

# Echonews

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# ENDSARS: Lagos vows to continue alleged looters trial, ...recovers 4,000 criminals thumbprints

By Kunle Awosiyan

Barely four years that ENDSARS hoodlums destroyed public properties in some parts of Lagos, the state Government is still counting its losses. Endsars was a protest against police brutality. The state Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Lawal Pedro, SAN said that the state government is regenerating over 4000 records of crime suspects burnt by the protesters at the oldest court in Nigeria, the Federal High Court at Igbosere, Lagos. Recall that hoodlums hijacked the ENDSARS protest in 2020 and razed down the court with many case files burnt while others were carted away. They also stole valuables, including desktop computers, air conditioners, refrigerators and chairs. Pedro told Echonews that the ministry had to collaborate with Magistrates, High Courts and the DPP prosecutors between May 2019 to April 2024 in processing of over 60,000 requests and supporting the regeneration of over 4,000 records of suspects that were destroyed during the protest.

During the protest 17 Police stations were burnt. These stations include Idimu, Igando, Layeni, Denton, Ilenbe Hausa, Ajah, Amukoko, Ilesa, Cele Outpost under Ijesh, disbanded SARS office under Ajegunle, Ebute-Ero, Mushin (Olosan), Ojo, Ajegunle, Ikotun, and Ojodu.

Properties found within the premises of the police stations, including

vehicles, were also destroyed, while valuables, including weapons, were carted away by the criminal elements.

The hoodlums also attacked the Palace of Oba of Lagos where the staff of office of the traditional ruler and other valuables were stolen. Oba Akiolu was also forced to escape the palace during the attack. The family house of the Lagos State governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu located at Omididun Street, Lagos Island, was also burnt while the headquarters of Television Continental (TVC) was also burnt in Lagos. The office of The Nation newspaper was torched by the hoodlums.

The Bus terminals burnt and destroyed for the state Bus Rapid Transit at Oyingbo, Yaba and Berger were vandalized together with some of the buses. Worth N3,929,553,000.

The Ajeromi-Ifeolodun local government council building was also

attacked during the protest with more than 20 cars within the LGA premises burnt.

The office of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) in Lagos was also set ablaze by hoodlums on with scores of vehicles and other properties set ablaze.

The Lagos State Theatre at Oregun was not left out in the attacks by hoodlums while the popular malls and supermarkets in Lagos were also vandalised and looted by the hoodlums in operations.

Our correspondent visited some of the vandalized properties and observed that the High Court is still undergoing massive reconstruction.

At Berger LAGBUS terminal, normalcy had returned but the government is yet to finish rebuilding the shed. Passengers still moved to the former queue under the sun and rain. Before now, the terminal was cordoned off while the buses shared the same bus stop with commercial buses at



Berger along Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

However, the buses moved to the former terminal a few months ago but commuters have no place to hide whenever it rains.

Some of the police stations visited had

been rebuilt but while the state government is working to regenerate records of suspects destroyed at the court, it is not so at the police stations. They could not regenerate most of the documents. h

In October 2020, the police were able to arrest over 300 suspects that were involved in the attack of these public properties. Their files were sent to the State Director of Public Prosecution.





# ENDSARS: Lagos vows to continue alleged looters trial, ...recovers 4,000 criminals thumbprints

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In the same year, the state government said it would be prosecuting about 229 suspects arrested for arson, vandalism, murder, stealing and malicious damage of property.

However in November of the same year, the government directed the release of 253 ENDSARS suspects from the police custody.

Speaking, the Attorney General, Pedro said that the government had integrated advanced technology to create a comprehensive and accessible database of criminal records.

He reiterated the commitment of the government to expand the Lagos Criminal Information System (LCIS) towards

enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

He noted that the LCIS includes key features, such as real-time data entry, improved case tracking, and seamless information sharing among law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and the judiciary.

Pedro further explained that scaling up of the LCIS aims to reduce case backlogs, ensure accurate and timely access to criminal records, and foster greater transparency and accountability within the criminal justice system.

"This strategic enhancement not only streamlines operations but also strengthens public trust and safety among residents of the

State", he said.

In addition to this, the Attorney General noted that the LCIS has facilitated the release of more than 250 persons through the Plea Bargain System, outright discontinuance of case where the offense allegedly committed is a minor offence or where case file of suspect was not forwarded to the office of the DPP.

The Attorney General further highlighted a major achievement of the LCIS which is the propagation of the first Juvenile Information System in Nigeria for children in conflict with the law.

He also revealed that the Office of Public Defendant (OPD), a Directorate under the Ministry of Justice, obtained 230 judgements in favour

of the State, handled 1,812 child-related cases, 316 domestic violence-related cases, and 29 rescue missions; the DPP also obtained 40 judgements in courts and 11 Plea Bargains, received 377 files for legal advice, out of which it issued 229 advice, with 148 files pending.

Similarly, he said, the Directorate of Citizen's Rights (DCR) received 755 petitions on family matters, 131 petitions on employee/employer matters and 744 tenancy matters, out of which 539 (family matters), 80 (employee/employer) and 577 (tenancy matters) were resolved respectively while the Citizens' Mediation Centre (CMC) received a total number of 35,655 matters for

mediation, out of which 20,691 were treated and resolved.

Additionally, the Lagos State Special Offences (Mobile) Court, arrested, arraigned and convicted a total number of 10,266 for various minor offences; the LSTFLG obtained nine judgements in favor of the State, received 582 petitions out of which 120 was concluded, 71 Enforcement Approvals and 33 inscriptions.

His words, "The Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) also obtained over 50 judgements, handled 4,641 adult cases, 2,976 children cases, 118 rape cases, rescued 64 people, 36 restraining order, handled 652 social welfare cases, concluded mediation

in 107 cases and reached over 800,000 people in the community through advocacy and sensitization.

"The Directorate of Civil Litigation obtained six judgements in favor of the state, received a contingent liability in terms of Claims in Court to the tune of 1, 602, 430, 012, 517.71, and a contingent liability in favour of the State Government which has increased to 95, 644,801,659.71".

The Lagos State Ministry of Justice will be prosecuting suspects who allegedly took advantage of the #EndSARS protests to destroy and loot public and private property in different parts of the State.





# The Return of Egube

By Kunle Awosiyan

Barely two weeks that Mr. Gboyega Soyannwo, the Deputy Chief of Staff, to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu passed away, the former state Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Sam Egube has been appointed to the position.

The Special Adviser Media and Publicity to the governor, Gboyega Akosile disclosed this last week Wednesday. Egube was sworn in on Thursday.

Egube was the Commissioner of Budget and Economic Planning in Sanwo-Olu's first term.

Although he was part of the cabinet nominees of the governor for the second term, his nomination was rejected by the state House of Assembly.

Egube was rejected alongside 17 other Lagos commissioner-nominees by Sanwo-Olu by the state House of Assembly.

One of the reasons for his rejection then was that he was not known by his constituency and should not have been nominated in the first place.

Recall that on 25 July, 2023, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu submitted 39 names to the legislature for screening and clearance for appointment into his



Sam Egube

cabinet.

Days later, the legislature disqualified 17 of the 39 nominees, including six who served as commissioners in the first term of the governor. The former commissioners are Gbenga Omotoso (Information and Strategy), Akin Abayomi (Health) and Sam Egube (Economic Planning and Budget).

While Omotoso and Abayomi were later cleared, Egube was not cleared until after the death of Soyannwo that

the governor had now reappointed him to fill the vacant position.

Other nominees who were rejected then included Cecilia Dada (Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation), Olalere Odusote (Energy Resources) and Folashade Adefisayo (Education).

Another reason for the rejection of the nominees, including Egube was that Sanwo-Olu's list contained 31 Christians and eight Muslims and that some of the nominees were

non-Lagosians but business friends of the governor.

In his attempt to clear the air on the matter, the speaker of the House, Mudashiru Obasa said the lawmakers would not be forced to reveal all other things that they discovered during the screening.

Mr. Samuel Egube, is a fellow of the Institute of Credit Administration (FCIA), Member, Nigerian Institute of Management (AMNIN), Member, Council for the Regulation of

Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), and Honorary Senior member Chartered Institute of Bankers; was born on 5th March, 1969.

He attended the University of Benin where he obtained a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) Degree with a second class upper in 1989, while he has an MBA from the prestigious International School of Management, University of Navarra, Barcelona.

He has significant experience in various

sectors of the economy, which includes Banking and Finance, Business Consulting, Engineering, Strategy, Financial Management and Operations optimization. These experiences were acquired in very strong institutions such as Arthur Andersen and Company (now KPMG professionals in Nigeria), United Bank for Africa Plc.; NNB International Bank, First Bank of Nigeria and Diamond Bank Plc where he served as Corporate Banking Director and Head of Directorate, Corporate Banking.

He was also an Angel Investor and Adviser on the Expert in Residence program of the Entrepreneur Development Centre (EDC) of the Pan Atlantic University, Chief Executive Officer at Harbour Point Partners Limited- a Business Consulting and Financial Advisory Firm with a Vision for sub-Saharan Africa, and Director at Sovereign Trust Insurance Plc.

Mr. Samuel Avwerosuo Egube, hails from Uwheru, Ughelli in Delta State and was found competent to join the cabinet of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu when he was appointed and sworn in as the Honourable Commissioner, Economic Planning and Budget on August 20, 2019.





# LASBCA Gives Oshodi Traders July 31 Deadline To Remove Extensions

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA), has given traders and shop owners within the Oshodi Markets up to July 31, 2024 deadline to remove all extensions and attachments built on shops or face sanctions.

The General Manager of Lagos State Building Control Agency, Arc. Gbolahan Owodunni Oki gave the ultimatum during an advocacy and sensitisation programme put together in conjunction with the Oshodi-Isolo Local Council Development Area, LCDA.

Oki said the State Government is



determined to bring environmental sanity to all nooks and crannies of the Lagos markets by checking the illegal

activities of shops and plaza owners who violate the physical planning laws of the State.

He said no amount of resistance and intimidation by miscreants or ethnic colouration and blackmail, will hinder the state from doing the needful, or make the State Government go back on its resolve to clean up the entire Lagos market of illegal structural extensions and attachments.

He decried the nuisance constituted by shop owners who are in the habit of constructing attachments and extensions to display their wares and goods on walkways and roads thereby obstructing the smooth flow of vehicular and human traffic, especially during emergencies.

Oki in his message to the traders and shop owners at the event highlighted the importance of maintaining clear

roadways within the market,

Oki said, "Clearing of the right of way is a standing order by the Governor and there's no going back until the right of way is clear in all markets across the state."

He pointed out the economic benefits of compliance, saying "You are losing potential customers because of your illegal structures. If all roads in the market are motorable and free of traffic bottleneck, potential customers will come and patronise you knowing they can drive in and out with ease".

Supporting this directive, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, Chairman of Oshodi/Isolo LCDA, warned traders to avoid a scenario similar to the forceful removal of illegal extensions that took place in Lagos Island. He underlined the importance of voluntary compliance to avoid harsher measures.

The Iyalaja of Oshodi Market, Alhaja Risikat expressed her appreciation for the grace period provided by the government assuring that the traders would adhere

to the deadline and remove the extensions and attachments by themselves.

The LASBCA directives to shop and property owners align with the Lagos State Government's broader efforts to ensure safety and orderliness in public spaces as the removal of illegal extensions and attachments are expected to not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the market but also improve the overall trading experience for both traders and customers.

The advocacy and sensitization programme had in attendance officials from the Ishodi-Isolo LCDA led by the Chairman, Honourable Kehinde Almaroof Oloyade; Representatives of market leaders led by Alhaja Risikat Abebe; developers, community leaders and officials of the Lagos State Building Control Agency.

## OSHODI Residents Hail Kendoo as Alade Street Project Advances

By Edith Igbokwe

The ongoing drainage system of Alade Street in Oshodi environ that was flagged off few weeks ago has leveled up to near completion as residents attested to the quality of job done to ensure free flow of water.

The exercise was In fulfillment of the chairman's commitment to transform the infrastructural level of the Local Government and to provide amenities that will improve the residents standard of the living.

Oloyede has promised not to relent on his oars towards ensuring a lasting legacy that would benefit the coming generations.

According to him, after the completion of the drainage system, the reconstruction of the road will commence.

A resident, who identified himself as Mr.

Ramon Soliu eulogized the council chairman for the massive project embarked on and prayed for God's continued strength for him to finish well.

He said; "We are happy at the level of job done by our chairman, Kendoo. Look at how long this street is and the chairman is reconstructing the gutter from the beginning to the end. The old gutter has damaged and when it rains, the place is an eye sore. The iron rods and other materials being used are satisfactory. May Allah bless the chairman".

Reports stated that the chairman is also intensifying efforts on other ongoing projects within the council area such as the completed Araromi Street in Shogunle and the canals distilling.

Others include, the ongoing expansion of Olori street and construction of drainage system.

## Climate Change: PSSDC, Others Launch Eco-Learn Nigeria Project

By Mohammed Adekola



The Public Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC), in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and others, has launched the Eco-learn Nigeria project.

The launch, which is a significant step towards empowering the future generation in the fight against climate change, was held at PSSDC Library Hall on Friday.

The Director-General of PSSDC, represented by Mr. Olushola Kolawole at the event emphasised the crucial

role of youth in securing a sustainable future.

He said, "The future of our planet rests in the hands of the youth by equipping them with the knowledge and tools to understand and address climate change is paramount".

He added that Eco-learn Nigeria initiative aims to equip public service teachers with the necessary resources and expertise to integrate climate change education into their curriculum which aligns perfectly with the

PSSDC's mission of empowering public servants and Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's THEMES Plus Agenda.

Mr. Kolawole thanked the organisers for bringing together key stakeholders who share the vision of instilling environmental consciousness in young minds, stressing that teachers play a pivotal role in shaping future generations.

Speaking in a similar vein, Leonor Van Der Stijl, Deputy Consul General of the Netherlands, echoed the same sentiment by highlighting the importance of empowering young minds for a sustainable future.

She stated that delving into new areas for future benefits like renewable energy can power the entire nation, drive economic growth, and create jobs while promoting healthy living.

In his remarks, The Director of Climate Change in the Ministry of Environment, Mr. Michael Bankole expressed satisfaction with the Lagos State Government's proactive approach to climate change education.

According to him, the state's commitment to training children on climate change, hygiene and sanitation was laudable.

The representative of the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary Education District III, Dr. Rita Kienka stated that the initiative marks a significant milestone in preparing future generations to tackle the challenges of climate change by empowering teachers while paving the way for a more sustainable future for the planet.



# PSSDC Graduates 135 Participants In Local Government Administration

The Lagos State Public Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC) has graduated 135 participants in Local Government Administration Certificate course.

The nine-month programme is designed to equip public servants with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective service delivery at the local government level.

Speaking at the event held at Magodo, the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Establishments and Training, Mr. Afolabi Ayantayo commended the 135 graduates for their dedication and perseverance, highlighting the critical role local government staff plays in shaping the lives of citizens and achieving efficient administration.

Ayantayo emphasised the Lagos State government's commitment to continuously enhancing the capabilities of her public servants under the leadership of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu to align with the state's T.H.E.M.E.S Plus development agenda. He stressed the importance of improved service delivery and contributions towards the state's development goals, urging the graduands to improve on their capabilities to make positive impacts within the local government service.

The Representative of

the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Establishments and Training, Mr. Bamidele Balogun congratulated the graduates and commended PSSDC and Lagos State Local Government Service Commission for their collaborative efforts in delivering the program. He emphasised the value of the course as a stepping stone for further academic and professional development.

In the same vein, the representative of the Permanent Secretary, Office of Local Government, Establishments, Training and Pensions, Mr. Adedeji Adenusi, highlighted the nature of the collaboration between PSSDC and Local Government Service Commission and its focus on addressing career stagnation amongst Grade Level 07 officers. He encouraged graduates to apply their newly acquired skills to overcome challenges within local government and contribute to the prosperity of the state.

Earlier, the Director-General of the Lagos State Public Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC), Mr. Adekunmilola Toluwase Adio-Moses underscored the importance of the Certificate Course in providing opportunities for Chief Clerical Officers in the Local Government Service to advance beyond Grade Level 07 and pursue further qualifications.

"The nine-month programme will equip participants with a comprehensive skill set through courses in English Language, Mathematics, Local Government Administration and Management, Local Government Laws, Finance and Accounts among others. He also informed that the year 2023 graduating class is a special one in that it coincides with the PSSDC's 30th anniversary.

Adio-Moses stated further that the certificates awarded are not only a symbol of achievement but also serve as a prerequisite for promotion within the



local government service, adding that they act as a stepping stone towards the LASU-PSSDC Part-time Collaborative Diploma in Local Government Administration and Development Studies.

He therefore commended the Lagos State Government for its

support and prioritising Government thanked the staff training and State Government and development for the PSSDC for the effective service opportunity given to him delivery in the State. and other participants to Responding on behalf of participate in the course the participants, the because it has exposed Governor of the them to various Skill set, graduating set, Mr. which will yield effective Hazmat Abiona from service delivery in their Agege Local various local governments.

## LAWMA Inaugurates "KNOW YOUR PSP" Campaign For Effective Service Delivery

The Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) has launched the "Know Your PSP" campaign, an initiative aimed at improving communication and cooperation between residents and Private Sector Participation (PSP) operators, responsible for waste collection.

Commenting on the initiative, the Managing Director/CEO of LAWMA, Dr. Muiwa Gbadegesin said the campaign was aimed at improving waste management practices throughout the state, adding that the initiative would provide residents with detailed information about the specific PSP operators assigned to their areas, for contact

and for reporting issues or requesting additional services.

He said, the 'Know Your PSP' campaign is a crucial step in our ongoing effort at improving waste management in Lagos State. By equipping residents with the knowledge of who their PSP operators are and how to reach them, we are fostering a collaborative effort for a cleaner city. This initiative will not only enhance service delivery but also promote accountability and responsiveness among PSP operators.

Gbadegesin said LAWMA had established dedicated helplines and online platforms, where residents could easily access information about their designated PSP operators, report

issues, and provide feedbacks, adding that this would make it easier for residents to communicate with their waste services providers so that challenges were promptly addressed and services consistently delivered.

He noted further that investigation showed that some residents did not even know their PSP operators nor their contacts, making it impossible to interface with them, on any area of service provision.

"By providing residents with easy access to information and a direct line of communication with their PSP operators, we are making it easier for them to report issues and request services. This streamlined approach will help us address concerns more efficiently and ensure

that waste collection services meet the needs of all residents", he said.

The LAWMA boss appealed to the populace to desist from acts of indiscriminate waste dumping and patronage of the outlawed cart pushers, capable of worsening environmental challenges in the metropolis, especially flooding, as the rains set in.

He said for more information about LAWMA's initiatives and how to support efforts to maintain a clean environment, residents are urged to visit [www.lawma.gov.ng](http://www.lawma.gov.ng) or call our toll-free numbers: 080000LAWMA (08000052962), 07080601020 and 617.



# LASODA Strengthens Partnership With Mentally Aware Nigeria Initiative

... Seeks To Curb Mental Health Stigma

General Manager of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA), Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal, has welcomed a delegation from the Mentally Aware Nigeria Initiative (MANI) led by its Executive Director, Mr. Abiodun Oguntola during a courtesy visit to the Agency at Alausa, Ikeja.

Addressing the delegation, Oyetunde-Lawal reiterated the agency's unwavering commitment to prioritising the well-being of individuals with disabilities and expressed eagerness to collaborate with an organisation dedicated to combating mental health stigma in the state.

"We are eager to collaborate with your organisation and witness firsthand how your advocacy efforts in schools unfold. Addressing bullying, particularly among children with disabilities in our schools, is paramount. Therefore, your organisation's focus on raising awareness among them is commendable", she remarked.

Highlighting the agency's open-door policy, she emphasised its readiness to partner with relevant stakeholders while underscoring its dedication to inclusivity.

"I appreciate your insights and support in promoting awareness of mental health among people with disabilities. Your counselling services and advocacy initiatives will significantly contribute

to addressing this pressing issue", she added.

The Executive Director and leader of the visiting delegation, Mr. Abiodun Oguntola outlined the role of MANI as Nigeria's largest youth-run mental health organisation, offering counselling services and organising training programmes for schools, communities, and workplaces.

His words, "We are here today to pledge our support to LASODA in raising awareness about mental health within the disability community. Collaboration is key in addressing the diverse needs of persons with disabilities, and integrating mental health education is essential to advocating for their well-being".

He further emphasised MANI's strategy of early intervention in schools, aiming to educate students across all educational levels and engage their parents, teachers, and communities in fostering a supportive environment for mental health discussions.

According to him, the partnership between LASODA and MANI signifies a concerted effort to promote mental health awareness and combat stigma, ultimately creating an inclusive society where individuals feel empowered to seek help for their mental well-being without fear of discrimination.

As Nigeria's largest youth-run and youth-focused mental health organisation, MANI champions the fight against mental health-

related stigma and creates an environment that makes it possible for people to seek care for their mental health without fear of discrimination.



## LASHMA Urges Community Pharmacies To Improve Service Delivery Or Risk Sanction



Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), has urged the 322 Community Pharmacies under the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS), to improve their service delivery to ILERA EKO out-patients Enrollees or risk sanction.

The Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), Dr. Emmanuella Zamba, who disclosed this recently, added that the Agency has received complaints from Enrollees that some of the Community Pharmacies do not attend to ILERA EKO out-patients thereby making Enrollees move from one Community Pharmacy to the other to get their drugs.

Zamba said this has also prompted some of the out-patients Enrollees who could not afford to go to another Community Pharmacy under the Scheme, to pay out-of-pocket for their drugs.

She said, "LASHMA as an Agency, is

committed to the well-being and satisfaction of its Enrollees, therefore, the Agency would not fold its arms and allow this unwelcome development to continue unabated".

The Permanent Secretary reminded the Community Pharmacies that part of their responsibilities is to stock all the drugs on the LASHMA Drug list as the Agency prefers that Enrollees get their drugs from one Pharmacy thereby reducing the stress of going up and down.

Zamba also empathised with Enrollees who have had cause to go to more than one Community Pharmacies before getting their drugs, saying "LASHMA regrets any inconvenience caused by the new initiative, especially in this economic hardship where the cost of everything including drugs and transportation is expensive".

She said that the Agency is committed to

providing quality healthcare and ensuring customers' satisfaction, adding that LASHMA values the importance of both the Enrollees and Providers on the Scheme and would therefore not introduce any initiative which could have an untoward effect on their health and businesses.

The Permanent Secretary further said that the hospital is still the first point of call by the Enrollees for their consultation, laboratory investigations and medications.

She advised any Enrollee who will pick drugs from the Community Pharmacies to visit anyone nearest to their hospitals, homes or offices. She added that Enrollees are also at liberty not to visit any of the Community Pharmacies suggested by their hospitals but make their own choices.

The Permanent Secretary urged ILERA EKO Enrollees to bear with LASHMA as the Agency is working hard to ensure that all the teething problems associated with the new initiative are solved.

She equally appealed to Enrollees with complaints about the Community Pharmacies, not to hesitate to call the Agency through its 24/7 customer Service Number 0800-ASKLASHMA (0800-275527462) or send WhatsApp messages via 07045358275 or 07046160051.

The Permanent Secretary noted that before the inclusion of the Community Pharmacies under the Lagos State Health Scheme, the Agency held several

engagements with the Providers and the Community Pharmacies to familiarise them with the new roles and responsibilities.

While commending Providers and Community Pharmacies which have been alive to responsibilities and dispense drugs to Enrollees appropriately, Zamba said that the Agency in its usual practice, will continue to celebrate Providers that are diligent to their duties, provide effective service delivery, comply with the LSHS Law and committed to the realisation of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) policy of the Lagos State Government.

The Permanent Secretary said that the Agency is aware of the economic problems in the country which are affecting the Providers. This, she said, prompted LASHMA to commence the process of reviewing its tariffs.

She added that the Agency would roll out a new tariff for the Providers in quarter three of Year 2024 and this will boost their businesses.

Meanwhile, the Permanent Secretary has directed the Regulatory arm of LASHMA to commence compliance visits to Community Pharmacies to ensure compliance with the laid down procedures and any erring Community Pharmacy found contravening the rule, would be appropriately sanctioned.



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# Plateau, Jigawa Understudy Lagos State Office of Public Defender

Delegations from Plateau and Jigawa States' Ministries of Justice on Friday visited the Lagos State Office of the Public Defender to understudy the workings and processes of the Agency at its Surulere Head Office.

Welcoming the delegations to the Agency, the Director, Office of the Public Defender (OPD) Mrs. Olubunmi Adesomoju informed them about the historical background of the office, stressing that the Agency started as a Unit under a Department in the Lagos State Ministry of Justice on 24th of July 2000 as Citizen's Rights before becoming autonomous with the enactment of the OPD Law.

She revealed that the



office was established by the Lagos State Government to render free, quality legal services in criminal and civil cases to the indigents and vulnerable residents of the State with emphasis on issues threatening the socio-economic rights of the poor as well as other vulnerable groups such as children, women, the physically challenged, pensioners

and widows.

Adesomoju said the main components of the Office include the Criminal Defence of the High Courts & Magistrate Courts Units, Family and Child Justice Unit, Civil and Small Claims Court Unit, Social and Welfare Unit and Public Affairs Unit among others.

The Director disclosed that the

Office has resident Counsel in all the High Courts and all Magistrate Courts in the State that provides legal representation. She added that the Agency also has some functional committees like the Rescue Mission committee, Advocacy/Campaign committee, Project committee and Correctional Centre Visit committee to enhance service delivery.

In his remarks, the Hon.

Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice Plateau State, Barrister Philemon Audu Daffi disclosed that both delegations were in Lagos State to get practical solutions that would make access to justice a reality for their people, adding that they wanted practical steps that can be implemented immediately.

He also mentioned that both states are on the verge of establishing the Office of the Public Defender in their respective States.

Speaking in the same vein, the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice in Jigawa State, Barrister Bello Abdulkadir Fanni stated that they discovered that there is a gap to be filled in their States,

especially in the area of case management which is a major part of the reason for their visit.

The Commissioners therefore thanked the Lagos State Government on behalf of the Governments and people of Plateau and Jigawa States for the warm welcome and kind gesture accorded to them by the State Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Public Defender, particularly by providing them with relevant information and materials that would assist them in accomplishing their mandates of rendering prompt access to justice to their people.

They also appreciate the OPD for the insights and guidance on how effective and impactful access to justice is being implemented in Lagos State.

The Administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has paid over N63 Billion as pension benefits to 19,814 retirees of the State in the last five years.

The Commissioner for Establishments and Training, Mr. Afolabi Ayantayo revealed this, adding that the retirees paid were from the Mainstream, Local Government and other parastatals of the state government.

Ayantayo also disclosed that the State Government has implemented a pension review under the Defined Benefit Scheme in January, 2024 with the approval of over N109 Billion for the adjustment by the Governor following the directive of the Federal Government. The review, according to him, involved applying various percentage increases based on individual pension amounts.

While noting that the State Government prioritises improving the lives of retirees and

## Lagos Pays Over N63bn As Benefits To Pensioners In Last Five Years ... Trains over 60,000 Staff Yearly



continues to maintain its leading role in the administration of the scheme and payment of pension obligations, the Commissioner said Governor Sanwo-Olu has made significant progress by tackling backlogs of outstanding pension benefits and trying to implement a Pay-As-You-Go model for

future retirees.

He averred that the Administration has also paid over N16 Billion to retirees from February 2023 to April, 2024 in line with the promise made by the Governor to systematically eliminate the backlog of outstanding pensions.

In his words, "The Lagos State

government had taken various initiatives to enhance the welfare of its retirees by ensuring that the processing and payment of retirees' benefits are promptly processed by Pension Fund Administrators (PFAs), introducing Complaint Forms for retirees against PFAs, redesigning modalities of the Inspection Report to include the use of

parameters to rate the performances of PFAs and Annuity Service Providers".

"Other measures include the proposition to Annuity Service Providers to create an emergency/best friend phone number and Annuitant forum for retirees in Lagos State as well as the creation of WhatsApp group for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to facilitate effective follow-up and ensure strict compliance with the prompt payment of retirement benefits".

Similarly, the Commissioner disclosed that the introduction of Learning Management System in year 2020 made it possible for the State Government to train over 60,000 officers in a year. He explained that the initiative significantly increased the number of Officers trained and addressed the growing demands and challenges facing the State Public Service.

Ayantayo stated that the accelerated capacity building embarked upon by the State Government resulted in significant increase in the number of officers trained and retrained during the period under review, adding that the State government has continued to demonstrate its commitment to building a skilled and knowledgeable workforce capable of driving positive change and delivering effective services to the citizenry.

As part of efforts to building internal capacity, he revealed that 120

Officers were sponsored to various professional conferences to improve their knowledge while 3,087 Officers were given approval to further their studies and acquire advanced qualifications relevant to their jobs.



# Lagos Govt Set To Unveil Agric, Food Systems Roadmap 2.0 Others

**T**he Lagos State Government is set to unveil a Lagos Agriculture and Food Systems' Roadmap 2.0, a Feedback Mechanism as regards food security, a Progress Report on its Goals and KPIs, and a Platform for support of the ecosystem.

The State Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms Abisola Olusanya announced this during the Agrinnovation Club Hangout 3.0 held at the MAD House, University of Lagos in Akoka, Lagos.

She explained that the summit will provide a platform for the Stakeholders in the Agrinnovation Club to speak directly to the leadership of the state and the nation at large on the challenges confronting them for swift response and this will further encourage new entrants into the sector towards boosting food production in Lagos.

According to her, the ultimate goal of the summit is on how to ensure food security that will in the long run force down the prices of food.

Ms. Abisola Olusanya said the Agrinnovation Club is for like-minded individuals in the ecosystem of Agriculture engaging in stuff like logistics, fintech, packaging and branding to showcase the success of the young innovative people of the state.

The Commissioner noted that the essence of the forum was to

create the ecosystem for the growth of Agrinnovation Club and for collaboration processes which could include opportunities for international exposure where necessary.

She expressed the hope that more young people with a bias toward Agriculture who are trustworthy and intelligent will come into the Agrinnovation Club space to drive the vision.

On his part, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Agriculture, Dr. Oluwarotimi Fashola charged members of the Club to think more outside the box as there are untapped opportunities within the State's Food System.

He implored them to be sensitive to the environment and be cautious in going into collaboration with other businesses.

One of the facilitators at the Agrinnovation Club 3.0, Mr. Olagoke Balogun, Chief Executive Officer of So Fresh, who spoke on Business Models and Cost Structure as it pertains to Agric Business, said it goes beyond farming, innovation, technology and whole value chains from the production to final consumers.

He emphasised the need for participants to be innovative to deliver value to their target markets while encouraging farmers to increase production to leverage economies of scale with the limited resources available to them.

## ... Holds Agrinnovation Club Hangout 3.0



Another facilitator, Mrs. Ifeoluwa Ariyo, the Chief Executive Officer of ForthWorth Farms, took the session on Insights on Collaboration for Growth. She said that collaboration was key

to learning new things to promote the growth of every business, adding it could also help to grow the customer base and effectively reduce cost.

In his closing remarks, the Permanent Secretary in

the Ministry, Emmanuel Fatai Audu described the platform as excellent and applauded the two facilitators for their thought-provoking submissions.

He reiterated the need

for Agrinnovation Club members to be patient with growing their businesses and expressed the hope that Agriculture would soon become the mainstay of the economy in Lagos State.

## ALIMOSHO

# Lawmaker Set To Train And Empower Alimosho Youths On ICT

Kehinde Adeleye

**T**he Alimosho Federal Constituency's representative in the House of Representatives, Mr. Ganiyu Adele Ayuba plans to provide information and communication technology (ICT) and mobile phone repair training to the young in his district. Youths with at least a primary school

education from all six (6) Local Government and Council Development Areas will receive training and empowerment in ICT/mobile phone repairs as part of his empowerment plan on information and communication technology.

After this training, participants—regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or political

affiliation—will be carefully chosen from the grassroots ordinary men and encouraged to launch their own businesses, work as authorised full-time technicians, and earn a living on their own.

The Legislator is committed to continuing to deliver effective representation to his constituents in all walks of life with the limited available

resources for the people of Alimosho Federal Constituency, which encompasses Alimosho Local Government Area, the largest in Nigeria in terms of population.

Applicants are expected to visit <https://ln.run/MDn1W> to register online.

The online registration begins on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, and closes on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.



# N122m Theft Case: Mother, Son Get 100m Bail

By Felix Kuyinu

A woman alongside her son have been arraigned and granted bail over an alleged theft of property valued at N122m.

Both suspects, Lola Disu and the son, Ahmed Disu were brought before the Federal High Court in Lagos, on Wednesday.

Sequel to the defendants' counsel, Solomon Ojo, moving for a bail application for his clients dated May 17, 2024, the Presiding Judge, Justice Abimbola Awogboro, remanded the suspects in Kirikiri prison pending the hearing of their bail application.

The prosecution opposed the bail application, however, Justice Awogboro granted it in the sum of N50m each with two sureties each in like sum.

The judge stated that one of the sureties must be a



director in the Federal Civil Service, while the other must be a landed property owner in Lagos, and must deposit the property's original title with the court.

He also ordered that the defendants and their sureties must deposit their passports with the court.

The judge adjourned the commencement of the trial to June 7, 2024.

Before the granting of the

bail, the police had arraigned the litigants for allegedly the property belonging to a company, Uccas Resources Limited on

June 2021.

The suspects, on 14 counts, were accused of committing the crime at No 16 Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, Mangoro Bus Stop, Ikeja, Lagos,

The charges also include allegations of forging a court order with the inscription "possession taken by court order on June 25, 2021," intended to be used against Uccas Resources Ltd and its Managing Director, Ukata Christian.

The police stated that the stolen items from the company's office included computers, office chairs and tables, air conditioners, printers, scanners, copiers,

industrial water filters, heaps of undistributed copies of Cargo News publication, confidential documents, midgets, internet routers, a 2.9kva generator, and fans.

The suspects were also accused of making their way to the reception office of the company to steal reception tables with drawers valued at N650,000, reception chairs valued at N71,000, Computer, monitor and printer; all HP Pavilion Tower Computers) (10th generation Intel Core i7, 1.8GHz); dual storage drive 256GB valued N861,000, HP 5 in 1 printer, scanner and copier valued

N73,000, Intercom receiver valued N5,000 (f) office main line 012916425 (with handset) valued N45,000.00 (g) visitors memo booklet valued N700.00, total value of properties amount to N1,705,700.00, property.

The duo pleaded not guilty.

The offences are punishable under Sections 390 (8)(c) & (9) of the Criminal Code, Cap. C38, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended).

## Teenager Awaits Court Judgement For Stealing Iron Rods

By Felix Kuyinu

On the Omotolani Odubanjo has pleaded guilty to stealing iron rods in Ikorodu Lagos. The 19-year-old was arraigned before the Magistrates' Court in Ikorodu.

The prosecutor, Inspector Adegeshin Famuyiwa, said that the defendant who is on a count charge of stealing committed the offence on March 14 about 5:25 pm on Olakunle Street, Thomas area in

Ikorodu.

Famuyiwa said that Odubanjo stole the item valued at 1.63 million from one Omowunmi Idowu. He said that the offence contravened Section 287 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

The Magistrate, Adediji Ogbe, granted the defendant bail in the sum of 100,000 with a surety in like sum. He adjourned the case until June 6 for review of the facts and sentencing.

## Man On Trial For Stealing Church Televisions Sets

By Felix Kuyinu

A man identified as Victor Orlando has been arraigned before the Magistrates' Court in Ejigbo Lagos for allegedly stealing two television sets from a church.

The accused was arraigned before Magistrate Kofoworola Ariyo who ordered his remand at the correctional centre.

Orlando, 22, was accused of making his way to Shining Light Church located at 5, Okunogbe Street, Egbe, Ikotun, stole the items: a 50-inch plasma TV valued at N600,000 and a 45-inch Smart Television

set worth N220,00. The Prosecutor, ASP Benedict Aigbokhan, informed the court that the defendant committed the offense on May 13 at 4:00 a.m.

Aigbokhan said that security guards caught the defendant in the act and turned him over to the police. He stated that the offense violated Section 287 of Lagos State's Criminal Law, 2015.

Magistrate Ariyo stated that the case needed a review of facts for judgment. She adjourned the case till June 11.





# Portable Expecting Second Child with Actress Ashabi Simple

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian singer Portable and his fourth baby mama, actress Ashabi Simple, are reportedly expecting their second child together. This news was shared by controversial Instagram blogger Gistlover, who posted a video of the actress walking on the street, appearing to sport a small pregnancy bump. Gistlover captioned the video, "Hello tueh tueh, Portable and his 4th Baby Mama, Actress Ashabi Simple expecting their second



baby amidst all their numerous GBAs Gbos, baby number 2 on the way ooo, igi ewedu oni wo pawa ooo, I come in peace." The video sparked a variety of reactions from netizens. One user, meaningful.pisces, commented, "Second

child and not even a bicycle, why is gender this da!ft? You preggo for a second time and this dude places no value on you, just look at how's she's dressed n jumping bike... Ashabi you can do better naw" Another user, spiffybeautyworld, expressed skepticism, stating, "She Dey vacation nah... I don't think she is pregnant... wo make she born one place jare... no be good thing make pikin Dey bear different surname... and lastly don't forget she is an actress, she might be on set." Commenter i\_am\_skenty criticized the video, saying, "This is wrong Don't video someone without their consent Almost show us her private part too Like Nigerian, learn how to mind your business!!!!!!" Lastly, I.tobiloba took a jab at the actress's appearance, writing, "See her wig like Bianca wooden sponge. Portable elepon trenches." As of now, neither Portable nor Ashabi Simple has confirmed the pregnancy rumors.

# Davido Faces Backlash After Fans Suffer Losses from Meme Coin

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Superstar Afrobeat singer Davido Adeleke is facing severe backlash after fans reported significant losses just 24 hours after investing in his \$DAVIDO meme cryptocurrency. The coin, which operates on Solana's blockchain platform, was recently launched by the singer and garnered substantial attention and investment from fans. Reports indicate that following the initial buzz and heavy investment, Davido cashed out his profits, causing the coin's value to plummet. One fan shared a snapshot showing that their \$150 investment had dropped to just \$20, an 86.67% loss. Angry fans have taken to

the X platform (formerly Twitter) to accuse Davido of fraud. User aideinfluence shared their experience, saying, "I missed out on the first space. Came online, the PR was good and I thought he had created magic, so I bought the top. 30BG suppose fit run 30M nau. I waited until the midnight space, it was then I knew the mistake I made. The moment he spoke on that space, everyone started selling. I cried." Olamide Official commented, "Take from the poor to feed the poor. Davido's math" Thesheddyking added, "Person say Davido don move from 003 to 419." Yobrxzy noted, "Davido as a musician grossed \$192k. Davido

as an influencer made \$473k. Wizkid was right at the end of the day." UnkleAyo highlighted potential legal issues, stating, "I hope Davido knows that he can go to jail for coordinated scams. SEC currently has filed charges against Jake Paul, Soulja Boy, Lil Yachty, and Lindsay Lohan. He's also not a 'first offender'. He's not poor. I don't know why he's moving like a fool and a fraudster." Faruq Bashar commented, "Davido did the same thing a lot of big crypto influencers did here to get rich: gas up a project, then dump on the community. The game is the game, eat or get eaten." As of now, Davido has not responded to the accusations.





# Reality Star Doyin David Advises Women Over Billing Men Until Marriage

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Reality sensation Doyin David has sparked discussions with her recent advice to women, urging them to wait until marriage before expecting men to cover all their expenses. She emphasized that any financial support a man provides during a relationship should be seen as an act of generosity, not an obligation. Doyin's remarks came in response to a female fan who sought her advice after being rejected by

her boyfriend for calling him "stingy." The fan's boyfriend had refused to give her money, prompting her to seek guidance from Doyin. In a screenshot shared on her Instagram story, Doyin wrote, "I don't think he's stingy because he doesn't randomly give you money. If you have a man that gives to you when you ask, then you're lucky to have a responsible man, but he doesn't owe you random money just because you are his girlfriend. Until a man has married

you, he is not obligated to be responsible for you. Whatever he does is out of the generosity of his heart, but you should never feel entitled to his money." She continued, "Don't let the internet deceive you. It's nice to have a man who is intentional with his generosity, but it's not your birthright. There is nothing genetically programmed in a man that makes it easier for him to make money than a woman. It's not easy to make money, so no one wants to keep spending 'randomly'. If you need random money, please get a job."



# Benson Inaugurates Market In Imota

By Mohammed Adekola

Member, House of Representatives, representing Ikorodu Federal Constituency, Rep. Babajimi Benson commissioned a new market facilitated to Igbalu in Imota Local Council Development Area, LCDA, Imota in partnership with Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority (NEPZA). The new market which consists of 40 key clamp stalls with solar street light was commissioned by representatives of Rep. Babajimi Benson led by Engr. Mutiu Shobowale, Princess Abisoye Oredoyin, NEPZA representative, Architect Oladimeji Oyegoke, community stakeholders, among others.

Engr. Shobowale said the market has been facilitated by honourable Babajimi Benson to not only contribute to the

economic growth of the locality, but play a pivotal role in enhancing food security and help prevent the undesired effects of

suburbanization. Engr. Shobowale said the market will serve as a centralized hub for buying and selling local produce as well as empower farmers to

ensure steady supply of fresh, nutritious foods for the community. Representative of NEPZA, Architect Oladimeji enjoined the market men and

women to make good use of the market for the economic and socio-economic development of the community. He expressed

satisfaction at the work done on the market, while urging the stakeholders to ensure clean and hygienic market environment in the community.





# Obasa Buries Father In Grand Style

Kehinde Adeleye

Governors, National and state Assembly leaders and members as well as top politicians were among the dignitaries that gathered in Agege, Lagos on Tuesday for the eighth day Fidau prayer of Alhaji Sulaiman Atanda Obasa, father of Lagos State House of Assembly Speaker, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Ajayi Obasa.

Those who attended the prayer session included Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State, his Delta State counterpart, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborevwori, Governor Dapo Abiodun of Ogun State, the Deputy Governor of Lagos, Dr. Obafemi Hamzat, and his Ogun counterpart, Noimot Salako-Oyedele.

Other dignitaries at the event included Speakers of Oyo,



Osun and Delta states Houses of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Adebo Ogundoyin, Prince Adewale Egbedun, and Emomotimi Guwor respectively; the Lagos State Chief Judge, Hon. Justice Kazeem Alogba, members of the Lagos State cabinet, the Governance Advisory Council (GAC), religious leaders among others.

Speaking at the event, the guests praised the exemplariness of the

Speaker's father urging the children and grandchildren of the deceased to emulate the worthy life of the late Atanda Obasa.

Governor Sanwo-Olu prayed that God would give Speaker Obasa the strength and enablement to galvanise his siblings and further unite the family.

Sanwo-Olu said: "The gathering here shows that the Speaker has built bridges across the

Niger and all around the country.

"I greet all those that have come to identify with the Obasa family and I thank you very much, our party faithful.

"Mudashiru Obasa is one of our best and I thank all that have come to honour him. We are thanking God for being with him and sustaining his family to give their father a befitting burial."

On his part, Governor Abiodun said the Speaker's late father "lived a life of giving.

"Three or four years after this event, nobody will know what happened here. What people will remember is the legacy that Baba left behind."

Abiodun tasked public office holders to follow the path of honour and service to humanity at all times.

Governor Oborevwori described the demise of the Speaker's father as shocking adding that despite differences in party affiliations, he remains close to Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa.

"I could remember when Obasa told me that even though I belong to another party, his boss was contesting as President," Oborevwori said calling the Speaker a loyal political leader.

Speaker Ogundoyin, who doubles as chairman of the Conference of Speakers, appreciated

Dr. Mudashiru Obasa for setting the standard upon which the association now thrives.

"All the Speakers in the country commiserate with you. God will be with you and your family, support you, comfort you and show you directions. We at the conference of Speakers will always be there and make sure that your legacies continue," he said.

A grandchild of the deceased, Abdul-Ganiyu Obasa, announced that the grandchildren will embark on water projects across locations in the State in honour of their grandfather.

Thanking the guests, Speaker Obasa recalled how his father constantly guided him and his siblings throughout his lifetime.

"My father lived his life well and he was in charge of his home," he said.

## IKEJA

# Segun Odumbaku Unveils ICT Training Program For Ojodu Youths

Kehinde Adeleye



The creative administration of Mr. Segun Odunmbaku has

proudly presented an intense training plan aimed at providing cutting edge digital

and technological competence to the energetic youth of Ojodu LCDA.

Echonews reports that Forty (40) young people will be equipped with specialised skills in UI/UX design, Data Science, and Digital Marketing via this life-changing initiative.

The administration's steadfast dedication to the HEYS Mission—a comprehensive strategy focused on enhancing Health, Education, Youth, and Women's Empowerment within the Council—is demonstrated by this

three-month empowering initiative.

Mr. Odunmbaku's leadership is creating the conditions for a future in which these gifted people will be able to use their newly acquired skills to promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development by funding the youth's digital upskilling.

The following generation of tech-savvy trailblazers will receive the skills and resources needed to

succeed in the quickly changing digital landscape through this extensive training curriculum.

From learning the nuances of experience design and user interface to exploring the potential of data analytics and digital marketing, these youthful scholars will become highly-sought-after experts, equipped to have a substantial impact on the development and well-being of our neighbourhood and beyond. Oluwale Ogba, the newly equipped ICT Hub, is the location of the training.



# Muibi Makes Accessible Road Network Top Priority



Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Mr Muibi Folawiyo has emphasized that having accessible road network in the community is his top priority.

The council chairman has embarked on numerous rehabilitation of roads in recent weeks as he sights good road network to ease vehicular movements. Muibi said the Igboere/Hawley Street reconstruction is long overdue due to the impact of economic activities on the road. He however revealed that the Macaulay street

have been completed and will be commissioned for use.

"In the coming weeks, many roads within LIELCDA will be re-surfaced, reconstructed and interlocked with street lights. The need to make all roads in the LCDA accessible is a priority to this administration.

"My LIELCDA administration will embark on the rehabilitation of dilapidated Igboere/Hawley Street with a good drainage, street lights with interlocking paving stones.

"This is one of the many road projects to be reconstructed and rehabilitated within our LIELCDA.

"Igboere/Hawley Street has been in a deplorable state and my LIELCDA administration determined on its comprehensive reconstruction.

"The road rehabilitation which starts immediately after the Macaulay Street was rehabilitated and to be commissioned in the next few months as work will be none stop."

The chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Mr Muibi Folawiyo has assured the residents of the ongoing projects in the community of timely completion.

The Tokunboh street and Freeman street junction is undergoing a facelift which will include drainage system, the use of interlocking blocks and upon completion, street lights will be installed to further strengthen the security the environment.

The council boss, Muibi said he's satisfied with the work done by the contractor and promised to meet the needs of the electorates, so as to feel the impact of governance.

He pleaded for the cooperation of the residents while assuring that the road will be completed in due time.

## Road Project: Muibi Assures Of Timely Completion

By Saheed Afolabi

"I am satisfied with the level of work done so far and can assure the community of a good service delivery from the contractor.

"I am highly convinced that the most suitable development in my own capacity as a local government chairman is to start at the grassroots level.

"As a responsible government, it is my duty to meet the needs and aspirations of all the electorates to enable them enjoy the dividends of democracy and also feel the impact of good governance within their various areas and also get the best of this

administration.

"Since inception of this administration, i have executed several legacy projects that will stand the test of time in various communities of the Council.

"I now focused more on roads construction and rehabilitation in addition to other achievements in health, social services, market infrastructures and educational development, among others.

"It is my hope therefore, that the contractor will deliver the road project to the people as expected, counting on his

readiness to abide by the rules of engagement in ensuring best project delivery within the expected timeframe.

"Let me use this opportunity to remind the contractor that the supervision of this project is going to be impromptu. Just get ready because you may see me at site at any time.

"I hereby call on all critical stakeholders and residents of this area, who are the direct beneficiaries of this projects, to compliment government efforts by giving maximum support to the contractor so that he can deliver the job in record time."





# Kuye, Raji, Others Pay Tribute to Late Anomo's Wife

By Mohammed Adekola



stated. Hon. Ademorin Kuye, representing the Shomolu federal constituency, praised her resilience and support for her husband's political career. "You can have a wife, but to have an understanding, supportive, and submissive wife is rare. I thank God that you reciprocated the love when she was sick," he remarked.

Mr. Rasaq Ajala, Chairman Conference 57, described Mrs. Akanke as a prayer warrior who initiated many social intervention programs aimed at making meaningful impacts on children's lives. "She was a supportive wife who ensured her husband's victory," he noted. Hon. Olusegun Olulade, visibly emotional, spoke of her as an epitome of love, compassion,

humility, and joviality. He recalled their last conversation a month earlier, emphasizing her role not just as a wife but as a mother to her husband. Her children, Aishat and Muiz, echoed the sentiments of others, praising their mother. Aishat remembered her infectious laughter, while Muiz highlighted her boundless selflessness.

## Olowa Presents Bursary To 270 Students

By Mohammed Adekola

Chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, and other notable dignitaries, delivered a heartfelt tribute to his late wife, Mrs. Akanke Sijuade Anomo, during a solemn fidau ceremony held in her honour. With a heavy heart, Akogun Anomo spoke of his beloved wife, describing her as his best friend, confidant, and the heartbeat of their family. "My heart is heavy with sorrow, yet filled with gratitude for the life of my beloved wife, Ruqayah Sijuade Akanke. Sijuade made me a better man, husband, father, and leader," he shared. Anomo highlighted her unwavering support and transformative love, which ensured their home ran

smoothly despite the demands of his office. "Your incredible strength and dedication were evidence both in our home and in your role as Chairperson of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA. Just as you were the best wife to me and the best mum to our children, you were also the best Chairperson Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA had ever seen," he said. Mrs. Anomo initiated numerous impactful programs, including the Ikosi-Ejinrin Annual Christmas/New Year Kiddies Funfair, the Widows Support Scheme, and the annual Empowerment programs for women. Her support and commitment were instrumental in achievements such as Sofiat Mohammed's victory in the Lagos State Spelling Bee (Primary School

category), a first for Ikosi-Ejinrin. Anomo found solace in the belief that she was embraced by Allah's mercy and that they would be reunited in Jannah. "For me, there can never be another Sijuade, and if given a second chance, I would choose you over and over again. Your love, kindness, and strength were unparalleled. Rest in peace, my dear wife. May Allah grant you Al-Jannah Firdaus. Ameen." The tribute saw dignitaries paying their respects. Rep. Wale Raji emphasized the importance of sustaining her legacy, especially the Christmas Kiddies Funfair. "She was a lady of style, passion, and character. It's unfortunate that we lost her at this critical moment. All we can do is sustain her legacy," he

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Chairman Egnr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa presents cheques to beneficiaries of the Year 2024 Students' Bursary Award. Speaking at the occasion, Olowa listed the achievements of his administration in the education sector which includes monthly payment of 50,000 imprest to teachers in all the primary schools in the Council Area, perimeter fencing, collaboration between the Pan Atlantic University to train students in secondary school in science oriented courses and Arts, scholarships to students in various secondary schools and much more. The Council Chairman acknowledged that, owing to the present economic realities, the bursary award was

increased from 40,000, which it was before to 50,000. He charged them to be good ambassadors and to strive to be the best in life. Hon. Olowa used the moment to also mentor the beneficiaries to prepare for the future by acquiring tech skills and charged them to be highly skilled as it will compliment their degrees to prepare them ahead of future challenges. The Supervisor for Education, Mr. Temitope Sofwan Ogungbo thanked

the Council Chairman for his consistent support in the education support while also charging the students to ensure that they face their studies squarely. The beneficiaries who were drawn from all parts of Ibeju Lekki Local Government thanked the Council Boss and assured him that they would make the Council proud in their academic pursuits.





# Group Commends Bamgboye for Complimenting Sanwo-Olu's Efforts

The Jide Sanwoolu Youth Movement (JISYM) is a youth organisation that participated in various campaigns and activities to support and advocate for Governor Babajide Sanwoolu's election and re-election.

JISYM has also taken on the responsibility of highlighting the accomplishments of the Sanwoolu-led government, ranging from the state's THEMES Agenda's successful implementation to the impressive

advancements made by our Conference 57 Chairmen.

In order to complete the task, Mr. Agbaje Tosin, the State Coordinator of JISYM, and his team called a monthly meeting of state stakeholders, which included representatives from all local governments and LCDAs. The purpose of the meeting was to gather firsthand information on grassroots development projects and programmes and to provide sufficient publicity for them.

JISYM State Stakeholders were welcomed to Mushin Local Government at the beginning of the week, by Council Representative and JISYM Coordinator, Mr. Ayobami Salaam. To express their sympathies to the Council Mayor and the locals, they went to the scene of the collapsed mosque on Yusuf Street in Papa Ajao. They also went to the Igbo Owu Housing Project, the Aiyetoro Primary School Project, the Primary Health

Centre Project in Idiaraba, the Oliyide Annex Office and the Omodigbo Road Project.

The Team were also shown a Pictorial catalogue of Road projects that are completed, road projects that were still under construction and the Class rooms been renovated or built from the scratch. The list had Oliyide Annex office construction, Igbo Owu Housing Project Development, Ladipo road Construction, Omodigbo Street Construction, Balogun Street Construction,

Olaseinde Street, Smith Street, Igbojuwon Street, Okuribido Street, Amodu Street, Ebenezer Street, Ijaiye Street, Idi Araba PHC, NAFCR Primary school Block of Classrooms Construction, Aiyetoro Primary School project and Others.

The Emmanuel Bamgboye Led Administration of Mushin Local Government was not just about building infrastructure, he was convinced Mushin is a rated high for his various Educational Support projects, Social and Community Support Services, well".

Woman Empowerments and Poverty Alleviation Programmes, Health and Medical Services, Drainage and Environmental Projects, Human Capital Development and Staff Welfare, and most importantly Skill Acquisition for Youths Empowerments and development.

JISYM State excos were pleased with what they met in Mushin Local Government and was positive indicator that Governor Babajide Sanwoolu Administration is "doing well".

## NEWS

# UNILAG, Daysprings School, Others Win at Ecobank Chess Championship

Kehinde Adeleye

University of Lagos (UNILAG), DaySpring School, Lagos and Marvelvine Montessori School, also in Lagos, have emerged winners in the tertiary, secondary and primary schools' categories of the 2024 Ecobank National Schools' Team Chess Competition at the Pan African Centre in Lagos over the weekend.

The Chess Competition which has been described as the largest gathering of chess players in Africa attracted over 1200 players from over 250 schools across 18 states in Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Vice President, Nigeria Chess Federation (NCF), Prince Adeyinka Adewole, expressed excitement that the Championship which was introduced last year when the International Chess Federation (ICF) started the World Schools Team Chess Championship has grown in leap and bounds. He noted that

the 2024 edition attracted over 1200 participants, describing NCF's partnership with Ecobank as a shining example of the public-private partnership needed for the advancement of sports in Nigeria.

"118 primary schools, 86 secondary schools, and 42 tertiary institutions participated and jostled for prizes of over N15 million at the three-day tournament which took place between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th at the Ecobank Pan African Centre (EPAC) in Victoria Lagos.

At the end of the highly competitive tournament, University of Lagos came tops in the tertiary school category and was followed by University of Benin and Chess in Slums Africa (CISA) while DaySpring School, Platforms School, Ireti Senior Grammar School came first, second and third respectively in the secondary school category.



For the Primary school category, Marvelvine Montessori School came first while Scholars Academy, Ibadan was second best and followed by Okikioluwa Junior in the third position". He stated.

Further, he said, "When we introduced this Championship last year, only 15 schools participated but today we have over 250

schools. This is a remarkable accomplishment for us in the Nigeria Chess Federation, and we wouldn't have been able to achieve this without the unwavering support of Ecobank.

We're deeply grateful for Ecobank's generous support and unwavering commitment to empowering young minds and fostering intellectual growth.

Your sponsorship has made this event possible, and your dedication to the development of chess among Nigerian youth is truly commendable."

He reiterated the Federation's delight in providing a platform for young participants to hone their skill and become world champion, stating that the championship is a celebration of strategic thinking, the relentless pursuit of excellence, and the future of Nigerian chess.

Managing Director/Regional Executive, Ecobank Nigeria, Bolaji Lawal, said the decision of the bank to sponsor the Chess competition was to further showcase Ecobank's commitment to supporting intellectual and sports development in Nigeria, being part of Ecobank's strategic human capital development drive.

"The winners here today are 'rising stars. And I must say this is in line with our objective of supporting children and youths as the next-generation of changemakers. This sponsorship aligns with our overall long-term vision of building a world class Pan African bank that contributes to the

economic and financial integration of the continent.





We are also using the opportunity of this competition to introduce and empower them with convenient, affordable, and accessible digital financial services they can access anytime and anywhere they are. Arrangements are in place to make our partnership an annual event, as it is exciting and fulfilling for both the children and undergraduate students". He stated.

In his comment the Minister of Sports Senator John Owan Enoh, represented by the Director, Federal Ministry of Sports Liaison Office in Lagos, Ms Ikana Mboru, said the ministry is proud of the NCF. He commended the students for their resilience and determination to win as "this represents the Nigerian can do spirit".

It would be recalled that Platform Schools, Ikeja, Lagos emerged as the national champion at the first National Schools Team Chess Championship held last year earning the honor to represent Nigeria at the World



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# Apatira Provides Relief To People Living With Disabilities

By Saheed Afolabi

Ikate LCDA chairman, Dr Ahmed Apatira has provided succour to People Living With Disabilities (PLWD) by aiding them with food palliatives in enduring the high prices of goods and services in the country. Apatira also extended the goodwill to the members of our the National Youth Council of Nigeria, the elderly

and petty traders. This gesture is part of the council's efforts to support and empower these groups, who are often marginalized and in need of assistance. The food support palliatives are aimed at providing relief and alleviating the financial burden of these individuals. Apatira's administration has been committed to

improving the welfare of all members of the community, regardless of their status. The beneficiaries expressed gratitude to the council chairman and his team for their kindness and support. They praised the council's efforts to recognize and address their needs, and look forward to continued support in the future.



## Apatira Warns Students To Shun Social Vices

By Saheed Afolabi

Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA) Chairman Johnson Sunday Babatunde has once again demonstrated his commitment to effective governance by announcing a plan to distribute 50 million naira among 500 residents of Orile-Agege. This cash palliative initiative aims to alleviate the financial burdens experienced by community members and is the latest example of Babatunde's dedication to positively impacting the local community.

Over the past few months, more than 1,000 residents have received 100,000 naira each through this philanthropic program. To ensure fairness, beneficiaries have been selected from all 53 Community Development Associations (CDAs) within the LCDA and include members of various community groups such as Ward Members, artisans, youths, League of Imams, Christian Association of Nigeria members, school teachers, Baales, and other residents. Babatunde explained that this initiative was

inspired by his personal experience of starting a successful block industry business with a small amount of money in the 1990s, which eventually became his family's primary source of income. He believes that even a small amount of financial support can lead to significant positive changes in people's lives. The Chairman also mentioned that another round of financial support is planned for the coming months, with the aim of reaching even more community members in need.

### ASSEMBLY

Inside the Lagos House of Assembly

## Corner - KNOW YOUR LAWMAKER

Focus - Hon. Desmond Elliott (Member representing Surulere Constituency 01)

By Felix Kuyinu

**H**onourable Desmond Elliott is a lawmaker at the existing 10th Legislative Assembly of Lagos State. He was born in Lagos on 4th, February 1974 into the family Mr and Mrs Elliott. He hails from the Olowogbowo family of Lagos Island. He is married to Victoria Elliot and practices Christianity.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Hon. Elliott had his Primary School education as a student of Air Force Primary School in Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria. He progressed for his Secondary School Education and attended St John's College, also in Jos. Later on, he studied Economics at Lagos State University and graduated in 2003.

Before journeying into politics, Elliott became a huge figure in the Nigeria Movie industry. Prior to reaching stardom, he started out by featuring in soap operas such as Everyday People, One Too Much, Super Story, and Saints and Sinners. Then

gradually he started getting movie roles.

He has featured in over 200 movies and a number of soap operas and television series. His exploits paved way for numerous won awards which include: Africa Movie Academy Awards (AMAA) Prize for Best actor in a Supporting Role in 2006; Africa Movie Academy Awards (AMAA) for Best Actor in a Supporting Role in 2013; Best Supporting Actor in a Drama at the Africa Magic Viewer's Choice Award in 2014; and Renaissance award at the Afroglobal Award in year 2018.

### POLITICAL CAREER

Elliot declared his intentions to contest for the post of a lawmaker at the Lagos Assembly as a flagbearer of the All Progressive Congress, APC. He contested and won as an aspirant for Surulere Constituency 01 in the 11 April 2015 Nigerian General Elections. Since then, he has been voted in at the following 9th Assembly spanning back from 2015 to 2019. He again claimed victory at the polls to become a member of the existing 10th Assembly which took off from 2023.





# Obe Cautions Motorists Against Abuse of Public Infrastructure

Kehinde Adeleye

Following the recent disorder caused by irregular truck drivers on Ifoshi Road, the Chairman of Ejigbo L C D A, Mr. Monsurudeen Bello Obe has urged drivers to cease abusing the infrastructure, stating that it continues to pose a risk to public safety and may result in needless loss of life and property.

In particular, after a mere 24 years of waiting, the Ifoshi road—which is currently under the leadership of Alhaji Monsurudeen Bello (Obe)—saw the light of day.

It was discovered that a heavy load haulage truck had been jacked up on bare asphalt, causing it to sink into the ground, crumble the edges and leave a deep hollow in its wake.

This action is described as barbaric, and wicked, and must be unraveled, nip in the bud and brought to book. Heavy duty trucks were seen parked for days on the road to carry out maintenance work, this practice was capable of setting us back and cutting short the life span of the roads.

"The heavy duty trucks park on the shoulders

of the roads and carry out maintenance work thereby spoiling it. The parking on the road is a threat to the safety of our roads," he lamented.

No one would be spared if caught messing up with our public infrastructures and no misdemeanor would be tampered with mercy, any perpetrator will be prosecuted and brought to book henceforth. Thus, Community members should be on look out for anyone, any driver who crosses the redlines" The council Boss asserted.



## Oloyede Interacts With Marketers Over Removal of Illegal Structures

Kehinde Adeleye

In the Oshodi-Isolo local government area, the Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA) has set July 30, 2024, as the deadline for removing unlawful constructions and setbacks in and surrounding marketplaces.

This was the result of a sensitization meeting between the LASBCA and the Markert men and women that was facilitated by the council's chairman, Mr. Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede.

The meeting was held prior to the LASBCA implementing the plan, which included removing illegal structures and setbacks in market areas in Lagos State.

In his welcome speech at the meeting, which took place at McCarthy Lane in Oshodi Market, Oloyede thanked Mr. Gbolahan Oki, the

General Manager of LASBCA, for giving him the chance to speak with the marketers prior to putting the state government's order removing illegal structures and setbacks into effect.

He agreed that marketers needed to establish free entry points that consumers and vendors could readily use. He expressed disapproval of the disorganised activities at the market and stated that emergency operations could be hindered by the way individuals flaunt their clothing on the road.

He also stated that it will not allow rescuers to enter the area in the event of a fire, accident, or other calamity.

He said; "I welcome the LASBCA GM and



his team to our Local Government once again and thank him for given us the opportunity to sensitise our marketers before the government carry out its order on removal of setbacks and illegal structures in markets. The GM of LASBCA is here today to sensitize our marketers and tell them the plan action of setbacks removal in

markets.

They are here to enforce orderliness and building regulations and I implore us to listen to them and follow their directives.

As a government, we shall support every intervention of the state government at bringing sanity to our environment and create a healthy market place for all."

LASBCA GM, Arch. Oki

disclosed that he was in the market to plead with shop owners before enforcement. He regretted the fire incidents that happened at Mandilas building and Dosunmu on Lagos Island. He said the state fire service could not rescue the situation due to inaccessibility to the roads leading to the market as people constructed different extensions and displayed their wares on the roads. He regretted that the fire at Dosunmu destroyed 14 properties since the fire department was unable to get to the scene in a timely manner. He emphasised that all markets in the state should have unfettered admission and departure, and that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has ordered that no market have an expansion.

After careful consideration, the Chairman, LASBCA, and

Iya-Loja General of Oshodi, Alhaja Ejide Shokopao, decided that the order's implementation deadline should be July 30.

Otunba Oloyede and Arch. Oki however implored the shop owners to remove the extensions before the deadline in order to prevent the law taking its course.

Oki said; "we have listen to the appeal by the chairman and marketers for the extension of period of implementation of the execrcise, we will however not go beyond the July 30 date to carry out action, we implore the marketers to do the right thing before the date."

The team at the end of the sensitisation took a tour of the markets to inform the marketers of the decision taken and urged them to take action immediately.



# Onilude Reveals Purpose Of Discounted Market

By Saheed Afolabi



**B**adagry LG the purpose of the chairman, discounted market Olusegun where prices of goods Onilude has disclosed are sold at a subsidized

rate. Onilude while declaring the Discount Food Market open said the

initiative is to complement the 'Ounjeko' policy of the governor of Lagos

state, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu. He stated that the purpose of the discounted food prizes is to bring relief to residents.

"Let me foremost thank the governor of Lagos state, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu for the Ounjeko initiative. The time we are demands a lot from us as a government in cushioning the effects of subsidy removal and this is why we put this together to complement the effort of the state government in providing succour and relief to our people through sales of foodstuff at discounted

rates.

"I urge everyone to act with utmost discipline and consideration for others. I also want to assure you that after today, we will do an assessment of activities and make necessary adjustments in subsequent editions."

The Supervisor for Agric, Taiwo Towolawi commended Onilude for putting the people first and approving the Onilude Discount Food Market Initiative which is one of the many interventions of his administration in cushioning the effect of subsidy removal.

## NCS Seme Makes N2,6 bn In Five Months

By Saheed Afolabi

**N**igeria Customs Service (NCS) has generated N2,634,190,645 and facilitated export of 143,468 metric tons via Seme/Krake border from January to May 2024.

The Seme Customs Area Controller (CAC), Comptroller Timi Bomodi, revealed this while addressing journalists.

According to the Seme Customs boss, the revenue collected in the period under review surpasses that of 2023 for the same period by 272%.

"The Command facilitated 143,468 Metric Tonnes of export

produce, with FOB value of N35,199,971.097 only which is equivalent to \$38,461,397.39. The NESS value paid is N174,518,464.82. A total of 406 SGDs were utilized from January to May 26 2024 for export alone," Bomodi said.

Speaking on anti smuggling activities at the Command, he disclosed that they recorded 474 interception of various contraband items.

Bomodi listed some seizures to include: Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) 12,448 Jerrycans x 30 liters each which is equivalent to eight (8) Tanker Loads; Rice: 6,467 Bags of 50kg, which is equivalent to

10 Trailer Loads; 15 used vehicles.

"149 packages of codeine and 1,251 parcels of cannabis sativa was seized. We note that there has been a marked increase in the illegal importation of Cannabis from Ghana and different methods have been used by criminals in their effort to beat our officers all of which has been neutralized.

"Wild animals were also part of the seizures which had 20 Live Parrots; 2 Honey badgers; 2 Pelican Birds and 404 Live tortoises. General Merchandise: 3,023 items and 45 pieces of used tyers."

Meanwhile, he stated that the seizures had a

combined Duty Paid Value (DPV) of N840,003,646 and 18 suspects were arrested in connection with the seizures.

"Eleven of the suspects were granted administrative bails, 3 were handed over to NDLEA for further agency action, One was handed over to the Nigerian Police, while 4 suspects are still in our custody. Also recently arrested is a notorious smuggler whose reign of terror in this area has come to an end and will be made to face the full wrath of the law," Bomodi explained.

The command have also set-up a complaint desk to address issues concerning the molestation of women



on this corridor.

"We strongly frown at any act endangering the health and well-being of the vulnerable population of border stakeholders who go about their normal and

legitimate businesses daily. Stringent action shall be taken against any officer of the any agency found guilty of molestation of any females on this corridor."



# Ikorodu LG Begins Construction of Sanni Arowolo Road

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Ikorodu Local Government has initiated the construction of Sanni Arowolo Road in Itunpate.

The flag-off event saw an enthusiastic turnout from residents and stakeholders, celebrating the council chairman's commitment to infrastructural development.

The ceremony was led by Hon. Wasiu Adesina, the Executive Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, who has also recently commenced the construction of Solomade Adekaiyaoja Road.

Addressing the attendees, Adesina emphasized that the benefits of democracy include tangible infrastructural projects that serve both residents and visitors.

"The road construction is expected to be completed in three months. I urge residents to cooperate

with contractors to ensure timely completion," Adesina stated.

He also hinted at future projects, announcing that the road leading to the Baale's palace in the Eleshin axis is next on the agenda.

The construction of Sanni Arowolo Road is seen as a pivotal development for Itunpate and the broader Ikorodu division, promising enhanced infrastructure and economic growth for the community.

Hon. Wasiu Shotomiwa, Councillor representing Ward D, praised Adesina's administration for its widespread impact across all wards in Ikorodu Central. "Every ward has benefited from an accomplished project under our amiable chairman, Hon. Wasiu Adesina," Shotomiwa remarked.

Mr. Bolade Arogunre, Chairman of the Community

Development Association (CDA) for Arowolo Sanni Street, expressed deep gratitude to the council chairman. "Words cannot express our level of appreciation to the

chairman for making this project possible. All we have to say is thank you, Sir!" Arogunre said.

The event was attended by notable figures including Chiefs representing the Ayangbure-in-Council,

esteemed Ikorodu Central leader Alhaji DCubano, Mr. Sunday Oladipo, DPO of Sagamu Road, Prince O. Power, DPO of Igbocho Road, Secretary of the Council Alhaji Lateef Afinni,

Super for Budget and Revenue Alhaji Lateef Oyefusi, APC Woman Leader Alhaja Rashidat Bello, and the WADESH BABES. Council staff and other stakeholders were also present.

Alhaji Shamsudeen Olawale, a respected leader in Ikorodu Central, commended Chairman Adesina for his responsiveness to the needs of Ikorodu residents and his effective administration. He noted that the new road would significantly boost commercial activities in the area.

Responding to residents' requests regarding Dada Road, adjacent to Sanni Arowolo Street, Adesina instructed council engineers to measure the link road for potential future construction, further elevating the community's excitement. He also appealed to residents to fulfill their civic responsibilities by paying their levies, enabling the council to execute more developmental projects.



## Ikorodu Central Market Stakeholders Meet Over Fire Prevention

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Market Men and Women of Ikorodu Central organized a significant stakeholders meeting focused on fire safety and prevention at the Ikorodu Local Government Secretariat Hall. The event aimed to enhance the safety and well-being of traders and customers by fostering a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities of various agencies in ensuring market safety.

Key stakeholders in attendance included representatives from the Lagos State Fire Rescue Service, Environmental Sanitation, and Kick Against Indiscipline (KAI).

The Lagos State Government endorsed the meeting to mitigate the impact of fire incidents that have plagued markets across the state. The gathering commenced with an

opening prayer led by Mrs. Shodipo Sherifat, Iya-Oloja Ejina, setting a solemn tone for the proceedings.

Notable attendees included Mr. Oluwasanya Temitayo, Assistant Chief of the Lagos State Fire Rescue Service; Mrs. Oyebode Abiola, Fire Officer; San. Matthew Aganano, Head of Sanitation Department; Mrs. Adewunmi Kehinde; and Mr. Wale Famuhiwa, Area Commander of KAI Ikorodu.

During the meeting, discussions covered various aspects of fire safety and prevention, including adherence to fire safety protocols, proper handling of inflammable materials, and the importance of regular fire drills and

inspections.

The roles of Environmental Sanitation and KAI in maintaining cleanliness and orderliness within the market were also emphasized.

Mrs. Princess (Alhaja) Osho Adebukola, the Iya-Oloja of Ikorodu Central, expressed gratitude to the Executive Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, for his support in enhancing market activities.

She highlighted the importance of collaboration between market representatives and government officials to ensure seamless cooperation and effective communication.

Mr. Oluwasanya Temitayo detailed the importance of proactive measures in averting fire disasters, citing past incidents

that resulted in significant loss of lives and property.

He emphasized the need for continuous orientation programs to educate market stakeholders on fire safety protocols. Common causes of fire outbreaks, such as breeze, heat, oil, and electricity, were identified, and traders were urged to establish safety committees and exercise caution to prevent fires.

San. Matthew Aganano stressed the significance of cleanliness in preventing fire outbreaks and promoting public health. He urged market traders to prioritize cleanliness and proper waste disposal to prevent accidental fires and mitigate flooding risks.

Market Leader Mrs. Shodipo Sherifat reiterated the need for proactive sanitation measures and appealed to the Lagos Waste Management Authority



(LAWMA) for increased waste collection frequency.

Mr. Wale Famuhiwa expressed concern over the lack of synergy between market authorities and law enforcement agencies, highlighting the risks associated with roadside market activities. He called for greater collaboration to ensure safety and maintain order within the market.

Concluding the program,

Mrs. Osho urged market traders to work together towards common goals and emphasized the importance of unity in achieving positive outcomes for the market community. She expressed gratitude to all stakeholders and encouraged active participation in initiatives aimed at improving the market environment.



# Unification Ladies Emerge Champions Of Fefcan Preseason Championship

By Saheed Afolabi

The maiden edition of the Female Football Clubs Association of Nigeria (FEFCAN) Preseason Championship ended in grand style as Unification Ladies emerged the champions. The Ladies football event had five clubs in participation which includes, Dannaz Ladies, Dynamic Queens, Papa Soccer Angels, Ablaze Amazons and eventual winners, Unification Ladies. After completion of four round of matches, Unification Ladies topped the group standings with 10 points from four matches. Second place, Dynamic Queens scooped eight points from four matches

while having a goal difference of ten. Dannaz Ladies Academy players finished with seven points from four matches. Papa Soccer Angels went home with three points from four games, while Ablaze Amazons finished bottom of the group with no points from four matches. Happy Owobu of Dannaz Ladies won the goalkeeper of the tournament award with her impressive saves. Farikikyen Moses took home the Highest Goal Scorer (HGS) gong after scoring five goals in four games. Papa Soccer Angels clinched the Fair Play Award award, while Dynamic Queens influential player, Chidera Ihekwe won the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award.



## NWFL Premiership: Folashade Ijamilusi Wins Highest Goal Scorer Award

By Saheed Afolabi

Lagos based Robo Queens forward, Folashade Ijamilusi has won the Nigeria Women Football League NWFL Premiership highest goal scorer award after finishing the season with eight goals in 14 appearances. The diminutive forward has had a blazing career in the NWFL Premiership 2023/2024 season. Ijamilusi led Robo Queens to the quarter of the Federation Cup with a 2-0 win against Heartland Queens in Asaba. She has distinguished herself as a top forward in the women's game while



changing the tragics of the forward line. The Super Falcons star started her career as a midfielder and

won the All Africa Games gold with Team Nigeria in Rabat, Morocco in 2019. Ijamilusi also won the

Betsy Obaseki Women Football Tournament highest goal scorer last year.

## Skaters Exhibit Skills To Promote Sport



Skaters across Lagos state competed in different categories to showcase their talent on children's day to promote skate and sports in Lagos State. The event that gathered lots of skaters took place at 7/8 Bus Stop, International Airport Road, Mafoluku-Oshodi. The atmosphere was filled with excitement as attendees radiant joy of experiencing 2024 skate day in Oshodi. Attendees and spectators stated that the moment shred will linger in the

memories. The programme was facilitated by the SSA to Lagos State Governor on grassroots sports, Hon. Adebajji Atewogboye (Skibanj) and a host of others in conjunction with the Lagos State Government that made the historic event happen in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government. During the last cup of Nation, Oshodi also served as one of the venues of Lagos state government sponsored viewing centers courtesy of Hon Atewogboye





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