sa'ad Olumoh, said "The bill makes it mandatory for the appointment of the board members to be ratified by the House. It would also help to scrap situations where

traders arbitrarily apportion titles to themselves.

"Clause 18 in the bill talks about an advisory board which the Iyalaja-General is going to be heading. That tells us that our Iyalaja is in a better position to give the necessary advice," Olumoh said.

Also, another lawmaker, Stephen Ogundipe, said that the proposed bill would be appreciated by the residents of the state.

He urged that the law should make it necessary for only honest people to gain positions.

The lawmakers also disclosed that the bill will ensure that the cleanliness of markets, its effective management and absolute care of gridlocks caused by the activities of traders and buyers are being considered and taken care of.

Lagos High Court Commences Issuance Of E-Affidavits

By Felix Kuyinu

The Federal High Court in Lagos has commenced issuance of electronic affidavits to interested members of the public. The measure, recommended by the courts Chief Judge, Justice John Tsoho, was introduced as part of a new policy to ensure efficiency and transparency in issues relating needing an affidavit. The court's Deputy Chief

Registrar, Godwin Longe, while inspecting activities surrounding the processes, said that all E-Affidavits should originate from the court's designated e-filing units. He said, "The public should be aware that, henceforth, they don't necessarily have to be physically present to procure the type of Affidavits mentioned above. "The use of the e-

affidavit will take care of that and it's portal can only process non-case-related affidavits. "The affidavits filed to support a case will still be prepared manually due to the unique nature of such affidavits which include loss of items, age declaration, change of name to mention few. "The procedure is available on the portal, fhc.gov.ng. Necessary guidelines are there to be followed."



Man, 44, Faces Trial For Sexually Assaulting 9 Year-Old-Girl

By Felix Kuyinu



A Quadragenarian is on trial at the Badagry Magistrates' Court over allegations of sexual assault against a nine-year-old girl. On Wednesday at the court, the litigant, Sunday Lukas, was remanded in custody by the Presiding Magistrate, Patrick Adekomaiya. This is sequel to the defendant pleading not

guilty to one count charge of sexual assault. The Prosecutor, Ayodele Adeosun, told the court, "The defendant committed the offence on May 28, at 12.20 pm, at No. 4, Aribena Street, Ijanikin area of Lagos. "He indecently assaulted the nine-year-old victim by inserting his fingers in her private part.

"The offence contravened Section 135 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015." Magistrate Adekomaiya said, "The suspect will be remanded at the Awarjigoh Correctional Centre, Badagry. His case file should be duplicated and sent to the office of the Director for Public Prosecution, DPP for legal advice. "This accused will be re-arraigned come October 28.

Court Remands Four For Killing Local Government Worker

By Felix Kuyinu

The Magistrates' Court in Ogba, Ikeja, has remanded four suspects who are facing prosecution for an alleged murder of a staff of local government. At the court, the quartet, Mukaila Salau, Tiya miyu Ahmed, Was iu Suleiman and Ibrahim Ekemode, on trial on a two-count charge, were remanded in prison for alleged act. They were accused of Killing the deceased,

Kazeem Keshinro, a civil servant with Ikosi-Ejirin Local Government. The charge filed by the police against the litigants reads, "The suspects, on April 1, 2024, at about 0900 hours at Otta Ikosi Agbowa in Lagos conspired to commit the crime contrary to Section 299 of the Criminal Laws Cap. Ch.Vol.3 Laws of Lagos State, 2015, and unlawfully killed Idowu Keshinro contrary to Section 233 of the Criminal Laws Cap. Ch.Vol.3 Laws of Lagos State, 2015." A video exhibit which was admitted at the court

shows the victim, who was also a huyer8, soaked in his blood following a scattergun of bullets aimed at him. Reports state that the video was shot after he went hunting in the Ota area of Ikorodu and was allegedly ambushed, shot severally and macheted on the orders of the first accused, Salau, a notorious land grabber, who was present at the scene. The court ordered that the suspects be remanded at the Kirikiri Correctional Centre and adjourned to October 23.



The Journey of a Visionary: One Year of Oluwaseun Osiyemi as Commissioner of Transport, Lagos State

Mike Dike, Ph.D.

Somolu-Bariga is a bustling and densely populated community situated in the Mainland area of Lagos State, Nigeria. Geographically, Somolu and Bariga are two distinct but closely intertwined neighbourhoods, both located within the Somolu Local Government Area (LGA) and Bariga Local Council Development Area. Somolu-Bariga is home to a diverse population, with residents from different ethnic and religious backgrounds. Like many parts of Lagos, the community is dominated by the Yoruba ethnic group, but it also includes a mix of Igbos, Hausas, and other ethnic minorities, reflecting the cosmopolitan nature of Lagos State. The population is primarily made up of working-class and middle-income families, with a significant number of youths, artisans, traders, and professionals.

Somolu-Bariga, a vibrant community in Lagos State, has long been known for producing outstanding leaders who have significantly contributed to the development of the state. Over the years, several notable individuals from this area have risen to prominence, holding key positions within the Lagos State Government. These commissioners have made remarkable contributions to the growth and governance of the state, bringing pride to their community. A prophecy once foretold



Oluwaseun Osiyemi

that a great leader would emerge from Somolu-Bariga, and this prophecy has been celebrated by many. This notion is beautifully encapsulated in a Biblical reference: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a wonderful Commissioner is given..." (Isaiah 9:6, KJV). Today, this prophecy has manifested in the person of Oluwaseun Osiyemi, the current Commissioner for Transport in Lagos State. Exactly 365 days ago, Somolu-Bariga birthed a remarkable leader into the cabinet of the current Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, affectionately known as "Mr. Project."

Oluwaseun Osiyemi, now a year into his

tenure as the Commissioner for Transport, has brought fresh energy and vision to the role, contributing significantly to the success of Governor Sanwo-Olu's administration. As part of the Governor's ambitious THEMES agenda – which focuses on Traffic Management and Transportation, Health and Environment, Education and Technology, Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy, Entertainment and Tourism, and Security and Governance – Osiyemi has played a pivotal role in improving Lagos's transportation system.

Transportation is one of the most pressing issues in Lagos, a city known for its dense population and heavy traffic. Osiyemi's

approach to managing transportation has focused on reducing congestion, improving road networks, and promoting alternative modes of transportation, such as water and rail transport. His efforts have not only eased the burden of traffic on Lagosians but have also aligned with Governor Sanwo-Olu's vision of turning Lagos into a 21st-century economy. By modernising the transportation sector, Osiyemi has helped the state move closer to becoming a global economic hub with a robust and efficient infrastructure.

Beyond his contributions to the state, Oluwaseun Osiyemi has remained dedicated to the welfare and development of his community, Somolu-

Bariga. His commitment to uplifting the people of Somolu-Bariga is evident in the various initiatives he has supported, aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of the area. Osiyemi has worked closely with local leaders to ensure that Somolu-Bariga benefits from infrastructural developments, social welfare programmes, and youth empowerment schemes. His passion for his community and the well-being of its people has earned him admiration and respect from all quarters.

As Osiyemi celebrates one year in office, it is fitting for the people of Somolu-Bariga and Lagos State to recognise his achievements and contributions. His leadership as Commissioner for

Transport has not only transformed the transportation system of Lagos but also positioned him as a champion of progress and development within his community. The celebration of his one-year anniversary in office is not just a reflection of his accomplishments but also a moment of pride for Somolu-Bariga, which continues to produce trailblazing leaders in the state.

As we celebrate this milestone, we are reminded that the prophecy of a great leader emerging from Somolu-Bariga has truly come to pass. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, the champion of Somolu-Bariga and Lagos State, is proof that dedication, hard work, and a commitment to the betterment of one's community can lead to transformative change. His leadership exemplifies the best of what Somolu-Bariga has to offer – a community rich in talent, vision, and a deep sense of responsibility to society. Let us stand together and honour this remarkable achievement. Stand up! Stand up for the champion! Oluwaseun Osiyemi is indeed the champion, a leader who has made his community proud and continues to inspire hope for the future.

Congratulations to our very own Commissioner for Transport, as he marks one year in office. May his success be a beacon of light for future leaders from Somolu-Bariga and beyond.

**Congratulations to
Oluwaseun Osiyemi**

Why President Tinubu always takes the hard road

By Temitope Ajayi

Why President Tinubu always takes the hard road? By Temitope Ajayi. Those who think they are taking a dig at the President have been gloating. Their usual refrain is that the man they said built Lagos should build Nigeria for them to see. As Governor of Lagos, the President reformed governance and set the state on the path of irreversible progress. President Tinubu has never claimed he did it alone or discounted the contributions of others who led the state before him. Some of the landmark projects he started are still standing, and the plans and vision he articulated are still being implemented till today. We talk about the Dangote Refinery and Petrochemical Complex at the Lekki Free Trade Zone and the transformation that has taken place within the Lagos economy in the last twenty years, and you think about Bola Tinubu, who engineered them. Leadership is about fixing today's problems and thinking ahead for years. The good thing is Tinubu did not accomplish all he did in Lagos within a year. The new Lagos metro Red Line being test-run is a product of his visionary leadership, just like the Blue Line, which has carried over two million passengers in the last two years. No sane person can argue against the considerable progress governance has delivered to Lagos State since 1999. Just last week in China, the state, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Finance Incorporated,

inked a new deal on the 68-kilometre Lagos Green Line Metro that will move from Ibeju-Lekki to join the Blue Line at Marina. That is another great leap forward: how progressive societies are built from generation to generation. As Governor of Lagos State, President Tinubu faced numerous challenges. Many wrote him off within his first year in office. However, like a Phoenix, he rose to these challenges as a statesman. This President does not shy away from challenges. He works tirelessly to overcome and prevail. He understands there are no easy choices to make. He has made it clear that he will make the right and intricate decisions for the country, even if those decisions are unpopular. And he has indeed made the right choices that will deliver significant gains for the country and its people. -Ajayi is Senior Special Assistant to the President on Media & Publicity



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR)



Unity Bank Projects N27B in Q4 Earnings, Targets N4B Profit

Kehinde Adeleye



Unity Bank Plc has projected gross earnings of N27 billion and a Profit After Tax of N4 billion in Q4, 2024, in its latest earnings forecast released to the Nigerian Exchange Group. Although the projected gross earnings represent a marginal increase from the N26 billion

projected for Q3 2024, the lender continues to maintain a profitable outlook, with pre-tax profit expected at N4.2 billion. An analysis of the earnings forecast shows that the lender also expects interest income to rise from N23 billion to N24.5 billion, with net revenue expected to

rise marginally by 1.0% to N7.2 billion within the quarter compared to N6.5 billion in Q3, 2024. Net operating income is projected at N12 billion, while cash flow from financing activities is projected to rise to N481.4 billion from N353.6 billion, a 1.3% projected increase on a quarter-

on-quarter basis. This projected growth in cash flow from financing activities continues to reflect the lender's growing liquidity position which is essential for sustained business operations. The lender said it expects to cover the milestones with a consistent optimistic

outlook in its projection, barring any significant changes in the operating environment, under which the assumptions were made. The lender noted that it will continue to deliver top-notch customer-centric products and services, especially in the digital lending space following the roll-out of enhanced platforms and channels

for superlative customer experiences. Analysts are of the view that the Q4 forecast reflects a steady growth trajectory on the back of key performance indicators and strategic repositioning to hedge the challenging market conditions.

Igando-ikotun LCDA In Partnership With Speed-Up Lagos Empowers 500 Youths

Kehinde Adeleye

To alleviate poverty and unemployment, Igando-Ikotun LCDA has joined forces with Lagos State Government under its WECAN Speed-Up Lagos programme to equip 500 residents with productive vocational skills.

Having undergone the skills acquisition programme in the last few months, the beneficiaries, who were trained in Catering, Food Management, Make Up Artist and Fabrics Designing, received their certificates of training which held at the Igando-Ikotun LCDA secretariat and was attended by Vice Chairman Mrs. Mojisola Badmus, legislative arm, management staff, Executive's, and political leaders, among others.

The best Eight (8) students of each department received N25,000 each, while the regular students were empowered to start up their small businesses in their



chosen field, just as the instructors were rewarded.

Speaking, The Chairman Igando-Ikotun LCDA Comrade Akinsanya Lasisi Ayinde, pledged to continue to engage the youth program in productive ventures, reduce

unemployment, crime and idleness among the youths through the empowerment scheme.

"He urge the beneficiaries to engage in productive activities to make the programme a success as we plan to do more over time.

"You should not despise the days of small beginnings. If you start small and remain steadfast and committed, you will succeed in all your endeavours," he said.

A beneficiary, Gbenga Oyeemi, who expressed delight at the empowerment scheme,

said he will use the seed money to start his fabrics design business, adding that with the economic situation of the country, everyone should be encouraged to engage in productive activity and that nobody should be idle.

Chairman Akinsanya, said the skills acquisition

scheme was aimed at teaching and impacting knowledge and skills to the beneficiaries, any skills learnt would be useful for the beneficiaries and their children now and in the future.

Chairman said the government is ready to fight unemployment and to provide necessary support for the youths.

He added that the empowerment programme would not only allow the youths to be their own bosses, but also enable them to be employers of labour, thereby, reducing the army of unemployed people in our society.

Chairman at the end of the programme, inspected the participants' handiworks and applauded their skills.

Participants who took part in the empowerment training were given certificates in fashion designing, hair styling, production of bags, shoes, catering service, make-up and gele, event planning and others.

Igando Ikotun Council Boss Upgrades Potoku Market

Kehinde Adeleye

Chairman Akinsanya Lasisi Ayinde's decision to embark on the upgrade of the Potoku market road showcases his foresight and commitment towards improving the infrastructure of the Igando-Ikotun LCDA. The Potoku market, being a crucial hub for commercial activities in the area, undoubtedly plays a vital role in the economic development of the community. Enhancing the road network leading to the market not only improves access to the market but also facilitates the expansion of commercial activities, leading to more job opportunities and increased revenue

for the local economy. The impact of improving the Potoku market road on the local economy cannot be underestimated. As more traders and businesses are attracted to the market, it will lead to the creation of new jobs and businesses, as well as an increase in the overall revenue generated from the market. Moreover, the improvement of the market's infrastructure will enhance the safety and convenience of traders and customers alike, contributing to a more conducive and pleasant environment for commerce to thrive. These developments will not only benefit the

Igando-Ikotun LCDA in terms of increase in IGR but also make a significant contribution to the overall economic development of Lagos State.

Echonews gathered that the market upgrade plans include:

1. Construction of an extensive perimeter drainage system around the market to forestall the perennial water flooding issues.
2. Establishment of a befitting perimeter fence, entrance and exit.
3. Upgrade of the market motor park.
4. Establishment of a new borehole and toilet/sanitation facilities.
5. Completion of existing uncompleted structures in the market and



maintaining all access ways within the market. The Babaloja General

appreciated Chairman for fulfilling his promise to build the ultra-modern

market also urged traders to maintain the market's facilities.

Oloyede Presents Generator To Mosque In Oshodi - Isolo LG

Kehinde Adeleye

The generosity and commitment to the community displayed by Chairman Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede is a shining example of how public officials can make a tangible difference in the lives of their constituents.

The donation of a new generator set to Ike Anobi Po Central Mosque by the Chairman is said to be a thoughtful gesture that will improve the functionality and comfort of the mosque, thereby enhancing the spiritual and social life of the community according to worshippers at the mosque.

The plight of the Ike Anobi Po Central Mosque, without a generator for years, highlights the need for public officials to listen to the concerns of their



constituents and address their needs effectively.

The donation of the generator by Chairman Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, through his Chief of Staff Mr. Leke Banjoko, is a testament to the council's responsiveness and empathy towards the community.

The sighs of relief and

gratitude expressed by the mosque's worshippers are a powerful reminder that even seemingly small gestures can make a significant difference in the lives of people.

Appreciating the chairman, the Chief Imam of the mosque, Alhaji Bello prayed fervently for Otunba Oloyede, saying the act was magnificent and highly appreciated.

He prayed for sound health, divine guidance and long life for the council boss, and for him to continue on the path on putting smiles on the faces of the residents.

Echonews gathered that the council boss had during his Jumat prayer in the mosque last Friday promised the mosque a new generator when it was brought to his attention that they were lacking one in the mosque and he fulfilled his promise.

LAGOS ISLAND

Flood: Folawiyo Charges Residents To Maintain Healthy Environment

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Muibi Folawiyo has charged residents to restrict from having an unhealthy environment. Folawiyo has called on residents to join hands with his administration in making the community flood free. He warns the residents on the dangers of dumping refuse on drainages which is one of the causes of flooding. The council boss urges

residents to desist from dumping refuse on the roads carelessly as it portrays a dirty environment. "My LIELCDA administration expressed commitment to making our council area flood-free and clean. I am calling on residents of the LIELCDA to play active roles in mitigating flooding and erosion in the wake of

torrential rains. The active involvement of residents in environmental regeneration is germane to maintaining a hygienic environment. "My administration want to plead with the people of LIELCDA on the issue of waste management, cleanliness and erosion control. It must be a joint effort between the government and the residents.

"Whatever affects the council area affects everybody that lives in it. People should take care of their immediate environment by clearing and desilting drainages. I want to urge the residents to desist from indiscriminate dumping of garbage. "We have seen that some of our people now put their refuse bags in their vehicles and dump

them by the roads and even gutters. This is not good for our council area, as it makes the city dirty. "Since I was sworn-in, I have been doing everything possible to clean up our council area (LIELCDA). The LIELCDA currently evacuating wastes from the various illegal dumpsites and drainages with steps put in place to solve the management

issues in the areas permanently. "On flood control, LIELCDA administration preparations had been made to ensure that the effects would not be as bad as had been projected by NiMET. Please stop dumping waste in drainages. Join hands with our ever proactive team to combat flood and return sanity in our environment.

Mo Abudu Celebrates Daughter's 34th Birthday with Heartfelt Tribute

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Media mogul and EbonyLife Studios owner, Mo Abudu, took to social media to celebrate her daughter Temidayo Abudu's 34th birthday with a touching tribute. In a heartfelt Instagram post, the proud mother reflected on her daughter's birth and expressed admiration for her numerous accomplishments. Abudu shared her joy and gratitude, writing,

"Thirty-four years ago, the day after my birthday on the 12th of September 1990, you entered the world, bringing with you a love and joy that has filled my life ever since." She went on to praise Temidayo for her many roles, stating, "I'm so proud of the incredible woman you are. You're a daughter, sister, mother, wife, creative, producer, writer, and director, all rolled into one." The media mogul concluded her post with

a prayer for her daughter, saying, "May the good Lord continue to shower you with His love, favor, and blessings. May your path be filled with joy, peace, and endless opportunities. I love you more than words can say, Temidee. Happy birthday!" Temidayo Abudu, a successful creative and producer, has followed in her mother's footsteps, contributing to the film and television industry in Nigeria.



Mercy Eke Denies Involvement in Viral Explicit Video

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Reality TV star Mercy Eke has responded to a viral video circulating online, which allegedly shows a woman resembling her engaging in inappropriate behaviour.

The video, which has gained significant attention on social media, features a woman touching herself, leading to speculation that it was Eke.

In response, Mercy Eke took to Snapchat to firmly deny the claims, stating that the woman in the video is not her. Eke emphasized that she does not engage in such acts and pointed out key differences between herself and the woman in the footage. "The video y'all are circulating can never be me. I do not wear long



nails... no piercing. I don't wear such socks, that girl does not look like me," Eke clarified, addressing her followers. She also took a swipe at those spreading the false claims, adding, "Sorry to disappoint y'all evil fantasies. I don't do

such nonsense. Not my MO." Mercy Eke, a former winner of the reality show Big Brother Naija, has frequently addressed rumors and controversies surrounding her public image, maintaining her stance against false reports.

Skit Maker, Kamo State, Proposes to Longtime Girlfriend

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Popular skit maker Akiyoola Ayoola, better known as Kamo State, has taken a bold step by proposing to his longtime girlfriend, Esther Olamide. The heartwarming moment, captured in a video that quickly went viral, showed Kamo getting down on one knee to pop the question, which brought both him and Esther to tears.

However, the emotional proposal sparked mixed reactions from social media users.

While many congratulated the couple, some questioned the reason behind the tears.

One user, Adebayo O'God, jokingly commented, "He is not crying cos he proposed to her, he is crying cos she's taller

than him." Another user, Hybrid_Ola, wondered, "Why do girls cry tho? You don't think he'll marry you? Me I go laugh oo." Others found humor in the situation, with Obianuju Menkiti stating, "Why two of them come dey cry? Abi dem no wan leave SINGLE street? CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM..." Some users were puzzled by Kamo's tears, with

LerryJnr writing, "Omo! Kamo's parent don lose one son like this. Why would a man be crying cause of proposal?" and ajaiyout asking, "Why man go deh cry?" Despite the mixed reactions, Kamo State's proposal has received widespread attention, with many celebrating the couple's love and looking forward to their next steps.



Badagry LG Chairmen Endorses International Film, Cultural And Sports Festival

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairmen of Badagry Local Government and Badagry West Local Government, Olusegun Onilude Aand Gbenu Joseph, respectively, have officially endorsed the second edition of the Badagry International Film, Cultural and Sports Festival (BIFIF). Scheduled to take place in November, this year's festival promises to be a highlight of the Badagry calendar. The event will feature a

variety of activities, including a beach marathon, master classes, film workshops, cultural displays, a summit, and a gala night with exciting prizes. The organizers of BIFIF, led by Viyon Awhanse, expressed gratitude for the support received from Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture. This support has been instrumental in elevating the festival's

profile and ensuring its success. The endorsement by the Chairmen and other stakeholders highlights BIFIF's significance as a platform for promoting arts, culture, and community development in Badagry. The festival aims to showcase the area's rich heritage and provide opportunities for local and international participants to engage in creative and cultural activities.



GOC 81 Division Emphasizes Community Collaboration On Security In Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

Major General Faruk Mijinyawa, the General Officer Commanding 81 Division of the Nigerian Army, has emphasized the importance of community collaboration in maintaining security during a visit to Badagry. The GOC met with the Akran of Badagry, Aholu Menu Toyi 1, and highlighted the need for cooperation between the military and local communities to prevent security threats.

He praised the Akran for his leadership and the positive impact of the palace on the area's peace and stability. During the visit, the GOC also inspected military formations in Badagry, where he addressed soldiers and emphasized the importance of joint efforts among security agencies to address current security challenges. He called for increased collaboration and accountability among personnel and reiterated the Chief of Army Staff's commitment to improving the welfare of soldiers. The GOC's visit underscored the significance of strong partnerships between the military and local communities in ensuring the safety and security of Badagry.



APC Youth Leader Praises Somolu LG Chairman for Development Initiatives

By Saheed Afolabi

The National Youth Leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Dayo Israel has lauded the Chairman of Somolu Local Government, Abdulhamed Salawu, for his exceptional leadership and commitment to grassroots development. During an unannounced visit to the soon-to-be-completed Somolu Local Government Administrative Complex, Israel praised Salawu as a dedicated politician mentored by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. Israel highlighted the significant impact of Salawu's leadership on the community, citing the construction of the new secretariat, the Somolu Legislative Complex, the Somolu Emergency Response Unit, and the Bashua Police Station as

examples of his commitment to public service.

He emphasized the importance of local government autonomy in ensuring effective service delivery at the grassroots level.

Joining Israel on the visit were Owolabi Oseni, Chief Press Secretary, and Comrade Kolade Muhammed, Special Adviser on ICT to the Chairman.

The youth leader also expressed his admiration for Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's people-centered approach to governance, particularly his focus on grassroots development.

This visit follows a recent tour by a Senior Special Assistant to the Governor, who also commended Salawu for his achievements in Somolu.



Somolu LG Chairman Condemns Rent Hikes Amidst Infrastructure Improvements

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Somolu Local Government, Abdulhamed Salawu, has issued a stern warning to landlords in the area, condemning their recent actions of increasing rents in neighborhoods where his administration is undertaking significant infrastructure improvements.

Residents, particularly in the Fadeyi area, have expressed growing concerns about the potential for exorbitant rent hikes following the recent installation of interlocking stones on their streets.

Many fear that these improvements, intended to enhance



their quality of life, may inadvertently lead to displacement due to unaffordable housing costs.

Salawu, in a statement released to the media, emphasized that the primary goal of his administration's infrastructure projects

is to create a more livable and sustainable environment for Somolu residents.

He asserted that these improvements are not meant to serve as a pretext for landlords to exploit their tenants.

To address the issue and prevent further

displacement, the Chairman has taken proactive steps to engage with community leaders, development associations, and local residents.

He has called upon these groups to closely monitor rent trends and

report any instances of excessive rent increases. Additionally, Salawu has urged landlords to exercise empathy and refrain from exploiting their tenants during this time of positive development.

The Chairman assured residents that the ongoing infrastructure improvements, which also include the installation of solar-powered streetlights, will ultimately benefit the entire community.

He emphasized that these projects are part of a broader effort to create a more sustainable and equitable future for Somolu.

Salawu reiterated the Lagos State Government's commitment to ensuring

that all residents have access to affordable housing. He called upon landlords to act responsibly and prioritize the well-being of their tenants, rather than seeking to profit from their vulnerability.

The Chairman's statement has been met with widespread support from residents, who have praised his proactive approach to addressing the issue. Many hope that his intervention will help to prevent further displacement and ensure that the benefits of infrastructure improvements are shared equitably among all members of the community.

Omogbolahan Restates Commitment to Enhance Quality Education In Kosofe

Kehinde Adeleye



The Councillor representing Ward 'D' and Majority Leader of the Agboyi-Ketu Legislative Council, Mr. Bashir Saheed Omogbolahan, has reaffirmed his strong commitment to improving the quality of education for young people in the community. He made this pledge during an inspection of a deteriorating borehole that was being repaired by him at Apostolic Primary School, Kosofe. While discussing the project, the local councillor emphasized that one of the key components of his legislative agenda is a substantial investment in the education sector.

He highlighted that his educational intervention programs are designed to support the commendable efforts of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, and Mr. Dele Oshinowo, noting that these three governing bodies—Federal, State, and Local—are united under the banner of his party, the All Progressives

Congress, which has provided him the political platform to serve his constituents. "Upon assuming office as a grassroots Councillor, I made a firm commitment to advance the cause of quality education for young people, fully aware that education is the key to unlocking a brighter future for our future leaders," he stated.

"In the past three years, I have initiated several transformative programs aimed at uplifting young people educationally. I am proud to announce that this season, I have set a precedent by providing clean and potable water for drinking, handwashing, and sanitation activities." Omogbolahan further assured his constituents that he has new projects and initiatives planned, reaffirming his dedication to their welfare and the enhancement of educational resources in the community.

Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club Donates Essentials to New Mothers

By Nurudeen Adebaayo

Parafa Health Care Centre in Ikorodu witnessed an uplifting act of charity as the Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club organized a donation drive to support new mothers and their babies.

The event provided much-needed supplies to over 126 individuals, enhancing the health and well-being of both mothers and newborns. The donations included essential baby care items such as diapers, baby wipes, rash creams, flannels, toilet rolls, and imported shawls.

These items were carefully selected to



meet the immediate needs of the mothers, promoting comfort and hygiene at the health center.

Leading the delegation from the Lions Club was the Club's Charter President, Lion Akinosho David Peace, JP NLCF, accompanied by Service Chairperson Lion Kayode Aluko NLCF, Membership Chairperson Lion Alapafuja Fuad NLCF, and Club Marketing and Communication Chairperson Lion Adedokun Seyi. Each leader played a vital role in the success of the event.

The head of Parafa Health Care Centre expressed heartfelt

gratitude for the continued support from Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club. She praised the Lions for their dedication to community service and emphasized how the timely donations would greatly benefit the center's patients.

She also mentioned plans to showcase the event on a state platform to increase awareness of the Lions Club's ongoing humanitarian efforts. The donation drive also attracted the attention of a prospective member, impressed by the Lions Club's commitment to improving lives through service.

IKODASS Announces Scholarship For Ikorodu Law Students

By Nurudeen Adebaayo

Law graduates from Ikorodu who have been unable to enroll in law school due to financial challenges may soon receive much-needed support.

The Ikorodu-Oga Development Association (IKODASS) announced plans to provide scholarships to law graduates of Ikorodu origin, aimed at helping them complete their legal education.

The Chairman of IKODASS, Mr. Rotimi Erogbogbo, made this announcement during the third edition of the presentation of free GCE forms to 30 students from the Ikorodu Division.

The event, held at the IKODASS Secretariat on Tuesday, highlighted the association's commitment to education and development within the community.

The scholarship initiative, according to Erogbogbo, is part of broader efforts to ensure that law graduates who face financial constraints are not denied the opportunity to further their education and complete their legal training.

This educational intervention was sponsored by the Jimoh Longe Family and Babasola Benson Family of Ikorodu, who



also funded the distribution of free GCE forms to the 30 students. The support is aimed at

reducing the financial burden on students and enabling them to pursue their academic and professional goals.

IKODASS, a leading socio-cultural and developmental organization in Ikorodu, continues to drive

initiatives that foster growth and support for the younger generation in the division.

JCI Donates Hospital Equipment To Ajao Estate Primary Healthcentre

Kehinde Adeleye

The selfless act of Junior Chambers International, Ikeja, towards enhancing the healthcare facilities of Ajao Estate Primary Healthcare Centre is a commendable example of corporate social responsibility.

By complementing the developmental efforts of the Isolo LCDA, Junior Chambers International has demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of those in need and supporting the local community.

The donation of hospital equipment, which was facilitated by the organization's Big Broda department, will not only improve the quality of healthcare services provided at the facility but also contribute to the overall well-being and health of the community. The items which included two Double Crank beds, one examination bed, one oxygens gas cylinder, a Ward screen, and two drip stands among others were presented to

the council boss on the council premises.

President Omowunmi Fakoya's keen observation and subsequent decision to donate medical equipment to Ajao Estate Primary Healthcare facility after a comprehensive assessment of the needs of the facility is an exemplary demonstration of effective leadership.

The commitment to supporting the council's efforts towards quality healthcare for the residents showcases the crucial role that non-governmental organizations can play in complementing government efforts to meet the needs of the community.

Corroborating Fakoya's remark, the Director of Big Broda, JCI Ikeja, Ediril Erhueh, added that the donation was in furtherance of the department's commitment to acting its name out like a big brother will do to his younger ones.

According to him: "We

have different departments in JCI one of which is 'Big Broda'. What we have come to do today is act like a big brother to our younger ones; someone who is less privileged. We've only come to show ourselves as a big brother to Ajao Estate Health Center by this donation."

The council chairman, Olasaju Adebayo commended the NGO for the handsome donation as he assured of effective and proper usage of the items for the benefit of residents in the elite community.

He went on to charge well-meaning individuals, NGOs, and Service clubs alike to see the need to support the government in any way possible just as JCI has done.

"It's a good one and I want to thank the NGO - JCI for deeming it fit and being thoughtful that giving back to society is a task for everybody. The government alone cannot do it so they are here playing their part and we will play our part. On our end, we will make good use of what has been donated

by JCI and we thank them and pray that God Almighty will replenish their pocket. We hope that other agencies and NGOs should emulate what JCI has done today," the council boss said.

On her part, the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Health District 6, Abimbola Mabogunje who witnessed the donation thumbed up the NGO for what she described as a kind gesture adding that the state is open to partnership for continued improvement in the health and other

areas.

Other items donated by the NGO included a resuscitator for kids, an electric pressure machine, a first aid box, and an Accu check.

The highlight of the event was the symbolic presentation of one of the equipment by the club's president to the council boss who was flanked by the Permanent Secretary, the council medical officer of health, Dr. Anne Okonma as well as other JCI members and council staff.



Ikeja LG Holds Budget Review For 2024 Fiscal Year

Kehinde Adeleye

Under the leadership of Chairman Dr. Mojeed Alabi Balogun, the Ikeja local government council conducted a budget review event to assess the council's performance for the first half of 2024.

This event aimed to identify areas of success and potential improvements within the council's various departments and units, ensuring that the council's resources are being used effectively and efficiently to provide quality services to the community.

The budget review process serves as an important tool for the Ikeja local government council to maintain

accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement in its operations.

Along with evaluating

the council's performance, the budget review meeting also placed a strong focus on revenue generation strategies,

recognizing the importance of revenue for the council to fulfill its responsibilities to the local community.

The discussion on

revenue generation strategies emphasized the need for innovative approaches and effective management of resources, with the aim of boosting the council's internally generated revenue.

This goal-oriented approach towards revenue generation will not only enable the council to achieve its financial objectives but also contribute to the overall well-being and development of the local community, fulfilling its mandate to provide quality services and improve the quality of life for residents.





LAHA Assesses Ongoing Projects In Ifako-Ijaiye LG

Kehinde Adeleye

The Lagos State Committee to gain firsthand knowledge of the local government's projects and initiatives. This collaboration ensures that the needs of the community are adequately met and that projects are in line with the overall development goals of the state. This engagement underscores the commitment of the Lagos State government to ensure effective governance and accountability at the grassroots level. During the visit, Mr. Sanni and his team inspected various projects that have been implemented under the leadership of Executive Chairman Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat. The inspection covered a range of developments, including infrastructure improvements, educational facilities, and health services

enhancements. Mr. Sanni commended Prince Hamzat for his proactive approach and the visible progress in the community, highlighting the importance of such projects in improving the quality of life for residents. However, the committee also emphasized the need for further efforts in community engagement and development. Mr. Sanni urged the Chairman to intensify initiatives that give back

to the community, particularly in areas affecting empowerment and job creation. He expressed the view that while ongoing projects are commendable, a more focused approach on community-centric programs would significantly enhance the impact of local governance in Ifako-Ijaiye. The visit concluded with a commitment from both the committee and the local government to

work collaboratively in addressing the challenges faced by the community. As Lagos State continues to grow, such oversight visits are crucial for ensuring that local governments remain responsive to the needs of their constituents, ultimately fostering a more inclusive and sustainable development trajectory for the region.

Olowa's Team Inspects Proposes Fish Market

By Mohammed Adekola

In the quest for proposed fish market by Chairman Engr. Sesan Abdulahi Olowa's administration, Executive cabinet members led by the Secretary to the Local Government, Hon. Adewale Adebajo inspect the Ibeju-Orimedu creek on firsthand assessment in preparation for the establishment of Fresh Water Fish Market in

Ebute-Ibeju.

It is a known fact that Ibeju-Lekki is blessed with the Atlantic Ocean and lagoon. These natural assets are being tapped, to adequately reignite the people's desire to go back to farm, thereby enhancing food security.

The Chairman, Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa thanked the team for the impactful assessment tour as the



desire to make Ibeju-Lekki great for everyone is a collective effort.

While he remains resolute in the quest.

The Chairman assures

the residents of Ibeju-Lekki of his administration's unwavering commitment to build a thriving local economy for all.

Olowu Facilitates 500KVA Transformer To Ibeju-Lekki Community



By Mohammed Adekola

The Special Adviser on Mineral Resources, Engr. Abiola Olowu facilitates 500KVA power transformer to Oke-Odo Elemoro Community in Ibeju-Lekki. He assured that the need to address the issue of erratic power supply and other inefficiencies in the provision of light as it affects the community necessitated his decision to facilitate the transformer.

Olowu noted that the residents were faced with acute electricity supply due to the absence of a functional transformer to serve them, He charges them to safeguard and make good optimal use of the facility. The electricity supply will improve security in

the community and promote small-scale businesses in the community also it will help to boost livelihood through enhanced economic activities.

The S.A stressed that the Lagos-State Government through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources is working towards the actualisation and completion of the sub-station in Ibeju-Lekki to ameliorate the suffering of the communities who are without power supply for years.

The residents of Oke-Odo Elemoro Community thanked Engr. Abiola Olowu for the timely gesture explaining that they had stayed in darkness for years. They opined that the rates at which Olowu takes the love and his commitment towards the development and growth of Ibeju-Lekki is highly commendable and unprecedented.

Raji Engages Contractors On Additional Shops At Aiyetoro Market

By Mohammed Adekola

In a powerful stride toward equity and community development, Epe's Federal Legislator, Rep. Wale Raji, makes waves as he personally engaged contractors on the ongoing construction of additional shops at Aiyetoro Market, one of Epe's most vibrant commercial hubs in Lagos State. Rep. Raji's on-site assessment of the



market, accompanied by his legislative aides, market stakeholders, and loyal supporters, wasn't just a routine check. It was a statement of his unwavering commitment to the people. He emphasized that the new shops are designed to cater to varying financial capacities, ensuring that every trader, regardless of their economic

standing, can have a stake in the market's growth. "As your representative, I am dedicated to serve you with SDG-compliant programs and projects that genuinely address your needs," he assured his constituents. Raji added, it's not just about infrastructure; it's about creating opportunities and uplifting the community, one project at a time.

Oba Ganiyu Asunmo Confers Anomo With Chieftaincy Title



Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, was conferred with

title of Otunba Akogun of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom by His Royal Majesty Oba (Bldr) Ganiyu Asunmo Aderibigbe (Jamade I), the Alayandelu of Odo-

Paramount Ruler of Ayandelu Kingdom. The surprise conferral took place at the Oba's palace in Odo-Ayandelu during what was expected to be a private meeting of the Chairman

and his team with the monarch after inspecting the ongoing construction of the Divisional Headquarters of the NSCDC building in Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom. Oba Asunmo Aderibigbe wished Akogun Wale Raji Anomo a happy birthday and expressed deep appreciation for the outstanding contributions of the Chairman to the development of Odo-Ayandelu and Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA in general. The monarch stated that no Chairman since the creation of the LCDA had achieved as much as Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, particularly in terms of the strategic distribution of developmental projects across the communities under his leadership. His Royal Majesty further revealed that since his ascension to the throne in 2010, this

is the first time a sitting Chairman was deemed deserving of such an honor. He emphasized that the Alayandelu-in-Council only grants chieftaincy titles on merit, and Akogun Wale Raji Anomo's impact in the Ayandelu Kingdom made him the clear choice for this prestigious title. Highlighting some of the Chairman's significant projects in the kingdom, Oba Aderibigbe noted the provision of a 500kva transformer to the Odo-Onosa community, the ongoing construction of the Epe Divisional Headquarters of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in Odo-Ayandelu, and the promised Odo-Ayandelu Community Hall. These initiatives are reflection of the Chairman's commitment towards improving infrastructure and fostering development across the region. In the official letter of conferral, the monarch acknowledged Anomo's relentless drive in promoting rural

electrification, constructing classrooms in schools, supporting local farmers, and providing financial relief to ease the suffering of citizens. The letter concluded with a promise of total support from the people of Odo-Ayandelu for his second-term bid as Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA. In his acceptance speech, Anomo expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Oba Aderibigbe and the Alayandelu-in-Council for the honor bestowed upon him. He viewed the title as a recognition of the accomplishments under his administration but made it clear that he remained focused on the work ahead. The Chairman reassured the people of Odo-Ayandelu and the entire Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA that they have yet to witness the best of his leadership.

Ibeju Senior Students Secure Scholarship to Pan-Atlantic University

By Mohammed Adekola



Two students from Ibeju Senior Secondary School secured scholarships to study Mechatronics Engineering and Mass Communication at Pan Atlantic University. The students, Adeyemi Joshua Akorede and Joy Ugochi Samuel, are products of the weekend tutorial classes organized by the local government and Pan Atlantic University, the program has significantly improved the academic performances of public secondary school students in the area. For the first time, six students from the weekend tutorial program have won scholarships to study at the prestigious university. The Local Government Chairman

pledged to support the students further by paying the remaining 2% of their tuition fees. The Chairman Egnr. Sesan Olowa expressed gratitude to Pan Atlantic University for their contribution to educational development in Ibeju-Lekki and urged the students to make the most of this opportunity. This partnership, initiated by the Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government three years ago, has yielded remarkable results, aligning with the administration's mission to connect people and resources for socio-economic prosperity, the parents of the recipients, thanked the government and the university for making it possible for their children to pursue their dream of acquiring university education.

General Hospital Epe Celebrates World Physiotherapy Day

Physiotherapy Day 2024, with the theme "Low Back Pain: A Global Epidemic – The Role of Physiotherapy in Prevention and Management". In his paper presentation to commemorate the day, the Head of the Physiotherapy

Department, Epe General Hospital, Physio Akeem Oseni, explained the essence of physiotherapy and its significance while also highlighting the importance of World Physiotherapy Day. He said that World Physiotherapy Day, celebrated annually on September 8th, is a

day set aside for physiotherapists to raise awareness about the contributions of their profession in promoting health, mobility, and independence. Oseni explained that Low Back Pain (LBP) is a prevalent condition affecting the lower portion of the spine and is the leading cause of

disability globally. He said, "In 2020, 1 in 13 people experienced low back pains. Common causes include improper lifting, poor posture, disease (such as tumours, infections, or cancers), prolonged sitting, sleeping in an uncomfortable position, wearing ill-fitting backpacks, fractures, ruptured discs, and arthritis (such as spondylosis, spondylolisthesis, and

spondylitis). "Symptoms of LBP can include pain in the lower back, hips, and legs, numbness, tingling sensations (pins and needles) in the buttocks and legs, muscle spasms, sciatica, and a reduced health-related quality of life", he further added. The Physiotherapist, therefore, urged patients not to hesitate to visit the Physiotherapy Department at the hospital if they

experience any of these symptoms. Dr. Iskil Jolaoso, Deputy Medical Director and Consultant Radiologist, also encouraged patients to make use of the hospital's physiotherapy services, which cover a range of conditions across multiple specialties, including orthopedics, neurology, and pediatrics.

Fatodu Reaffirms Commitment to Grassroots Sports Development

The Director General of the Lagos State Sports Commission, Lekan Fatodu, has reaffirmed the state's commitment to grassroots sports development through various initiatives aimed at producing future stars on the global stage.

Fatodu made this statement while addressing journalists at the 8th edition of the National Youth Games in Asaba, Delta State.

Lagos will be represented by 270 athletes across 34 sports at the event, which runs from September 10 to 20,

2024.

Fatodu emphasised that the state is focused on nurturing young talents by providing the right mentorship, training, and incentives, all geared towards making athletes proud to represent Lagos.

Addressing concerns about age discrepancies in youth sports, the LSSC DG assured that Lagos has maintained strict adherence to the rules governing the National Youth Games, ensuring only athletes within the required age bracket are fielded. He criticised the practice



of other states fielding overage athletes, calling for action to address the issue. "We have been transparent

in ensuring that we parade athletes within the required age. It would be

unfair for others to shortchange the system by presenting over-aged athletes,"

Fatodu stated. "This is an issue we intend to bring to the highest level of authority to eliminate this menace from the sports ecosystem."

He further boasted that Lagos has one of the strictest selection processes in the country, ensuring fairness and adherence to the rules, saying, "In Lagos, we are proud that our zonal elimination, camping, and training processes are the strictest in the country. It's a template that should be emulated by others."

Prince Kazeem Eletu FC Dominant In Friendly Victory Over Sammy FC

By Saheed Afolabi

In a recent friendly match at Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan, Lagos, Prince Kazeem Eletu Football Club showcased their superior form, defeating Sammy Football Club of Ijebu by a score of 3-1. Sammy FC's Head Coach, Haruna Samuel, acknowledged the clear disparity in fitness levels between his team and the well-organized Eletu side. Despite his team's promising start in the first half, Samuel admitted that the match exposed their weaknesses and highlighted the need for improvement before the upcoming Alimosho Football Coaches Council Championship. "We came into this match with high expectations," Samuel said. "I've been following Eletu's progress and prepared accordingly. While we



played well in the first half, we were outmatched in terms of fitness in the second. We'll be

focusing on improving our physical condition before the championship." Sammy FC managed to

take an early lead through Lawrence Gift's goal in the 6th minute. However, Prince Kazeem Eletu quickly

responded, with David Igwe equalizing before halftime. In the second half, Eletu dominated proceedings, creating

numerous scoring opportunities. Usman Agboola and Taofeek Akeem missed some chances, but Obasi Jude eventually doubled Eletu's lead in the 72nd minute.

The visiting Sammy FC struggled to generate offense as Eletu continued to press forward. Prince Kazeem Eletu's relentless attack paid off once again, with Agboola securing a 3-1 victory with a header in the 81st minute.

Prince Kazeem Eletu's Head Coach, Israel Adegolu, was pleased with his team's performance, considering it a positive start after a two-month break. While he acknowledged the need for further improvement, Adegolu expressed confidence in his team's ability to perform well in their upcoming matches.

Seamoriow U-15 League Final: Outstanding Players Honoured

By Saheed Afolabi



The Seamoriow U-15 League Championship culminated in a thrilling final that showcased the burgeoning talents of young Nigerian footballers. B United emerged as the ultimate champions, securing a hard-fought 2-0 victory over Miracle FA in a match witnessed by a captivated audience, including representatives from the Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) and other distinguished guests.

The match was a showcase of skill, determination, and athleticism, with both teams displaying a high level of play. B United's victory was a testament to their superior teamwork, strategic acumen, and the individual brilliance of their players. However, the star of the evening was undoubtedly Gaye Wilmot, a Liberian prodigy currently playing for Lofty Skills Football Academy in Ikorodu. Wilmot's exceptional performance

throughout the tournament earned him the prestigious awards of Best Midfielder and Most Valuable Player. His ability to control the tempo of the game, create scoring opportunities, and execute precise passes was a constant source of admiration for spectators and fellow players alike. Wilmot's most memorable moment came in the semifinal against B United, where his goal-scoring prowess and dazzling skills left a lasting impression.

Despite his team's eventual defeat, Wilmot's performance was a highlight of the tournament. His ability to combine technical proficiency with athleticism and creativity set him apart from his peers. The accolades for Wilmot did not stop there. He was also recognized for his outstanding goal-scoring ability, earning him the Golden Boot award. His exceptional finishing and clinical finishing skills were a key factor in B United's success.

Other notable awards were presented to Adigun Wajud of B United for Best Goalkeeper, Adekunle Olashile for Golden Boot, and Mr. Azeez Olawale Badru of B United for Best Coach. Moses Adigun of Sammy was honored with the Best Goal award for a spectacular strike that left the crowd in awe. The Seamoriow U-15 League Championship served as a platform for young footballers to showcase their talents and compete at a high level. The tournament provided an opportunity for

aspiring athletes to gain valuable experience, develop their skills, and potentially catch the eye of scouts from professional clubs. As the curtain fell on the tournament, it was clear that the future of Nigerian football is in good hands. The exceptional performances of players like Gaye Wilmot and the overall competitiveness of the league bodes well for the continued development of the sport in the country.



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