

# Echonews

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LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

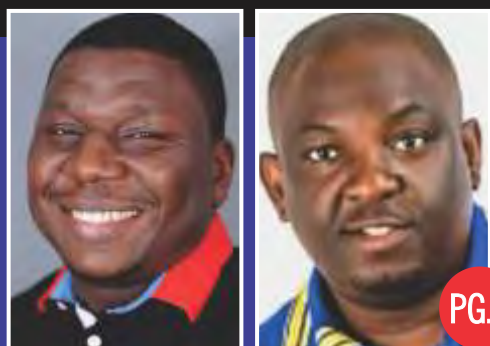
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Monday 26th February - Sunday 5th March 2023

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# 2023:TINUBU TIPPED TO WIN

By Rasaq Adebayo

Early feedback from situation rooms of candidates running for the presidency indicate that the All Progressives Congress candidate may be coasting to victory on the crest of votes delivered Northern and South western states, The Independent National Electoral Commission is charged with the responsibility of declaring the figures.

However, results obtained from polling units on the close of poll yesterday tip Bola Tinubu to win.

The results so far have indicated the landslide victory for the APC as its presidential candidate, Asiawaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu is expected to be officially announced the winner today.

Though the results from some few polling units especially in the Igbo dominated areas in Lagos seemed to favour the presidential candidate of Labour Party (LP), Peter Obi, the results across the state indicated that APC is on the topmost of the ladder in so many polling units. Aside from Oshodi-Isolo and Amuwo-Odofin LGAs where the Igbo residents voted en mass for the Labour Party, APC cleared the votes in so many LGAs. The PDP has no place withing the winning box.

The APC leadership in Lagos State had pledged to deliver the state with overwhelming votes for the party, though their expectation fell short due to some circumstances as the state recorded low turnout of voters as obtained in other states, they were able to fulfil the promise.

Prior to the election day, there were agitations on whether the elections would hold as scheduled



Bola Ahmed Tinubu

due to various circumstances heralding the conduction of the 2023 general elections. The major issue that hit the polity and affected the general wellbeing of Nigerians was the introduction of new naira notes.

## CASH CRISIS ISSUE

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) had in October, 2022 announce the redesign of three denominations of Nigerian currency - N100, N500 and N200 notes. On December 15, 2022, it commenced the circulation of the new notes while mopping up the old ones from circulation.

It, therefore, gave January 31, 2023 deadline for everybody to deposit their old notes at the bank. After the January deadline, the Apex bank was forced to extend the deadline to February 10. By this time, the populace has started feeling hardship as the new note in circulation was too meager compared to the amount of the old note that has been out of circulation. It was reported that only

N300 billion new notes were released into circulation while about N2trillion old notes had been taken out of circulation. By February 17, the new extended deadline, the old note had ceased to be legal tender, putting more Nigerians in agony.

While the country was battling with cash crisis, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) had complained that it could not hold the election without getting some amount of cash. With this, there was still insinuation that the election might not hold. However, the CBN later, less than 56 hours to the election, released the required cash to the Commission to be able to conduct the election as scheduled.

While some people claimed that the policy was deliberately made at the time to scuttle the general elections, the CBN governor, Godwin Emefiele said the monetary policy was to reduce the size of the cash in circulation and enforce the

cashless economy as done in the developed countries. According to him, the exercise has achieved a success rate of over 75 percent of the N2.7 trillion held outside the banking system.

"So far and since the commencement of this programme, we have collected about N1.9 trillion; leaving us with about N900 billion (N500 billion plus N1.9trillion).

He further said that aside from those holding illicit and or stolen Naira in their homes for speculative purposes, "we do aim to give all Nigerians that have naira legitimately earned and trapped, the opportunity to deposit their legitimately trapped monies at the CBN for exchange.

"We therefore appeal to all Nigerians to work with the Central Bank of Nigeria to ensure a hitch free process for the implementation of this very important programme."

He noted that the apex bank's aim is mainly to make Nigeria's Monetary Policy Decisions more

effective "and like you can see; we've started to see inflation trending downwards and exchange rates relatively stable" Secondly, we aim to support the efforts of our security agencies in combating Banditry and Ransom taking in Nigeria through this programme and we can see that the Military are making good progress in this important task in Nigeria.

"Ordinarily, when CBN releases currency into circulation, it is meant to be used and after sometime, it returns to the CBN thereby keeping the volume of currency in circulation under the firm control of the CBN.

"To achieve effective distribution, of the new currency the CBN has taken the following steps: We held several meetings with our Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) and provided them with Guidance Notes on processes they must adopt in the collection of old notes and distribution of the New Notes to all Nigerians."



## 2023:TINUBU TIPPED TO WIN

"These includes specific directives to DMBs to load new notes into their ATMs nationwide to ensure an equitable / transparent mechanism for the distribution of the new notes to all Nigerians.

"We commenced a nationwide sensitisation through the Print and electronic media to create an awareness on the redesigned notes to Nigerians including collaboration with the National Orientation agency to reach all Nigerians across multiple channels."

### EFFECT ON ELECTION

Apart from subjecting many people to hardship as note than 60 per cent of Nigerians do not have bank accounts while majority of them are not used to cashless economy, the scarcity of cash in circulation also affected the last week presidential/national

assembly elections. It greatly reduced vote buying by political parties.

Despite the larger number of registered voters and those who collected their permanent voter's cards (PVCs) as published by INEC, the number of those who actually came out to vote was relatively small. As reported by our correspondents who monitors the election at various polling units across Lagos State, many eligible voters refused to go out to exercise their civic right. For instance, the total number of vote counts in many PUs was not up to 100 in some local governments not only in Lagos but also in some many other states as gathered.

When inquired by ECHONEWS, it was gathered that people had refused to vote due to the current cash crisis they experience. The residents complained of scarcity of cash as a factor that restricted so many voters

from going out to vote.

A notable monarch told ECHONEWS people were hungry, hence, they were not happy to "come out and vote. On my own, as part of my own effort to mobilise people in my community to come out and vote, I organised a cook who fried akara and bought bread for people to eat very close to the polling booth. Despite that, you see, people are still not motivated but it helped as some who would have remained indoor came out to vote.

"If other community leaders can do this, I think the turnout will be huge during the governorship election in March. This is another way by which we can encourage our people to come out and vote. Again, we appeal to the federal government to ease this hardship of cash on us. If this is done, people will surely come out to vote. People are hungry, we don't expect hungry people

to go out and vote."

Again, political observers and analysts said many people decided not to come out to vote since they could not get cash "bribe" they used to collect from political parties at the polling booths. In the past, some desperate political parties would bring money to the polling booths, entice the voters with the money to buy their votes. At least, a voter who knew his way could go home with more than N10,000, collecting money from various parties that tried to woo him with the money. However, the cash crisis induced by the new monetary policy currently rocking the country has put an end to that; money is no more flowing at polling booths.

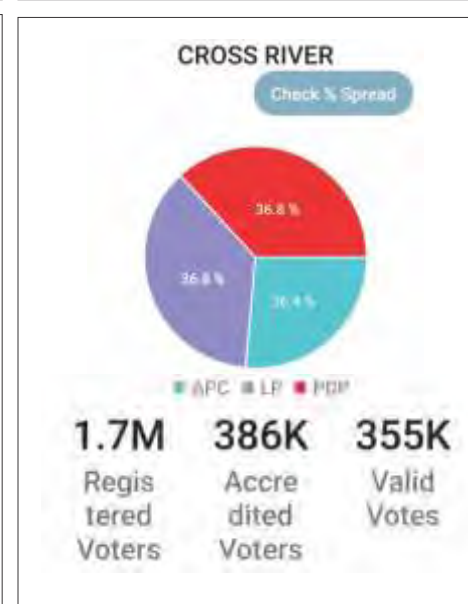
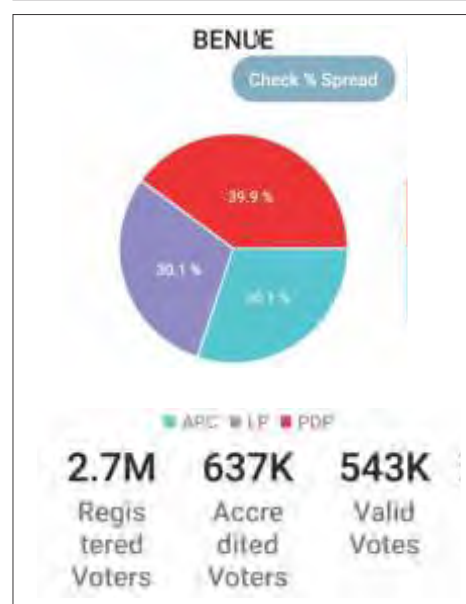
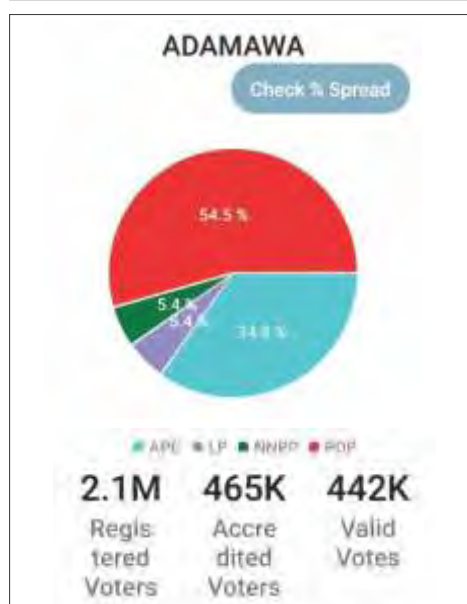
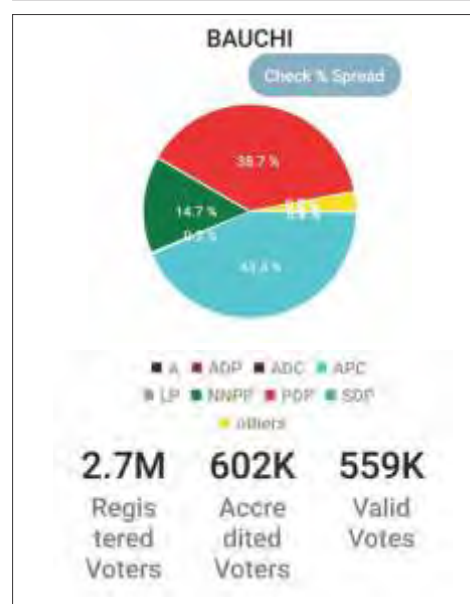
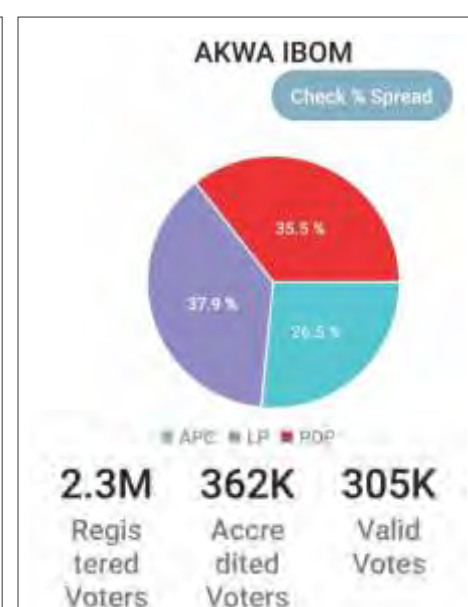
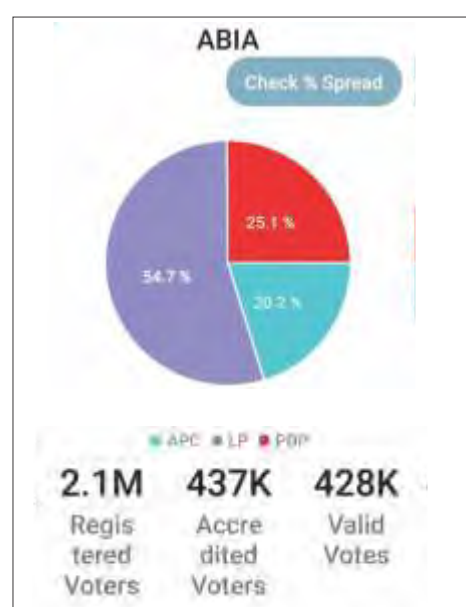
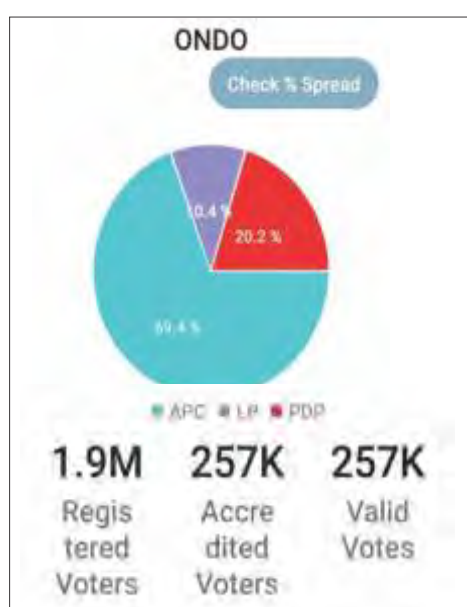
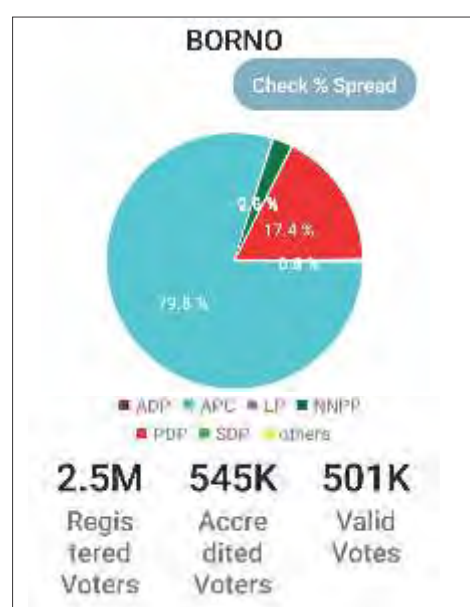
Indeed, majority of the political agents could not get their money instantly in cash, as their parties appealed to them, promising to do bank transfer to their various accounts after the election.

Journalists as well as the INEC officials who normally waited for monetary gains during elections were last week disappointed as money did not flow as it used to during the previous election periods.

### CREATION OF NEW PUs

Due to the noticeable increase in population of voters especially in places like Lagos where the average of 5,000 new people migrate to daily, the Independent National Electoral Commission created new additional 56,872 polling units to make a total of 176,846 across the country as a way of bringing the PUs closer to the voters. With this, voters would no longer have to trek miles before getting to their polling units.

In Lagos for instance, the Commission created 4,861 additional polling units, increasing the number in the state from 8,000 to 13,325 to ensure there are no more than 700 voters at a polling unit





## 2023:TINUBU TIPPED TO WIN

The aim behind the new creation was to decongest the few existing polling units and provide unhindered access for the citizens to exercise their fundamental rights to vote.

It was also geared towards shaping citizens confidence in the electoral process and similarly determine the level of their participation or apathy as well as security and safety during elections.

However, many voters faced challenge in locating their new PUs as they were moved from their old PUs to the new ones by the commission. This, as gathered by ECHONEWS, also contributed to the low turnout for the election on Saturday. It was also reported that some people were restricted from voting by the leadership of the community where their new PUs are domiciled just because their faces were not familiar in the area.

### INEC's LATE ARRIVAL

Another factor that affected the 2023 presidential election held on Saturday last week as

noted in Lagos was late arrival of INEC officials to the polling units.

As at 3:00pm, there were PUs where the voters were still expecting the INEC officials. Some voters returned home after waiting for hours for arrival of the officials.

ECHONEWS reported polling unit in Ejigbo LCDA where the voters had to wait for hours before they could cast their votes as INEC delayed in operating the BVAS machine, claiming they did not know the machine's password.

Lamenting in the late arrival of INEC officials at her polling unit, the All Progressives Congress (APC) Lagos West Senatorial Candidate, Dr Idiat Adebule urged the INEC to improve on the logistics surrounding electoral process. She said the voting process was not smooth and short of the people's expectations.

Adebule, who arrived early at the Polling Unit 029 at Iba, was surprised that the INEC officials did not turn up until 10:40am.

She appealed to the aggrieved electorate who had been at the centre as early as 7:30am to

be patient, which was evident in some other polling units in Lagos.

According to the former Lagos State Deputy Governor, the late arrival of the INEC officials caused a lot of apprehension and agitation.

Adebule said: "Majority of voters are more agitated. It has not always been like this. I've been voting here for quite a while. The turn out of voters during this election is commendable. It was better than the previous polls. People are eager to vote."

"INEC should tidy up preparation and logistics early enough and be responsive to the people. People have been waiting here from 8am and voting didn't commence until 11am. The electorate are not happy about it. I'm sure the INEC can improve on this."

Meanwhile, the low turnout in Lagos State may dash the hope of the APC party leaders who had earlier promised to deliver about 5 million votes for their presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

### WINNING PARTY

While the situation of cash

crunch and other challenges surrounding the 2023 elections seemed to favour the presidential candidate of Labour Party (LP), Peter Obi, in some polling units where he recorded highest results going by the on-the-scene results of the election on Saturday, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu of APC was leading in so many polling units across the country though the final result is yet to be announced by INEC.

Going by the results coming in

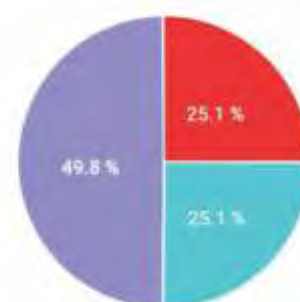
from each polling units, Tinubu is expected to be declared the winner and the next Presidents of Nigeria. He is to be followed by Obi of Labour Party while Alhaji Atiku Abubakar may come second runner-up in the 2023 presidential race.

As at the time this story went to bed on Sunday, the collation and counting of the results were still ongoing.

However, the election was said to be relatively free and fair in Lagos State.

### EBONYI

Check % Spread



■ APC ■ LP ■ PDP

1.5M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

332K

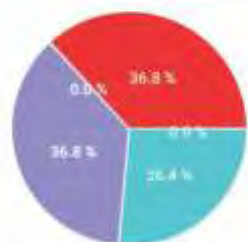
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

319K

Valid  
Votes

### DELTA

Check % Spread



■ ADP ■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP  
■ PDP ■ others

3.2M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

641K

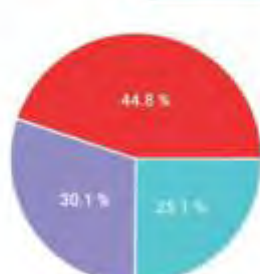
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

633K

Valid  
Votes

### BAYELSA

Check % Spread



■ APC ■ LP ■ PDP

1M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

236K

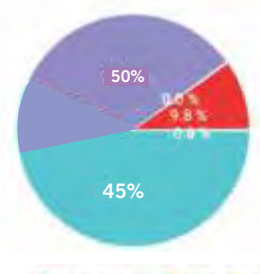
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

213K

Valid  
Votes

### LAGOS

Check % Spread



■ ADP ■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP  
■ PDP ■ others

7M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

1M

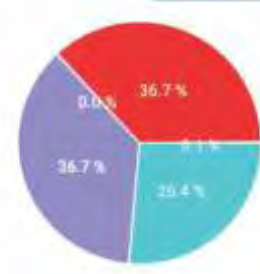
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

1M

Valid  
Votes

### EDO

Check % Spread



■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP ■ PDP  
■ others

2.5M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

492K

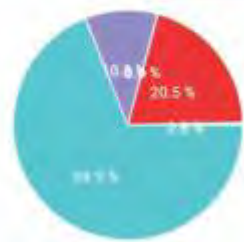
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

492K

Valid  
Votes

### EKITI

Check % Spread



■ ADP ■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP  
■ PDP ■ others

987K

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

194K

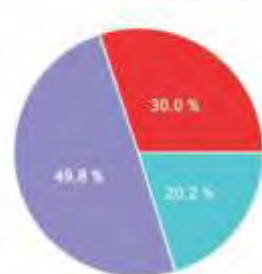
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

193K

Valid  
Votes

### ENUGU

Check % Spread



■ APC ■ LP ■ PDP

2.1M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

405K

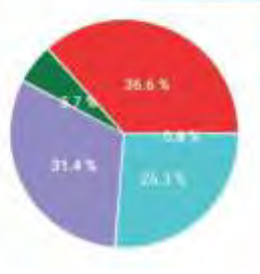
Accre-  
dited  
Voters

405K

Valid  
Votes

### FCT

Check % Spread



■ ADP ■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP  
■ PDP ■ others

1.5M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

322K

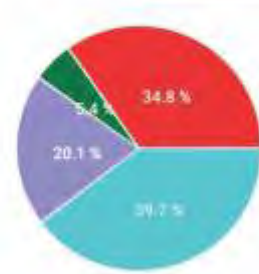
Accre-  
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Voters

316K

Valid  
Votes

### GOMBE

Check % Spread



■ APC ■ LP ■ NNPP ■ PDP

1.5M

Regis-  
tered  
Voters

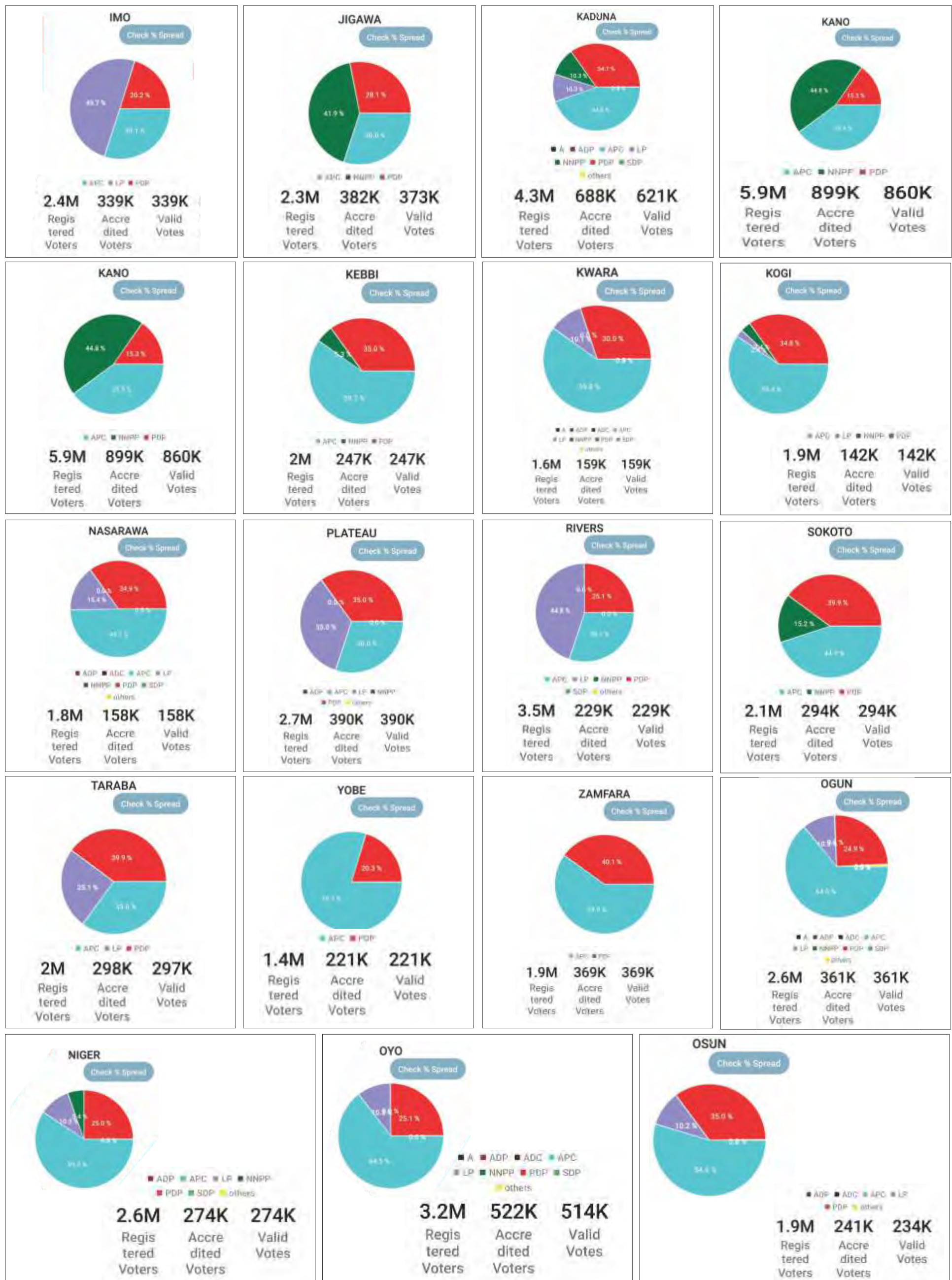
262K

Accre-  
dited  
Voters

262K

Valid  
Votes







# New maternity centre in Agege commences operation

By Motola AbdulGafar

The newly built Maternity Centre and Couples Clinic at Orile-Agege General Hospital has commenced operation following its commission by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu. The new facility is to fulfil the THEMES agenda of the governor to improve infrastructure in the state and enhance antenatal care and child delivery in Agege Local Government. The facility entails a 30-bed Maternity Centre and a Couples Clinic to provide affordable and quality healthcare and increase its accessibility as some residents do not enjoy government privilege due to a shortage of space. The Medical Director of OAGH maternity centre,

Dr. Sola Pitan, said the hospital has been upgraded with modern facilities, more beds and the obstetrics high dependency unit. He said the couple clinic was launched to educate pregnant women and their husbands on some of the challenges of pregnancy and what they need to know during delivery. Pitan said the development will enable them to attend to more pregnant women for a seamless process during and after their delivery. He added that they will address some of the psychological challenges that come with pregnancy and how their spouses can be of help during the period. He, therefore, appreciated the efforts of Sanwo-Olu in rehabilitating the health sector in the council.



Picture of 30-bed maternity centre

The member, Lagos State House of Assembly representing Agege Constituency II, Hon. Oluyinka Ogundimu has educated the residents on preventive measures to avoid fire outbreaks in the area as he commiserated with the victims of the recent fire outbreak at Olowokere Street in the council area. The fire outbreak affected a building and five shops along the street. While expressing his sympathy, he advised residents to turn off appliances while not in use, avoid using phones in the kitchen, avoid fueling the generator while it is on, take precautionary

## Ogundimu commiserates with fire victims, donates N1m

By Motola AbdulGafar

measures while lighting gas cookers, use rechargeable lamps instead of candles, avoid smoking in sensitize areas, ensure proper wiring connections, avoid overloading electrical sockets and many more to prevent fire outbreak. He donated N1 million as part of his consolation to the traders and residents of the affected building. Ogundimu, therefore, appreciated that no life lost to the incident despite the uproar.



Hon. Ogundimu on a visit to Olowokere fire outbreak site

## Egunjobi apprais to residents over currency issue

By Motola AbdulGafar

The chairman of Agege Local Government, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi has sympathized with residents of the council over the cash crisis in the country. He said the issue should be addressed calmly to avoid causing more disruption to the peace of the nation. He made the call following the destruction of public and private properties by some unidentified residents, advising that the destruction would not proffer solution but increase their predicament. Egunjobi further urged the residents to be calm and await the Supreme Court's judgement on the state of the nation.

"I sympathize with you all and entire Nigerians over the inconveniences you are all facing on the Naira redesign/currency swap policy, which has brought untold hardship on residents.

"We should all note the fact that public disturbance and destruction of public properties is never the solution. The properties you destroyed, including banks and public facilities, are meant for the good use of the general public; and the same public will suffer the loss.

"I, therefore, urge parents and guardians to admonish their children/wards to refrain from such act, or being used by the enemy of the state who is behind the scene targeting unsuspecting members of the public, particularly, the youths to achieve their evil agenda of the destruction of our dear Lagos State." He said the destructive action can cause anarchy in the land as it can truncate the hard-earned democracy Nigeria leaders fought for.



# Residents accuse LASBCA of illegal demolition

By Motola AbdulGafar

Residents of Abaranje community in Igando/Ikotun LCDA have appealed to the state government to request the Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA) to account for the illegal demolition of their homes in the area.

The victim's families, Mr. & Mrs. Adeoye Kayode, and Mr. & Mrs. Saka Akeem had complained that the demolition was carried out by the agency without a court order.

According to them, the first notice from LASBCA was issued in February 2021, stating a seven-day quit notice requesting them to vacate their homes as it intended to demolish the properties. Their attorney, Ahmed Dada Abass, Principal Partner of PISE Associates said after the next meeting in April 2021, there was no resolution as the petitioner insisted on the demolition of the properties. For over 19 months, following the said last meeting, there was no communication

between the parties.

They said the land sellers have also reported that the land sold is okay without any controversy over ownership while requesting the Lagos State Commissioner of Police, Idowu Owohunwa, to find out the policemen who supervised the demolition exercise.

They insisted that they were not informed about the demolition, hence, they could not remove anything from their houses as they lost all their properties when the building was demolished.



## Cash Crisis: Sulaimon calms residents

By Motola AbdulGafar

The chairman of Alimosho Local Government, Hon. Jelili Sulaimon has appealed to residents to remain calm and patient over the monetary crisis in the country. He said the current situation is just a test of time that will eventually come to pass as time moves on. He encouraged them

to endure for a while, saying the situation would soon be reversed.

He noted that the current currency and fuel scarcity issues would be fully attended to in an approach that would be favourable to residents at all levels. Sulaimon told his people to have strong trust in their votes as they have chosen their preferred candidate to head the nation.



Hon. Jelili Sulaimon

## Couple arraigned for alleged theft

By Motola AbdulGafar

A couple, Cordelia Dike and Frank Dike, who were arraigned for alleged theft, has been granted bail Magistrate, K. A. Ariyo at the Ejigbo Magistrate Court sitting at Ejigbo. They were reported to have stolen

jewellery and cash worth N2.2 million at Abesan Housing Estate in Alimosho Local Government Area.

They are on standing trial on a three-count charge bordering on burglary and theft, to which they pleaded not guilty.

The prosecutor, Benedict Aigbokhan, told the court that

the husband, 63, and the wife, 50, broke into the house of one Doyin Ogunbiade on February 1st, 2023, and stole a container containing jewellery worth N215,000.

He said the defendants also broke into the house of another person, Adewunmi Dada, and stole a cash in

the sum of N1.5 million and jewellery worth N500,000.

Magistrate Ariyo ordered that they should provide two sureties who must be gainfully employed and show evidence of tax payments to the Lagos State government.

She then adjourned the case till March 3, 2023 for mention.





# Bamigboye suspends levy collection at spare parts market

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has suspended collection of levies at Aguiyi-Ironsi spare parts market. This directive came as the council boss suspected that various unauthorised elements were collecting different types of levies from shop owners and business owners. "Sequel to the meeting held between the Council Management of Mushin Local Government, Market Union leaders of Aguiyi-Ironsi spare parts market and Paramo Ventures, it was agreed that all forms of levies, tolls and rates be

suspended in the market till further notice.

"The local council authority hereby directed that nobody - group of persons, agents or union should collect any charges, rates levies, or revenue from anybody in the market.

"Members of the public are hereby put on notice that no payment should be made to anyone in the name of Mushin Local Government.

"If anyone makes any attempt to forcefully act against this order, such person should be reported to the nearest police station or Mushin Local Government Secretariat, 82/84 Palm Avenue, Mushin, Lagos."



Hon Bamigboye addressing the press

## Coker Aguda council boss rehabilitates collapsed school fence

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Coker Aguda Local Council Development Area, Hon. Rasaq Ibrahim Olamilekan (RIO), has commenced the rehabilitation of the collapsed fence of the popular Local Authority Primary School in Orile Iganmu community. The council boss said he prioritized the renovation of the collapsed fence to prevent the students from being exposed to external noises.

"The reconstruction of the perimeter fence is expected to be completed by the popular contracting company (Wellbuilt Engineering Limited) within a short period due to the exposure of

the students to the nearby streets.

"Reconstructing the fence is of great important and essential for the safety and security of the students when they are within the premises of the school," he said. He, therefore, reiterated his commitment to the development of the education sector in the council area.



Hon. Rasaq Ibrahim

## Council boss certifies project quality, commends engineer

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Alimosho Local Government, Hon. Jelili Sulaimon, has certified the quality of the work being done on the construction of a layout in the community as he commended the site engineer for his commitment, noting that the engineer used water-resistant materials for the construction.

In response to the residents' demand for infrastructure in the area, the council chairman approved construction of Santos Layout Road with immediate execution of the project.

Meanwhile, it was

gathered that the work had commenced since October 31, 2022.

The council boss said the construction is expected to be fully completed by the end of March, this year, saying more constructions are lined up to be done for easy

movement of residents in the area.

During inspection of the project, Sulaimon noted that the site engineer has coordinated his workers in a peaceful manner without affecting the community peace, adding that he maintained good

relationship with commuters

He appreciated the residents' cooperation while encouraging the engineer and his workers to keep up with the good work noting that they expect a more concrete job at the end of the construction exercise.



Ongoing construction at Santos Layout road



# 14 days to go, the race for the 10th Assembly hots up

Ladapo Kolade

**L**adi Ajomale is the candidate of the All Progressives Congress for the Oshodi-Isolo second constituency covering Isolo and Ejigbo local council development areas in the March 11 polls into the 40-member Lagos State House of Assembly. In Ejigbo, he has spent the last month moving from one association of artisans to the other, unveiling his programmes and promising to ensure the welfare of artisans if they elect him. A son of Chief Oladele Ajomale, the former chairman of the APC in Lagos State, Ladi is expected to bank on his father's name and network to win the polls. Ladi has seven contenders to beat: Alhaji Saheed Aregbe of the Peoples Democratic Party, Zubayr Akinlade Abdramon, (Action Alliance); Alex Adaranijo, (Social Democratic Party); Oytemole



Rachel, (African Democratic Congress); Oni Oluwatoyin, (Boot Party); Ajayi Ebenezer, African Action Congress and Nwoye Phillip, New Nigeria Peoples Party. Like Ladi, Saheed is also on the hustings for votes. The US-based businessman comes from Ishaga

ward where his family calls the shot on lands as indigenes. Saheed has been nursing the ambition to run since last year. When he heard that Ladi would run, he put an advert in Echonews announcing his plans to challenge him. Across Lagos State, the race for

the 10th Assembly is getting hot as candidates dig into the terrain to canvass for votes. While those returning already have the advantage of experience, candidates seeking to enter the legislative house for the first time have to learn the ropes as early as possible.



Ladi Ajomale



Saheed Aregbe



# Judges may not sit Monday, election recess lingers

By Ken Baju

There are fears that judges of the Lagos State Judicial Service may not sit today Monday in view of the tension that marked the Presidential and National Assembly elections over the weekend.

A few lawyers told Echonews that private inquiries from the staff working in courts where their cases are pending reported that the judges prefer to watch events unfold on Monday from the comfort of their homes hoping that the tense security situation would be doused by evening.

The Chief Judge of Lagos State, Hon. Justice Kazeem Olanrewaju Alogba issued a directive Thursday, February 23,

this year asking judges and all other staff of the Lagos State Judicial Service to observe a half-work day on Friday February 24 this year to prepare for the Presidential and National Assembly polls. The directive, issued by the Acting Chief Registrar, Mr. T.A. Elias read:

"I have the directive of the Honourable Chief Judge of Lagos State, Hon. Justice Kazeem Olanrewaju Alogba to inform all members of staff of Lagos State Judiciary, that Friday, 24th February, 2023 has been declared as Half Working Day for members of staff.

The reason for this is to ensure all members of staff are not hindered from exercising their political franchise during



the forthcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections scheduled for Saturday 25th February 2023.

In view of this, offices at all Divisions and districts of Lagos State judiciary are to close by 1 pm on Friday 24th February

2023."

Meanwhile, A lawyer, Barrister Kayode Ademiluyi has advocated for a review of the laws to enable state high courts handle election cases too. In the alternative, he urged the establishment of a specialised court to

handle election matters. Ademiluyi, who was counsel to Rep. Ganiyu Johnson (Oshodi-Isolo II) during the election petitions in 2019 said such provisions will aid the dispensation of justice.

His words: "Pre-election cases should not be

handled by the Federal High Court alone. There should be provision for other courts of the same hierarchy to also assist so that justice can be gotten fast. In the alternative, a specialized court should be created to handle pre and post-election matters."

## Half-day directive slows down 98 cases before 10 judges

By Ken Baju

Not less than 98 cases before 10 judges were affected by the decision last Thursday of Chief Judge Kazeem Alogba asking employees of the Lagos State Judicial Service Commission to work half a day on Friday February 24 to prepare for last Saturday's Presidential and National Assembly polls.

The worst hit is the court of Hon. Justice A.O. Idowu expected to take 24 cases listed in the Cause List. The court, which sits in room 59 had planned to deliver the ruling in the case of Nafisat Kareem & ANR Vs Morenikeji Adejoke Erujeje (suit

NoLD/11777LMW/12)

It was also listed to take 23 mentions including All States Trust Bank & ANR Vs Loftrade Nigeria Limited & ANR, (LD/1473/05); Mr. Patrick Umunna & ANR Vs Syndicape Properties Limited, (LD/4491/GCMW/17); Mrs. Oghenero Ozobieme Vs Nicholas Hospital & ANR, (LD/3634GCMW/17); Mr. Ademola Odugbesan Vs Mr. Olatunji Odugbesan, (LD/3634GCMW/17); Pamther UK Limited Vs Candoli Nigeria Limited, (LD/99/09) and Quality Finance Limited Vs U.O.O Nwachukwu Holding Nigeria Limited.

The court of Justice A.M. Lawal, sitting in Room 31, was billed to

take 19 cases on the Cause List. The land cases, mainly further proceedings on alternative dispute resolution on land matters include CW Builder Nigeria Limited Vs Vitapure Nigeria Plc (ID/ADR/1229/19); NNPC Pension Fund Limited Vs Mr. G. Anumechi, (LD/ADR/1237/17); Multichem Industrial Gas Vs Lisabi Mills Nigeria Limited, (ID/ADR/1189/19); Mrs. L.W. Ajayi Vs Artee Industrial Limited, (ID/ADR/584/17); G. Nwamkwo Vs J. Isiguzor, (ID/2907/LMW/16) and Pitchplastin Solution Limited Vs Alliance Genins Limited, (IKD/ADR/81/20).

Court 22 where Justice L.A.M. Folami sits was expected to administer 15 cases last Friday. The cases include hearing of the case between Skystone Capital Investment Vs Plate Engineering, (ID/ADR/1705/2020) and Charles Ehechukwu Vs Ferlinencie & ANR, (ID/ADR/110/18), It planned to receive the report of settlement in Hillary Onwochie Vs Lagos State Government, (ID/8294/GCMW/2021) and take further reports on UPS Supply Chain Solutions Vs Acteon Project Services, (ID/ADR/2119/2022). Others affected and the number of cases before them according to the Cause List are



Chief Judge Kazeem Alogba

Hon. Justice E.O. Ashade, (9); Hon. Justice O.H.Oshodi (9); Hon. Justice D.T. Olatokun, (8); Hon. Justice R.A. Oshodi,

(7); Hon Justice M.A.Dada, (4); Hon. Justice O.O. Ogunjobi, (2) while Hon. Justice L. B. Lawal Akapo has one pending case.



# Agboyi-ketu LCDA sets up new abattoir

By Edith Obioma

The chairman of Agboyi-kute Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Dele Oshinowo has commissioned the newly built semi-mechanized abattoir to ensure hygienic environment for meat processing. Oshinowo stated that the facility would increase economic activities in the locality by creating direct and indirect jobs. The facility is located at Owode-Elede axis with the provision of

offices, generator sets, water tanks, lavatories, washrooms for workers and a space to house animals before examination by veterinary officers. He further stated that his administration is willing to partner with the private sectors to ensure shared responsibilities towards the development of the LCDA. The abattoir is expected to enhance quality meat processing and contribute to the economic growth of the LCDA at large.



Agboyi-kute abattoir

## Don't renege on your promises, CDA tells Carew

By Edith Obioma

The Anthony Village Joint Community Development Associations (CDAs) in Kosofe Local Government has urged the Lagos State House of Assembly candidate of Social Democratic Party (SDP), Lanre Carew not to toe the path of promise and fail if elected. They advised him when he met with stakeholders seeking their support to be victorious at the poll. The joint CDAs comprises Aladura Estate CDA, Oseni Silvia Crescent Odunlami CDA, Ajao Estate CDA, Anthony Village CDA, Anibaloye CDA and Garden Park Association CDA. According to the spokesperson for

Aladura Estate CDA, Mr. Anayo, Carew is the only candidate that has reached out to the joint CDA. He assured him of his household's votes and promised to mobilize massively for him ahead of March 11 election. Collectively, the stakeholders pledged that they would vote for personality and not political party as they rejected his money. They assured him of their willingness to support his campaign financially and materially. Responding, Carew recounted his political experience, stating that the political game requires discipline and training to gain power. He emphasised that he joined political race to contribute his quota to the development of the nation.

## CP, Education HOD bow out of local govt service

By Edith Obioma

Having completed their mandatory 35 years in service, the Council Manager and the Head of Education Department of Apapa Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Princess Morenikeji Okwuonu and Mr. Olaide Akande have last week retired. The duo were said to have served the Local

Government commission and Lagos State Government service for more than three decades in various capacities in commitment and dedication to their jobs until their last day in office. To appreciate their services, the entire civil servants of the council, friends, families and political associates gathered to celebrate them with a befitting

retirement ceremony in the council Secretariat. Apapa Iganmu (LCDA) chairman, Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed congratulated the retirees for finishing well in civil service job. She described the council Manager as a loyal partner and a senior sister who had worked along with her despite her strict nature. To Akande, the chairman encouraged him to continue to break more

milestones in all his future endeavors. Responding, Akande appreciated Lagos State Government for the opportunity to have served in the commission, saying that he will miss the council staff a lot. The outgoing Council Manager, who expressed her exit with mixed feelings, said though she would be free from producing documents, she would miss friends.

## Olowo makes peace with APC, campaigns for candidates

By Edith Obioma

Lagos State House of Assembly member representing Somolu Constituency I, Hon. Rotimi Olowo has sheathed his sword to campaign for All Progressives Congress (APC) party candidates. "I doubt if there's anybody that is more popular than I am here in Somolu/Bariga axis, that's why I had to come out to join the people in campaigning for Asiwaju. I've forgiven people who offended me politically. I believe in Asiwaju, I had to campaign for him."

He, therefore, enjoined the people of Somolu and Bariga to come out en masse and vote for Sanwo-Olu and other APC candidates in Lagos State on March 11, as they voted for the party last Saturday. He expressed his disappointment and bitterness on the state of the nation regarding the monetary policy of the federal government. He noted that the ripple effects weigh more on the elderly citizens and the vulnerable. "These are the people who voted for us. I must say that our leaders have failed us

and that is why we have to vote for a man who has the fear of God and humanity in his heart, the man that has the knowledge, the intellectual capacity and

the uncommon capacity to bring intellectuals together, you know what he (Tinubu) did as a governor of Lagos State, and he can do better as a President of Nigeria."



Somolu rally for APC



# Council chair's wife leads campaign against sexual, domestic violence

By Edith Obioma

The wife of Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Mrs. Abimbola Odunmbaku has championed the fight against sexual abuse and domestic based violence in the community.

Women groups across Ikeja Federal Constituency gathered at the council secretariat for the event facilitated and moderated by the Lagos State Domestic And Sexual Violence Agency to raise awareness on gender based issues.

Mrs. Odunmbaku

described sexual and gender-based violence as a serious problem in communities.

She explained that it is the collective responsibility of the community members to take action to prevent the menace.

"We must work to raise awareness about issue of

sexual and gender-based violence and also educate our community members about the issue by providing them with the tools they need to prevent and respond to this violence.

"We must also work to ensure that our laws and policies reflect our commitment to

preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence. We must ensure that our laws and policies are effective and that they are enforced.

"Together we can make a difference in the fight against sexual and gender-based violence and create a safe and

respectful environment for all members of our community."

She implored the women to vote massively for All Progressives Congress (APC) party and its candidates, saying the party's ideology is geared towards women development.

## Arewa group commends Odunmbaku's governance style

Leaders of Arewa group in Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have commended the council boss, Hon. David Odunmbaku over what they termed "inclusive governance style".

According to them, his style of government has endeared then to the All Progressives Congress (APC) as they pledged to support the party and vote for all its candidates.

The group endorsed the party and its candidates for 2023 elections at a political engagement organised by Odunmbaku.

They noted that his style has been impactful to all the segments of the community.

Odunmbaku appreciated the group's efforts and supports towards the party, promising to continue bringing the dividends of democracy to them.

He also appealed for patience and understanding from the community members regarding issues surrounding scarcity of Naira while pledging that succor would be provided by government to ameliorate the situation.

He, thereafter, listed the benefits awaiting Nigerians when Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu assumes office as the next president of the country.



Arewa group with Ojodu LCDA chairman, Odunmbaku

## Odunmbaku trains youths in ICT

By Edith Obioma

Participants at the ongoing Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) ICT Training have lauded the council chairman, Hon. David Odunmbaku for the technology development initiative as they undergo certified digital skills and software training at the ICT Training Center in Shogunro, Ogba.

The three months training which was conceptualised to offer employable digital skills ranging from Data Analytics, Web Development, UI/UX Design, Python and Cyber Security Bootcamp

to the trainees through cutting edge technological tutoring and acquisition of relevant global skills.

Instructors and tutors implored residents to take advantage of the free courses available at the training center to acquire digital skills for

capacity building.

According to one of the instructors, Mr. Tobenna, "as a UI/UX trainer, I didn't have this free learning opportunity as the students are having now to improve themselves."

He noted that the students were willing to

learn while the tutors were also ready to impact knowledge in them.

He, therefore, tasked the participants to be more serious, assuring them that they would graduate from the training with new skill and different mindset to face the tech world.



Participants of Ojodu LCDA ICT training

## Rotary Club partners council on medical outreach

By Edith Obioma

The Rotary Club District 9110 has partnered with Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) to organise second edition of a medical outreach programme at the Primary Health Center (PHC), Oluwole Estate in Ogba. During the 2-day programme, residents were given free medical test, screen and free drugs.

Services offered include Polio Immunization, Malaria Screening And Treatment, HIV Testing And Counseling, Cervical/Breast/ Prostrate Cancer Screening, Screening Of Diabetes, Glucose, Hypertension with family planning counseling and distribution of insecticide treated mosquito nets and sanitary pads.

The children were also dewormed while residents were further sensitized on Covid-19.





# Uniqueness of aloe vera plant

By Edith Igbokwe

There are hundreds of aloe plants, but aloe vera is unique in its ability to help you inside and out. Aloe vera is the only edible form of aloe. The aloe vera plant is native to the Arabian peninsula, but it grows throughout the world. The shrubby, pointy plant has been cultivated for its soothing gel for thousands of years. Aloe vera gel isn't just good for skin issues. It can be blended with water to create aloe vera juice, which is full of nutrients. For thousands of years aloe vera gel is used for healing and softening the skin. Aloe has also long been a folk treatment for many maladies, including constipation and skin disorders. Modern-day research into aloe vera's benefits is mixed, with some evidence showing it can cause cancer in lab animals. There are no foods that contain aloe vera, so it must be taken in supplement or gel form. Some forms of aloe vera are safer to take than others, and chronic use is discouraged.

### Aloe Vera Benefits

The nutrients found in aloe vera juice can provide some health benefits. Beta-carotene is a yellow-red pigment that's found in aloe vera plants. It acts as an antioxidant that can help support eye health, including retinal and corneal function. It relieves heartburn. Heartburn is a painful condition that involves acid leaving the stomach and traveling up the esophagus. A recent study has shown that aloe vera juice can reduce the symptoms of heartburn without any

uncomfortable side effects. Treats constipation. Aloe vera juice contains several compounds known to act as laxatives. While drinking aloe vera juice is unlikely to cause digestive issues in people with normal bowel movements, it has shown promise as a way to relieve constipation. May improve IBS symptoms. Aloe vera juice may be a potential treatment for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). This condition involves the inflammation of the intestine, leading to pain and other issues. Aloe has been shown to have anti-inflammatory properties. In one trial, people with IBS who drank aloe vera juice said some of their symptoms improved. However, scientists need to do more research. Aloe Vera Nutrition Aloe vera juice is a rich source of antioxidants, which help fight free radicals. This lowers oxidative stress on your body and reduces the risk of chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Aloe vera juice is also an excellent source of: Vitamin C, Vitamin A, Vitamin E, Beta-carotene

Folic acid, Calcium, Magnesium Aloe vera juice contains high levels of magnesium, which is a vital nutrient for nerve and muscle use. Magnesium helps your body with more than 300 different enzyme reactions, including those that regulate your blood pressure. It also helps regulate heart rhythm. Aloe Vera Uses Research backs up the ancient use of topical aloe vera as a skin treatment, at least for specific conditions. Studies have shown that aloe gel might be effective in treating skin conditions including: Psoriasis, Seborrhea, Dandruff, Minor burns, Skin abrasions, Skin injured by radiation, Acne, Herpes sores and Anal fissures. There's also strong evidence that aloe vera juice, which contains latex, taken by mouth is a powerful laxative. In fact, aloe juice was once sold in over-the-counter constipation drugs. Aloe vera gel taken by mouth seems to help lower blood sugar levels in people with diabetes. It may also help to lower cholesterol. The results of aloe vera studies for other medical conditions have been less clear.

How much aloe vera should you use? Creams and gels with aloe vera vary in dosage. Some creams for minor burns have just 0.5% aloe vera. Others used for psoriasis may contain as much as 70% aloe vera. As an oral supplement, it has no set dose. For constipation, some use 100-200 milligrams of aloe vera juice – or 50 milligrams of aloe vera extract – daily as needed. For diabetes, 1 tablespoon of the gel has been used daily. High oral doses of aloe vera or aloe vera latex are dangerous. Ask your doctor for advice on how to use aloe vera. How to Prepare Aloe Vera Juice Aloe vera juice can be found in supermarkets around the country. It typically comes in bottles, mixed with water to make it less thick. It's also possible to make aloe vera juice yourself. Take an aloe vera spike from a plant and trim the pointed edges off of the sides. Then, carefully slice off the skin on the flat side of the leaf and remove the gel from inside. This gel is the edible part of the plant. Make sure you remove all traces of the skin from the plant. The skin adds a

bitter, unpleasant flavor. You can rinse the gel under running water to help remove all traces of it. Once you have the gel, you can toss it in a blender. Blend until smooth, then add water until it reaches the thickness you like. The result is a fresh, clean-tasting beverage. Here are some ways to add aloe vera juice to your diet: Drink the juice on its own. Add aloe vera juice to smoothies. Use aloe vera juice in cocktails. Mix aloe vera juice into lemonade. Use aloe vera juice in gelatin. Aloe Vera Risks Talk to your doctor before using it. Researchers warn against the chronic use of aloe vera. But if the aloe vera product is free of aloin – an extract of the plant that has been found to cause colorectal cancer in rats – it may be OK as a topical remedy for sunburn. Aloin is found between the outer leaf of the aloe plant and the gel inside. Side effects. Topical aloe vera might irritate your skin. Oral aloe vera, which has a laxative effect, can cause cramping and diarrhea. This may cause electrolyte imbalances in the blood of people who ingest aloe vera for more

than a few days. It can also stain the colon, making it hard to get a good look at the colon during a colonoscopy. So avoid it for a month before having a colonoscopy. Aloe vera gel, for topical or oral use, should be free of aloin, which can irritate the gastrointestinal tract. Risk: Do not apply topical aloe vera to deep cuts or severe burns. People allergic to garlic, onions, or tulips are more likely to be allergic to aloe. High doses of oral aloe vera are dangerous. Don't take oral aloe vera if you have intestinal problems, heart disease, hemorrhoids, kidney problems, diabetes, or electrolyte imbalances. Interactions. If you take any drugs regularly, talk to your doctor before you start using aloe vera supplements. They could interact with medicines and supplements like diabetes drugs, heart drugs, laxatives, steroids, and licorice root. The oral use of aloe vera gel may also block the absorption of medicines taken at the same time. Given the lack of evidence about its safety, aloe vera supplements should not be used orally by children and by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.





# The Place Bola Built

By Ladapo Kolade

Standing magnificently on Ogunlana Drive is a new architectural guest, Manna etc. it is a new plaza with a history that goes back about two decades ago when its owner, Bolanle Iyamu set up shop in a bungalow on Surulere's most high profile business street to offer elegant and rare articles for beautifying homes to the public and stocking their wardrobes with essential accessories. That bungalow, now has three more floors, gaining enough height to force the neck to turn the head to behold the sedate edifice. On January 21, this year, the grand opening of this sedate building took place. Its doors were opened to a select group of patrons to pace through its interiors and marvel at the collector's icons which give class to homes. Consider the artificial

flowers. People whose skin is easily irritated by pollens of natural flowers yet love to have them in their homes choose artificial flowers. A large section on the second floor is devoted to varieties. For the men, ties have it. In stripes and polka dots, in orange, blue, black, and grey, the ties come in colours cool and hot enabling guests to pick in tune with their temper. For a long time, this writer has been looking for a water heater that blends use with aesthetics. Eureka! I found it on the ground floor, a 1.7-centilitre Daewoo product that lights ocean blue when heating. Watching the boil is pleasing to the eyes. It makes you look forward to the hot water you are waiting for, whether for tea or bath. Manna deliberately comes with etcetera because it offers so many things you need: a card for a friend's birthday, cousin's wedding or even season's greetings, cuff links to give class to your apparel, and articles to use as

presents to surprise your loved ones.

A proud product of the prestigious University of Ife, now Obafemi Awolowo University, Bolanle Iyamu has been into commerce, some say, in line with the tradition of her Ijesha roots. She is married to Wole Iyamu, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria and current Commissioner for Justice and Attorney-General of Edo State.

The grand opening was attended by fellow men of the silk, including the former president of the Nigeria Bar Association, NBA, Mr. Austin Alegeh, SAN; former chairman, Island Club, Mr. Dipo Okpeseyi, SAN; Former Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Mr. Babatunde Ogala, SAN and Mr. Ken Mozia, SAN. Others are renowned businessman, Martin Ikediashi, Secretary to the Edo State Government, and former chairman, of the Island Club, Prince Demola Dada.



Bolanle Iyamu







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# We're revolutionalising football at grassroots - Matswamgbe

By Saheed Afolabi

**T**he founder and director of sport at Future Pillars Football Academy, Moses Matswamgbe, has said the academy is making effort to take football at the grassroots to world standard by developing an approach to make combining football as a career and education an easy feat for the young kids.

He said the mission of the football academy is to develop talented indigent grassroots players to make positive impact both nationally and internationally.

Matswamgbe disclosed that one of the aims of the club is to develop grassroots football to an enviable height as he stated that one of the core objectives of the club is to teach the kids about soccer and improve their soccer skills.

He added that the socio

educational aim of the club is to support the young footballers with desirable set of values and create a favourable appropriate condition to combine education with their football career.

"Our mission is to identify and develop talented, vulnerable and indigent grassroots players who will make positive impacts

both nationally and internationally through hard work and discipline.

"Our belief is that combining school education with sports training increases the effectiveness of soccer training and social integration.

"The vision of the club is to evolve a team of talented players that will be a

reference point in history of grassroots football growth and development not only in Ogun State, but globally. To this effect, the main aim of establishing Future Pillars Football Academy is teaching and improving soccer skills of talented vulnerable and indigent players.

"The main socio-educational aim is

to support young player with a desirable set of values and create appropriate conditions for them to study after training. Our belief is that combining school education with sports training increases the effectiveness of soccer training and social integration.

"The core objective of

**NOC boss urges sport federations to step up preparations**

**T**he President of the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC), Habu Ahmed Gumel, has urged the National Federations to step up preparations for three major games that Nigeria would attend within the year.

The top two are the All Africa Games to be staged by Ghana and the Africa Beach Games to be hosted in Hammamet, Tunisia.

The third would be the World Beach Games scheduled to hold in Bali, Indonesia.

The Tunis Beach Games would serve as a qualification event for the Bali Games.

A statement released by Tony Neziyanya, the Public Relations Officer (PRO) quotes Gumel as saying that since the Games had been approved by the sports ministry, it meant Nigeria should be adequately represented with victory in mind.

"The Ministry of sports has approved the participation of the country in those Games and has sought the assistance of the NOC to accredit athletes and officials for those events.

"We need to prepare well to win Gold since our last Gold medal was at the 1996 Atlanta Games."



Future Pillars Football Academy,

## NPFL: Festus Allen opened to new offers

By Saheed Afolabi

**F**ormer MFM FC coach, Festus Allen has disclosed his intention to return to coaching as he declares they he's open to offers from the Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL) clubs.

The experienced gaffer had a short stint with MFM FC last season but heavy fines coupled with lack of administrative discipline made the Lagos based club relegate to the lower division, which ultimately caused the club's extinction as a professional football club.

Speaking exclusively to

Echonews.ng, Allen said he has the pedigree after coaching top sides like ABS, Bayelsa United, 3SC, Sharks of Port-Harcourt and recently MFM FC.

The tactician described his style of play as an attacking one of building attack from the back to open opponent defense as he reveals his coaching certifications.

"I'm open to coaching in the NPFL or NNL, I have the pedigree having coached top teams in the past like ABS, Bayelsa United, 3SC, Sharks and of late MFM FC," Allen said.

"My certifications speak for me with my NIS certificate, CAF B and C

"I'm known for my attacking style of play of building attack from the back to open opponent defense, free flowing football with attack minded and tactical approach.

"After MFM FC, I've busied my hands with Abraysport FC an NLO One side, Kwara Football Academy and Unicorn FC."

Allen is however impressed with the positive turn of officiating in the NPFL as he gave kudos to the IMC for putting up a strong initiative in place.

"I'm happy the NPFL is taking a new shape with improved officiating and



Festus Allen

kudos to the IMC for taking the bull by the horn."

The former defunct Sharks of Port-Harcourt coach is

widely regarded as a disciplined coach that sets standards of positive result for his players.