

Valentine tasks ethnic group to vote for Asiwaju **PG. 6**

LUTH marks 60th anniversary with free medical outreach **PG. 13**

ENDSARS: Burnt police stations wear new look



Reconstructed Pen Cinema Police Station



Usman Alkali

LASU: A Witness to the Amazon's Ascent **PG. 8**



Why we are celebrating Pa Jimi Solanke - Bimbo Esho **PG.9**

Apapa-Iganmu LCDA: Akande restores power supply to Secretariat after decades of blackout **PG.7**

Yaba LCDA embarks on budget preparation ahead 2023 **PG.12**

Tobi Amusan becomes Glo brand ambassador **PG.15**

ENDSARS: Burnt police stations wear new look

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Two years down memory lane after the havoc of the EndSARS protest, most of the damaged police stations in Lagos State are now wearing new look with modern construction format and security gadgets.

Lagos residents commended the government over the renovation of the burnt police stations across the state while appealing for timely completion of the remaining ones to curb insecurity in some communities.

More than 20 police stations were reportedly burnt in the state during the EndSARS protests in October 2020.

A police source told ECHONEWS that many of the stations are 90 per cent completed and would soon be commissioned by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Usman Alkali Baba and handed over to their respective Divisional Police Officers (DPOs).

Already, some have been completed and opened for use such as Pen Cinema Police Station and some many others across the state.

ECHONEWS observed that unlike the previous designs, some of the newly renovated stations are constructed in a house format, with Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras



Inspector General of Police (IGP) Usman Alkali Baba

and video recording technology installed to prevent human rights abuses.

Also, the colour has improved with light grey, cream and its traditional green, yellow and navy line with a black see-through black gate.

Some residents, who spoke to ECHONEWS on the new development commended the government and individuals who supported the renovation in their various communities.

A resident, Adetunji Abolade commented that the reconstruction of the

stations would bring respite for the police officers and also ease the security challenges in the communities.

Another resident, Fatai Ademola noted that arms and ammunition were carted away while some detainees were also set free at Ajiwe Police Station, Ajah.

He stated that following the incident, police officers had been operating with difficulties since there was no office for them.

He said the community has been to their aid by providing them canopies,

chairs and vans for them to operate, adding that the renovation of the station would further boost their morale and give them confidence to do their job.

The leadership of Ilasamaja International Market expressed joy over the relocation of the burnt Ilasamaja police station to the market.

While assessing its effects since the station was relocated to the market, the market leaders said that the presence of policemen has been worthwhile, insisting that the station should be permanently domiciled in

the market.

According to them, the experience of the community during the short time the police operated from Area D following the EndSARS crisis was terrible before the police were brought back to the community to carry out their security surveillance. Ilasamaja Divisional Police Station was later moved to a building built by the community inside the market following the destruction of the former station along Oshodi-Apapa Expressway during the EndSARS crisis.

ENDSARS: Burnt police stations wear new look



New Pen Cinema Police Station

However, a new station was built by the community and subsequently relocated the station to Ilasamaja Market.

In 2021, the then Commissioner of Police in Lagos, Hakeem Odumosu, had said all the police stations burnt in the state were undergoing renovation.

While there is massive renovation of the burnt stations across the state, residents have appealed to the government to visit the remaining few for the benefit of the communities in which they are situated.

Though the burnt Imakiyo Police Post in Bucknor is still under reconstruction, residents want it to be bigger and turn to a full police station, hoping that

the reopening of the station will increase the level of security in the area.

One of the residents, Mrs. Ganiyah Yusuf, who is a Point of Sale (POS) operator, stated that the existence of the re-establishment of a police post in the area would help maintain public order and safety, saying the presence of police station and officers in the community would prevent misconducts while detecting and investigating the criminal activities in the area.

She noted that considering her line of career where operators are usually victims of theft, the police officers would in their power put measures to resolve problematic

situations that would restore peace in the society.

Also speaking with ECHONEWS, Mr. Aruna Salami, said that the establishment would increase trust and improved community relations as the activities of the officers would prove their efficiency to the public.

He noted that the community would also benefit faster emergency response from the police officers if their point of operation is within the community.

However, traders who experienced pathetic cases of disruption during the EndSARS period narrated that the efficiency of the police force, despite their closeness in the

community can only be revived in their hearts if they prove to be more professional than before.

To them, they perceive the reconstruction as a normal activity within the community.

A boutique trader, Tina Ikechukwu, said community policing goes beyond practice rather than theory as the efficiency of the officers cannot be fully guaranteed based on previous experience.

To her, officers tend to favour certain community members or only strongly benefit specific community interests unlike those that are local business owners.

Supporting the opposing perspective, a digital operator, Mr. Shina

Akinwale disclosed that the efficiency of the officers can only be trusted if they re-strategise to keep up with the promise of Lagos State Commissioner of Police.

He advised that their re-establishment should be taken as a medium to prove their abilities to the public.

It was gathered that the renovation was carried out by the Federal Government, the state government, communities and individuals.

Meanwhile, there is assurance that the few remaining damaged police stations would soon be renovated to the standards required for modern policing with the necessary equipment.



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Agege LG, Orile-Agege chairmen canvass for Obasa

By Motola AbdulGafar

The council chairmen of both Agege Local Government and Orile-Agege LCDA have declared their supports for the re-election of the Speaker of Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Mudashiru Obasa as 2023 general elections approach. The two council bosses expressed their thought on the intended actualization of the largest youth convergence, Obasa Youth Crusade, in the council areas. The crusade is said to be congregated in solidarity for the re-election of Obasa in 2023. The chairman of Agege Local Government, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi said his support for Obasa

was stimulated by his contributions toward human capacity development and infrastructural development to have upgraded and brought the council to the limelight. Also speaking, the chairman of Orile-Agege LCDA, Hon. Babatunde Johnson

said that Obasa is an erudite leader across the board as he enhanced residents' socio-economic state which makes them independent to reduce theft cases. They both commended the convener of the crusade, Hon. Oluwagbenga Abiola,

who is the vice chairman of Agege Local Government for his ideology and vision in congregating the crusade. A press statement released by the group, explained that Saturday, November 12, would be used for convergence of the crusade.



Rt. Hon Budashiru Obasa

Johnson pledges N100k to 200 residents

By Motola AbdulGafar

As part of effort to lift his people out of poverty, the chairman of Orile-Agege LCDA, Hon. Babatunde Johnson has pledged to disburse N100,000 each to about 200 indigent residents. He made the promise recently while highlighting his achievements to stakeholders in the council. The council boss said that the token is meant to aid them economically as they are expected to invest the money in their businesses. He hinted that the disbursement would be made in a few weeks while urging the beneficiaries to value the token. Johnson noted that

out of the six wards in the council area, his administration had provided sufficient standard equipment to the Primary Health centres in four wards. On electricity, he revealed the authorizations of transformer installation at Oja-Oba community. He encouraged residents to pay their tax, rates and all other necessary dues while noting that complaints should be channelled to the appropriate quarters with an assurance that all will be attended to. He, therefore, appreciated the commitments and efforts of all executive members and stakeholders in the council for their support so far.

As residents continue to express their dissatisfaction over the dilapidated state of Oke-Koto road in Agege Local Government, the Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Mudashiru Obasa has promised the reconstruction of the damaged area at Oke-Koto junction. He said the need to repair the damaged road became necessary to curb any form of inconvenience for the residents in the community. He noted that reconstruction would ease gridlock congestion and channel water flows in the area, adding

Obasa promises road rehabilitation

that the canals would be desilted to stop excessive flooding in the area. Obasa promised that the project will be within a short time for quick accessibility to occur. He, therefore, urged road users to be careful while plying the road pending the time the reconstruction is done.



Present state of Oke-Koto junction, Agege

Council appeals to school to maintain furniture

The chairman of Orile-Agege LCDA, Hon. Babatunde Johnson has appealed to the teachers and pupils in Saka Tinubu Primary school

in the area to maintain good use of the furniture provided by the council. He said the pieces of furniture were provided to ease learning by the students and develop

the standard of the school environment in the community. A total of 1000 dual-seater desks and benches have been donated to the public

school by Johnson's administration. He further encouraged pupils to be more dedicated and adhere strictly to the direction of their teachers.

He tasked the teachers to educate the pupils efficiently for them to be useful to themselves in the future and become good ambassadors of the council area.

Valentine tasks ethnic group to vote for Asiwaju

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh, has charged leaders of the South-South ethnic group in the area to support the candidacy of Asiwaju Bola Tinubu. He said that his aim in propagating the election of Tinubu is to encourage them that the All Progressives Congress (APC) National leader is a

diversified flag bearer that does not prioritize one ethnic group in assigning duties to individuals. He supported his claim by saying Asiwaju's charisma does not only speak for him as the political group he belongs to also has its contribution. Buraimoh cited areas where people of other ethnic groups are in government in all sectors while exemplifying the capacity of his Vice

Chairman, Hon. Maureen Ashara who has the privilege to serve in Lagos state. He boasted that Asiwaju will be fair, accountable and reliable to all Nigerians without differentiating their ethnic background as he is a far-sighted leader. He appealed to the ethnic leaders to encourage their members to get their PVC and vote for competent leaders at all levels.



Hon. Valentine Buraimoh while speaking with South-South ethnic group

Hassan appeals to residents to fully participate in election process

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Oriade LCDA, Hon. Ramotalai Hassan, has appealed to the residents of the council area to participate fully in the election process to consolidate her projects in the community. She said there would

be continuity if they vote for the All Progressives Congress (APC) during the coming general elections. She said voting for all APC candidates will give rise to a government of continuity which will help in community development. Hassan also noted that their votes will give

them confident access to the new administration as there would be an automatic connection for them to tender their proposals to the government. She, therefore, urged all party loyalists to unify themselves and avoid political thuggery for a successful outcome during the election.



Picture of Hon. Ramotalai Akinola Hassan

CP commends Area Command for effective policing

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police, CP Abiodun Alabi has commended the Area E Command of the Force in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government over its efficient mode of operation. He said the Command has been rated by the State as one of the areas with best policing as they tend to record incorruptible officials

that take into account the essence of their duties as a police officer. Alabi attributed the accomplishment to the cooperation that exists between the council stakeholders and the police which he noted has given rise to peaceful coexistence in the community. He tasked the Area E Commander, ACP Egbafe Afegbai to avoid relaxing and continue to

be vigilant as their relaxation might give way to miscreants in the community by increasing their security operations in black spots within the community. Alabi further appealed to residents to consult the police station for the intervention of crisis in the community as their primary duty is to ensure their safety rather than keeping quiet over it.

Propagate the gospel of BatShima - council boss tells artisans

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh, has urged artisan groups to refrain from idleness ahead of the 2023 general elections. He said that their active participation in politics is needed as they are also a group that constitutes the Local Government structure. Buraimoh said as skilled

men, their active participation would build a bridge for them between the government and their group which will be fruitful in their entrepreneurial enterprise. He said that standing aloof on political matters will delimit their exposure and will not let the government know their needs not to talk of giving opportunities to them. He appealed to them to

do a house-to-house propagation as they are closer to the intrinsic part of the community. The council boss boasted that Asiwaju Bola Tinubu and Senator Kashim Shettima will fully readdress the situation of the country. He, therefore, urged them to get their PVCs and vote for all All Progressives Congress (APC) flag bearers in their constituencies during the general elections.

Apapa-Iganmu LCDA: Akande restores power supply to Secretariat after decades of blackout

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Apapa-Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Mrs. Funmilayo Akande, has changed the narrative of the area, as she restored power supply in the council secretariat after many years of blackout. She has recently installed and energized new distribution transformer at CZ Anago complex in Apapa Iganmu Council secretariat to boost politico-economic

activities in the building.

While commissioning the new substation, the chairman made a remark that since she was the vice chairman under the leadership of her former boss, Apapa Iganmu council secretariat has never experience power supply from PHCN.

"We have been running on generator for decades. So, this is a laudable project for me and the staff members, considering the number of years the council has been without electric from

the power holding companies.

Records stated that Adunni Iyalaya as fondly called has made progress since she assumed office as the Chairman of Apapa Iganmu LCDA.

The commissioning was honoured by party chieftains in Apapa Iganmu LCDA, Councillors, SLG, Council Manager, Council Treasurer, Supervisory Councillors and Special Adviser's, Lagos Central Woman leader and her wings, Youths and others.



The new installed transformer

Council to construct perimeter fence

By Edith Igbokwe

The secretary to the Local Government, Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Gusanu Sovi, has disclosed that the council has decided to construct a perimeter fence round the council secretariat.

He said the enclosure is needed to help secure the land and prevent unauthorized access to the site.

Sovi noted that the decision to build the fence is also to prevent soil erosion while controlling the

sediment flow.

He said the council chairman is prioritizing the interest and welfare of the people of the council area which is evident in the series of projects he has delivered in the community so far.

He appealed to residents to continue to support the council by disclosing their needs and maintaining previously executed projects in their community for development and diversity to take place in the area.

SSA urges govt to orientate tourism staff

By Edith Igbokwe

The Senior Special Adviser to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on Information, Tourism and Special Works in Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Solomon Zosu has urged the state

government to orientate tourism staff across the state on their expected duties in their various departments.

Zosu said the programme should be organized as a form of retreat where accounts on the development of tourism centres in

Lagos State will be showcased as a form of check and balance for the staff to uplift the state's tourism.

He advised that the programme will bring an increased internally generated revenue (IGR) for the government at the grassroots.

He noted that a

detailed job description should also be made clear to all staff members for the better assumption of office.

He, therefore, appreciated Sanwo-Olu for creating the department at the local government level in the State



Hon. Solomon Zosu

LASU: A Witness to the Amazon's Ascent

Tunde Akanni, ZPhD

Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello chose to boldly shock his adversaries shortly after her appointment as the VC of the nation's best state university, LASU, was announced in 2021. She decided to assume her position on a date least expected. It was earlier than expected by some persons for reasons best known to them. For her however, she simply kept faith with the date she was mandated to assume office. Interestingly, the new VC had a most rousing welcome with chants of victory and praise. Work began immediately. The matriarch recognized the power of the tongue and launched a customized slogan to turn on her fresh era: "We are LASU We are Great." Even as the change campaign has been rather devoid of what could be described as great speed in playing out, it has been impactful, betraying the consistent character of the new Sheriff of LASU. Follow her trend:

It was the turn of another set of our HND-Conversion students to produce a fresh edition of the training newspaper of LASUSOC, LASUGONG in August 2022. As they reeled out story ideas to work on, one female member of the class belched out with anger: "Ah, we must do a report on LASU's indifference to the plight of female students and the urgent need for toilets." As the course adviser, I retorted that that was her lot. "Editor Sunny Ade, (as I fondly call Sunday Oguntola, the team's editor,) get her to do that story and it must be well written, possibly with convincing photographs."

Weeks later when I called for the list of all the stories submitted, the editor signaled to update me. "There is this rumour that many toilets have been built, Oga. But I've not seen them myself". In my excitement, I ordered that they must work on the positive update. The story has truly changed. Olatunji-Bello, as a good listener, had heard the yearnings of many students, teachers and poor parents on toilets.

Not only did she betray the concern, she did not waste time on rhetorics but reached for action immediately mobilizing resources to correct the nagging narrative. All these done without noise. On the eve of the just concluded first anniversary commemoration, the information began making the rounds that the VC would deliver no fewer than 60 toilets! Forty toilets for the Ojo main campus and 20 for the Epe campus.

But that is Bello's way with life as she gets to willy-nilly change otherwise bad stories to pleasant ones. Way back in 1991 as a feature writer for National Concord, I was working on a feature report on the then new phenomenon of female soccer. How do you round off such a report without talking to physiologists so that the society won't be disillusioned so much about the girls' entry into the obviously strenuous soccer game? I decided to seek experts' advice from LUTH's



Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello

Physiology Department. It was the only angle of the story left to be covered. At the Physiology Department on the said day, all doors were locked and I was getting agitated that my story would suffer unanticipated delay. Suddenly, an elegant young lady sauntered into the premises. I saw her open a door. One of the physiology lecturers? It turned out to be Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello. "What can I do for you?" she queried, obviously reading my inquisitive face. "I'm a reporter from Concord newspaper and I need to speak with a physiologist ma; I guess you're one." Physiologist Olatunji-Bello welcomed me into her office most courteously. Far from being expected, she handed out a bottle of Coke to me. "Concord? You're about interviewing Tunji Bello's wife, sure you know Tunji Bello" It never occurred to me I could bump into Mrs Bello so fortuitously. Great interview, I eventually had, in addition to cutting short the likely long wait. Fast forward to 2011: Prof Olatunji-bello had become Deputy VC and I needed to renew my training leave while on my doctoral programme. Such renewals, if delayed could lead to some other intractable bureaucratic

complications including delay or outright loss of salaries. Mrs. Olatunji-Bello did mine under 24 hours, easily reinforcing the impression she registered with me since 1991 and also upholding the philosophy of her principal then, Prof Lateef Akanni Hussain, of the blessed memory.

But even after serving out her term as DVC, Prof didn't abandon the ship of the progressives. She remained constant on the genuine ASUU-LASU Whatsapp platform constantly sharing ideas and exchanging pleasantries with us all as a colleague. When the race for VCship opened therefore, her aspiration was heavily favoured by many of us in the progressive fold.

Interestingly, Mrs Bello didn't take our support for granted. She readily betrayed her acute development background which probably peaked at the Directorship of LASU Directorate for Advancement, LASUDA. At the height of her campaigns for VCship, she released a 24-page manifesto for the LASU community to savour, explicitly indicative of her core values and strategic Goals viz :

1. To ensure that academic and professional programmes are and remain accredited by the relevant bodies;

2. To make the University a research, innovation, and development hub for Lagos State and National development;
3. To ensure that infrastructural facilities are improved and readily available for seamless performance of administrative and academic duties;
4. To improve Internal Generation of Revenue with the aim of achieving financial sustainability of the University;
5. To promote the welfare of all staff and students in the University;
6. To promote participation in Sports and Recreational Activities.

Apparently realizing the fundamentality of money and transparency to all these, Prof Olatunji Bello most commendably innovated budget performance assessment exercise which has had a most impactful influence on the improved performance of all academic departments across all LASU campuses.

While the first of the two goals listed above haven't suffered any hitch, the third one has been conspicuously accelerated and intensified, manifesting in assorted new facilities including the celebrated "pain reliever" toilets.

But the well loved mother and grand mother, in the words of Prof MOB Mohammed-the university's latest inaugural lecturer, could do more to drive her self-set goals.

While appreciating the LASU Martrich's good intention in re-invigorating research for instance by motivating academics with some support, the system needs to deepen the tradition of committee system on certain vitals so obvious to further reassure stakeholders. The all-important TETFUND, the equivalent of Ghana's GETFund, which used to have representatives of all faculties on its committee, is indisputably one of such.

TETFUND committee is indispensable for optimal effect. But this is Mama's first year, so I'm personally hopeful and looking forward to more goodies like the Coke offer at LUTH in 1991. Like the current JAMB registrar and former UNILORIN VC, Prof Is-haq Oloyede, has consistently conducted himself as a good listener to us, even as his mentees () For the overall good of LASU for instance, Prof Olatunji-Bello, I believe, has the capacity to raise the transparency stake significantly further having started with budget performance assessment. Incidentally, this icon of integrity in Nigeria's public service today, Oloyede, has been one of the early visitors to our VC in her first year. Together, surely we can actualise the goal of being the foremost university in West Africa as envisioned by Madam VC.

My very best wishes now and always to the better half of my darling Oga, Tunji Bello. Tunde Akanni, PhD, Associate Professor and Acting Head of Journalism Dept doubles as pioneer Director of Digital Media Research Centre, DMRC, LASU. Follow him via: @Akintunde Akanni(Twitter) and tundeakanni.com.

Why we are celebrating Pa Jimi Solanke - Bimbo Esho

Over the years, she has crafted a niche out of marketing music - events, songs and the musicians who make them. On October 22, this year, her next event- the celebration of legendary musician and veteran actor, Pa Jimi Solanke, Nigeria's latest celebrity octogenarian, will be on stage. Funded by the Ogun State Government, the sponsorship demonstrates Governor Dapo Abiodun's passion for the arts.

Esho's Evergreen Musical Company and the Ogun State Ministry of Culture and Tourism are dotting the Is and crossing the Ts to make sure everything is set to entertain the guests and give Pa Solanke a memorable celebration. It will also feature the launch of a 127-page book. Echonews' Ladapo Kolade interviewed the beautiful Bimbo Esho on her plans and expectations. Excerpts:



Bimbo Esho

Let's get to know you?

Bimbo Esho is the managing director of Evergreen Musical Company. **You authored a book on Pa Jimi Solanke. Why?**

The Book on Jimi was co-authored by me and Popeman. We figured out there was need to document Baba Jimi's life and times using photostories. Then, we approached him for rare vintage pictures he has kept in his archive for over 70 years. The pictures section is different from the biography which many are used to. You are going a step further by partnering with the Ogun State government to organise a celebration.

How were you able to swing it?

Yes, we are partnering with the Ogun State Government who are sponsoring Baba Jimi's picturesque, Musical Compedium and Celebration. His Excellency, Prince Dapo Abiodun, the Governor of Ogun State, from all indications, is a man that is in tune with the recognition of our musical and legendary talents. Through his Ministry Of Culture and Tourism, we approached His Excellency on behalf of Baba JS and

the State Governor saw the need to support one of the state's treasures. Besides organising concerts, **what other things does Evergreen Musical do?** Besides organizing concerts Evergreen does distribution and propagation of works of iconic music masters and also consults for them.

You are so cute. How do you manage the pressure from the men?

Thanks a lot for the compliment. Pressure is an everyday thing I am a good manager and anything like pressure or distraction from any quarters is not a big deal at all.



Pa Jimi Sholanke with Bimbo Esho

Ifako-Ijaiye CDC dialogues with chairman on governance

By Edith Obioma

The Community Development Committee (CDC) of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government has held its monthly meeting with the council chairman, Prince Usman Hamzat to address matters affecting the community.

Prince Hamzat disclosed that the purpose of his visit is to explain his stewardship to the people of community.

He stated that his administration had realized the need to appear at the CDC meeting to keep the people abreast of progress and achievements of his administration instead of having stakeholders town hall meeting which oftentimes is politicized.

He stated that his

administration inherited debts from his predecessor, though, not to any bank but owed contractors huge amounts of money such as hundreds of millions.

Despite the debt, Hamzat reiterated his commitment to the people of Ifako-Ijaiye, as he has followed tremendously in the last year in tandem with the administrative blueprint of the H.E.E.D.S Agenda.

He disclosed that his administration has been able to offset 85 percent of the total debt inherited and has embarked on massive infrastructural developments, particularly road construction which covers Ward A to F of the local government.

Apart from road infrastructure, significant attention has been given

to Empowerment and capacity building programmes for youth and women.

It was recorded that the update of his administration eased lots of tensions and grievances that some set of the community people were having against his administration due to the financial position of the Local Government which now keep people abreast of the progress of the current administration.

He, however, donated additional One Million Naira to the CDC hall project and pledged to facilitate more funds for the completion of the CDC Multipurpose hall before the end of his administration.

"Having the CDC Hall completed would be a great honour and prestige

to my administration as no other person will commission it when completed apart from me. So, I oblige to all obligations towards completing the CDC Hall."

The committee unanimously applauded the council head for his wisdom and excellent leadership within the short time and urged him to stay focus while taking the local government through a new experience. The CDC Chairman, Pastor Samuel Opajobi highlighted other matters discussed with the committee members.

He stated the outcome of the meeting all the CDC Chairmen across the state had with the Commissioner of Police CP Abiodun Alabi, in Lagos.

He disclosed the new

reached out rates of the Private Sector Participants (PSP) of waste management operators and Lagos State Waste Management Agency (LAWMA) representatives. The rate includes, Single room - N800; Shop - N1000; Self Contained - N1250; Room and Parlour - N1500; Flat/ Bungalow - N2000 and Duplex - N3000

The Welfare officer of Iju Forum CDA, Prince Rahman Banjoko appreciated the Council Chairman for the worthy visit and for setting the record straight.

He stated that the H.E.E.D.S Agenda of the current administration is delivering unprecedented developments to the local government and urged him and his team not to rest on their oars.

Fagba major road gets rehabilitation attention

One of the major roads in Fagba axis, Fred Williams street that leads to Bola Hamed Tinubu Road in ifako-ijaiye has received the urgent intervention of the Local Government chairman, Prince Usman Hamzat. The administration of Hamzat recently commenced the rehabilitation work alongside the drainage construction to avoid the issue of flood.

According to the chairman, the construction work will only take few months to complete.

He implored members of the affected community to kindly bear the inconveniences that might occur from the developmental process which will soon be over.

He, however, noted that the aftermath will ease commuters activities and as well link drivers from Fred Williams Street to Bola Ahmed Tinubu Road, Mustapha Road, Obawole, Fagba and Iju-Ishaga areas of the Local Government.

Ashabi Taiwo PHC to wear new look soon

By Edith Obioma

Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government chairman, Prince Usman Hamzat, has commenced the renovation of the deteriorated Ashabi Taiwo Primary Healthcare Center (PHC) to provide the people with quality healthcare delivery. He reiterated that the

development will surely improve healthcare deliveries for the people of Obawole and Ifako-Ijaiye in general who had been longing to assess health facilities within the area.

He had recently donated new medical equipment and furniture worth millions of naira to all the PHCs in Ifako-Ijaiye, in order to enhance quality

health care services across the board.

He noted that the PHC will have a face-lift with painting, flooring, roofing, plumbing works, electrical fittings and other major structural changes at its completion.

He assured community members of easy accessibility of good healthcare facilities and delivery onward.



Ashabi Taiwo PHC renovation

The wife of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government chairman, Mrs. Fauziyat Hamzat accompanied by the Vice Chairman of the Council, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Akerele, has reached out to 100 widows with financial support.

Mrs. Hamzat addressed the widows with positive words to look forward with good attitude towards rebuilding

Council chairman's wife advises widows to be strong

By Edith Obioma

their lives and to believe that things can still be good again,

"Losing a partner is one of the most devastating things a person can experience. It doesn't matter whether the death was expected or sudden—the feelings of grief

are still just as profound. One day you're married, and the next, you're alone and grieving.

"With the death of one's partner, we often find ourselves struggling to find meaning and direction in a world where we have lost hopes and dreams, where the plans we made as a

couple are cruelly taken away leaving us lost and in turmoil."

She, however, encouraged the widows to summon up courage to face life and believe that they can be happy once more.

It is expected that the Support Group will galvanize widows in the

local government and give them a place to share their experiences, find friendship, to care for others as well as to be cared for, and to share support items.

Attendance at the gathering include, Mrs. Fauziyat Adejumo Hamzat in company of the Vice Chairman of Ifako Ijaiye

LGA, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Awoniyi-Akerele, Executive Council Members, Legislative Arm led by the Leader of the House, Management, Special Advisers, Community Leaders, inaugurated the Ifako Ijaiye Widows Group and gave financial support to 100 Widows in large sum.

Ikosi-Isheri Council boss, Bada preaches peaceful coexistence

By Edith Igbokwe

Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Princess Abolanle Bada, has urged the community people to embrace peaceful coexistence to mark the world Tourism Day.

Bada resolved to produce more beneficial commerce and good neighborliness amongst residents at a press parley held to herald the second edition of the carnival theme: Our Culture, Not Our Religion. The council boss stressed the need for preservation of age long cultural values and affinities of the people, as it tends to say much about the essence of their

being.

"Ikosi Isheri LCDA comprises of different ethnic nationalities, in this community we have Hausa, Igbo and the Yoruba. Insecurity bedeviling the land boils down to the fact that there are tribal intolerance.

"At the last edition, we sensitized people against clashes amongst different groups and now there is no disparity among the religions, it now informs our theme: Our culture not our religion.

"This is to tell you that our ethnic diversity and religion did not divide us, we are coming together in one language and to speak as Ikosi Isherians and to



World tourism meeting

remember our tradition, our unique colour- Black is beauty."

However, the All Progressives Congress (APC) party flag bearer for Kosofe Federal

Constituency, Alhaja Kafilat Ogbara applauded Bada for the idea which she said aligns so well with the fifth item of the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu T.H.E.M.E.S agenda.

According to Ogbara the idea breeds social cohesion, boosts leisure and it is an avenue to unwind tense environment.

Ogbara appealed to banks

representatives and business owners present at the briefing to donate generously to support the initiative as it remains one of their corporate social responsibility.

PDP youth leader urges colleagues to be active in governance

By Edith Igbokwe

People's Democratic Party youth leader of Kosofe Constituency I, Happiness Ubini, has called on Nigerian youths to wake up to their responsibilities and get involved in politics and governance.

Ubini, who was the former zonal chairman and ward executive member, said he saw his new appointment as a call to service and an opportunity to further contribute to youth development in Kosofe constituency.

He was among the newly sworn in executives of

the PDP that was recently inaugurated.

He noted that if young Nigerians want to see positive changes in Kosofe Constituency I and Lagos State at large, they should get involved in politics since the future of the nation solely depends on their strength.

He advised youths to use their energy positively and work towards becoming self-sacrificing politician who is ready to serve and contribute positively to the improvement of their immediate society and Lagos State at large.

He opined that the best legacy any government

can leave to its citizens is a free and quality education.

He, however, reiterated that despite the fact that education is not free in Nigeria, the government has failed to build the educational sector that will mold youths to international best standards.

He enjoined the youths to remember the sufferings they have gone through in the past years before making their 2023 decision, change the perspective of the leader of tomorrow to the leader of today and to rebuild the nation by voting out bad governance in 2023.

Kosofe Ward chairmen intensify support for APC candidates

By Edith Igbokwe

Ward Conference Chairmen, Kosofe Chapter has appreciated the outstanding performance of the member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Kosofe Constituency I, Hon. Sanni Okanlawon as they pledged their unwavering support and commitment to the actualization of his return to office.

The group, led by Mr. Wale Soatire, paid a courtesy call on the lawmaker to reassure

him that they are solidly behind him come 2023 general elections.

They also drummed support for the All Progressives Congress (APC) party Presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, the governorship candidate, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Lagos East Senatorial candidate, Sen. Adetokunbo Abiru, and Kosofe Federal Constituency flagbearer, Kafilat Ogbara, among others.

Okanlawon appreciated the group's decision and promised not to disappoint

the people in the delivery of the dividends of democracy.

He, however, urged his constituents and the good people of the state to collect their Permanent Voter's Card (PVC) to enable them to exercise their franchise in the 2023 general elections. The Kosofe Conference of Wards Chairmen in attendance include Abioye Lateef (Ward B), Agboola Azeez (Ward C), Dame Funke Adebayo (Ward D), Isa Akinwale (Ward F), and Comrade Ayinke Omotaje (Ward G), respectively.

NNPP candidate provides online registration for campaign volunteers

By Edith Igbokwe

Lagos State House of Assembly candidate of the New Nigeria People's Party (NNPP), Comrade Abdulwaheed Odunuga has unveiled an online platform for campaign volunteer members to register.

Odunuga was among the Lagos State House of Assembly candidates in the 2023 general elections published by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) on Tuesday, September 20.



NNPP candidate, Odunuga

He made the platform available during his campaign mission in addition to the party's political structure across Kosofe Federal Constituency,

He, however, launched five jingles comprising of Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa, Pigin English and English language for the 2023 Kosofe Federal Constituency race

Yaba LCDA embarks on budget preparation ahead 2023

By Edith Igbokwe

In preparation for the year 2023 budget, Yaba Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Kayode Omiyale has discussed with the concerned stakeholders to have a fiscal budget plan. The forum recently took place at the Oluremi Tinubu Hall of the Council as the proposed budget is tagged "Budget of Accelerated Growth."

Omiyale emphasised that stakeholders dialogue enhances proper planning and ensures equal share of dividends of democracy.

According to him, the administration has recorded success in the year 2022 budget so far and promised to do more in the coming year.

He projected to reconstruct 8 roads across all the 9 wards in the (LCDA) by next year in collaboration with Lagos State Public Works body to help in the reconstruction of feeder roads that will be paid for by the local government at a cost-effective rate.

"We have commenced the reconstruction of Mainland Library that has been abandoned for the past 10 years, the library will be a full-fledged e-Library and there will be over 200 computer systems in the library and the local government will have a good working relationship with JAMB.

"This implies that the library will also double as JAMB centre for prospective undergraduates while the library will be completed and commissioned by the Executive Governor of Lagos State Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu by the first quarter of next year.

"The welfare of our people is paramount to this present administration because with good roads, functional

health care services, quality education system, the people will be happy and government will feel fulfilled."

He also enjoined the citizens to exercise their civic right to the government by coming out en masse to vote for All Progressives Congress (APC) party candidates in the forthcoming general elections especially the Presidential candidate that hails from Lagos State.

During the participation session, the HOD Budget, Planning and Statistics, Mr. Ismail Ogunbambi noted that there cannot be a successful budget without the participation and involvement of all the stakeholders concerned.

He explained that the budget will be planned based on the request of stakeholders.

He, thereby, urged all the

participants/representatives to participate fully and ensure that their request is made known so they can be properly planned for in the 2023 budget.

The APC Apex Leader, Hon. Olawale Oshun stressed the importance of the forum and encouraged the synergy between the Legislative and the Executive to continue so

as to record more success in the local government endeavours.

The representatives made different requests and pleas, the Executive Chairman in response, assured them that the feasible ones will be considered in the forthcoming budget and also gave reasons some would

not be considered.

Attendance included the Vice Chairman, Hon. Bola Aileru, political chieftains, the Baales, the Leader of the House, the Councillors, the Council Manager, Hon. Lai Giwa, the supervisors, Ward chairmen, CDC, CDAs, members of the force, management team amongst others.



Yaba LCDA boss, Omiyale addressing stakeholders

Essien takes tourism celebration to Legacy 1995 Museum

By Edith Igbokwe

and equipment of railways dated as far back as 80 years which were used to run the affairs of railway operations in the colonial era.

The cabinet members, Legislators, Management Staffs and Officers of the

council were privileged to get to know and see how the railway operation was before the introduction of technological tools.

Present at Legacy 1995 Museum Centre were, the Council Manager, Mr. Olusegun Ajagunna, SLG Hon. Wasiu Ogunniyi, Leader of the House, Hon. Afeez Oloto and all the

Legislators, Supervisor for Tourism, Hon. Bello, HOU Tourism, Mr. Ajiboye Oriyomi, all the Management Staff, Public Affairs Officers, Vice President, Legacy 1995, Mr. Taiye Olaniyi, PRO Legacy 1995, Miss Grace, and Legacy 1995 Facilitator, Mr. Dewale Philips.



Legacy 1995 Museum site

OPC hands over robbery suspects to police

By Edith Igbokwe

Chief Security Officer of the Gani Adams-led faction of the Oodua People's Congress (OPC) Kosofe, Rotimi Obayemi, said he has handed over two men arrested for allegedly stealing vulcanizing equipment in Mile 12, Kosofe Local Government Area to the police for further investigation.

The accused were identified as Sanni Aminu, 30, and Ibrahim Salisu, 29.

Obayemi disclosed that the suspects admitted to taking the machine when it was discovered with them.

"I was called by the OPC chairman who told me that they had caught two thieves. On arrival, I interrogated the suspects in Hausa because they did not understand English. They both confessed that they broke into a store at Under bridge Mile 12, and stole the machine.

"Aminu, who claimed to be a wheelbarrow pusher at the Mile 12 Market, said he accompanied his brother last night, and that he did not know that he was going to steal the machine."

The Lagos State Chairman of the OPC, Okanlomo Adeniyi stated that the police had been informed of the occurrence and that the suspects and the stolen machine will be turned over to them.

"We have reported the case to the Ikeja Division of the police command; they are on their way. We will hand over the suspects and the stolen machine to them when they get here."

He noted that the issue would be followed up to ensure that the machine is restored to its rightful owner.

2023: Bamigboye charges APC members to prepare

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has charged members of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) party in Mushin to prepare for the 2023 general elections and make sure they deliver all the votes in their units for the party.

Speaking at a LGA

meeting last week, the council boss thanked all the leaders of the party in Mushin, for the unity and harmony among all the members.

He stated that the coming elections are not about group or caucus but about the success of the party and its presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

He advised members to always attend all meetings summoned by

the party chairman as activities will begin to unfold from time to time based on events and needs for emergency meetings.

In his opening remarks, chairman of the All Progressives Congress in Mushin Local Government, Alhaji Babatunde Shitta-Bay, tasked all the party members to be prepared for the big assignment coming ahead.

He encouraged them to

always be on the alert during the campaign period as various tasks will be delegated to every member.

He also advised all the councilors to jointly work with their Ward chairmen and ensure that all their zones and stakeholders in their various wards are adequately engaged in the assignment, for a successful delivery of all the votes for APC.

Alhaji Shitta-Bey introduced all the

stakeholders present, including the newly constituted campaign committee headed by Mr. Babatunde Adedoyin.

The two flagbearers of the party for House of Representatives and House of Assembly, Hon. Toyin Fayinka and Hon. Yinka "Esho" Kazeem, also addressed members at the meeting.

The party candidates in their brief messages appealed to members to always make themselves

available throughout the campaign period. They were full of excitement to see the readiness and enthusiasm towards the commencement of the campaign

Other aspirants for the House of Representatives and House of Assembly, including the newly appointed Special Adviser to Governor on Tourism, Arts and Culture, Barr. Femi Martins.

LUTH marks 60th anniversary with free medical outreach

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), Idi Araba, last week, organized free medical outreach for the residents of Mushin as part of activities to mark its 60th anniversary.

Delivering the message of Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye (Executive Chairman of Mushin Local Government), the Supervisor for Health, Hon. Femi Nuga, expressed appreciation to the entire management of LUTH for the laudable programme.

He affirmed the commitment of the chairman and government of Lagos State to quality healthcare services and well being of the people of Mushin Local Government area.

Nuga used the opportunity to inform the people of the planned distribution of 10,000 free one year health insurance policy to residents of Mushin and Lagos State by the Lagos State Health Management Agency.

The coordinator of the outreach, Dr. Alero Roberts, expressed

gratitude to the council chairman for the mutual partnership they have enjoyed from the council management and the entire people of Mushin LG.

She stated that being the host community which has been supportive in terms of security, provision of human resources and other areas of mutual benefits to the health institution, there is no other way to give back than helping to improve their health status.

The free medical outreach programme, which took place at Eko Boys High School open field in Mushin, included free medical consultation, free oral health services, free dental health services, free eye care, screening exercise, check of sugar level in the blood, check on blood pressure, free pharmaceutical services with dispensary of prescribed drugs for patients and general medical care for members of the host community.



Legacy 1955 Museum site

Bamigboye sympathizes with victims of collapsed building

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has commiserated with the victims of collapsed building which occurred last week at 2-4 Oye Sonuga street at Oye roundabout, Off Isolo road, in Mushin area. Bamigboye, who visited the site with some of his cabinet members, expressed sympathy with victims of the disaster as he appealed to sympathizers to allow staff of the Lagos State

Emergency Management Agency and other rescue operators perform their duties effectively.

Staff of the LASEMA Response Unit, National Emergency Management Agency, Lagos State Building Control Agency, Red Cross and other rescue operators were at the site carrying out rescue operations.

The chairman also advised residents within the area to be calm and allow government officials operate without any hindrance.



The collapsed building

Aganga canvasses support for APC candidates

APC candidate flags off campaign



Hon. Lanre Ogunyemi

The All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate for the House of Representatives in Ojo Federal Constituency, Hon. Lanre Ogunyemi, has commenced his campaign by sensitizing his supporters on the importance of number in winning elections.

He noted that the numbers of the electorate in each political unit can either make or mar the success of a candidate, charging them to make sure they increase in number for the success of the elections.

Ogunyemi said the party with the highest number usually excels which is why candidates involve in branding and canvassing relentlessly to solicit votes.

He said importantly, the contribution of all residents, be they young or old, towards the success of the election shows a sequential arrangement of how both the candidate and electorate have a dependent nature on one another.

He reasoned that in electoral processes, electorate are engaged in searching for politicians with profitable qualities that involve the track record of their accomplishments, credibility, integrity, probity, character, honesty, soundness and incorruptibility from the inception of their political career.

He encouraged residents in Ojo Constituency to engage in the electoral process, saying their votes count a lot towards their political aspirations.

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A political member of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Ojo Local Government, Hon. Olawale Aganga has declared his absolute support for the party's flag bearers at all levels.

Aganga, who was earlier listed by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as the All Progressives Grand

Alliance (APGA) party's candidate for the House of Representatives in Ojo Federal Constituency, said he has come back to support the APC candidate after he was denied the right to represent his party. He said that he has defected to the APC and is ready to support the party wholeheartedly.

According to him, he will campaign for all the APC candidates starting from the

presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Governor Babajide Sanwoolu, and all other candidates.

He encouraged all his fans to collect their PVCs and come out in numbers to vote for his political colleagues.

Aganga further cautioned them to avoid void votes and political violence in order not to be disqualified during electioneering.



Hon. Olawale Aganga while speaking with newsmen

The 2022/2023 Rotary Club of Okota Imaginative President, Rotarian Victor Oderinde has disclosed his intention to run an all-inclusive governance by adapting and retuning the rotary order for better development and investiture.

He said his administration has outlined community productive projects such as widows empowerment, job creation, sponsoring vocational trainers, feeding prisoners and more.

Oderinde revealed that his administration's key projects are to ensure donating computer sets to public schools, kit indigent

I'll adapt and return Rotary order, Oderinde pledges

primary school pupils with school uniforms, school bags, writing materials and more, and sponsor 10 indigent students for GCE and JAMB among others. He added that he will work on strengthening and expanding the club by bringing in new members into the club for them to be part of the humanitarian services Rotary engages in while fostering unity among all.

Meanwhile, the immediate

past Change Maker President, Rotarian Gabriel Ogogua appreciated all members for contributing towards executing the seven areas of focus in areas like empowerment, health, education, and other sectors.

As the past president, he was able to execute changes through humanitarian services in the community through their support and commitment which is worth reckoning with.



President being sworn-in at RC Okota

Orenuga gives his administration pass mark

The immediate past State Coordinator of Nigeria Association of Refrigerator and Air-conditioning Practitioners (NARAP), Lagos State chapter, Pastor Gabriel Orenuga has listed mind-blowing projects his administration achieved which, he said, has become a legacy for succeeding administrations.

He stated that they had strengthened the bond between the Lagos State Government, Private investors and NARAP.

He said their involvement

in various activities such as the ozone day celebration among others will inculcate in their community engagement and humanitarian services.

Orenuga said their chapter has on various occasions outshone counterparts at the National level as they embark on training which educated them on the present technological standard about their line of expertise.

Meanwhile, the coordinator of the newly elected Caretaker Committee from Surulere

Zone, Mr Humphrey Ndubuisi assured that the committee which is to oversee the affairs of the association for the next three months while organizing an election procedure for the emergence of a new coordinator, will ensure fairness, justice and equity in administering the association.

He appreciated all members for the confidence they have in assigning his team; Mr Hakeem Olajide from Ikotun Zone as the secretary, Mr Niya Ajibade



NARAP outgoing president and executives of newly elected Caretaker Committee

from Ejigbo Zone as the Treasurer, Mr Taofiki Adebayo from Somolu Zone as the Public Relations Officer and Mr Wakili Akinosho from Mushin Zone as the

Financial Secretary, the opportunity to serve them while applauding the coordination that his executives had showcased after being assigned the duty.

Rasheedat Ajibade is my role model - Bello

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria Women U17 side player, Amina Bello, has named Rasheedat Ajibade as her role model and she anticipates to play in Europe sooner. "Rasheedat Ajibade is my role model and I hope to play in Europe soon." In an exclusive chat with ECHONEWS, she said her memorable moment so far in her career was when she made her debut for the Flamingoes in the African 17 qualifiers. The player gave kudos to Naija Ratels and SGH Sports Academy Amazons for developing her to be an icon on the world stage. "It was not an easy job though, but I give thank to Almighty God for making me to be among the players that made the list for Nigeria under 17 team to the FIFA U17 Women World Cup in India. Firstly I felt scared but later I tried to adapt to the

playing. I gained a lot though it was not easy. I'm not the best but I do give my best through the help of God and my coaches. "It has really been a great journey so far. I want to really thank my coach Bankole Olowookere and Barrister Paul Edeh for giving me the opportunity to showcase my God given talent and being a father to me and giving me a platform to help me improve in my playing ability. I promise even as I am going to the World Cup in India, I promise to make them proud. "My memorable moment since playing football was when I played the U17 qualifiers match. It was a nice and a great experience travelling from one country to another and it was really a great one playing in different atmospheres. It was totally different and indeed, it was really a nice and memorable moment for me.



Amina Bello

Tobi Amusan becomes Glo brand ambassador

By Saheed Afolabi

The Nigerian giant telecommunication company, Globacom, has announced the global athletics sensation, Tobi Amusan, as one of its brand ambassadors. The world-renowned Commonwealth 100 meters hurdles champion, was unveiled at a ceremony held at the Mike Adenuga Towers, Victoria Island, Lagos. Regional Manager, Sales, Lagos, Mr. Lawrence Odediran, disclosed that Amusan's enlistment was to reward her for her outstanding achievements as well as promote Nigerian sports while encouraging the future generation to pursue their dreams no matter the challenges against them. He said: "At Globacom, we are very proud of what Tobi Amusan has achieved in her athletics career. She is an embodiment of the Nigerian spirit of resilience, hard work, and enterprise which enabled her to excel irrespective of the enormity of the challenges she encountered in her quest for success. These are qualities that Globacom identifies with. "Tomorrow is also waiting for other determined Nigerian and African youths who begin their preparations today. We,

therefore, urge them not to be discouraged by present challenges, but to continue to strive to realize their dreams."

Drawing from a Malcom X quote, the Glo manager noted that "the future belongs to those who prepare for it today", adding that "she prepared very hard in the previous years and today belongs to her."

Responding, Amusan praised Globacom for giving her the privilege to become an ambassador, promising to be a good representative of the brand

at all times across the globe.

"I am proud to be associated with Glo as its brand ambassador. It is a proudly Nigerian company doing great things and empowering Nigerians. I am grateful to the Chairman, Dr. Mike Adenuga, Jr., for giving me this amazing opportunity," she said.

Amusan, the first Nigerian champion in a world athletic event won the gold medal in the 100 meters hurdles event at the 2022 World Athletics

Championships setting a new world record of 12.12 seconds in the semifinal. She also finished with 12.06 seconds in the final to take the gold medal. She is a double winner in the African Games championship in the event, winning back-to-back African and Commonwealth titles in 2018 and 2022 in the 100m hurdles event. Amusan topped her laurels with a 12.29-second win in the 100m hurdles at the Zurich Diamond League event.



We capitalize on Profemateur Cup to discover hidden talents - Olajide Royal

By Saheed Afolabi

The chief organizer of women based competition, Profemateur Cup, Olajide Royal has described the competition as an avenue to discover hidden talents and expose them to international standard. Olajide added that this year's edition is the 7th as individual prizes will be

given at the end of each match day with an improved welfare package. "Expect a better tournament this year as the Profemateur 7-aside Women Football Tournament will be clocking 7 years with this year's edition. We are making it as big as we can and giving opportunity to many upcoming players to exhibit their talents.

"In this seventh edition, we will also be giving sporty gifts to the players for each game Woman of the Match which has never happened before. The Cash Prizes for the winning players will also be raised as we are working hard to get this sponsored as many Nigeria football prominent has been contacted for noticeable contributions. "As it has always been, we

stage this competition every year to celebrate the great achievement of Nigeria Women National teams (Super Falcons), the Nigeria Women Football League (NWFL) Players and other Women Footballers across the globe. "We are capitalizing on this to give platform to discovery of hidden talents and exposing them.



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