

# Echoneews

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# Ejigbo Central Motor Park: Obe to Seek Legal Intervention

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) has declared his intention to seek legal intervention as the crisis over the proposed construction of Ejigbo Central Motor Park took another dimension last week.

The issue has continued to be worsen between the local council authority and HRM, the Ojon of Ejigbo and Ijan Land, Oba Morufu Adekunle Adisa Ojoola.

Last week, the council commenced the construction of the park as the contractor, Hazland-M Builders and Properties Limited, deployed its workers on the site to begin the project.

However, it was reported that the monarch allegedly sent people to disrupted the construction of the park, chasing away workers from the site.

It is said to be the first ever central motor park to be built in Ejigbo. The workers had begun the construction on the site earmarked for the purpose which is located under the high tension wire at Iyana-Ejigbo, on Tuesday, last week, when the workers were chased away.

The council chairman has called for the support of the security agencies as he had a closed-door meeting with the Nigeria Police Force (NPF), the Department of State Security (DSS) and the Lagos Neighborhood Security Corps (LNSC).

Obe explained that the monarch sent his chiefs led by Musibau Balogun and some other people to chase away the workers.

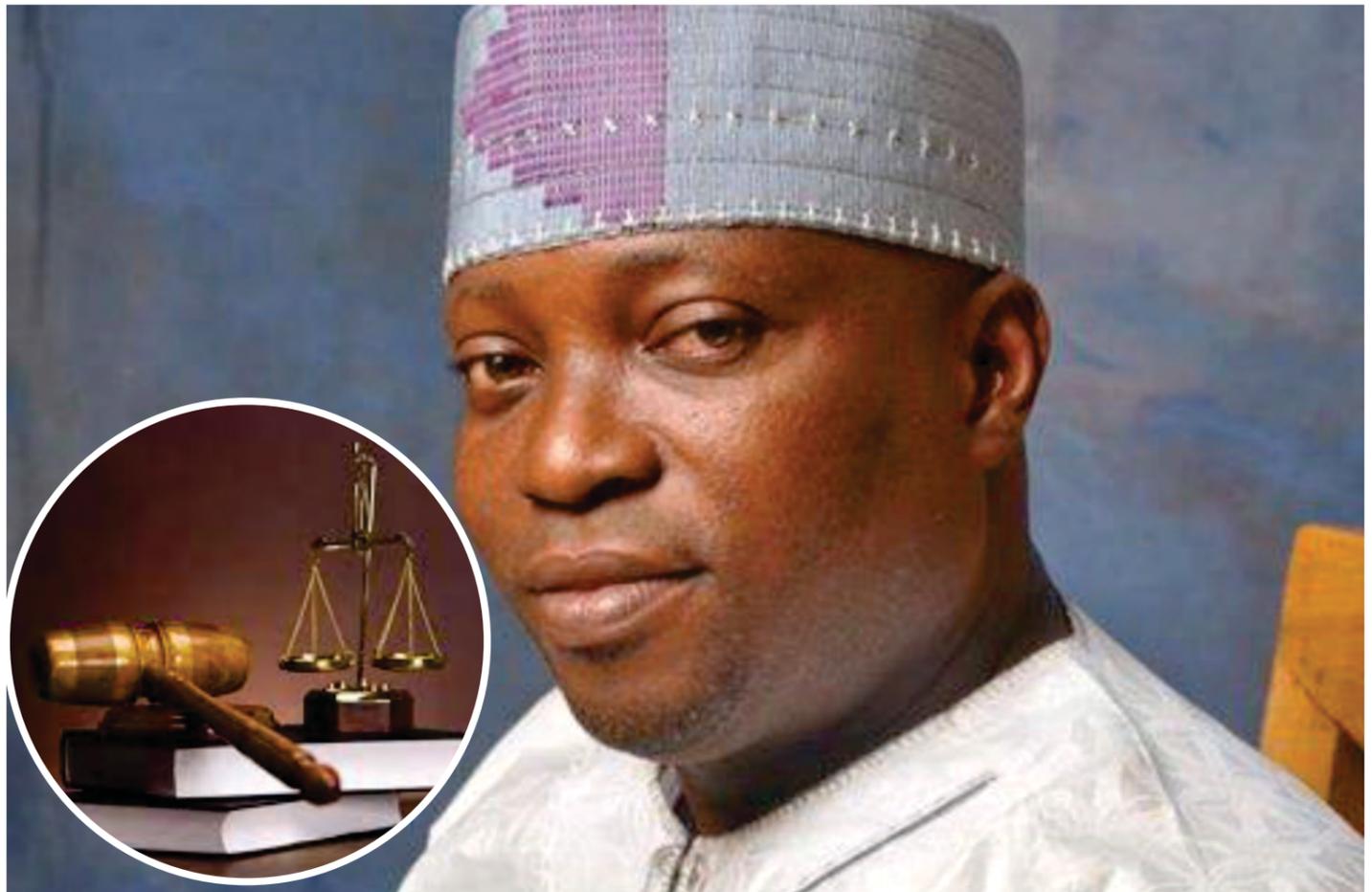
"This was done without pre-informing the Council Chairman or presenting any formal document from the state government," he said.

Obe, who wondered why the royal father was opposing his move on the project, explained that since the beginning of his first tenure in 2017, he had never denied the Kabiyesi of his rights, including salary and imprest.

"I don't even stop the Kabiyesi from doing whatever he wants, so far it doesn't disturb the government.

"However, the Kabiyesi had never joined hands in developing Ejigbo, nor has he written to the state government to assist the LCDA through any means," he said.

While challenging the monarch on the reason for disrupting the project, the council boss invited the security



Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe)

agencies to witness the event and tighten the security of the local council, since it is obvious that some people are out to deliberately cause trouble.

As gathered by ECHONEWS, the idea of constructing a standard motor park in Ejigbo was conceived in 2011 during the tenure of Hon. Kehinde Bamgbetan as the council chairman while Obe was the vice.

However, the project could not be executed then but was presented again during the first tenure of of the incumbent council chairman in 2017.

Again, it could not be executed due to other numerous projects being focused on.

Obe told ECHONEWS that since its conception, the Ojon of Ejigbo was informed of the project and was carried along.

He said he had promised during his campaign to embark on the project during his second term in office which commenced this year.

Making explanation about the land being used for the project which has being the bone of contention between the monarch and the council, Obe said:

"The stretch of land was originally under the control of the state government, but after several interventions and communication with the ministry of

transportation, it was handed over to Ejigbo LCDA for the construction of garage and shops.

"The Ministry served series of demolition notice, before going ahead with the demolition. The Ministry also cleared the rubbles before handing it to the Local Council. Before the back-and-forth interaction with the Ministry of Transportation, the Kabiyesi had been reminded of the plan and he didn't oppose it. Although at some point it was discovered that the Kabiyesi stylishly delayed its progress.

"Some property owners and stakeholders had also been invited by the Council Chairman to formally inform them of the plan. Initially they were pleased and showed some level of understanding. But after meeting with the Kabiyesi, they changed their tone and expressed displeasure. Even after the demolition, another stakeholders meeting was held at the project site. Concerned property owners, artisans, traders and community members were invited to keep them abreast of the plan.

"Now work has started and the Kabiyesi has chased away the workers."

Meanwhile, Obe assured residents of Ejigbo that he would go extra mile to ensure that communal growth and development always supersede

individual interest for all to enjoy the dividends of democracy.

Meanwhile various reactions have trailed the proposed construction of the central motor park in the council area.

Prior to the clearing of the land for the project, the council and the concerned people including community stakeholders had engaged in series of meeting where the issue of demolition of buildings on the land was resolved.

The victims of the demolished shops while speaking to ECHONEWS expressed their opinion over the incident.

A male seamster, Mr Sulaimon Ilyas whose shop was demolished disclosed that the council's interest to construct a central park is a good move but the constraint in information dissemination should be efficiently considered as most shop traders were not aware of the development until two days before the day of demolition which has affected most traders.

He solicited compensation or allocation of another trading space to them.

A Point of Sales (POS) operator, Mrs. Zainab AbdulRahman on her part appreciated Obe, saying she believed the establishment of a central park would aid transport coordination in Ejigbo.

However, in a related development, a resident of the area who preferred anonymity told ECHONEWS that the demolition exercise was being taken up by the Lagos State Government in an intervention over the Power line infringement in the area.

He said constitutionally, there should be no encroachment on a power line area with a minimum of 50 metres from where it ends but which the demolished setting in the area is totally opposite government's directive.

He revealed that the issue of power line encroachment in Ejigbo has been on for almost two years or thereabout but the residents have shown negligent towards government's warning.

He noted that the state government had earlier given a six months notice, first 21 days notice, second 21 days notice, 7 days notice, first 2 days notice and second 2 days notice before the demolition began.

He said the state government's action is to curb the residential infringement of the land while advising residents to take note of places they intend to rent or lands they intend to buy on future occasions.

Meanwhile, all efforts to contact the Ojon of Ejigbo and or his chiefs proved abortive.

# Obe to decide rate payment modality by Ejigbo marketers

## ... Suspends Ejigbo market Iyaloja, Babaloja

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Hon. Monsurudeen Oloyede (OBE), will today decide on the modality by which the marketers in Ejigbo would be paying their rates and other charges. The council boss has ordered the marketers to stop any payment till the council comes out with a new decision and payment modality. In a circular last week, the council chairman issued a strong warning to the market men and women at Ejigbo Central Market,

Iyana-Ejigbo, to desist from paying any money to anybody till Monday, July 4, 2022, when he would visit the market.

The circular read in part: "This money includes rates to Council Revenue Officers, levy to the Kabiyesi (including the N2,000 for the festive period - "owo odun"), security fee and any other money demanded by anybody (either government official or individual).

"Furthermore, the offices of the "Iya Oja" (female market head) and "Baba Oja" (male market head), have been suspended till further notice.

"Hence, the Executive

Chairman would visit the market on Monday to address the marketers, respond to their questions and listen to their complaints and comments.

"Again, no marketer at Ejigbo Central Market, Iyana-Ejigbo, should pay any money to anybody from now till Monday 4th July, 2022, when the Council Chairman would visit the market."

Obe said based on his commitment to the growth and development of Ejigbo LCDA, he is ready to go extra mile to ensure communal benefit supersedes individual interest in the council area.



Hon. Monsurudeen Oloyede (OBE)

## 2023: Olasoju mobilizes for Tinubu

By Saheed Afolabi

While traction builds up for the 2023 general elections, the chairman of Isolo LCDA, Adebayo Olasoju, has continued to mobilize grassroots support for the All Progressives Congress (APC) presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. Olasoju, while reflecting on Tinubu's performance while in office as governor of Lagos State, appealed for the support of the electorate towards actualization of the presidential ambition of the APC presidential standard-bearer.

He made the remarks when he featured on a bilingual radio phone-in programme "Oselu Today" on Fresh 103.5FM.

The council boss while fielding questions relating to the

candidature of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu as the flag bearer of the ruling party, explained that Asiwaju is the candidate to beat given his wealth of experience in public office and legacy projects that have made Lagos one of the fastest-growing cities in Africa.

Discussing the menace of vote-buying during elections, Olasoju maintained that politicians resort to vote-buying only when their scorecard cannot earn them the willfully given mandate of the voters.

He disclosed that his party frowns at the unhealthy habit and rather puts people elected on the platform of the party on their toes to perform creditably as he went on to correct the notion that the ruling party engaged in vote-buying during the just-concluded gubernatorial election in Ekiti.

Delving into the security of the state, Olasoju allayed fears of a possible security breach in the state, saying the administration of Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu is striving to equip the police adequately while engaging the armed forces in security meetings as the councils are being encouraged to handle security with the sense of importance it deserves by holding security meetings and complement state government's efforts in our respective council areas.

On the home front, Olasoju said his administration has fixed 17 roads within his first eleven months of assuming office while another three are nearing completion among other development programmes which include the monthly care for the elderly programme, distribution of GCE form to students, empowerment for the youths

with many other developmental projects in the pipeline. All these, he said, have been made possible via regular engagement with the stakeholders and opinion molders from the subsisting wards.

On challenges of governance back home, the council boss gave daunting infrastructural needs, unpatriotic conducts such as vandalization of government installations, abuse of environment and unwillingness to key into empowerment programmes as some of the major hurdles before his government. He seized the opportunity to renew his call for the upholding of family values so that every family can turnout good ambassadors for the overall good of the Nigerian society.

Earlier, Olasoju reminded Nigerians of the need to obtain



Hon. Adebayo Olasoju

their permanent voter's card which he likened to cutlass and hoe without which a farmer has no business on the farm.

When asked to share his opinion on the Muslim/Muslim pairing being envisaged from his party's presidential

candidate, Olasoju charged Nigerians to place premium on candidates that can fix the nation rather than the faith they share as hardship or insecurity knows no religion. He expressed optimism that the ASUU/government face-off will be resolved soonest.

# Sanwo-Olu bags health tech governor of the year award

By Saheed Afolabi

Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has bagged the Health Tech Governor of the Year Award at the Nigerian Healthcare Excellence Award (NHEA) 2022.

The award was in recognition of Lagos State Government's outstanding application of technology to solve health problems and improve the quality of life of citizens.

## Obasa appreciates Foundation for support

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa has appreciated the donation of palliatives and campaigns souvenirs for his reelection by a Foundation.

The facilitator, Ilabe Foundation, Mr. Kazeem Adegbite, was applauded for his contribution to the campaign of the Speaker.

Souvenirs donated include Ox branded standing fans, customized polo, caps and replacement of damaged sockets and lights at the Speaker's constituency office(s).

Obasa Chief of Staff, Hon. Sunday Ladipo (Fitila) revealed that the Speaker in appreciation recognised the goodness and selflessness of the Foundation known for its efforts in impacting lives and assist the poor and needy in the community.

He commended the efforts, which he said served as a model to capable minds in Agege to emulate as he urged others to also reach out to the community to help the government in refining the grassroots.

He promised that the Speaker would live up to the expectations of the community in adequately delivering duties and uplift Agege to a greater height.

He, therefore, urged residents to ensure they vote for Obasa for the attainment of his aspiration to make Agege greater.

Speaking after receiving the award, held at the Eko Hotel and Suites, Lagos Island, at the weekend, Sanwo-Olu said his administration was poised to maximize the use of technology in driving an efficient healthcare delivery system that offers qualitative, affordable and accessible health service delivery to citizens.

The Governor, who was represented by the Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi, explained how the State Government leveraged technology in its Covid response, noting that the importance of technology in health service delivery is immeasurable.

He explained that despite the plethora of challenges confronting the health sector, public and private sector providers and industry players still find innovative ways at every point in time to rise to the challenges and overcome public health shocks and crises that the country keeps facing.

According to him, "We do this for one reason, we do this because we're Nigerians and we love Nigeria, and we do this because we are custodians of good health



Governor Babajide Sanwo-olu

and well-being and it is our responsibility to keep our patients healthy and well.

"I think it's important to recognize achievements in the health sector; and as one who is charged with the responsibility of charting the future of the healthcare space in Lagos State, I must say that I'm proud of the contributions and support provided to us by the private

sector.

Earlier, the Chairman Advisory Board of NHEA Dr. Anthony Omolola stated that the special recognition award for the Health Tech Governor of the Year was an acknowledgement of unique way the state government under the administration of Sanwo-Olu has leveraged the use of technology to improve the delivery and increase access to

quality, affordable and efficient health care services to the populace.

Meanwhile, the General Hospital Agbowo also received an award for the most active facility on the Safecare Quality Platform during the award ceremony.

The NHEA is an initiative of Global Health Project and Resources in Partnership with Anadach group.

## OAGH congratulates triplet family, seeks support

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The management of Orile-Agege General Hospital has congratulated the family of new born triplet in the hospital.

The triplet weighing 1.2kg, 1.3kg and 1.5kg respectively were said to have been gifted to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Kabiru Olasunkanmi.

The babies are said to have been birthed through an emery caesarian section at 33 weeks gestational age which necessitated a Neonatal intensive care where they will be put in incubator for about 2-3 weeks for development.

The hospital management disclosed that the infants will also require phototherapy, oxygen therapy, antibiotics, IV fluids, preterm breast milk substitute among other health consumables and highly necessary items for the care of the infants.

Residents have been urged to showcase their benevolent support to the couple as they welcome their innocent lads.

## Resident loses properties to fire incident at Broad Street

By Saheed Afolabi

Residents panicked, jittered in the early hours of Tuesday, when fire gutted a room in a warehouse, located at 118 Broad Street, Lagos Island.

According to eyewitness the incident occurred at about 8am with several items, mostly shoes burnt to ashes.

Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), Dr. Olufemi Oke-Osanyintolu, who confirmed the incident said no casualty recorded.

Oke-Osanyintolu, explained: "The agency responded to the

above incident which was relayed to LASEMA through the Toll Free 112 Emergency Number this morning.

"On arrival at the above scene of the incident, it was

discovered that a room in a warehouse where shoes are stored was gutted by fire.

"The fire ignited as a result of power surge when electricity was restored. Fortunately

there was no casualty in the incident."

Emergency responders at the scene include the Lagos State Fire Service, Federal Fire Service, and Police.



Scene of the fire incident at Broad Street, Lagos Island

# Apapa gridlock increases theft cases in Amuwo-Odofin

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**R**eport has been made that the unending gridlock at Apapa has erupted the consistent case of robbery in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government.

The theft case is said to have greatly affected exporters as their goods are being stolen.

As a result, exporters have decried the breaking of containers of export produce by miscreants and theft of their contents inside the box along the port access roads.

They said the gridlock is caused by the ongoing road construction along the port corridors in the area.

An exporter, Mr. Emmanuel Enahoro, said the gridlock is artificially created by human factors to extort money from truck drivers, exporters, importers and forwarders.

According to him, these human factors have to create traffic by delaying truckers to create room for miscreants to pilfer

export containers.

He revealed that in some cases miscreants tend to steal the truck battery, and collect truckers' phones and other valuable items when they find it difficult to break the container.

Enahoro urged the government to interfere in the present crisis as he noted that the government would as well lose their access to generate foreign exchange once they are unable to export.

He explained that the act of exporting is a dollar business because it generates forex and repatriates it back into the country.

He also lamented about the extortion of the so-called security agents along with First gate to Second gate as exporters must pay before they are allowed to move their truck inside.

He said the challenges are also hindering exporters' ability to fulfil commitments on time and making forwarding and shipment very expensive.



Gridlock in Amuwo-Odofin

## Council encourages youths to travel out

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**A**muwo-Odofin Local Government has enjoined the migration of youths in the community in both inter and intra travelling.

According to them, the process exposes youths to innovative ideas as he observes the difference between their permanent location from other areas.

The Supervisor, Rural Development, Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Hon. Remilekun Olaseni, said they look forward to the travelling of the younger generation to embark on a lawful migration process in search of greener pasture.

She said their acquired knowledge can help boost the working-age

population where their skills contribute to the human capital development of the council on arrival.

She revealed that their interference with several policies in the community will bring about an improved quality of life for residents at the grassroots.

As facilitated by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, Olaseni further noted that their experience would help develop substantial economic benefits where a more flexible labour market, greater skills base and a greater diversity of innovation would be developed. She, therefore, encouraged the contribution of exposed youths towards contributing to the development of the community in the council.

## 5,000 residents to benefit from free Ilera Eko Health Insurance

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**N**o fewer than 5,000 Lagos residents will be offered free enrollment for a health insurance programme known as Ilera Eko Social Health Plan operated by the Lagos State Government.

This was disclosed by the Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Gbenga Omotosho.

According to Omotosho, participants in the Ilera Eko Standard Plan would have free access to high-quality medical services and medications. He disclosed that the Lagos State Social Protection Register is intended to be used in the selection of the nominees for this programme

From the five Ibile divisions of the state, 5000 eligible beneficiaries will be chosen and provided with Universal Health Coverage.

To verify the quality, reliability, and validity of the data collected, the beneficiaries have been identified using a multi-dimensional poverty index method, which also incorporates poverty means-testing.

The commissioner said the beneficiaries will have access to care service as from July 1, 2022.

"Services on the Plan include general consultations; specialist consultations; management of uncomplicated chronic diseases (Diabetes, Hypertension, Asthma); maternal and newborn care;



normal delivery and caesarean section; dental care (with composite filling) and eye care with glasses.

"Others are minor and major surgeries; laboratory tests and scans; HIV/TB Testing services; emergency health services; cancer care and the provision of prescribed drugs.

"The policy cycle under the Ilera Eko Health Insurance Plan runs for 12 calendar months in which an enrollee's policy is due for renewal before the 25th day of the 12th month to enable such subscribers to have access to care the next month (Start of renewed policy cycle)."

Police are searching for two house developers, Oluwasegun Adewara, and one Okeowo, who are on the run after allegedly defrauding about 70 house seekers at Lawanson, in the Surulere area of Lagos State.

It was also learnt that the suspects issued receipts to the victims and gave them separate dates to take ownership of the apartments. When the house seekers got to the house at 16, Zamba Street, Lawason, Surulere, given to them by the developers, it was discovered that the number of house seekers was more than the available apartments in the one storey building.

One of the victims, Jacob Dunya, said the house has just 14 flats, adding that 120 prospective tenants paid to the developers, who disappeared after their fraudulent acts were uncovered.

The Plateau State indigene said: "I paid N600,000 for a mini-flat for a year directly to the account of the developer, Oluwasegun Olanrewaju Adewara, on April 26, 2022. When I visited the house, I noticed that the work at the site was less as it was left for them to fix only the doors and the windows.

"So, they gave last Monday to

# Police after developers for allegedly defrauding house seekers



The one storey building used to defraud house seekers



collect keys to my apartment. But when I got there, the developer told me the place was not ready and said I should return on Monday, June 20, 2022. When I got there, I saw them fixing the keys to the doors and I was told to come back again this week Tuesday.

"I never knew that last Thursday and Friday, people had come around to fight them to access their apartments. I quickly rushed down on Friday and noticed that there were hoodlums around asking people to pay N100,000 so they could break down the padlocks used in locking some of the doors so they could have access to the apartments.

"The developers are nowhere to be found and we are yet to hear from the owners of the land and their lawyers. Over 120 people paid for the 14

flats in this building and more people are still coming. The money people paid will be about N60m because some people made advance payments for five years. They also gave us receipts. The matter was reported at the Itire Police Station."

Jenifer Ihemeje, who happens to be among the victims stated that some of the victims fainted, while some cried.

"I paid N650,000 in April to Mr. Okeowo and others, but they kept postponing till June 14, 2022, when I sent a text

message to threaten them. It was another person who also paid for a flat that informed me that about 10 people paid for a single flat.

"The person said a lot of people gathered at the house on Friday over the incident. So, I rushed down there on Saturday and met people crying, shouting and some people even fainted."

Another victim, Love Chidi, a widow said she paid 250,000 naira for a room in January before going for her husband burial in Abia State.

"But when I returned, the

developers said they had not completed work on the building. My husband died in December and we were sent out of the house we were staying because the building had cracked and was likely to collapse. So, I came here, paid the developer and left for the burial only to return to face this war. There are over 117 people stranded here."

Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer (PRO), Benjamin Hundeyin said that the police are already after the fleeing suspects.

## Court remands man in prison for spiking ladies' drinks

By Saheed Afolabi

Chief Magistrate Court in Surulere, Lagos has ordered that a man, Micheal Igwe, who pleaded guilty to spiking his female friends' drinks be remanded in a correctional centre.

Igwe, who resides in Sabon Gari, Kano, pleaded guilty to substance abuse.

While in the dock, Igwe, insisted that he spiked the women's drinks because he thought they were all having fun.

The Magistrate, Sadiq Bello, ordered that Igwe be remanded in the Nigerian Correctional Service facility in Ikoyi Prisons for facts and

sentencing. Earlier, the Prosecution Counsel, Insp Courage Ekhueorohan told the court that the defendant committed the offence on May 7 at Excellent Hotel, 1 Oyabiyi Street, Off Opopo, Surulere Lagos.

Ekhueorohan said Igwe mixed 'Rohypnol, Tramadol', stout and action bitters in his female friends' drinks without their consent.

He added that the women who were rendered unconscious after taking the drink were immediately rushed to the hospital.

The offence, Ekhueorohan said, contravened the provisions of Section 243 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

## Journalist donates educational materials to blind kids

By Saheed Afolabi

In a bid to reach out to the less privileged in society, a Nigerian journalist identified simply as Arogbonlo Israel has donated instructional materials, drinks, and other items to students of the Pacelli School for the Blind and Partially Sighted Children in Surulere, Lagos. Israel said the donation was part of his aim to celebrate his birthday and also empower the less privileged, especially the children to

inspire action and transform lives.

"Today marks the 5th anniversary of MBS Initiative and also my birthday and it is my pleasure to share the moment with us," he said. He added: "Birthdays for me are moments to give back to society; it is a day to reach out to the unreached and transform lives positively.

"The MBS Initiative, which was founded in 2018 has played a huge role in reaching out to people through empowerment programmes, charity outreaches and human

capacity development.

"The initiative is all-inclusive and it is evident in its mission to bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots in the society through its humanitarian interventions."

In response, the principal of the school, Sister Jane Onyeneri, commended the efforts of the MBS Initiative and the founder in the area of support for the institution. "On behalf of the staff and students of Pacelli School for the Blind, we want to thank you for coming to celebrate today with us, especially for

all the good things you have been doing for humanity," she said.

Items donated to the school include Braille papers (10 packs), guiding canes, drinks, and biscuits.

The Pacelli school for the blind and partially sighted children, Onyeneri stated, was officially opened in 1962 as a non-governmental and non-fee-paying institution, which depends on donations from religious bodies, corporate organizations, and philanthropic individuals for its day-to-day running.

# NAOS graduates 34 army personnel

By Saheed Afolabi

The Nigerian Army Ordnance School (NAOS) in Epe, Lagos State, has graduated 20 officers and 14 soldiers in its Armament and Ammunition Technical Course 2022.

The training was to further enhance materiel management for the Nigerian army.

The General Officer Commanding (GOC) 81 Division, NA, Maj. Gen. Umar Musa, represented by the Division's Chief of Staff, Brig.-Gen. Dapo Oloyede at the ceremony which ended late Friday at the Nigerian Army Cantonment, Epe, said human capacity development remained a major component for attainment of professionalism and success in every organization.

According to Musa, effective training provides a critical force multiplier effect for the successful conduct of missions and it requires constant innovation to cope with and overcome dynamic security challenges.

"The complex security environment in Nigeria demands ingenuity and resourcefulness in order to defeat all adversaries," he said.

Musa said the Chief Of Army Staff (COAS) Lt.-Gen. Faruk Yahaya, provided strategic guidance for mission oriented training in all army formations and training institutions for the accomplishment of missions.

"The NOAS is a strong pillar for capacity development in the management of arms, ammunition, clothing, and technical stores which are the life wire of military operations.

"The professional management of materiel in peace and war times by officers and soldiers trained in the school has contributed immensely to combat efficiency in all NA operations and exercises.

"This underscores the importance of effective logistics training for the attainment of the COAS' vision for the Nigerian army," he said.

According to the GOC, the COAS' vision is to attain a professional Nigerian Army ready to accomplish assigned mission within a joint environment in defence of Nigeria.



The army personnel

"The transformation and equipping of the Nigerian Army to effectively achieve this vision and defend the country in a joint environment can only thrive on sound knowledge of materiel management," he said.

The GOC said the welfare of NA personnel was paramount to the COAS who had continuously provided infrastructural development geared toward a

conducive environment for the benefit of personnel.

Musa also enjoined all officers and soldiers to continue to work in synergy with other security agencies until all security threats were eliminated to ensure the prosperity of our nation.

"As the nation is gradually moving toward another election year, you must remain a-political and work assiduously to protect

the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria," he said.

Also speaking, Maj.-Gen. Adeyemi Alabi, Commandant, NAOS, Epe said that the school recently, re-invigorated its training to include tactical activities toward having materiel managers capable of discharging technical and tactical responsibilities.

Alabi noted that the school's

2022 Training Cycle, witnessed improved collaboration with professional organizations to enhance the capacity of staff and students.

"This collaboration with experts is also transforming the research and development efforts in the school.

"Within the last seven months, the school has produced Hand-held Metal Detectors, Composite

Propellant and Rocket Artillery amongst others," he said.

The commandant urged the graduands to apply the knowledge they had acquired to contribute positively to the attainment of technical and tactical missions in their respective formations and units. Alabi said the COAS had also provided several laudable projects and facilities to enhance the welfare of troops in the cantonment as well as learning in NAOS.

"We thank the COAS for approving the construction of a maternity centre for improved healthcare delivery to the Papa Community in Epe as part of the COAS Quick Impact Projects.

"This has further boosted the cordial relationship between the NA and the good people of Epe and Lagos State at large," the commandant said.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the school also launched its maiden edition of NAOS Magazine to serve as a medium of showcasing achievements and institutional memory.

Also, 10 trees were planted around the school as a planting exercise designed to break wind, prevent erosion, desertification and regenerate vegetation for human and environmental sustainability.

## INEC pleads with residents to pick up PVCs

By Saheed Afolabi

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has appealed to the residents of Epe to pick up their permanent voter's cards (PVCs).

The commission noted that there were lots of PVCs in its office in Epe, yet to be collected.

INEC Electoral Officer, Epe Local Government, Mr. Sanmi Ogunmosunle, who made this known, urged the residents to pick up their PVCs at the INEC office in Epe.

Ogunmosunle disclosed this at the 8th Annual Constituency Stakeholders Meeting organized by the

Lagos State House of Assembly in Epe with the theme "2023 General Elections: The Imperatives of Permanent Voter's Card."

"Although, some people have been coming to collect their PVCs, the number of people who have collected their PVCs are more than those who have not collected but I encourage them to come and collect it.

"I, therefore, encourage those who are yet to collect to do so while those who have collected should exercise their franchise in the 2023 general elections.

"Your vote is your right, get your voters cards and exercise your franchise. It is your right to vote as a citizen once eligible," he said.

An All Progressives Congress (APC) Chieftain in Epe, Mr Kehinde Adeniyi, advised the youths to get their PVCs and ensure they voted for their choice candidate in the forthcoming general elections.

"Your destiny is in your hands. your vote is your power, use it wisely," he said.

Adeniyi urged the INEC officials to create an enabling environment to encourage the youth and residents to come for registration.

Earlier, the House of Assembly Member, representing Epe Constituency 1, Hon. Abiodun Tobun, appreciated residents, leaders, traditional rulers and youths for their support toward his victory in the just concluded APC primaries.

"I am more than grateful and appreciative. I pledge to continued quality representation for my people.

"I will encourage you all to get your PVCs to vote in the coming elections in 2023.

"Kindly get your PVC. This is the best time, we need you all in order to vote your conscience in the coming general election. We promise never to let you down.

"The importance of PVCs cannot be over emphasised. Get your voter's card. It is your citizens right," he said.

Tobun mentioned some of his achievements at the house as; renovations of over 15 roads across the constituency, installation of solar power street lights and boreholes,

distribution of educational materials, youths empowerment programmes and cash grants to the needy among others.

"These are part of my stewardship and I pledge to do more, as we have more undisclosed projects to be achieved soonest.

Similarly, Hon. Sylvester Ogunkelu, member, Lagos House of Assembly, representing Epe Constituency 2, applauded the youth and residents for the collection of their PVCs.

"This shows that our people know the importance of their PVC. I have my PVC, therefore, my constituents should have theirs too," he said.

# LASG seeks partnership with diaspora filmmakers on quality production

By Edith Igbokwe

The Lagos State Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Uzamat Akinbile has expressed the readiness of the state government to partner with filmmakers in the diaspora for outstanding performance. Akinbile stated that the partnership is to produce

world-class movies that will showcase the state before the international community. She said the state government believed that the proposed partnership with household names in the film industry will create more jobs for creative youths who are residents of the state. She reiterated that the collaboration was part of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos state's passion

for a diversified economy through the creative industry. "This is an epoch event, which is a partnership between the Africa Film Academy and Lagos State Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture under the auspices of the state governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu. "This initiative and many more are some of the evidence of the state government's efforts in

pursuing a diversified economy using film production as a vital tool." She charged the filmmakers to leverage on the diverse cultures and heritage in Lagos to promote the sustainable development of tourism as a viable sector of the economy in a manner that will enhance, promote and preserve the richness, quality, and unique features of Lagos.

Anyiam-Osigwe said the event was in pursuit of a diversified economy, which the Lagos State Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture was striving to achieve since the inception of the administration of Governor Sanwo-Olu. She disclosed that recently, the state government gave funds to filmmakers to produce films and engaged Africa Film Academy to train

over 600 filmmakers in Lagos as some of the efforts made so far by the state government in the film industry. She noted that the state government is considering a collaboration of bringing the filmmakers to Lagos to work on projects within the Lagos metropolis like the planned new Film City which is intended to be a major film hub for the practitioners.

Chrisland School, Ikeja has harped on the promotion of extra curriculum activities to properly groom the students as leaders for the tasks ahead of them. The founder of the school, High Chief, Dr. Mrs. Winifred Awosika OON, charged the educators to be up and doing, saying they are expected not to solely focus on churning out intellectually gifted and brilliant students but also developing the students with extra curriculum activities to scale up their skills. She believed that the outcome will make students more versatile and aid their personal development in the future. According to her, the right step for a child is to be given the best possible education and training as a springboard to a future of distinction. She encouraged the students to participate in extra curriculum activities, saying it is a key component of the psychomotor domain of learning, and the school's objective of developing well-rounded students.

She charged the students to step away from their classes to get rejuvenated, stating that this can only occur when they engage in other activities that are voluntary and social in nature. According to her, taking part in extra curriculum activities decreases the possibility of students committing criminal offences, reducing anti-social behaviours, helping build teamwork and problem-solving skills, developing social relationships, and achieving higher knowledge retention level and superior academic performance. "By participating in these non-

## Awosika harps on extra curriculum activities for student's dev

By Edith Igbokwe

academic activities, children not only get to be mentally re-energised but also develop and pursue a special interest and develop skills in extramural activities, which may be of immense benefit to them later in life." Awosika gave instances of the school extra curriculum activities such as Foundation Stage Spelling Bee, a competition exclusively for its nursery pupils who, during the competition, are required to spell a selection of words, usually with varying degrees of difficulty to motivate students to learn standardised spelling, as well as sharpen their command of the English language.

Other activities organized by the school, as she said, include Boys' Scout, Girls' Guide, and Red Cross, as well as gymnastics, dance, drama, and cultural clubs, Jets Club, Press and Literary Club, Geographical Society, Arts Club, and ICT Club. She further encouraged the students to also participate in sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, athletics, tennis, cricket, chess, handball, gymnastics, and swimming. "They help to focus more on the instructional aspects and provide practical learning experiences for the students on top of academic studies and enable them to initiate social interactions in a more relaxed environment," she said.



Chrisland School advises educators to imbibe extracurricular activities

## DPP drops minor defilement charge against school bus driver

The Lagos State Department of Public Prosecutions has recently dropped the defilement charge filed against a former school bus driver, Kingsley Okwumbu due to insufficient facts to establish a prima facie case against the suspect. Okwumbu, a former school driver of Beehive Nursery and Primary School, Agidingbi in Ikeja, was accused of defiling a three-year-old pupil of the school. The 37-year-old man can now heave a sigh of relief due to the legal advice signed by the Director of the DPP, Dr. Babajide Martins.

It was contained in a legal advice with reference number LIP/MISC/2022/76/12, dated June 7 but made available on Wednesday. The advice was in response to a letter from the Divisional Police Headquarters, Isokoko Division, Agege, Lagos, with reference number CR:3100/LS/ISK/VOL.TI/22, dated June 4. The content of the advice, partly read, "This office is of the view that there are insufficient facts to establish a prima facie offence of defilement of a child contrary to Section 37 of the Criminal Laws of

Lagos State, 2015, against Kingsley Okwumbu." This is an indication that the legal advice stated that the timelines of the alleged crime provided by the complainant did not match the available documented facts. "Facts reveal that Page B1 Okwumbu was no longer the driver of the school bus as at March 23, when the alleged incident occurred as Page B1 had been relieved of the duty of driving the school bus on March 14, for non-maintenance of the bus. "The statement of Page B3 – Osem Aba Matthew (a new driver) who

took over from Page B1 also revealed that each day pupils are picked from their respective houses. "There is an entry book and same is completed by bus attendant when pupils are returned. There was never a time when the bus driver was alone with any of the pupils in the bus. "The above casts a material doubt as to who in fact sexually defiled or molested Page A5 (the child). "The law is settled that where there is material doubt as to whether the defendant commits the alleged offence, such doubt shall be resolved in favour of the defendant."

this is according to the legal advice. The DPP's information in the duplicate case file revealed that, while the mother of the toddler was bathing her child, she noticed that she cries anytime she wanted to wash her private part. Upon inquiry, her daughter revealed that it was Okwumbu that touched her "wiwi bom bom." The DPP further said though medical report indicated blunt forceful penetration of the child's genitalia, as facts in the duplicate case file, the allegations against Okwumbu were stoutly denied.

# LASG empowers 250 women in Ikorodu

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State Government has extended its short-term training and empowerment programmes to 250 women residents of Agbede Community in Ikorodu-North LCDA to grant them financial independence.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the programme held on Thursday at the Zeekay Multi-purpose hall in Olosugbo-Ikorodu, the Commissioner for Women and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Cecilia Bolaji Dada, said the initiative was part of the State government's poverty reduction strategy to empower vulnerable women with skills for financial independence. Dada, who was represented at the event by the Director, Women Affairs Department of the Ministry, Mrs. Olufunke Shyllon, added that training is available in various vocations that would alleviate the sufferings of the indigent and vulnerable.

Her words: "We do not want any form of deterrence that could sabotage the efforts of our graduands, hence, the focus on short-term skills acquisition vocations that they can do, even in the corners of their homes to earn their desired level of income."

"The Lagos State Government has zero-tolerance for idleness and mediocrity, as such, I implore every graduand present here today, to make good use of the skills learnt in order to go from a state of dependency to self-reliance".

Advising the participants to embrace self-development and proficiency in their chosen trades, the Commissioner urged the beneficiaries of the training programme to continuously sharpen their skills with a view to becoming masters of their crafts.

She also called on prospective students, particularly unemployed persons or the underemployed, to enrol at any of the 19 Skills Acquisition Centres offering various vocational training of six to 12

months duration.

In his remarks, the Chairman of Ikorodu-North LCDA, Mr. Adebisi Banjo, represented by the Secretary of the Council, Niyi Odugbesi, expressed gratitude to the state government for the programme and encouraged the beneficiaries to maximise the benefits of their newly acquired knowledge.

He said: "I am immensely grateful for this empowerment programme that WAPA

brought to Ikorodu-North LCDA. We are quite lucky to have such a laudable opportunity which I am quite certain will have a positive socio-economic impact on the community. Therefore, I urge the beneficiaries of this programme to maximise their newly acquired skills".

The Community Development Committee (CDC) Chairman, Prince Adeniran Ogunbanwo applauded the initiative and thanked WAPA for its

unrelenting commitment to the improvement of women across the State.

"This is indeed a significant day for the people of Ikorodu-North LCDA and I am overwhelmed by the dedication and passion of the beneficiaries. I am particularly grateful to WAPA for being a vessel of change in the lives of these women. Out of the 350 Wards in Ikorodu, 35 have today benefitted from this life developmental initiative. We

look forward to having the remaining wards covered before the end of this administration", he said.

The graduands were presented Certificates and Starter Packs for Wig-Making and Hair Braiding, Make-up and Gele Tying, Tie and Dye, Catering and Confectionaries, Garments-Stoning, Pomade Making, Insecticide and Stove Wick, Ankara Craft and Interior Decoration, among others.

The participants expressed

gratitude to the Lagos State Government for the tuition-free empowerment programme and professed happiness that the training was an eye-opener.

The strategic empowerment scheme was designed for women residents of Agbede-Olorogbo, Agbede-Olusugbo, Agbede-Ebuewa and Agbede-Omolaiye communities in Ikorodu-North Local Council Development Area of the State.

## Hassan emerges 9th district chairman of ICAN Ikorodu

By Saheed Afolabi

Princess Kafilat Hassan has been installed as the 9th chairman of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) Ikorodu & District Society for the year 2022/2023. The Institute had its investiture of the 9th District Chairman and Inauguration of the Executive Committee on the June 25, 2022. The 58th President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, Traditional Rulers, ICAN Council Members, Patrons and Matrons, and ICAN Brand Ambassadors and others graced the occasion at Ikorodu ultra-modern town hall.

Explaining its essence, Alhaji Awojobi Lateef, chairman of investiture and inauguration planning committee, said the District has grown in diverse ways in the few years of its existence and the members of ICAN Ikorodu & District Society are celebrating God's grace by taking a step forward to also launch ICAN EXAM Centre in Imota.

Olusola Akinloye, the 8th district chairman, listed numerous projects executed by the organization, extending his profound affection to the council members and staff for genuine cooperation and support.

Princess Hassan stated that her emergence was a great honour and rare privilege to sit as the 9th chairman of the meritorious and award-winning District, ICAN Ikorodu and District Society.

Extending credits to her professional colleagues in ICAN

Ikorodu and District Society for the confidence reposed in her to carry the mantle of leadership for the 2022/2023 Chairmanship year, she said: "I want to reassure you of my commitment to service.

"I sincerely appreciate the 58th President of our great institute, Mallam Tijjani Musa Isa, FCA, the Council Members and the Body of Past Chairmen for making this event a reality.

"This medium is to especially appreciate my mentor, Rev. Samson Adewale Disu, FCA, fondly called 'The Mandela', the District's Pioneer Chairman, who encouraged me to join the District Executive in 2012 and never stopped supporting my ambitions."



Princess Kafilat Hassan during her inauguration ceremony

## Group canvasses against drug abuse in secondary school

By Saheed Afolabi

Ikorodu Metropolitan Lions club has preached against drug abuse among secondary school students.

The club took its advocacy to Community Senior Secondary School in Baiyeku, Ikorodu last week as one of its last projects for its project calendar year.

Under the leadership of Lion Babatunde Shobowale (President, Ikorodu Metro Lions Club), the team took its crusade against drug abuse (as a preference undertaking) to the internal axis of Igbogbo Baiyeku

LCDA in Ikorodu division.

Collaborating with the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Ikorodu Area Command, students of the public institution were thoroughly occupied and warned to stay out of peer influence and entrapment that is directed toward drug abuse exercises.

Lion (Prince) Tunji Oredipe (Chairman, Club Project execution committee) said the club concluded to tilt its project towards drug abuse based on the rising concerns of young lads getting affected by the problematic lifestyle, which is seizing its toll against the

advancement of the community.

Representing the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Mrs. Bilikis Sanni, Assistant Commander of Narcotics (ACN), Professional Counselor in Charge Drug Demand Reduction Units of Ikorodu Area Command, Kasolori, advised the students to listen to both their parents and teachers.

She told them to avoid staying around after school hours, deterring themselves from entertaining unlawful activities.

Urging the young scholars to protect their brains, control their mindset and ascertain

their age growth, Sanni encouraged pupils to be bold enough to ask questions and gain better knowledge to avoid falling prey to the health crisis.

Voluntary members of the club further shared flyers to both the school administration and pupils, displaying practical analysis of the crusade to help aid better understanding.

Before the end of the programme, students were allowed to ask cogent questions relating to the subject matter, obtaining professional advice and admonition to clear their doubts and scepticism.

As the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) recently confirmed extension of June 30 deadline for the ongoing Continuous Voter Registration (CVR), the authorities of Kosofe Local Government and its LCDAs have continued to mobilize their residents for the Permanent Voter's Card (PVC) registration.

The chairman of Kosofe LG, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe, promised to ensure that residents are assisted to get their PVCs.

Also, the chairman of Agboyi Ketu LCDA, Hon. Dele Oshinowo, said he had been mobilizing residents to Ajelogbo shopping arcade where the Independent Electoral Commission

# Councils in Kosofe mobilize residents for PVC registration

officials are carrying out the continuous voter registration.

In the same vein, Ikosi Isheri LCDA chairman, Mrs. Samiat Bada, said she dedicated a special committee in seven wards to assist and mobilise residents to designated centres.

She added that she has also embarked on publicity and awareness campaigns on the ongoing exercise.



## Sanni charges residents to obtain PVC

By Edith Igbokwe

The Lawmaker representing Kosofe Constituency 1 at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Okanlawon Sanni, has advised Kosofe constituents to obtain their Permanent Voter's Cards (PVCs).

He made the appeal during a constituency stakeholders' meeting with the residents with the theme "2023 General Election: The Imperatives Of PVC".

The just concluded 8th stakeholders meeting organized by the 9th assembly ran concurrently in the 40 constituencies across Lagos State.

Sanni stated that it is pertinent for every Nigerian to obtain their permanent voter's cards ahead of the polls.

His message was distinct and clear, with emphasis on getting prepared for the next general election coming up in 2023, adding that it is the core responsibility of Nigerians to decide their leaders and who would represent them across various elective posts.

He further stated that work has started, that members must continue with their advocacy in sensitizing the public that PVCs are the surest way to elect leaders and not through any other means.

Addressing participants on the

occasion, the permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission, Dr. Shakirudeen Olayiwola buttressed that once one has attained 18 years and above, one has the right to vote.

He stated categorically that about 20 million people across Nigeria are yet to obtain their permanent voter's cards, warning that the desired change they expect to see can only be achievable if every individual, through conscious effort, participates in the electioneering process.

He appealed to all and sundry to visit the nearest INEC Collection centre to register or collect their cards in order to vote in future.

Kosofe Local Government chairman, Barr. Moyosore Ogunlewe, through the vice chairman, Omooba Sosanya, said the meeting was a step in the right direction geared towards enlightening the public on the importance of Permanent Voter's Cards (PVCs) and the need for residents to participate in the electoral process.

During the interactive session, stakeholders spoke about issues affecting their locality, which centered on road infrastructure, quality health care, security, education, and employment opportunities for youths.

## Abiru commissions multiple projects

By Edith Igbokwe

The Senator representing Lagos East, Senator Tokunbo Abiru, last week, commissioned multiple projects in his constituency. The projects include a 960-capacity mini-Stadium, revamp of Oluwo Fish Market; distribution of hand-planters and grants to farmers.

He also distributed N62.5 million - N50,000 each as financial grants to 1,250 market women and men.

The lawmaker appealed to the beneficiaries to see the

projects as public resources entrusted in their care, urging them to productively utilize the facilities with the utmost sense of responsibility.

"I must publicly acknowledge and appreciate the magnanimity of the Presidency, through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the projects we are commissioning today, those we had commissioned in the past and the ones that are yet to be commissioned.

"My special thanks goes to His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, and Her Excellency, Mrs

Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire, the Senior Special Assistant to President Muhammadu Buhari on SDGs."

He added that the projects and support to market women and rural farmers were part of his fulfilment of the social contract with the people of Lagos East senatorial district, while seeking their mandate in 2020.

Abiru further assured residents that his administration will complete all the ongoing infrastructural developments.

The Senior Special Assistant to the President on

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire, applauded the lawmaker for making women empowerment a cardinal focus of his activities, adding that such action remained key to strengthening inclusion.

She stated that the empowerment of women was in line with the aim of the SDG.

She disclosed that the office of the SDGs in the Presidency had facilitated rehabilitation of more than 10 schools and four healthcare projects in the district.



Gov. Sanwo-Olu commissioning the projects

Six men have been brought before a Yaba Chief Magistrate Court for allegedly breaking into a church and stealing musical instruments worth N28 million.

The defendants are Kelechi Israel, 39; James Abichele, 28; Simon Abi, 25; Ifeanyi Mba, 40; John Odiong, 39; and Austin Bassey, 47.

The Chief Magistrate, Mrs. Adeola Adedayo, admitted the defendants to bail in the sum of N6 million each with two sureties in like sum.

She held that the sureties must submit their National Identification Numbers and their Lagos State Residents Registration Agency (LASRRA) cards.

# Six men in court for stealing N28m worth church gadgets

By Edith Igbokwe

She directed that all sureties must reside within the court's jurisdiction, be gainfully employed and provide evidence of three years' tax payment to Lagos State Government.

They are facing a four-count charge of conspiracy, breaking into place of

worship to commit crime, stealing from a locked room and unlawful interference with property.

They, however, pleaded not guilty to all the counts.

The prosecutor, ASP Rita Momah, alleged that the defendants committed the offences at 11.50p.m. on June 6, at Redeemed Evangelical Mission Church,

Gbagada, Lagos.

According to Momah, the defendants damaged three German iron doors worth N1.5 million while breaking into the church to steal the instruments.

She said that the defendants stole all the musical instruments in the church and transported them away in a truck at night.

Momah submitted that some of the instruments had been recovered.

The alleged offences contravene Sections 411, 311, 340 and 287 (5) (f) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015 (revised).

Sections 287 (5) (f) and 311 stipulate seven-year jail term each for breaking into place of worship and

committing felony and stealing from a locked room.

And Section 340 provides for three years' imprisonment for unlawful interference with property, while conspiracy attracts a two-year jail term under Section 411 of the law.

Adedayo adjourned the case till August 2, 2022 for mentioning.

## Police nab two traffic robbers

By Edith Igbokwe

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The Federal Government in collaboration with the Lagos State Government has recently trained 81 Independent Monitors (IMs) for the National Social Investment Programme (NSIP).

The Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, Mrs. Sadiya Farouq said the training was to help achieve the aims of the NSIP.

Farouq disclosed that the NSIP was created by the Federal Government in 2016 with the mandate of lifting citizens out of poverty, through a number of social interventions.

On behalf of Farouq, her Special Assistant on Monitoring and Evaluation, Mr. Idris Shehu, said the training was the on boarding of 3,000 IMs of the Steam 2 Training.

She said the IMs would be provided with working tools in the form of tablets to carry out their monitoring activities on the field.

According to her, the social interventions include the Job Creation Programme – NPOWER, National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (NHGSFP), Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (CCT), and Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEF).

"The NSIP Independent Monitors are responsible for monitoring the programme in schools, households, and market clusters, with the focus of ensuring that the primary

## NSIP: 81 mainlanders trained as Independent Monitors

objectives of the NSIPs are achieved.

"Independent Monitors are one of the most important components of the NSIP and the ministry lays special emphasis on ensuring its programmes are closely monitored. We have monitors in every local government where the NSIPs are being implemented.

"Monitoring at the state requires that the Independent Monitors work hand in hand with the state NSIP team, as their work cannot be done in a vacuum.

"No intimidation of beneficiaries by an Independent Monitor will be accepted by the ministry. Any independent Monitor found intimidating or harassing a beneficiary will be taken off the programme.

"Be informed that we have officials of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and Department of State working with us on this programme and those found culpable will be handed over to relevant authorities."

The Lagos State Commissioner for Wealth Creation and

Empowerment, Mrs. Yetunde Arobieke, said over 190 IMs had been trained for the programme in Lagos.

Arobieke, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Wealth Creation and Empowerment, Mr. Olujimi Ige said that the additional 81 being trained was an indication that the intervention in Lagos has been increased.

She said the intervention programme had lifted many residents of Lagos from the poverty level, to even being employers of labour.



Independent Monitors (IMs) training exercise.

# Bamigboye mobilizes traders for voter's registration

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has continued to mobilize people in his council area for the ongoing voter's registration.

He enlightened and admonished market leaders to encourage their members to get their Permanent Voter's Cards in order to participate in the general elections.

Speaking at a meeting between the market leaders and the chairman's council members, held at the council hall, Bamigboye explained the importance of the voter's card and the steps towards acquiring the card.

He charged the youths who are above 18 years and those who just relocated to Mushin to go for their registration.

The chairman emphasized that Mushin has the highest number of markets and primary schools in Lagos thus shouldered with the responsibility to deliver the highest votes during the

election.

He appreciated them for their support during the 2021 local government election which gave him over 28,000 votes that returned him elected for his second term in office.

He, therefore, appealed to them to be more strategic in order to deliver triple the votes given to him at the polls, for Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tunubu in 2023.

In his appeal for

perseverance and patience to the market leaders, the chairman expressed his unsatisfactory response of the people and shortage of registration machines to cover all the nooks and crannies of Mushin community.

He, however, expressed his optimism in the victory of the All Progressives Congress and all its candidates in the coming election.

Bamigboye appealed for love among the market leaders and tasked them to carry out massive campaigns throughout the markets, for traders to register and validate their old registrations for updated data and eligibility to vote in 2023.

Mrs. Kehinde Ojodu, Asoju Iya Oja of Onitire Market and Mr. Adebayo Taiwo, PRO of Eledu Market in Idi Araba, Mushin, tabled their

demands before the chairman, which included vehicle and permanent meeting venue.

In his response, the council chairman assured them of better days ahead for the market leaders once, his mentor and national leader is voted and sworn-in as the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 2023. The meeting involved all the markets executives in the entire Mushin Local

Government, under the leadership of Alhaja Taibat Borokini (Market coordinator of Mushin and Odi Olowo), Baba Oja General of Mushin and political office holders in the council presided over by the council Chairman in company of the vice chairman - Hon. Tunbosun Aruwe, Council Secretary - Mrs. Olunmi Gbadamosi, councillors, Supervisors and political leaders.



Hon Bamigboye speaking to the market women

Mushin Local Government was thrown into mourning mood last week as it lost another staff member.

The late staff member, Mr. Sulaimon Adeyeri reportedly died few days after the death of Mrs. Wosilat Ojikutu.

Mrs. Ojikutu died on Wednesday June 22 and was buried immediately after all Islamic rites were observed.

She was until her death, a cemetery attendant at Matori cemetery under Mushin Local Government.

She started her civil service career in Lagos Island Local Government where she had

## Mushin LG loses two staff members

worked as attendant at the Abari cemetery before she was transferred to Mushin some years ago. She worked under the amalgamated Health and Environment department before it was split into two different departments - Health department and Environment department.

She continued her career in the same cemetery under the Environments due to her long years of experience in the field and died after a brief illness. Wosilat Ojikutu is survived by

her husband and four children. On his part, the late Mr. Adeyeri, the Area Treasurer of Itire Area office, died on Sunday June 26, 2022. A chartered Accountant with many years of experience in the finance department of the council, having worked in the Council Manager's office where he prepared vouchers and paid imprest before he was promoted and transferred to Itire Area office to head the treasury under the finance department of the same

grassroots government. He has been buried according to Islamic rites.

Speaking at the prayer session held for both staff members, the Council Chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, pleaded with all other staff members and political office holders to always take good care of themselves and monitor their health with constant medical checks to know their status.

The chairman warned them to desist from self-medication

while encouraging them to always share their health problems with friends and colleagues in order to get support and assistance before it gets too late.

Bamigboye attested to his timely approval of health related vouchers for immediate medical attention. He advised that anyone with underlying health challenges should feel free to walk into any of the Primary Health Care Centres or General Hospital in Mushin for immediate

attention from the doctors and health officials.

The council boss condoled the families of the deceased for the loss and prayed that the council will never have cause to mourn any of its staff anymore.

Prayers were offered by the Chairmen of Christian Association of Nigeria, Mushin branch - Rev. Dare Akindele of Christ Salem Church and the Chief Imam of Ajumoni Central Mosque, Mushin - Sheikh Sulaimon Opeyemi Olanijo.

# Be involve in electoral process, Setonji urges residents

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The member representing Badagry Constituency II at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Engr. David Setonji has appealed to residents to engage themselves in electoral process. He said to be fully active in the electoral system of Nigeria, residents should endeavour to get their Permanent Voter's Cards (PVCs) ahead of the 2023 general elections. He noted that according to the recent report from the Independent National Electoral Commission

(INEC), over 20 million PVCs remain uncollected across the nation while one million out of the figure are from Lagos State. He said for each individual to feel unbiased towards election processes, they have to fully engage themselves to elect their desired candidates rather than complaining silently. Setonji urged the public to desist from believing that their votes do not count as the narrative has changed. He, therefore, appreciated stakeholders for their responsive attitude towards community issues, encouraging them to put similar efforts into the collection of PVCs.



Hon. David Setonji while addressing constituent stakeholders

# Beneficiaries applaud Tijani for continuous palliative

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Beneficiaries of N25,000 palliative at Ojo Constituency II have expressed their delight over the continuous benefits they receive from the lawmaker representing the constituent at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon.

Surajudeen Tijani. The palliative was donated to over 200 women in every ward in the constituency. The women leader of Ward D, Mrs. Yekinni who is also a beneficiary revealed that women in Ojo have been benefiting the dividends of democracy during the tenure of Tijani, declaring that they

enjoyed his immense support and contributions towards their development. She said most of his empowerment and contributions to the public has always involved the women folk which gave them the feeling of equality in the society. According to her, his

generosity has stabilized most dependent women as they tend to contribute towards the development of their family through self empowerment and productivity. Another beneficiary from Ward A, Mrs. Olajuwon commended him for his continuous engagement of women, saying it made them relevant in the

society as they are carried along through different programmes organized aside from the present donation. She reckoned that his thrive towards empowering women in the constituency is the first

of its kind, illustrating that each political office holder has peculiar traits that distinct him/her from one another. She prayed for his prosperity and continuous excellence in his administration.

# Herdsman: Normalcy restored in Badagry

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Security agents in Badagry Local Government have restored peace in the area following the crisis that ensued when some herdsmen allegedly killed someone. The herdsmen was said to have killed their victim in retaliation of the death of their cow, which was said to have mistakenly been killed by a bus driver along Agogo Igbala Bus Stop Area of Mowo in Badagry. The herdsmen were alleged to have beaten and killed a bus conductor over the accident. However, the Lagos State Police Command revealed that the dead man was not the bus conductor. The state police PRO, Benjamin Hundeyin clarified that the cattle herdsmen mistook a man for the conductor of the vehicle and beat him to death. He confirmed that the command has arrested the two herdsmen

who were responsible for the death of the victim. Hundeyin in a statement via his Twitter account said: "A commercial vehicle ran into two cows at Age Mowo, Badagry, killing one of the cows. The two cattle herders attacked someone they mistook for the vehicle conductor, resulting in his death. Angry residents blocked the highway in protest of the killing. "The DPO, Morogbo Division, assisted by soldiers from 243 Recce Battalion, Badagry successfully cleared the obstruction. Normalcy has since returned to the area. It is entirely false that the victim was turned back when he sought refuge in the police station. "He did not make it off the accident scene, let alone reach the station. Meanwhile, the two herders have been arrested. An investigation is ongoing. Updates will be provided subsequently."

# Education: Adebule makes case for practical teaching

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The former Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Dr. Idiat Adebule has suggested that Nigerian lecturers should adopt a practical guide in educating their students. She said the theoretical guide that has long been adopted, although has its advantages makes most youthful population lose their belief in the power of formal education as the route to sustainable economic empowerment and social development in the rapidly changing world. Adebule, the senatorial candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) for Lagos West Senatorial District, said a student should feel empowered to function in the society after passing through the school system rather than seeing schooling as a certificate acquisition venture. She proposed that to change the

circular notion of students, lecturers need to practically engage them more to make them feel the impact of the education system. While speaking at Lagos State University, Ojo, Adebule suggested that a gathering of brilliant and influential minds in the practice of education should be organized more to learn from one another and proffer

innovative solutions to the challenge of nation-building through espousing the know-how and benefits of empowering education. She said a sizeable number of policymakers should be created to do a follow-up on the development so far in the quest to build the nation and secure a desirable future. She further noted that her essence in

giving such a suggestion is based on the fact that the development of a nation depends on the development of its education system which in turn depends on its operators, tools, methods and curriculum. She said Nigeria's education system should address societal challenges if they are to keep up with global development.



A group picture of Dr Idiat Adebule and educationists in Lagos State University

# Joshua vs Usyk 11: Eddie Hearn supports Saudi Arabia as venue for rematch

By Saheed Afolabi

Promoter Eddie Hearn has defended the decision to stage Anthony Joshua's rematch with Oleksandr Usyk in Saudi Arabia in August. The Gulf country has faced accusations of human rights violations and is paying huge sums to host the event. Hearn responded to the criticism, saying: "My job is to provide the best opportunities for these fighters. "But of course we want to see a better place, more change and hopefully this can promote that." Joshua, 32, fought in Saudi Arabia in 2019 when he beat

Andy Ruiz in their rematch and returns to the country once again for the fight on 20 August with his career at a crossroads.

Hearn promotes Joshua and was the first major UK promoter to stage a fight night in Saudi Arabia, but has not returned since.

Hearn echoed his fighter's comments, saying he had seen "substantial" change in the region since 2019.

"It's very easy for me to say, 'it's a fight, it's a prize fight, it's dangerous, I've got to pay people as much as I can to fight'," he said.

"Now we have to deal with a bigger social issue which is change.

"We see the change there. I

was in Saudi Arabia, Jeddah last week, the change from what I see in that country from two years ago with the Andy Ruiz fight is substantial.

"Also, tell me things that I'm interested in. Investment into the sport within the country. Investment into the grassroots level within the country.

"Our government could learn a lot from the way Saudi are investing in the grassroots of boxing there. It's up over 300% participation in amateur boxing clubs since the Ruiz fight.

"There's a genuine interest in the sport. Does there need to be more change? Loads of it. Is there change? I see it."



## Notayo's Cup improved participating clubs - Notayo

By Saheed Afolabi

The Notayo's Cup Competition is a platform where clubs exhibited their players prowess on the field of play, the competition also provided a live streaming platform for players to be watched while playing all over the world.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the sponsor and originator of Notayo's Cup, Lucky Notayo described the competition as an improvement on the side of the clubs and the contents generated in the competition.

Notayo said he saluted the courage, determination of the players despite the fact, that they are amateur players, they displayed good characters and were disciplined all through the tournament that's now in the final stage.

He said: "Base on what I have seen and noticed so far in Notayo's Cup, I can say that there is lots of



Lucky Notayo, Football Philanthropist

improvements both in the contents and in the teams.

"If I say that I am not satisfied with the performance of the players, I will be lying, these are amateur teams and players but the spirit and the determinations the teams

are displaying are not bad at all.

"I can't say what fans should be expecting for the final for now, but we are working so hard to make the final a great one and I'm very sure that it's going to be fun and worth it."

## Leading Lagos FA Cup goal scoring chart, great honour - Taiwo Lawal

By Saheed Afolabi

Taiwo Lawal won the MVP of the WGB Lagos FA Cup semi final match between FC Robo Queens and Papa Soccer Academy at Alade Stadium, Abule Egba, Lagos.

Lawal, who has been in a blistering form for FC Robo Queens lately, has scored a total of six goals in the WGB Lagos FA Cup, she scored three goals in the quarter final game against Nakamura FA and scored another hat trick against Papa Soccer Academy to reach the final of the Lagos FA Cup and subsequently qualified for the Aiteo (Federation) Cup.

The Nigeria international U20 Super Falcons striker, who also has three assists to her name, told ECHONEWS she felt great and would do everything possible to help the team win the Lagos FA Cup and the Aiteo (Federation) Cup. "I feel happy and great with my goal scoring exploit in the



Taiwo Lawal

Lagos FA Cup and I believe I can do better as we qualify for the Aiteo Cup holding this year.

"We will do everything

possible to get to the final of the Aiteo Cup this year and win it because that's our target."



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