

From "Molue" To BRT,  
Now Electric Bus **P.7**



www.echoneews.ng

# Echoneews

LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of Echoneews Newspapers Limited

Monday 8th May - Sunday 14th May 2023

## LAGOS COMMISSIONERS TO SUBMIT HANDOVER NOTES

Open Society  
and the IPC  
launch a bid to  
save the press  
from attacks **P.22**

Lagos Performs  
476 Caesarean  
Sections under  
Ilera Eko in  
Three Months **P.6**



Lekki Deep Sea Port: Lagos To Deploy **P.9**  
E-Call Up System against Trucks Traffic

Lagos College of Nursing  
Matriculates 80 To Award  
OND, HND Certificates **P.5**

NDE Captures Over 1,500  
Unemployed Youths In  
Oshodi-Isole LGA **P.19**

Accolades As Obe Reconstructs Ifoshi Road **P.16**

How Police Children, Wives Live In Lagos **P.8**

# Lagos Commissioners To Submit Handover Notes

Rasaq Adebayo

**W**hile waiting for May 29 handing over of government, the cabinet members of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu have started writing their handover notes ECHONEWS gathered.

They are doing this ahead of the formal dissolution of the cabinet by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

Though the governor has not announced the dissolution of his cabinet, it is expected that he makes a formal announcement this week in preparation for the handing over of the government.

Though the changing of government on May 29 in Lagos State will be a continuation of Sanwo-Olu's led administration having secured his second term bid; it is a tradition that the governor dissolve his cabinet and create a fresh one for his new administration.

Last week, the Edo State Governor, Godwin Obaseki, dissolved the State Executive Council. The state's cabinet was dissolved during the weekly Executive Council meeting on Wednesday.

The governor expressed appreciation to members of the council for their service to the government and people of the State.

The governor, in a statement issued by his Special Adviser in Media Project, Crusoe Osagie, said the dissolution of the

council took immediate effect.

The governor also said that beginning from Wednesday, last week, all Special Assistants (SAs) and Senior Special Assistants (SSAs) have been relieved of their appointments.

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Yahaya, was the first governor to dissolve his cabinet following the successful governorship election in April, 2023.

The governor had urged the various appointees in his administration to submit comprehensive handover notes before Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

This was contained in a statement dated April 11, 2023, titled: 'Submission of handover notes of Ministries, Department and Agencies', which was signed by Rabi'u Abubakar, on behalf of the office of the Secretary to the State Government.

Abubakar urged the appointees to treat as urgent the letter addressed to the offices of Principal Private Secretary Government House; The Permanent Secretary, Office of the Deputy Governor, Government House, Gombe; The Secretary to the State Government Governor's Office; The Clerk Gombe State House of Assembly, Gombe; Chief Registrars, High Court of Justice/Shari'a Court of Appeal; All Permanent Secretaries; All Head of Extra Ministerial Departments and Chief



Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu

Executives of Boards & Parastatals.

He disclosed that the decision was taken due to the administration's electoral victory in the last gubernatorial election, which marked the end of Yahaya's first administration.

The statement read: "Following the recent successful conduct of the 2023 Governorship Election which marked the end of the first tenure of His Excellency the Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya (Dan Majen Gombe). I am directed to request you prepare a comprehensive

handing-over note of your Ministry, Department, and Agency. Your submission may also include a report on ongoing projects and programmes of government.

"You are therefore requested to submit same to the office of the Secretary to the State Government on or before Wednesday 19th April 2023.

"Please, treat as urgent."

By this time in 2019, the members of the cabinet of the former Lagos State Governor, Akinwumi Ambode, had

started dropping their handover notes though the government was transferred from the incumbent governor to the newly elected one.

It would be recalled that Governor Ambode handed over the power to the incoming Governor 24 hours before the inauguration day in a private meeting held at the Lagos House, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos.

In a post-meeting briefing held with State House correspondents, the Governor-elect said Ambode offered him useful advice as well as state documents that

contained his administration's exploits, and achievements, among others, in the last four years.

Meanwhile, it is not yet clear who are going to make the next Sanwo-Olu cabinet, ECHONEWS gathered that some stakeholders have been lobbying for posts in his second administration.

A source close to the government told ECHONEWS that some of the outgoing cabinet members may be returned to serve in the Sanwo-Olu government.



Your tax is helping paint history

Together we can do more



**Lagos State Internal Revenue Service**

Opposite Lagos State Secretariat Main Gate, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos  
Email: [etaxinfo@lirs.net](mailto:etaxinfo@lirs.net), [info@lirs.gov.ng](mailto:info@lirs.gov.ng) Tel: 0700-CALL-LIRS (0700 2255 5477)

[www.lirs.gov.ng](http://www.lirs.gov.ng) [lirsgovng](#) [lirsgovng](#) [lirsgovng](#) [lirsgovng](#) [lirsgovng](#)



Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

# Flood Control: Lagos Mega Pumping Station To Pump Three Million Litres In One Hour

As part of its efforts to control flooding in the state, the Lagos State Government is set to complete the mega pumping station at Ilubirin to pump three million litres of stormwater per hour. The Permanent Secretary, Office of Drainage Services and Water Resources, Engineer Nurudeen Shodeinde made this known when he led a group of journalists to the place on a facility tour. He assured that by July ending completion of work on a mega pumping station being constructed in Ilubirin to permanently address the issue of flooding in Lagos Island would be completed.

Speaking with newsmen after an assessment tour of the level of work on the pumping station located in the Ilubirin Estate, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Drainage Services and Water Resources, Engineer Nurudeen Shodeinde said when completed, the station will address the perennial flooding issues in Adeniji, Oroyinyin, Idumagbo, Ojo Giwa, Jankara and environs. According to Shodeinde, construction work on the mega pumping station is expected to be concluded by the end of July and will permanently solve the problem of back flowing of water from the Lagoon to the listed areas causing the water to remain stagnant. He stressed that three mega turbine pumps with the capacity to pump three million litres of stormwater per hour will be installed at the station to continuously pump water into the Lagoon.

He explained that the Big turbine pumps are designed to function automatically and self-operating while being powered majorly by public power electricity which will be backed up with a 350KVA generator with the capacity to pump any

accumulated water.

The Permanent Secretary stressed that the major problem responsible for flooding is the depressed nature of the affected areas which makes it difficult for water to naturally drain into the Lagoon, adding that the situation prompted the State to also construct a new rectangular drainage outlet at the Ilubirin end which is higher than the sea level.

He explained that water is moved either by gravity or by pumping, bearing in mind that Lagos Island is the lowest-lying part of the State and has made it difficult for water to flow into the lagoon, hence a pump which is 20 by 20 metres in length and breadth and 6 – 7 metres deep into the ground will be created where the three turbine pumping machines will be installed thereby creating artificial energy to pump the stormwater out into the Lagoon.

He explained further that the Turbine pumps which are individually four metres high will be installed deep into the water to maintain the temperature of the coils of the pump with a discharge point that is created higher than the level of the Lagoon, adding that after the completion of the project, there will be no record of water flowing back from the Lagoon into the communities. Shodeinde said the mega pumping station project would replace the temporary wall embankment constructed at Ilubirin that was aimed at preventing the backflow of the Lagoon.

He stressed that what was being experienced in Adeniji and environs can also be regarded as one of the effects of climate change, saying, though, Lagos has been projected as one of the sinking cities of the world, however, no Government will fold its hands and avert such



projections.

He thereafter advised residents of Lagos Island to desist from dumping refuse into the drains and canals, urging them to take

ownership of their environment by moving against individuals who are in the habit as this has become a major contributor to flooding in

the State.

The Permanent Secretary was accompanied by the Directors of Drainage Monitoring, Enforcement and Compliance, Engr.

Kunle Adegbite; Drainage Construction, Engr. Dapo Ajadi and Drainage Maintenance, Engr. Olalekan Ajani amongst others.

## LASBCA GM, Oki, Bags NIA Excellence Award

The General Manager, Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA), Arc. Gbolahan Owodunni Oki has bagged an Award of Excellence from the Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIA), Lagos Chapter.

The award, given in recognition of his sterling performance in the Lagos built environment was presented to him by Mr.

Femi Falana (SAN) during the Institute's LAF 14.0 Year 2023 forum hosted at the Eko Hotel & Suites, Victoria Island, where he was also celebrated for his unwavering support of the activities of the State Chapter of the Institute.

Oki, in his remarks, expressed his profound gratitude and appreciation to the Institute for the honour accorded him and promised not to relent in his

performance in ensuring that building constructions in the State are built according to specified Rules and Regulations, noting that the reward for hard work is more work.

He also used the opportunity to reiterate LASBCA's readiness to collaborate with professionals in the built industry to improve the quality of buildings constructed in the State

through effective monitoring and inspection of ongoing building constructions.

"For better and effective monitoring and inspection of all ongoing building constructions in the State, LASBCA is ever ready to partner with professionals in the built industry as the government can not do the work of safeguarding the lives and properties of the citizenry alone", he stated.



Human Rights Lawyer, Mr. Femi Falana presenting award plaque to Arc Gbolahan Oki

Stories By Kunle Awosiyun

## Lagos College of Nursing Matriculates 80 To Award OND, HND Certificates



Graduands in group photographs

After it has successfully secured a five-year accreditation from the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN) and National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), Lagos College of Nursing has been licensed to run the Ordinary National Diploma (OND) and Higher National Diploma (HND). The Provost of the College, Mrs. Oyefunso Orenuga said at the maiden matriculation ceremony of 80 nursing students into the institution, adding that upon graduation, the students would have also acquired more of the statutory basic Midwifery courses.

Orenuga explained that the programme is a four-year non-terminal with a one-year internship and on completion of the programme, the students would be awarded the National and Higher National Diploma Certificates along with other professional certificates in Nursing, Midwifery and Public Health Nursing. She encouraged the

students to put in their best to attain excellence as the Nursing profession is not only a worthy profession but a very disciplined one as LASCON is built on Integrity, Peace and Progress.

In her words. "The College is focused on the pursuit of academic excellence in teaching, research and service delivery, charging the matriculating students to prepare for the great task ahead.

Orenuga informed that the present administration has significantly invested in human capital development for both staff and students as well as in facilities that aid teaching and learning experience such as the donation of BRT Bus for ease of transportation to Clinical Areas, the construction of additional Hostel and Water Treatment Plant in the College.

She implored parents to continue to support their wards by showing financial commitment to their welfare because without adequate finances the students might not achieve much academically. The Guest Speaker and

Clinical Physiologist at the Psychiatric Hospital, Yaba, Dr. Oluwakemi Akintoyese, delivering a paper on "Emotional Intelligence and Academic Resilience", emphasised that everyone needs emotional intelligence, as such students should be able to understand their strengths and ability by engaging in self-awareness, regulation and motivation through pushing hard to acquire good grades to be on a smooth ride to success.

The matriculation ceremony for the 2022/2023 academic session with the theme: "Emotional Intelligence and Academic Resilience" was organised by the College for 80 Nursing Students who were the first set to be admitted into the College after scaling through JAMB, Post-UTME screening and the oral interview successfully.

Earlier the Special Adviser to the Governor on Education, Barr. Tokunbo Wahab congratulated the 80 students for successfully passing the necessary examinations.

Tokunbo, represented by the Permanent Secretary

Office of the Special Adviser on Education, Mr. Waheed Adeniran Kasali, explained that the ceremony is very important in the history of the present administration being the first matriculation to be held since its Upgrade from the School of Nursing to the status of College of Nursing.

While affirming that these efforts are the commitment of the Government to the delivery of qualitative and quantitative education in line with the third pillar of the T.H.E.M.E.S agenda of Mr. Governor.

The Special Adviser admonished the students to take the State Government's huge investment in health and education for sustainable training as a challenge to ensure service delivery in the healthcare system, explaining that the Nursing profession is a serious and rigorous career that needs full concentration and rapt attention when undergoing learning. He, therefore, implored the students to shun any form of distraction as it could jeopardise their academic performance.

## DSVA Trains LGA, LCDA Focal Persons On Sexual And Domestic Violence

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has organised a two-day training programme for Focal Persons from Kosofe LGA, Agboyi Ketu LCDA and Ikosi-Isheri LCDA towards engaging them as first responders of abuse in the LGA/LCDAs.

Speaking at the training held at Kosofe Local Government Secretariat, the Executive Secretary of DSVA, Mrs. Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi said part of the Agency's statutory mandate was to educate, sensitise and ensure that the government stance is engrained through its various training programmes.

Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, who was represented at the event by the Head of Community Engagement in DSVA, Mr. Damilare Adewusi, spoke on the Gender perspective and the relevant laws backing sexual and gender-based violence in Lagos State.

One of the Facilitators, Ms. Salami Kafayat Ebose of the Community Engagement Department, DSVA,

lectured the participants in the first session on the overview of sexual and gender-based violence, focusing on the meaning of abuse and the various forms of abuse.

She also discussed the relevance of consent, its withdrawal, sexual assault, types of child abuse and the psychological effect of domestic violence on a child.

Mr. Tobi Ikudayisi, another facilitator, spoke on interviewing survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, describing a survivor's trauma and expectations, just as he stressed the importance of providing the necessary psycho-social support for the victim. He emphasised that the data/evidence collection phase will most importantly determine the success or failure of the case,

While explaining the relevance of empathy during the phase, he pointed out the need to communicate in a language that is best suitable to the survivor and encouraged participants to take the message of zero tolerance of all forms of abuse to their community.



Participants at the training

Stories By Kunle Awosiyani

# Lagos Performs 476 Caesarean Sections under Ilera Eko in Three Months

The Lagos State Government has performed successfully 476 Caesarean sections in the first quarter of 2023, the General Manager, Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), Dr. Emmanuella Zamba has disclosed.

She said that the state Social Health Insurance Plan, popularly known as ILERA EKO, also recorded 23,415 visits by Enrollees during the same period.

As she puts it "On maternal cases, 1, 672 antenatal visits were recorded at the various Providers under ILERA EKO. 476 caesarean sections were also performed and 334 normal deliveries were taken".

Zamba stated that during the period, Enrollees visited the Hospitals UNDER ILERA EKO 7, 286 times for the



A caesarean section

treatment of malaria accounting for 31 percent of the visit, followed by hypertension cases of 6, 277 representing 27 percent of the utilisation

while diabetic patients visited 1,532 times.

Zamba, who thanked the Enrollees under the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS) for utilising the

Hospitals to access care, said "It is one thing to enroll, it is another thing to access care under the Scheme and not patronise quack practitioners".

The General Manager further explained that 2, 549 Enrollees were placed on admission while 118 surgeries were done and 165 visits were recorded for asthma cases.

She said, "On maternal cases, 1, 672 antenatal visits were recorded at the various Providers under ILERA EKO. 476 caesarean sections were also performed and 334 normal deliveries were taken".

To ensure good sight and dental care, 260 and 298 visits, according to her, were recorded for eye treatment and dental care respectively.

Dr. Zamba said that to also ascertain their HIV and Tuberculosis status, 23 Enrollees visited various hospitals under the scheme for tuberculosis tests and 356 patients for HIV tests.

She appealed to residents who are yet to enroll in

ILERA EKO to immediately take advantage of the Health Scheme and enroll in any of the Health Insurance plans to reduce out-of-pocket payments and huge medical bills.

Dr. Zamba said that with as low as N1,000 monthly, an individual can enroll on ILERA EKO having paid N3,000 as the first installment and with N3,500, a family of six consisting of the father, mother and four children below 23 years can also enroll for the Family Plan having paid N10,500 as the first installment.

While commending the various Providers under the Health Scheme for a job well done, Zamba implored them not to relent in their efforts in giving ILERA EKO Enrollees optimal service delivery and supporting the Lagos State Government in attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

The Commissioner for Education, Mrs. Folasade Adefisayo

has called on teachers to be creative with the examination questions they set for their pupils.

She gave the advice at a one-day capacity building for Item Writers/Moderators held at the State Education Resource Centre, Ojodu Berger, calling on the Item Writers in the State to base their writing skills on intelligent, creative and innovative questions to meet the best standard practice of the 21st century.

, stressing that the selection of items for students should not be limited to academic learning only but also to questions that will encompass the

## Be Creative With Your Exams Questions, Education Commissioner Tells Teachers

schemes/school curriculum.

The Commissioner noted that when the concepts of teaching and learning are followed to the letter, the government will surely benefit from the performance of the students.

She added that the world is evolving and there is a need for the Item Writers and Moderators to adapt to the new trends of quality questions and qualitative assessment to sustain academic excellence.

Mrs. Adefisayo stated further that the fundamental basis of

making teaching and learning attractive is germane to education to attain an enviable position.

In his own contributions, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Mr. Abayomi Abolaji also admonished the participants on credibility and integrity. He noted that the two attributes should be their watchwords to be at par with their counterparts in other institutions.

He, therefore, urged them to always have a positive mindset that can add value to education in the State.



Story By Kunle Awosiyan

Most adults still have vivid memory of Lagos transport life inside the rugged 911 Mercedes Benz truck.

Converted to commercial buses, the "Molue" became a symbol of Lagos at the extinct of the primordial "Bolekaja" vehicle that served as intercity mode of transportation.

Of course, the "Molue" as sung by late Afrobeat legend, Fela Anikulapo Kuti defined the "suffering and smiling" life of Lagos commuters, it reminded the adults the good, the bad and the ugly side of transportation in Lagos.

When armed robbers would hijack the bus and robb passengers of their belongings, including money and jewelry.

However, at his assumption of office in 1999, the state governor, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu introduced the Bus Rapid Transit, BRT, through the Lagos Metropolitan Transport Authority to move Lagosians as it gradually phased out the "Molue".

BRT has been a success story except a reported case of crime and a few accidents since it began full operation about 14 years ago.

Successive administrations in the state had maintained the operation, even though they had failed to keep to quality, the buses are always on the road to ease movement of people at subsidised cost.

Successive governments had also improved on the BRT mode of payment from physical cash to the use of Cowry Card. This automation to a large extent had reduced corruption in the operation of BRT.

However, BRT operation is not insulated from occasional fuel scarcity and rise in fuel pump price. In the last three years, the state government had increased the transport

# From "Molue" To BRT, Now Electric Bus

fare twice.

First from N200 to N350 and it is N400 from Berger Bus Stop to Tafawa Balewa Square, Yaba, Oshodi. Even at N400, Echonews gathered that the government was subsidising it.

But the maintenance of these vehicles is not encouraging in that non is functioning with air-condition anymore while all the USB charger in almost all the vehicles had been removed.

In 2018, the then state governor, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode had an agreement with an auto firm to supply 800 BRT buses to boost its fleet. At the time, those procured by his predecessor, Mr. Babatunde Fashola had depreciated so badly.

According to the erstwhile commissioner for transportation, r. Mr. Ladi Lawanson, the administration of Ambode

took the delivery of 300 in October of 2018 but could not take the remaining 500.

Some of the buses were still on the high sea coming to Lagos when Ambode lost the ticket for his second term. The buses were at the Lagos Seaport for months until the present Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu assumed office and later cleared it.

Some of the old vehicles, according to investigation by our correspondent were sold to individuals. The vehicles are still on the road but in bad condition.

However, BRT operation suffered serious setback in 2020 when 80 of the buses were set ablaze by ENDSARS rioters. The rioters who were protesting against the activities of the Special Anti Robbery Squad, a unit of the Nigeria Police

Force.

Lagos lost buses worth N3.9 billion to the riot. Nevertheless, the state government in its magnanimity reduced the BRT fare from N400 to N200 during fuel scarcity in between December and March to ease residents movement.

It reverted to the old fare of N400 a few weeks ago.

However, with the present heavy traffic in Lagos due to the rehabilitation of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway and its resultant effect on the litres of diesel being burnt by the BRT Bus, the state government is set to change to electric engine buses.

Governor Sanwo-Olu said while taking the delivery of the first set of electric buses meant for public transportation that the new idea would reduce carbon emissions and increase efficiency.

To him, the electric bus is

cost-efficient, adding, "The initiative was achieved owing to the state government's partnership with Oando Clean Energy Limited.

"With the ability to travel 280km at full charge, taking into account our unique travel times in Lagos, our electric buses are a game-changer. With an average daily usage of 200km by existing BRTs, there is no need to fear that the buses can stop while in transit," Sanwo-Olu said.

"Our new electric buses will not only reduce carbon emissions but will also increase efficiency. This means that Lagosians can say goodbye to high fuel costs and hello to cost-efficient transportation.

He stated that the government will begin to run a pilot scheme over the next "We shall be running a pilot scheme

over the next few months to gather sufficient data required to analyse the operational efficiencies relative to the current BRT buses to further improve our public transport service. This collaboration is a testament to our commitment to creating a sustainable future for Lagos."

About six years ago, Senator Ben Murray-Bruce representing Bayelsa South had sponsored a bill at the National Assembly that the country should make law that would gradually phase out gas engine vehicle and usher in electric ones.

His bill was not given any attention, meanwhile Lagos was watching and planning on how it would launch its first set of electric bus.

Today, Lagos has blazed the trail, becoming the first state to launch



Story By Kunle Awosiyan

# How Police Children, Wives Live In Lagos

Through the Lagos State Security Trust Fund, one can say that policing in Lagos is far better than that of many other states in the country.

The state government complements Federal Government in the provision of equipment and ammunition to fortify the police security structure.

Apart from this, there are special police units like the Rapid Response Squad, the governor monitoring team and the state taskforce that benefit immensely from Lagos security trust fund, including payment of compensation to families of cops who were killed while on official duty.

But then there is still a lot to do about the welfare of an average cop in the metropolis. It is not the primary assignment of the state government to build barracks or shelter for officers of the Nigeria Police Force.

Echonews was at Ikeja and Falomo police barracks during the week where policemen and their families were living in decrepit buildings.

The buildings are out of form and dirty. In some of the buildings, the soak away had collapsed. The roofs and ceilings of some buildings in the barracks had fallen, yet the police officers and families lay their heads under it.

One policewoman deployed in the Department of State Security, CBD road, Shangisha (names withheld) who lives inside Falomo Barracks laments how bad her apartment is.



A police barracks

The cop who lives with her husband and three children in two-room apartment told Echonews that the place was inhabitable during the rainy season because of the leaking roof.

"We are allowed to rent an apartment outside the barracks but it is difficult to pay rent going by the high cost of accommodation in Lagos," she said.

She stated that she just got an accommodation at Magboro, an Ogun State suburb because government asked her to leave the barracks.

According to her, the government is preparing to rehabilitate some of the buildings in the barracks. Asked if she was given some money by the government to get apartment, she said no, adding that it only promised to do so and had not yet paid her a dime.

Another police officer told Echonews that she left Ikeja barracks because of the bad condition of the buildings and had since relocated to the Army barracks at Maryland.

"My parents live inside the Army Barracks. My father is a soldier and the place is far better than the police barracks. Life in the police barracks cannot be compared to that of Army barracks. The difference is clear," she said.

The children of policemen are not well exposed to good life, going by the condition of many police barracks in Lagos as observed by Echonews.

There is no doubt that this will reflect in their personal lives and their perception about the profession of police, a police officer who refused to mention his name said.

"We stay in the sun and rain to provide security but we return home to sleep under the leaking roofs," he lamented.

Speaking, one of the children of the policewoman said, "We live like rats. The rooms are small and not meant for a family. It's like the government did not consider the fact that a policeman will have wife and children."

However, Echonews gathered that the Federal Government had marked some of the police barracks in Lagos for demolition because they failed integrity test.

The Nigeria Police Force said it had marked no fewer than 25 barracks across the metropolis for demolition.

In a statement by the Force Public Relations officer, C S P Olumuyiwa Ojelabi, the Inspector General of Police had directed

all police officers and their families in the marked buildings to relocate.

He said that they had been given one month notice to leave and that the force would cater for them pending the rehabilitation of those barracks.

The affected Barracks include; Ijeh Police Barracks, Obalende, Highway Police Barracks, Ikeja; K9 Police Barracks, Keffi Street, South-West, Ikoyi; Falomo Police Barracks (A and B), Ikoyi; Bar Beach Police Barracks, Victoria, MOPOL 20 Barracks, Ikeja; Women Police Barracks, Obalende; MOPOL 2 Police Barracks, Keffi Street, South-West, Ikoyi; Mounted Troop, Ribadu Road, Ikoyi and Queen Barracks, Apapa.

Others are; FPRO Annex Office and Barracks, Ijora Olopa; Iponrin Police Barracks, Surulere;

Adekunle Police Barracks, Yaba; Federal Highway Patrol Office, Yaba; Alausa Police Barracks, Ikeja; Mounted Troop, Ikeja; Okesuna Police Barracks, Obalende; McCarthy Barracks, Obalende; Force Headquarters Annex, Obalende; Obalende Police Barracks, Obalende; Bourdillon Police Barracks, Ikoyi; New Staff Quarters, Ikeja; Elere Police Barracks, Agege; Onikan Officers Mess, Ikoyi and Police Special Fraud Unit, (PSFU), Milverton Street, Ikoyi.

Adejobi said: "This directive will not be carried out all at once, but will be implemented gradually in phased stages to ensure that all officially recognized and lawful residents of the affected Barracks are properly catered for."

Stories By Kunle Awosiyun

# Lekki Deep Sea Port: Lagos To Deploy E-Call Up System against Trucks Traffic

With the harrowing experience of traffic at Apapa Seaport, Lagos State Government is putting all logics together to ensure that such logjam will not happen at the Lekki Deep Sea Port. To ensure that business activities in this corridor go on smoothly with lesser traffic congestion, the Lagos State Government has approved the deployment of an e-call up system for the Lekki-Epe Free Trade Zone corridor. To avert severe congestion caused by articulated trucks accessing the Port corridor, the state Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Frederic Oladeinde revealed to major stakeholders at a meeting that the state is set to deploy E-Call Up System. At the meeting were

top government functionaries from the Ministry of Transportation, representatives of Lekki Worldwide Investment Limited, Lagos Free Zone, Lekki Deep Sea Port and Messrs. Call up Technologies.

Explaining the State Government plan, based on the urgent need to implement a sustainable, effective and technology-driven solution of truck movement in the Lekki-Epe Corridor, Oladeinde disclosed that the application of an e-call up system will help synchronise the movement of trucks assessing the Lekki Deep Seaport and other industries within the corridor, starting from Eleko junction to Lekki Free Trade Zone.

The Transport Commissioner also shared the State and Federal Government

plans on road network expansion and inter-modal transport systems at an initial meeting held with the Five Chairmen of Local Government Areas, (LGAs) Local Council Development Areas, (LCDAs) in Epe division, Lekki Worldwide Investment Limited, (LWILL), representatives of Dangote Industries Limited, Nigeria Union Of Petroleum And Natural Gas Workers, (NUPENG), Federal Road Safety Corps, (FRSC), and the Nigeria Police Force, (NPF). He further mentioned that an interim arrangement is also being put in place to decongest the roads through the evacuation of all illegal tankers from the red zone by a joint Task Force of the State, LGAs/LACDAs,

Security Agencies and Stakeholders.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa, while analysing the challenges in Apapa and Tincan, emphasised the need to prevent a similar occurrence in the Lekki-Epe axis, hence the determination to deploy a Truck Queuing Management System in the area.

Giwa explained that the e-call up system is an effective way to manage the movement of trucks from holding bays to the pre-gate, before entering the port premises, adding that Six Holding Bays has been identified between Alaro city and other nearby towns in Epe and its environs which are currently under consideration for certification.

## PSSDC Set To Partner With Ibeju-Lekki LGA

The Director-General, Lagos State Public Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC), Mr. Adekunmilola Toluwase Adio-Moses has said that PSSDC is ready to partner with Ibeju-Lekki Local Government to improve the capacity building of its workforce.

The Director-General stated this during his recent courtesy visit to the Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Mr. Abdulahi Sesan Olowa.

Adio-Moses commended the Chairman on his huge investment in capacity building and manpower in the Local Government since his assumption of office, including giving scholarships to students at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels in the area.

The Director-General, who spoke through the Director of Programmes, PSSDC, Mr. Olufemi Sholaja, requested more collaboration with the Local Government in areas of Structured Training Programmes for officers on Grade Level 05 and below, as well as capacity building and training of other categories of workers towards achieving the T-H-E-M-E-S Agenda of the State Government.

He implored the Chairman to revive the Structured Induction Programme usually done in collaboration with PSSDC in the past for newly recruited officers of the local government for effective understanding of the public administration by the staff.

The Deputy Director of Local Government and Security Studies in PSSDC, Mrs. Rita Shitta-Bey also enjoined Olowa to sponsor more of their local government staff for Local Government and Administration Studies which is a nine-month course to improve their capabilities in the delivery of services to the local government and State at large.

Responding, the Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Mr. Abdulahi Sesan Olowa appreciated the Director-General, PSSDC and his management team for the visit.

He noted that it is important to invest in the capacity building of the people at the grassroots level to produce qualified and efficient manpower.

He said his administration is interested in the capacity building of its workforce so that the Local Government Area can be among the best transformed and developed cities in Lagos in the nearest future.

Olowa disclosed that the Ibeju-Lekki LGA is ready to partner with PSSDC so that its staff can be rightly guided and acquire more knowledge in public service through the experienced and highly qualified personnel at the Centre.

The Chairman, therefore, advised PSSDC to present a proposal to the Local Government, especially in the areas where the local government urgently needs to improve its capacity building.



Stories By Kunle Awosiyen

## Lagos Physical Planning Commissioner Pledges To Give Back To Alma Mater

The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Engr. Tayo Bamgbose-Martins has pledged to give back to his Alma mater, Obafemi Awolowo University. He made the pledge when he a delegation from institution to his office at Lagos Secretariat, Alausa, Ikeja. Bamgbose-Martins received commendations for his achievements from his alma mater, the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife through its Civil Engineering Department. The delegation, led by the Head of the Civil Engineering Department

(Geotechnical Option), Dr. Adekemi Ayodele, said they proud that the commissioner is a product of the highly revered University that had prepared many people for the task ahead in life. Speaking, Bamgbose-Martins promised to do all in his capacity to give back to the institution as he encouraged his other colleagues in Lagos State Executive Council to do the same. His colleague who was also at meeting, the Special Adviser to the Governor on e-GIS and Planning Matters, Dr. Olajide Babatunde also pledged to support the institution through his family foundation. Earlier, the Head of the Civil Engineering Department

(Geotechnical Option) and leader of the delegation, Dr. Adekemi Ayodele described Engr. Bamgbose-Martins, as a good ambassador, who, through his uncommon feats, first as a Civil Servant and now as a politician, had upheld the high standard of the Obafemi Awolowo University, which now looks up to him as a role model for her students. Recalling that Bamgbose-Martins was among the first set of civil engineering graduates that were produced by the University, she urged him to continue lifting the good name of the institution and not relent in giving back to his alma mater.



Engr. Bamgbose Martins

## Understand Your Rights, Lagos Head of Service, Muri-Okunola Tells Workers

Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Hakeem Muri-Okunola has urged the State workers to understand their right as encapsulated in the Nigerian Labour Law to avoid their rights being trampled upon by employers of labour. He assured that the present state administration would continue to meet its obligations and responsibilities as far as enforcing workers' rights and socioeconomic justice are

considered, charging all civil servants in all sectors to re-energize themselves in promoting developmental agenda of the state government in a bid to achieve a Greater Lagos. He said "I dare say that the harmonious relationship that exists between the State Government and labour is a true reflection of the premium placed on employees' right and social justice by this administration". In a similar development, the

Commissioner for Establishments, Training and Pensions, Mrs. Ajibola Ponnle has said that the State Government has taken steps to uphold worker's rights and ensure economic justice for the workers. She added that "the State Government brings dignity to our workers through regular and prompt payment of salaries whilst we offer other entitlements. We try to build a society and social justice from the basis of our daily interactions".



Mr. Hakeem Muri-Okunola

Stories By Edithe Igbokwe

# Private Organisation Woos LSPWC To Repair Road At Fagba

Lagos State Public Works Department Corporation (LSPWC) has commenced rehabilitation of the road along the Fagba axis of Iju Road in Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government Area. The project was facilitated by Managing Director/CEO Wurvicate, an indigenous construction company, Engr. Atinuke Owolabi to ease traffic congestion along the affected route. The exercise was carried out in response to the exchange of correspondence between Engr. Atinuke and the agency which led to the quick intervention by the agency. The intervention gave rise to the laying of boulders to repair damaged sections of Fagba-Iju Road and Jonathan Coker by the railway crossing line. Speaking, Owolabi noted that the project would be beneficial to the residents and commuters in the area as it will improve the condition of the road and reduce traffic congestion.



Road rehabilitation in Fagba axis

# Ojokoro LCDA Repairs Adefolabi Street, others

In fulfillment of his promises, the chairman of Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Hammed Tijani (HID) has embarked on the rehabilitation of roads within the Local Council Development Area. Shortly after Lamina Ganiyu Road was rehabilitated before the Ramadan festival, the council chairman, he has embarked on the rehabilitation of Adefolabi Street. Other streets rehabilitated before Ramadan include Baale Animashaun Road and

the ever-busy Nureni Yussuf Road. Tijani has also pledged to always ensure continuity of good governance by completing all the projects initiated during his predecessor's administration. According to him, the project prompted his decision to prioritize the grading of several roads across the seven wards in the LCDA, which are directly beneficial to the well-being of the people in Ojokoro. "As the raining season is fast approaching, grading of these roads will address the perennial environmental



Afolabi street rehabilitation

and infrastructural challenges facing the community including flooding." Some of the roads already graded across the wards include Okegbenro Street; Baale Adeshola Street; Shola Martins Street; Michael Alade Street; Gasper Street; Oliyide Street; Osagie Street; Ogunshola Taiwo Street; Temple Street and Seyinsola Road (Power Line) as well as Cole Street and Adigun Street. Others are Tayo Makinde

Stories By Edith Igbokwe

## Ikeja Monarch Stool: Ruling House Alleges Foul Play

The Oshoja Ruling House has written to Lagos Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu over the alleged plot to secretly change the clearance of Prince Wasiu Owolabi Adeleye as Olu of Ikeja-elect.

The stool of Olu of Ikeja became vacant when Oba Raufu Amore died in 2014 with the stool yet to be occupied by another Oba.

In a briefing on Wednesday, the Head of the Ruling House, Prince Isiaka Akinlabi, explained that the members of the ruling House of Ikeja nominated Prince Adeleye as the most popular candidate. He explained that the Oshoja ruling House presented a candidate to fill the vacant stool on the basis of rotation, and since the demise of Oba Amore, Prince Adeleye

had been endorsed by the Council of Kingmakers to fill the vacant stool.

The Department of State Services (DSS), Lagos Police Command, Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Ikeja branch, Lagos House of Assembly, and other agencies were copied in the petition.

Akinlabi stated that Adeleye had been cleared twice by the Ministry of Justice on August 10, 2016, and June 21, 2019.

He said: "On May 21, 2015, the then Executive Secretary Ikeja Local Government, Hon. Daley Adeokun forwarded Adeleye's name to the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs.

"Prince Nurudeen Adeleye had stepped down for Prince Wasiu

Owolabi Adeleye since the 4th of July, 2022 as the Olu of Ikeja-elect, having been cleared by the Ministry of Justice twice on August 10, 2016, and June 21, 2019."

"The ruling House frowned at the attempts to secretly change the name of the candidate it had cleared."

He added: "It is statute-barred to nominate any other person after nine years. We do not want anybody to plunge Ikeja and Lagos State into any crises."

Akinlabi noted that Hon. Justice Akapo granted an interlocutory dated July 8, 2022, restraining the Lagos State Government not to process any document on Olu of Ikeja Obaship stool, approve or install anybody as the Olu of Ikeja until the final determination of the suit.

## Man bags life imprisonment for sexually assaulting 7-yr-old girl



The sexual offences and domestic violence court sitting in Ikeja has sentenced one Idowu Adegoke to life imprisonment for sexually assaulting a seven-year-old girl.

According to the prosecution team, Adegoke sexually assaulted the minor with his fingers in November 2018 at Ayantaga Street, Mushin, Lagos.

The seven-year-old victim was Adegoke's neighbour's daughter.

Abiola Soladoye, trial judge, on Wednesday, ruled that the prosecution team sufficiently proved the charge of sexual assault

against the convict.

Soladoye said the testimony of the victim corroborated the evidence of the medical doctor.

"The defendant was dishonest and deceitful by saying he did not have any contact with the survivor on the day in question or any other day at all," she said.

"In the same breath, he stated that he saw the victim attempting to use the bathroom with fresh concrete work done and spoke to her not to use the bathroom.

"The defendant also told the court that he informed the survivor's mother that he was only trying to tell the victim about the concrete work

done on the bathroom floor.

"This is an attempt to lie his way out of the case. The court finds that the evidence of the respective witnesses was truthful, credible, cogent, and believable.

"The conduct of the defendant is unbecoming of a neighbour and condemnable.

"The court, having found the defendant guilty as charged, he is consequently convicted and sentenced to a term of life imprisonment.

"His name is also to be entered in the sexual offenders register as maintained by the Lagos State government."



## Beneficiaries Applaud Hamzat's Empowerment Programme

The beneficiaries of the skill acquisition programme of the chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat have commenced the council boss for the programme.

Hamzat, in

partnership with GIZ, German International Cooperation, has recently trained 100 people in hairdressing skills.

The beneficiaries, while expressing their gratitude to the council boss for the empowerment skill, said it was an

initiative that would help them to cope with life challenges.

After the training, certificates and empowerment tools were given to beneficiaries who completed the one-month training on hairdressing.

Each beneficiary got a

complete start-up pack with months of mentorship for the sustainability of the business alongside other incentives.

Hamzat promised to set the pace for sustainable grassroots development in Ifako-Ijaiye and beyond.



# LASU Launches Alternative Transport Mode

The management of the Lagos State University (LASU), Ojo Campus, has announced the operations of Trekk Scooters as an alternative mode of transportation on the campus.

The announcement was made after LASU partnered with TREKK to launch scooters as alternative intra-campus means of transportation.

While introducing the

## Abila Applauds Oba Raji's Support As He Celebrates New Age

The chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) and has commended His Majesty, Oba Sulaimon Raji Ashade, Oniba of Iba Land for his support towards the development of the community as he celebrated his birthday.

Abila described Oniba as a father and leader who is interested in the development of his community, his environment, and the people within.

"Oba Oniba is not just the paramount ruler in Iba LCDA alone but a socialite, bighearted, and generous king with class and finesse. On this special day, I wish you all the very best, all the joy you can ever have, and may you be blessed abundantly today, tomorrow, and the days to come."

He prayed For divine strength, wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and long life for the monarch to pilot the affairs of the Iba Kingdom more than his ancestors did.

innovation, the Director of LASU Ventures Limited, Prof. Tosin Adu, affirmed that the innovation was a product of the partnership between LASU Ventures Limited and the TREKK Scooters company.

He added that the University entered the partnership to provide the students with alternative transportation means while making the University more eco-friendly.

"TREKK Scooters offers an eco-friendly alternative to the shuttle service on the campus and allows students to unlock the scooters parked at the University Main Gate, pay a designated amount using the

TREKK App, and ride the vehicle anywhere on the campus," he explained.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of TREKK Scooters Company, Mr. Isaac Oyedokun stated that LASU is the first public University that would be hosting the platform.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Academics, Prof. Olufunsho Omobitan, said the initiative would further boost the University's place as the best University in West Africa on the Greenmetrics ranking and congratulated the organization for the launch.



Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello

# Iba Legislators Question Contractor Handling Council Project

The legislative arm of Iba Local Council Development Area has summoned the CEO of Micky Gold International to clarify the state/pace of works

on site, duration, and analysis of the work done so far on the construction of the secretariat.

Micky Gold International is the contractor handling the

ongoing construction of the administrative building in the Secretariat.

The meeting was presided over by the Leader of the House, Hon. Rahman Obanla,

and a series of questions were asked. In attendance were the Deputy Leader of the House, Hon. Shamsideen Adewale Hassan; Majority Leader, Hon. Ibrahim

Bakare; Chief Whip, Hon. Makinde Kazeem; Hon. Kabir Odo, CEO Micky Gold International and the Council Engineer, Engr. Mrs. Whesu S.M.



Iba legislative arm in dialogue with contractor

# Trucks're damaging our roads, Ibeshe residents lament

Concerned residents of Ibeshe area of Ikorodu have lamented over the deplorable state of the road caused by trucks constantly plying the road.

The interlocked Ipakodo/Ibeshe road in Ikorodu West and Igbogbo/Bayeku Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) of Ikorodu Division, commissioned about 11 years ago has been damaged by the heavy trucks plying the road.

Several sections of the road, which is usually being plied by heavy-duty trucks conveying sand from several dredging points at Owode and Ibeshe, have collapsed, posing a danger to motorists and other road users.

Based on observation, some parts of the road leading to the Ibeshe Ferry terminal are in a deplorable state as some parts have been dug out for reconstruction which has led to flooding on the road and sands totally blocking the road for vehicles to ply.

Meanwhile, the residents have appealed to the State Government to intervene and repair the

damaged portion of the road.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, a POS attendant, Mrs. Ajibade, who lives in the community expressed her dissatisfaction over the bad state of the road.

"The trailers plying the road are the main reason for the deplorable state of the road, trailers loading sands and others are constantly plying the road.

"Even now, they are passing one way because a part of the road is totally damaged which is very dangerous because children pass through the road from time to time.

"Some cars do almost collide on the road. Some days ago, an accident happened. Also, the street lights are not functioning. We plead with the government to intervene," she expressed.

Mr. Isiaka Abdulfatai, a car rewire expert whose shop is beside the road lamented the poor state of the road.

He said the government has been nonchalant towards correcting the anomaly and fixing the road.

"It has been over a month that they have dug a part of the road blocking the



Ibeshe Road

road and nothing has been done.

"When they know they are not ready, why start a work they cannot finish? Some parts of the road should not have been dug out for reconstruction. The sand dug out is left on the road which poses a danger to vehicles plying the road. Some who are not familiar with the road can crash into the sand without knowing.

"Some many accidents

have happened on this road. Before the Eid celebration, a ghastly accident happened on the road due to one-way traffic," he commented.

Also, a vulcaniser in the area, Mr. Olanrewaju Tosin expressed his worries over the issue.

He said: "Due to the dredging happening in Ibeshe, these trailers are overloaded with sand and they constantly ply the road from time to time.

They have not finished one part of the road, they are already trying to repair another one, leaving it all unattended.

"At times, overloaded trailers up to 60 pass through the road at a time following one another."

It would be recalled that the administration of the former Governor of Lagos State who is now Minister of Works and Housing, Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola, built the road

after several complaints and protests led by the late Asiwaju Babatunde Olushola Benson, SAN.

The road, which was built by the construction giant, Arab Contractors, now needs government attention right from the roundabout that connects NBC Road, Ipakodo to Igbogbo and Ibeshe roads, where the interlock stones have caved in and several others removed.

## Court Bars Man From Parading Self As Regun Of Ikorodu

Justice Adeniyi Pokanu of the Lagos State High Court, Ikorodu, has barred Adeniran Olusegun Shodipo from holding himself out as the Regun of Ikorodu pending the determination of a suit concerning the Regun chieftaincy stool.

The judge had on July 8, 2022, granted an

interlocutory injunction restraining one Jamiu Shittu from holding himself out as the Head of the Regun Family.

Two claimants, Kameeel Adisa Dada, and Gbenga Oshin, through their counsel, Yemi Okewoye of Universal Solicitors & Advocates, filed the suit marked IKD/87380CM/2022

.Ayangburen of Ikorodu, Oba Kabir Adewale Shotebi, and Shittu were the first and second defendants.

But, following an application, Justice Pokanu added Shodipo as a party on October 17, 2022, making him the third defendant.

The claimants, through their counsel,

Okewoye, then brought an application praying to the court to extend the interlocutory injunction to cover Shodipo.

Granting their prayer, Justice Pokanu held: "The order of the court made on July 8, 2022, is extended to bind the third defendant (Shodipo) to wit: Parties are

mandated to maintain status quo ante belum pending the final determination of the suit i.e. state of affairs duly recognised by the Court of Appeal in its judgment in Appeal No. CA/S/111/2003 was delivered on April 27, 2007, and recognised by the court as of April 27, 2022, when the court

gave injunctive orders restraining the defendant.

"An order of mandatory interlocutory injunction restraining the third defendant from holding or parading himself as the Regun of Ikorodu pending the final determination of the suit is hereby granted."

# LASWA Hands Over Ibeshe Ferry Terminal to Thesaurus Bay

The Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) has handed over the Ibeshe Ferry Terminal to Thesaurus Bay, a water transportation initiative and an arm of Thesaurus Gardens Limited.

In a post on its official Facebook page on Wednesday, LASWA said the Ibeshe Ferry Terminal is expected to yield significant traffic due to its strategic location.

The post read: "Today, the 19th of April, the Ibeshe Ferry Terminal was officially handed over to Thesaurus Bay by The Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA)

"The Ferry Terminal has good road connectivity, a floating pontoon that ensures safe embarking and disembarking of passengers."

According to LASWA, the handing over is in line with the Lagos State Waterways Authority's Mission to

regulate and promote the use of Lagos inland waterways, encourage sustainable investments, and develop lasting water transport solutions for the people of Lagos State.

"The general public will be notified as soon as the terminal is open for

operations," the post further read.

Speaking with our correspondent, Mr. Lawrence Obide, a site engineer at the Ibeshe Ferry Terminal said operations on the terminal have not started yet.

"Operations are expected to start in the

last weeks of June.

Operatives of Thesaurus Bay do come over from time to time with their boat and ferry to check the situation of things on the terminal.

"LASWA doesn't have any business on the terminal, since the heading over they have not returned to the

terminal.

"The only presence they have is the security post on the terminal where they provide clear and simple advice on safety guidelines that helps make sure that staffs, stakeholders, and customers have a safe day when on or near the water," he said.

All efforts to speak with the Lagos Waterways Authority, LASWA, and Thesaurus Bay proved abortive.

Thesaurus Bay is an African technology-powered company, providing seamless transport services to commuters across Lagos.



## Sen. Abiru Congratulates Abike Dabiri-Erewa On Her Re-appointment As NIDCOM Chairman

The Senator representing Lagos East Senatorial District, Senator Adetokunbo Abiru has congratulated Abike Dabiri-Erewa on her re-appointment as NIDCOM Chairman.

In his message, Abiru stated: "On behalf of my family and the good people of Lagos East Senatorial District, I congratulate my dear sister, Hon. (Mrs.)

Abike Dabiri-Erewa, on her reappointment for a second term as the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, Nigerians In Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM).

"I celebrate your sterling accomplishments as a dedicated public servant and a loyal chieftain of our great party, the All Progressives Congress, APC. You have become

an exemplary role model to many, especially women folks by demonstrating capability in all the national assignments you are saddled with.

"This re-appointment is a testament to your competence and ability to deliver. When you served our people in Ikorodu as a member, of the Federal House of Representatives, you delivered exceptionally. "Likewise, as the

Senior Special Assistant to the President on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora and later as the pioneer Chairman/CEO, of NIDCOM, you maintain a brilliant public record of performance and excellence.

"My dear sister, on this feat, I join your family, friends, associates, and numerous well-wishers in congratulating you



# Accolades As Obe Reconstructs Ifoshi Road

By Abolaji Adebayo

The residents of Ejigbo LCDA have continued to pour commendations on their council chairman, Alhaji Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello Obe over the reconstruction of Ifoshi Road which has been abandoned for a long time. It was gathered that the road had been in a deplorable condition for about 24 years and that the residents had been agitating for its reconstruction.

The road, which passes through the Palace of the town's monarch, links Ejigbo with Idimu, Orisunbare, and other areas.

The residents got relief when the council boss embarked on its reconstruction to boost commercial activities and also decongest the incessant traffic gridlock in the area.

The residents including the President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Ejigbo chapter; Chief Imam,

Ejigbo LCDA; Traditional Chief Priest of Ejigbo; Chief Balogun of Ejigbo; All Progressives Congress Youth Leader, Ejigbo LCDA; Special Adviser for Information and Strategy Ejigbo LCDA, commuters and driver and others expressed their joy over the development, commending the council chairman for breaking the jinx.

According to them, the project would greatly change the narrative of Ifoshi Road, and several others such as Iyalaje estate, moshalashi road, Dauda Ilo Road, council Secretariat, Primary Health Centers, Primary Schools, and many more. Commenting on the project, Obe appreciated God for making it possible to attain such a feat.

He also appreciated all contributory agents in the actualisation of the ongoing project such as the taxpayers, law-abiding residents, his cabinet members, the council manager, like-minded friends, and others.

He noted that his

predecessor, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan had tried all his best to fix the road.

He said that based on his (Obe's) passion for the reconstruction and its popular demand, he has deemed it very imperative "to take the bold step that

is coming to realities today."

He, therefore, encouraged the taxpayers to cooperate with the government of Ejigbo LCDA by performing their social civil responsibilities as he assured them of transparent and

accountable governance.

He also assured them that the federal government under the president-elect, Asiwaju Boka Ahmed Tinubu would do everything possible to make the country conducive for everyone.

"We are a visionary team

from the top to the bottom and our common goal is to bring everlasting comfort to all the citizens of Nigeria through our relentless progressive administration and exponential commitment to public services," he said.



Ifoshi Road, Ejigbo

# Kendoo Provides Water Infrastructure For Community

The chairman of Oshodi-Isolo LG, Otunva Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) has constructed a borehole for the residents of Folorunsho community to satisfy their yearnings for potable water.

The water project which is now running 24 hours will serve as a succour to the water scarcity in the community.

Oloyede said the water project delivered to the community makes it 22 his administration would be delivered in less than two years of his administration.

This he said is in

fulfillment of his campaign promises to the people and more importantly is meant to solve the water challenge of the people of the community who travel distance to get pipe-borne water for their use.

He said: "We have delivered on our promises again by providing the Folorunso community with this pipe-borne water. We saw the need to quickly intervene in the community's long for clean source of water hence we gave them their immediate need. This we believe will

help in ameliorating the suffering of the people in getting clean water. We will monitor all our projects to ensure they serve the need of the people for whom we did it.

"We will not relent in our efforts at making Oshodi-Isolo great, it is our dream and desire to ensure Oshodi as a gateway to Nigeria becomes the cynosure of all eyes in terms of infrastructural development."

Members of the Folorunso community praised and prayed for the council chairman for his benevolence towards them.



By Saheed Afolabi

## Maintain Int'l Best Practice, LAHA Charges Itire-Ikate Health Personnel

Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Health has urged the health personnel in primary healthcare centers in Itire-Ikate to maintain international best practices. Speaking during the committee's visit to Itire-Ikate LCDA, the committee's chairman, Hon. Adams disclosed that his committee was going round the local councils to ensure that all the primary health facilities were in good condition and adequately equipped to provide quality healthcare to the people across the State.

The inspection, according to him, is aimed at strengthening the capacity and identifying challenges hindering quality healthcare delivery to provide solutions at the local level.

He said: "The committee on health under the Lagos State House of Assembly (LSHA) is embarking on a tour of the 50 primary healthcare centres across the local government areas and LCDAs in the state to assess the condition of the facilities and their challenges and give feedback to the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa to strategize on ways to

improving on the quality of service delivered to the people at the grassroots."

The lawmaker commended members of staff of the health services department while also encouraging them to maintain international best practices. He also commended the council chairman of the council, Hon. Dr. Ahmed Olanrewaju Apatira for prioritising the health of the community and his huge investment in the health sector in the council area. The committee, therefore, advised health personnel to intensify community advocacy and engagement while promising to recommend more manpower, equipment, and supplies from the State Government.

The committee members

were taken on a tour of the primary healthcare centers at Airways, Anjorin, the Flagship center at Ejire, and the Ongoing reconstruction of Baruwa PHC.

In his remark, the council boss who was represented by the vice Chairman, Hon. Yetunde Jimba reassured the committee of his administration's commitment to improving the quality and standard of service delivery.

"It's our policy to have functional primary health centres in our various communities to provide and enhance quality healthcare for our people in line with our administration's core mandate while collaborating with the Lagos State Government and development partners," he said.



Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa

## Council Boss Assures Residents Of Speedy Completion Of Projects

In an effort to ensure the speedy delivery of ongoing projects and the effective utilisation of already delivered projects, the chairman of Itire-Ikate LCDA, Hon. (Dr.) Ahmed Olanrewaju Apatira accompanied by the supervisor for works and infrastructure, Hajia Mariam Mohammed, on

Thursday, led the top management team of the council on an inspection tour of completed and ongoing projects across the council.

The council boss reiterated the need for the site engineers to make a speedy delivery of the projects and to ensure that they do not exceed the proposed project

duration and that all problems relating to the project are well addressed.

He said: "This inspection aims to ensure that the site contractors are working according to plan and to ensure they did not compromise in terms of quality and project delivery time. Our presence here is a morale booster for

## Bar Attendant Remanded For Alleged Murder



A 35-year-old bartender identified as Nyagh Isaiah has been remanded for the alleged murder of his co-worker, Kingsley Kator, in the Ojuelegba area of Lagos State.

Nyagh was remanded on Tuesday by Magistrate P. E. Nwaka on one count of murder.

Nyagh was arrested by the police for allegedly killing his colleague, Kingsley Kato, during a fight over a Point of Sale (PoS) transaction at a hotel in the Surulere Local Government Area of Lagos State.

According to the prosecutor, Thomas Nurudeen, the defendant

committed the crime on April 9, 2023, around 1 pm in the Ojuelegba area of Lagos State.

Nurudeen told the court that the deceased was murdered while the two of them were fighting using arms and a broken bottle.

According to the charge, the offence contravened Section 222 and is punishable under Section 223 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, Nigeria, 2015.

The charge read: "That you, Nyagh Isaiah, on April 9, 2023, around 1 pm, at the Ojuelegba area of Lagos State, in the Lagos Magisterial District did unlawfully kill one Kingsley Kator, aged 27 years by stabbing him to

death with a broken bottle and thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 223 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, Nigeria, 2015."

The prosecutor prayed the court to remand the defendant at the Ikoyi Custodial Centre pending the issuance of legal advice from the office of the Director of Public Prosecution.

The defendant's plea was, however, not taken, and in his ruling, the magistrate, Nwaka, granted the prosecutor's request and ordered that the defendant be remanded pending the DPP's advice.

Nwaka adjourned the case till May 25, 2023, for trial.

them and a sign that we meant business."

The project sites visited include the Construction of 2nd phase of the Akorede modern market (Ongoing), the Reconstruction of the Itire-Ikate customary court complex (Ongoing), the Construction of Ajose Street (Completed), the Rehabilitation of Duro-Oyedoyin Primary School (Completed), Marriage Registry (Completed), Construction of

Administrative Offices at Ijeshatedo Police Station (Completed), Re-

roofing of the Council Secretariat is ongoing and it will be completed soon.



Hon Apatira

# Residents Task Olowa On Road Infrastructure, Flood, Others

The residents of Ibeju-Lekki LGA have tasked their council chairman, Hon. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa on various things needed in the community including rehabilitation of roads, drains, control of flood, and others.

The residents made their demands on the official WhatsApp platform of the local council.

Some of the requests are: "Good evening Sir. I would like to draw Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Chairman's attention to the flood on Onosa Road which is due to no drainage on the road. Previous efforts have been made by the Onosa CDA to excavate and fill the roads, but due to insufficient funds by the CDA, the community budget could bankroll the construction of drainage on Onosa Road. We the Onosa people will appreciate the construction of a drainage system on Onosa Road to solve the problems of flooding in the community. Thank you."

Another resident wrote:

Good evening all. My name is Abdullahi Yusuf. First I would like to appreciate the Chairman, Engr. Abdullahi Olowa who has been to our community twice when we embarked on palliative work on the major road that leads to our community - HogherGround, Onidogbo, OneWithGod. These three communities have a common major access road via Aiyeteju/Ire Akari CDA.

"Ever since, this road is not usable during the rainy season. But since the three CDAs came together to work on the drainage path, we are relieved during the 2021 rainy season and 2022.

"This road requires continuous road palliative intervention. Onidogbo CDA has just concluded the grading of the road from Y junction of Afribank, while HogherGround CDA joins hands with them to backfill some parts of the road and also grade the road almost to Ire Akari culvert.

"We are seeking the LG's intervention to help with



Hon. Olowa Abdulahi

rubles at some critical point up to MKO street towards Aiyeteju. This is required and needed else it will be so difficult at the peak of the rainy season to survive the difficult terrain. "Considering the children's school runs daily in and out for survival, we appeal to @ ~Jaja .. for your help and intervention. Especially the channeling

of the water towards the natural water path to Onosa. This was part of the discussion that the LG will inform LASG of a proper channel of the water. "The task is huge and demanding we understand this. We need the government to help us by any means so we can have the community that we desire together. We appeal

for your help and intervention."

"Good morning sir Mr. Chairman, work is going on in our community Taro Ilegun we need your assistance for our road and drainage thanks sir," another resident demanded.

Responding to their demands, the council boss said: "Let me first commend the efforts of the people behind this community development project. With such efforts, I am confident our dear local government will become a better place to work and live.

"I must admit that your request is very genuine and require the attention of the local government. However, we must also understand that the growing vertical imbalance between revenue and expenditure across all levels of government from federal to local has made it almost impossible for government to meet all infrastructural needs at the same time.

"Therefore, we look forward to support from

different parts of the communities in our quest for infrastructural upgrade. Presently, the local government has commenced the construction of a new office complex at the secretariat to improve working conditions and serve the people of our dear local government better. You may please recall that the council was attacked and burnt down during the last EndSARS riots in our state. "In addition to this project, the local government is currently working at three primary healthcare centers - Airapagi PHC, Solu Alade PHC, and Aiyeteju PHC. These are hugely capital-intensive projects which we are committed to delivering before the end of this year.

"Very soon, we would also commence the pavement and grading of some roads as already approved in the budget of 2023.

"Once again, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Taro Ilegun Community and will also take my time to visit the project site for an onsite assessment."

Ibeju-Lekki LG has partnered with the Telehealth ABA World Project at the University of Houston-Clear Lake to support families by offering education and training to caregivers and professionals who work with children with autism. Save the Children, an international non-profit organization aimed at improving the lives of children worldwide, reported that an estimated 32 million people in Nigeria including children, live with some form of disability and face discrimination that prevents them from accessing basic social services and education. There is a critical need for support and intervention

## Telehealth ABA World Collaborates With Ibeju-Lekki LG To impact Children With Autism

services for children on the autism spectrum who live in countries where there are very few if any board certified behaviour analysts or resources. Research Assistant and Telehealth ABA World Project Programme Manager, Loukia Tsami said over the past five years, the programme had been providing services via telehealth to families of autistic children in various locations in Nigeria. Tsami said the project is to identify families of children with autism and through the structure of the Ministry of Health in this Local Government, provide

services to healthcare professionals, children with autism, and their caregivers. "Telehealth ABA World Project is grateful to collaborate with powerful and competent individuals in the Ibeju-Lekki local government. Through this partnership, we will open the government-supported center in Ibeju Lekki that provides free services to children with autism and their families," she said. The first step in the formation of the new center, Tsami explained, would be to interview local people who have a professional background in

education or health care. "Then, through educational sessions via telehealth, coach them on behaviour analytic methods. The goal is to offer empirically-validated services to local families. She added that the ultimate goal is to empower these professionals to a high competency level to teach others, thus expanding and sustaining the programme." She said another objective is to change the cultural perspectives about people with disabilities. "The project will consult with people who are part of the culture to maintain

appropriateness and humility so that people who need the services will feel comfortable enough to step forward," she said. "We have emphasized creating protocols in a culturally appropriate way instead of simply taking American models and forcing them on another culture." To facilitate the creation of the programme in Ibeju Lekki Local Government in a culturally responsive way, Tsami said Mojola Bamise, a Nigerian-American UHCL student pursuing her Master of Arts in Behaviour Analysis, would take a central role during the

training and educational activities. With government endorsement and support from local leadership, Bamise said she hoped the center would dispel some of the stigmas. "This is an underserved community with some people in denial about their children's disabilities," she said. "They sometimes refuse intervention because they don't want to be identified as parents of a child with a disability." Telehealth ABA World Autism is an outreach of UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

Lagos State Government has expressed its desire to further give support to Lagos Island Connect (LIC) for organising a Business Fair at the Local Government Level.

The Commissioner for Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives, Dr. (Mrs.) Lola Akande stated this while welcoming the executive members of LIC, led by its President, Miss. Yemisi Ransome-Kuti to the Ministry on Friday.

Represented by the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Adetutu Ososanya, Akande stated that the business fair created an opportunity for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to showcase their indigenous

# LASG To Give More Support To Lagos Island Connect

products thereby promoting the State's economy, in line with Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's T.H.E.M.E.S Agenda of transforming and positioning the State for the 21st-Century Economy.

Her words: "During the Lagos Island Business (LIBIZ) Fair, I observed that most of the participants who featured, came to display indigenous products and this gladdened my heart, as I also patronised them. I must commend you for the training in Business Education and Networking provided

to MSMEs during Business Clinics at the Fair.

"Akande reiterated that the Ministry will make efforts to step up plans in the area of publicity and also reach out to the appropriate quarters to bring concerned stakeholders on board."

The Commissioner promised that the Ministry will work together with the Team to ensure the success of subsequent Fairs organised by Lagos Island Connect.

The President of LIC, Miss Yemisi Ransome-Kuti, confirmed that the Business Fair received great support from both the State Government and other stakeholders who contributed immensely to its success and



Dr. (Mrs.) Lola Akande

expressed her appreciation to the Sanwo-Olu administration for the encouragement.

"We enjoyed support from the State Government and our Development Partners such as

Germans GIZ-NGC and the Republic of Netherlands. We hope this will be extended to other programmes lined up and targeted at the youths in the Local Government Areas to bring them on board

to identify the businesses that have already been supported and make efforts to strengthen the ones that are still struggling and help set them up appropriately," she said.

## Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA Announces Vacancies In ICT Centres

Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has announced vacancies in the new Information Communication Technology (ICT) centres in the council area.

As made known by the council authority, the vacant positions include administrative officers and instructors.

Qualified and interested applicants are advised to send their curriculum vitae to [recruit@odiolowoojuwoye.lg.gov.ng](mailto:recruit@odiolowoojuwoye.lg.gov.ng) on or before May 10, 2023.

Applicants must be between the ages of 25 and 45 years and must have a minimum National Diploma (ND).

Applicants are also advised to visit for more information.

Also sharing the information on his Twitter



Hon. Rasaq Ajala

handle, the council chairman, Hon. Rasaq Ajala described the development as a promise kept as he disclosed that the centres will become operational by June.

He wrote: "Promise Made, Promise Fulfilled. Our Newly Rehabilitated ICT Centres will commence Operation by June. Interested persons should Apply for Vacant Positions within our two Centres."

## NDE Captures Over 1,500 Unemployed Youths In Oshodi-Isolo LGA

No fewer than 1,500 unemployed youths have registered with the National Directorate of Employment in Oshodi-Isolo LGA.

The exercise which was done nationwide from April 17 to May 5 witnessed youths in Oshodi LGA and its sister LCDAs; Isolo and Ejigbo trooping to the Oshodi-Isolo LGA secretariat to get their data documented with the federal agency for possible employment.

As of Friday, the last day of the exercise, when ECHONEWS visited the registration centre, it discovered that the number on the two registration books was 1,061 and 480, respectively.

The job-seeking youths were requested to write down their bio-data which include name, age, gender, qualification, state of origin, skill set, years of being unemployed, and National Identification

Number among others.

While addressing the youths, an official of the Directorate who simply identified himself as Mr. Obinna explained that the data would help the incoming administration of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu to provide employment opportunities for the youths.

The Directorate encouraged the youths to be on the lookout for information about employment

opportunities from the incoming administration.

One of the youths who spoke with ECHONEWS, Samuel Udoh explained to have been unemployed for five years, saying that his hopes are on the federal government to get employed.

Others who registered their data expressed hope that the next administration will provide more employment opportunities.

# Oshodi/Isolo II: It Was Unfortunate That Johnson Lost Reps Seat - Isolo CAN Chair

## ...Reaffirms Confidence In Tinubu's Capability To Make Nigeria Great



Hon Ganiyu Johnson



Ashiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu

The Chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in Isolo LCDA, Prophet Dr. Solomon Kayode Adebayo has described the defeat of the incumbent House of Representatives Member in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II, Hon. Ganiyu Johnson, as unfortunate, saying it could be cause a doom for the constituency. According to him, there may be a mismanagement of the

constituency resources due to the inexperience of the winner.

He recalled how the opposition party member, Hon. Tony Nwulu won the seat in 2015 and consequently diverted most of the constituency funds and projects elsewhere. He noted that the defeated APC candidate has done impressively well to deserve a second term in office after winning the party ticket to contest.

Speaking exclusively

with Echonews, the CAN chairman acknowledged that the 2023 election was "disappointingly decided by ethnic and religious factors instead of capabilities and track record."

The above, he said was why Johnson lost his seat to a relatively unknown candidate of the Labour Party (LP), Prince Okey-Joe Onuakalusi.

Although, Prophet Adebayo expressed his optimism that Engr. Johnson might reclaim his mandate especially

as the case is before the tribunal, he said that

He said: "As a Christian body, we worked assiduously to make sure that our people came out en masse to vote for the right candidate. We played our part with a clear conscience. It was unfortunate that Hon. Ganiyu Johnson lost the election. He lost the election and that was so painful because he performed to the best of his ability. We learned from what happened to him at the poll and

doubled our efforts during the governorship and state house of assembly election. We contributed to the landslide victory of Governor Sanwo-Olu and Hon. Ladi Ajomale in the council area.

"If Hon. Johnson will still push further in court we are with him and we believe that the will of God will prevail," he added.

Speaking on Tinubu's emergence, he urged Nigerians to sustain their trust in God and the

belief they have in Tinubu's capabilities as he assured that the Christian body will not falter in their responsibility of praying to God for guidance for the president-elect.

He said: "Tinubu's track record says it all and that was part of what won him the election. We believe it was the will of God and what's expected of us is to pray for His continued guidance over him and ultimately his success."

## Council Chairman Intervenes As Traders Accuse Former Vice Chairman

Traders at the Gunwa market in Ikosi-Isheri have accused the former Vice Chairman of the Local Council Development Area, Princess Bola Kazeem, of engaging in unauthorized activities that have affected their businesses. The market women alleged that Kazeem has been parading herself as a Local

Council and State Government agent, collecting revenue and causing problems for the traders.

However, Kazeem has not responded to the allegations, as the text messages and video sent to her for her side of the story were not replied to.

Meanwhile, in response to the traders' complaints, the chairman of Ikosi-

Isheri LCDA, Princess Samiat Bada, has visited the market to address the situation.

She assured the traders of finding a lasting solution to the issue.

She also called on Princess Kazeem to stop parading herself as the agent of the government in collecting revenue for either the local government or the

state.

She also urged the Muslim faithful in the market whose worshipping spot wanted to be converted to K-Klamps to continue with their worshipping.

The traders hoped that the intervention of the council chairman will bring about a resolution to the problem and restore normalcy to the

market.

During her visit, she listened to the traders' grievances and warned them not to listen to anyone other than the authorized park manager, market women, and men.

Bada further directed the traders to inform unauthorized persons making their lives unbearable that she had visited the market and that she is the sole

elected council chairman.

She also raised the hands of the council-recognized Iyalaja and Babalaja to the traders, stating that they have worked for the success of the party at the just concluded poll, and she will not be a party to any attempt to replace them after their labour.

# Across the border to see the Amazon

By Kehinde Bamigbetan

It was with misty eyes that I watched the Woman-King on a Virgin Atlantic flight to London on March 27 this year. It took me back to the history class in my secondary school days, when, for the first time, I read about how the empire of Dahomey raised the Amazons, an all-women army that fought and liberated the people from the Oyo empire.

The story by Maria Bello and Dane Steven brought to life by my favorites in the cast, Viola Davis (Nanisca) and Thuso Mbedu (Nawi), brought me close to tears many times. I was so happy that, at last, African children could learn something positive about how our civilization responded to local and foreign pressures.

Fast forward to April 22. On vacation in Cotonou, I watched a mass of people mill around a figure at about 9 p.m. as the driver took me into town. Initially, I presumed a carnival was in session. When the driver took me past the same location close to the Cotonu port the next morning and we still met an even larger concentration of people there, I became very curious and booked a visit on my way to the border.

The imposing 30-meter monument on the marina that stood on about an acre of green grass took everybody's eyes to the sky. Made of metal and bronze and set on concrete, it depicts Queen Tassi Hangbe, who led the Amazons of the Dahomey kingdom.

While the Hollywood blockbuster is a successful business transaction that broke even on its \$50 million budget in six months, the decision to build the Amazon statue was taken by the administration of President Practice Talon of Benin to revive tourism as a non-export revenue earner.

According to Beninise journalist Elaine Fatchina, the Council of Ministers announced the

decision to contract the erection to the Chinese artist Li Xiangqun on July 17, 2019 with a declaration that the statue would be a strong symbol of the

country's identity by having an emblematic work honoring the Amazons of Dahomey as a metallic statue with a bronze envelope.

Both developments have led to a boost in tourism as more people head to the land of the Amazons to see for themselves the Agojie in bronze.



# Open Society and the IPC launch a bid to save the press from attacks

By Kehinde Bamigbetan

To mark International Press Freedom Day, the International Press Centre (IPC), in collaboration with the South West zone of the Nigeria Guild of Editors, the Oyo State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, and the Open Society Foundation, organized a one-day forum on the safety of journalists and protecting freedom of expression in the age of misinformation and disinformation at the Kakanfo Hotel, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Addressing participants, Lanre Arogundade, Executive Director of the IPC, presented the center's plan to launch the Nigerian Journalists' Safety Initiative, NJSI, to expand the frontiers of safety for journalists by raising the awareness of media professionals and the society at large.

His words: "The I-CPSJ is a product

of the experience gathered in the course of embarking on press freedom activities by the IPC. The major lesson is that the advocacy and campaign for the safety and protection of journalists need to be done at an institutional level for impactful engagements, the building of sustainable partnerships, and the attraction of enormous resources that would be required to make the endeavor a success."

No fewer than 30 participants at the event, including the Vice President of the Nigerian Guild of Editors, South West Zone, Mr. Bolaji Adebisi, the chairman of the NUJ, Chief Demola Babalola, the chairperson of the state chapter of the National Association of Women Journalists, and veteran media professionals, concluded that the proposal would add value to the performance of journalists.

They recommended the

introduction of insurance, the adoption of early warning orientation, and the need for employers to provide succor for journalists injured on the job.

To raise the awareness of participants about safety challenges, IPC launched the 2022 State of Attacks on the Media Report, covering the location of incidents, affected media outlets, nature, victims, and alleged perpetrators obtained through desk research.

The report revealed that 13 print media, 26 broadcast media, and 24 online media were attacked last year through threats, media shutdowns, hacking of accounts, threats of sanction, and threats to life. It counted 56 men and 10 women as the victims who lost valuables, cameras, phones, or were injured in the course of the attacks.

Presenting the report, IPC Media Officer Melody Akinjiyan called out

the country's security agencies as the alleged perpetrators and demanded that the government bring to book those involved to serve as a lesson to others.

The two reports provided the context for the lecture of Professor Tokunbo Adaja, the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Joseph Ayo Babalola University, on "Protecting Freedom of Expression in the Age of Misinformation and Disinformation".

According to the don, only self-regulation by the press can guarantee freedom of expression and mitigate the disinformation and misinformation perpetrated by the unprofessional citizen journalists on social media.

His recommendation: "Victims of fake news, misinformation, or disinformation must be encouraged to speak out as well as institute legal proceedings with minimal stress."



In the wooded seclusion of the expansive Grand Resort in Ile-Ife, the signage announces to the eyes that this groove Mount its steps to enter and behold a kaleidoscope of adire in enchanting colors, calling you to come, touch, and feel.

The wooden building is active. A lady is busy using an iron to press the creases off a wrapper, and another, who says she is the social media manager of the enterprise, is busy on the phone. Yet another is hugging the point-of-sale machine, apparently ready for sales.

Although I had heard about it, it was my first time to venture into this unique venture of Olori Aderonke Ademiluyi-Ogunwusi, wife of the Ooni of Ife, Babatunde Adeyeye Ogunwusi, Ojaja II. Passionately committed to African fashion, she launched African Fashion Week in London in 2011 and followed up with the Nigerian version of the event in 2014. The London event turned out really well, recording 4,700 visitors who watched the designs of 60 African designers on the runway.

Her current project is less intentional and was brought about by the challenge of restoring the local economy of Ile-Ife following the economic depression in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her words: "It was opened as a COVID-19 bounce-back facility. COVID had mellowed down, and there weren't many things that rural women were doing. So His Majesty and I came up with this idea of using our heritage as a wealth creation tool for women in the local community."

For a long time, Abeokuta and, to a lesser extent,

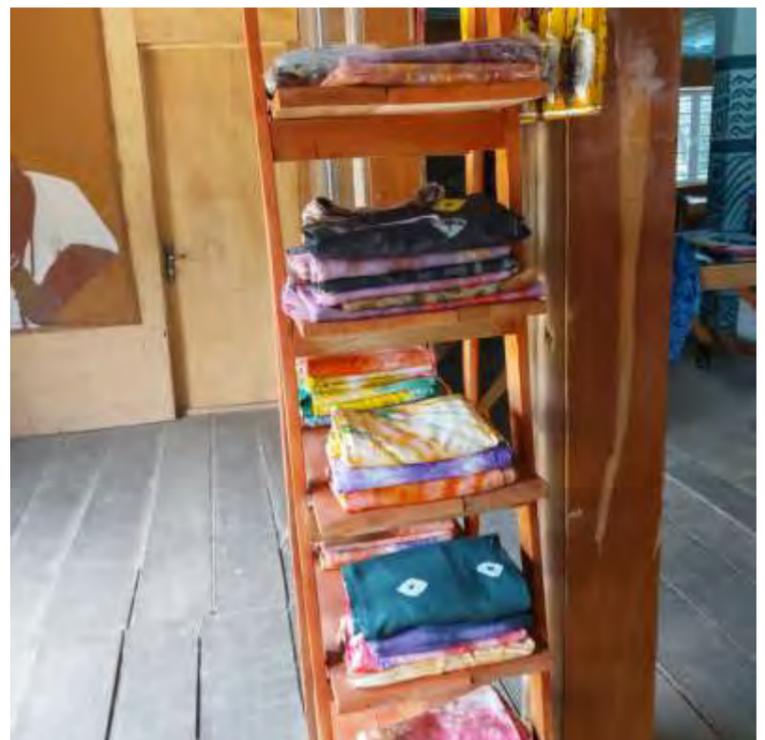
# Hobnobbing with Adire at the Hub

By Kehinde Bamigbetan



Osogbo, two city capitals in the south-west of Nigeria, were where you had to go if you needed these African prints. In the last year, that story has changed. Ile-Ife, the cradle of the Yoruba, founders of the adire, has joined the list of destinations for adire prints. Anyone who finds himself in the hub wouldn't need to be told that this has come to stay. Since it was launched in 2021, the Adire Oodua Hub, working with the Textile Department of the Obafemi Awolowo University and local

artists, has trained over 500 women in various ways of making the print, including batik, needles, and tie and dye. It has even gone into screen printing for corporate wear. The women who finish are provided start-up funds to launch their micro-business as artisan makers or traders. Speaking after a recent runway display of the prints by her models, Olori Aderonke Ademiluyi-Ogunwusi said she plans to train 1,000 women this year to fill global demand for the local product.



# Osimhen Appreciates Napoli For Career Growth

Nigerian goal poacher, Victor Osimhen has appreciated Napoli for contributing to his career growth after winning the Italian Serie A title with the club after a 33 years wait. Osimhen banged in the crucial equalizer as Napoli forced Udinese to a 1-1 draw at the 25,144 capacity Stadio Friuli.

The Super Eagles forward revealed that he will be eternally grateful to the Partenopei and Serie A that gave him a world-renowned player.

Osimhen appreciated Napoli's manager, Spalletti for exposing him to other features of the game.

"I will forever be grateful to this league and this competition because they exposed me more to the world. I am always a work-in-progress striker, as I have a lot to improve.

"It has been amazing in terms of my hold-up

play, my goal-scoring prowess, and a big kudos to Spalletti and his backroom staff, they have improved me.

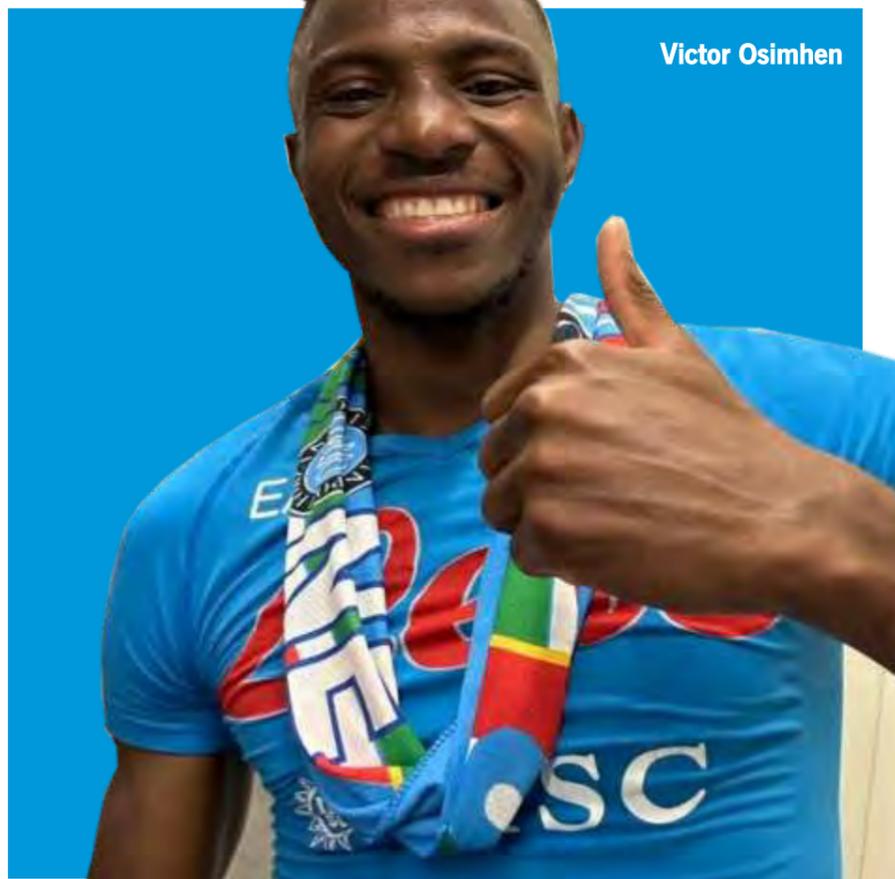
"The confidence the team also gave me in feeling that I am a leader has helped me improve. Also a big kudos to the Napoli

fans.

"When I arrived, I went through some difficult times, but they gave me the energy and supported me, making me the striker that I am today."

Napoli won their third Serie A title in style with five games to go as they establish a 16 points gap at the summit of the table.

The Partenopei will host Fiorentina in their next encounter on the seventh of May.



Victor Osimhen

## Berackiah Coaching Clinic To Offer Grassroots Coaches International Exposure

The Lagos State Football Coaches Association (LSFCA) in conjunction with Berackiah Football Coaching International has fixed July 3, 2023, for the commencement of a coaching clinic for the development of grassroots coaches in Lagos State.

Top UEFA B licensed coach from Norway, Mark Hansen, has been penciled down to educate the coaches on the European standard of coaching while Lagos State University staff member, Dr. Raimi Abiodun will also be lecturing the coaches

about the game of coaching.

According to the facilitator and organizer of the coaching program, the CEO of Berackiah International, Mr. Nwigwe Nduka said the purpose of the coaching clinic is to give the grassroots coaches more exposure to the international standard of coaching as top UEFA B certified coaches from Norway will be on the ground to educate the grassroots coaches.

"This is an opportunity for grassroots coaches to grab because it's an avenue to be taught by well-experienced and foreign

UEFA B certified coaches.

"This coaching clinic will avail the grassroots coaches the chance to develop their coaching knowledge and impact the international standard of learning to the players and also improve their tactical approach and technical abilities of the game.

"At the end of the day, the coaches will get approval certificate from our partner in Norway a UEFA license C level, so it's an avenue for our grassroots coaches to be taught in the pattern of the Europeans on how they have developed football in their region."

The chairman of Lagos

State Football Coaches Association (LSFCA), Coach Hassan Tairu urged the coaches in Lagos State to take advantage of the Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic as it would add value to their work.

"I want to urge our coaches to take advantage of this noble offer and improve our education about the game.

"There would be international coaches from Norway that have been invited to lecture or educate our grassroots coaches on the development of the game and on how to keep up with the pace of the game."

## Ibeju-Lekki Coaches Call For Development Of Football In Community

Nurudeen Adebayo

The Ibeju-Lekki Football Coaches Council Association has called for the development of football in the community.

The leader of the coaches' council, Victor Akinmoyo, made the call during the maiden annual general meeting held at the Lekki LCDA Conference Hall on Saturday.

The Ibeju-Lekki Football Coaches Council Association was granted membership to be a council in December 2022.

Victor appealed for stakeholders' support for the growth and improvement of the abilities of teams in Ibeju-Lekki.

The renowned football administrator told PULSE SPORTS that the Ibeju Lekki Football League will get bigger and better.

According to him, "I have witnessed the cooperation that has helped us achieve a lot; the strength and unity that binds us Together, they are visible and have been pivotal to the fulfillment of objectives.

"As an example, we were able to achieve a successful League playoff with the cooperation and efforts

of coaches and other stakeholders.

"I believe that the next season of the Ibeju Lekki Football League can only get bigger and better and I hope we all look forward to the next season with anticipation and expectations.

"I believe that we will get to the level where the Ibeju Lekki Football League will become recognized as one of the tiers of the Nigerian Professional Football Leagues.

"We will continue to work for the development of football in this community, the education of our coaches, and the growth and improvement in the abilities of teams in the Ibeju Lekki community. We will not rest on our oars.

"I appeal to stakeholders to join us in our quest and efforts to push for the betterment of our members and the development of football in our community."

On his part, the chairman of the Epe Football Association, who doubles as the chairman of the Lagos State Divisional Football Association, Segun Osinaike, applauded the Ibeju-Lekki Coaches and pledged continued support for them.



Ibeju lekki coaches