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EchoneWS

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ESPWP 1,000 JOBS: Fidelity Bank wins Oshodi-Isolo Account

By Abolaji Adebayo

Fidelity Bank has won the account for the payment of the 1,000 beneficiaries

of the 774,000 Federal Government's Expanded Special Public Works Programme (ESPWP) jobs in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area (LGA).

A text message to beneficiaries from the National Directorate of Employment asked them to report to the bank's branch at 11 Banjoko Street, Oshodi on October 30, this year to perfect their applications.

Mr. Wale Adelana, a member of the Lagos State Committee saddled with the implementation of the programme is coordinating Oshodi-Isolo LGA.

The LGA includes Isolo and Ejigbo local council development areas.

Those who were able to verify their names on the list on October 30, this year were given account opening forms.

The text message triggered a mass movement of would-be beneficiaries to the bank's branch but many of them were disappointed when they discovered that their names were not on the list.

Bank officials however explained that the list would be taken in batches.

Fidelity Bank's Corporate Affairs Manager, Mr. Charles Aigbe confirmed the development.

The race for the accounts of stipends to be paid to beneficiaries of the programme at local governments seemed to have been neck to neck as frontline banks got their own pieces of the pie.

ECHONEWS learnt that Access Bank got Alimosho Local Government Area and Heritage Bank got Badagry Local Government Area.

The verification continues as the state committee gets set to distribute equipment supplied to execute jobs under the scheme.

The chairman of the Lagos State Committee on the programme, Alhaji Mutiu Are told ECHONEWS that the suppliers have delivered 85 percent of the equipment.

"The suppliers have done very well. They have supplied 85 percent of the equipment," he said.

The equipment includes wheelbarrows, cleaning materials and face shields to ensure compliance with COVID-19 protocols.

He explained that Lagos State has 20,000 beneficiaries based on 1,000 beneficiaries per local government.

To ensure the principle of inclusion, stakeholders including personalities and organisations at the national, state and local government levels were allocated slots.

The nominees were asked to fill forms and submit before September 30, this year.

ECHONEWS learnt that the state committee screened out applicants who supplied information out of line with the objectives of the programme.

A source disclosed: "Applicants were screened out because they did not fulfil the criterion as some filled age beyond 50 years, some filled the address that is not within the local government (some filled the form in Oshodi-Isolo but put Ogun State address).

"We screened everybody who filled the age that is more than 50 years because the programme is meant for people between the ages of 18 and 50 years.

"Some applicants filled Ogun State address while submitting forms in Oshodi-Isolo. Some others reduced their ages in order to benefit from the scheme but their BVN exposed their real ages and were disqualified."

The screened forms were submitted to the National Directorate of Employment for further screening.

Since the first batch of applicants



Nneka Onyeali-Ikpe

were invited and verified by the banks, others have been on a waiting game.

In Isolo LCDA, the local government authority said none of their applicants have been invited.

The Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Pual Fregene told ECHONEWS that many youths in Ejigbo believe they were not shortlisted as they could not find their names on the list when they visited the bank.

Reacting to the complaints, one of the committee members set up for the coordination of the programme in Lagos State who spoke to ECHONEWS on anonymity said the list of 1,000 shortlisted applicants has been sent to the bank.

According to him, the reason why some people have not been called by the bank to open account could be due to some mistakes on their forms.

He explained that the committee was at the bank in Oshodi on the

first day when more than 200 applicants were attended to, adding that a great number was also attended to the second day.

He noted that many applicants were not called by the bank because their phone numbers were either incorrect or have been changed.

While affirming that the list of 1,000 shortlisted applicants has been sent to the bank, he advised the applicants who are yet to be called to visit the bank to see whether their names are on the list rather than complaining.

As part of efforts to ease the effect of coronavirus pandemic lockdown on the people especially the youths, the federal government devised a scheme of 1,000 jobs for each of the 774 local government areas across the country.

The shortlisted youths between the ages of 18 and 50 are to be paid N20,000 for three months for engaging in public works such as street sweeping, traffic

control, market fumigation and others.

Just like the previous empowerment programmes, it is another scheme by the federal government to create transient jobs for the 774,000 youths for three months to support reduce poverty.

The government has earlier created such financial empowerment programmes for the youths and the traders which include N-Power, Tradermoni, National Social Investments Programmes (NSIP), Covid-19 Conditional Cash Transfer Program (CCT), and now the Extended Special Public Works Programme (ESPWP) in which youths would be engaged in public works and paid N20,000 each for three months.

The Expanded Special Public Works Programme (ESPWP) was set up by the Federal Government to provide poverty and income relief by creating temporary work opportunities for the unskilled, unemployed, poor

and vulnerable (including the disabled).

Oshodi-Isolo LGA received a total number of 170 forms representing 17 per cent of the total forms which were shared among the heads of the sectors, departments, groups and associations for onward distribution to the youths in the community.

For instance, out of the 170 forms, the Executive Chairman received two, the Vice Chairman was given five, SLG got three, the Executive Exco got 20, the council leader received three while others such as associations, religious bodies, market leaders, etc., were given their own proportions for distribution among their members.

Similar distribution method was used in Isolo and Ejigbo LCDAs which obtained 168 (16.8 per cent) and 170 (17 per cent) forms each.

The total number of forms received by the LG and the two LCDAs is 508 - 50.8 per cent of the total 1,000 forms.

Local governments are already working out how to engage the beneficiaries whenever they resume work.

The chairman, Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Hon. Monsuru Bello Obe who said chairmen have been waiting for further directives on the programme told ECHONEWS that they would be engaged in community works.

"We shall deploy them to the desilting of drains and evacuation of refuse to improve the environment of the council area," he said.

Fire Service to activate Ejigbo station

Six years after the inauguration of a Fire Service Station in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, the Lagos State Fire Service has decided to activate the station by providing a fire engine.

This development followed a recent visit to Ejigbo Local Council Development Area chairman, Hon. Monsuru Bello by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Special Duties, Alhaji Amudaliu Yusuph Jimoh.

Both agreed that the Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Special Duties, will provide a fire engine first as part

of preparations to activate the station.

Ejigbo LCDA will, on its part, build a separate water tank to aid the operations of the station and create a gate for rapid response in case of emergencies.

The Ministry had requested for the installation of an industrial borehole, a facility which the council had built since 2013 as part of the construction of the station.

Obe briefed the permanent secretary that incessant fire

disasters particularly during the harmattan period made the administration of former chairman, Kehinde Bamigbetan initiate the project in 2013.

Obe, who was the vice chairman and supervisor for works then, narrated now the administration collaborated with the Lagos State Fire Service in the design and construction of the fire station.

He said the officials of the State Fire Service ensured that the construction complied with standards.

The understanding, he said, was that the LCDA would build the station and pay the salaries of officers to be recruited to man it.

Ahead of the completion of the station, the LCDA recommended applicants resident in the LCDA to the Fire Service for screening, recruitment and training and they were also inaugurated with the station in October 2014.

He lamented that since then the LCDA has been putting pressure on the Ministry and

Fire Service to fulfil its part of the bargain, adding that he was happy that the good news brought by the permanent secretary has gladdened his heart.

Responding, Jimoh said the LCDA has a track record of providing public facilities despite its meagre earnings.

He said its performance encouraged the Ministry of Special Duties to respond positively to its demands to complete the fire station for the use of the citizenry.

CDC recommends CDAF for CDAs

The Community Development Committee (CDC), Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has recommended the Community Development Appeal Funds (CDAF) proposed by the Councillor representing Ilasamaja Ward, Hon. Akeem Alarape, for all Community Development Associations (CDAs) in the local council area.

By Damilola Kushimo

communities and carry out projects.

The CDC Chairman, Hon. Segun Olatunde, while supporting the initiative, said it would encourage CDAs to fix minor infrastructural challenges in the community.

He explained that it will readily make funds available for CDAs to carry out developmental projects in the community, saying sincerity is important in handling such

platform.

It is projected that CDAs, through the platform, could generate more than N5 Million in a month and over N60 Million in a year from more than 11,000 stakeholders in the community to fund projects and programmes.

Describing the initiative as a great idea, the CDC chairman said if adopted, the CDAs won't call on the council chairman on issues of pothole and the likes any more.

"We can easily do something

about it because CDAs are for community development, the council just assists when necessary. We are supposed to maintain things on our own but, when the amount exceeds more than what we have we can call on the council."

Olatunde therefore charged those that would handle the programme to be sincere, saying they must be accountable with the people's money and channel the money realised to the projects for which the fund is raised.

He advised that the CDAs should do away with what could make the residents lose credibility and trust in the leadership of the associations. He informed that CDC executive members would deliberate on the initiative for consideration to be formally adopted.

Meanwhile, Olatunde said the CDAs in Isolo local council area have been doing things on their own without bordering the government except for the projects that are beyond their

capabilities.

"The CDAs do not always come to the council to request for money or support except if it is more than their capacity; they've been doing their best. We are trying but with this CDAF, will make it greater because when there is money available, projects will be quickly executed and minor issues will be speedily taken care of before it becomes a big one and the council will be greatly relieved."

Stakeholders hail Mukandasi drains upgrade

By Damilola Kushimo

The residents of Mukandasi Street in Apena Ward, Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have expressed their joy as contractor begins groundbreaking of drainage construction in the street.

The project, a one-sided 750/750 Open Drainage of 163 meter long will, upon completion, "improve our living condition because whenever it rains most houses here are always flooded but I'm sure with this standard drainage, we will be free from flood. I came here in the year 2000 and when I was the Residents' Association Chairman, I tried all I could to get government's intervention of this kind to the street but no effort was forthcoming from the government. I'm so much happy right now and I appreciate our



Groundbreaking of drainage construction in Mukandasi Street

councillor for facilitating it. I've always prayed for him," said Oludude Olatunde, the former Residents' Association Chairman of the community.

According to the project engineer, Engr. Babatunde Ige, the project is expected to be completed in two weeks if nature remains friendly as he observed that there is no other form of obstruction to delay the work.

He further explained that the

unprofessional construction of the previous drainage channel done in the street caused the persistent flooding and erosion, reiterating that the ongoing project would be of Lagos State Standard as expected.

Equally speaking on the project, the chairperson of the Resident Association, Mrs. Oyeronke Oyefuga, promised that the community would give full support to the contractor.

She therefore appreciated the

state government for coming to the community's aid as she projected that the drainage construction and other complimentary efforts from the state would add to the aesthetics value of the street and reassure the community of the quality of leaders in the current dispensation.

"It is a laudable project and we are indeed grateful to the state government for coming to our aid. The Ishola Mukandashi

Street road is one of the major roads in Ago Palace Way as many commuters find it a ready alternative route to the often congested main road that runs from Okota road to Cele Bus stop.

"In the rainy season, the road becomes quite inaccessible, thereby causing hardship and contributing to the loss of productive hours spent by commuters in traffic. The drainage project and the

CHANGE OF NAME

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I, OGUBUIKE MERCY UCHENNA

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Now I wish to be known and addressed as

OGUBUIKE

MERCY UCHENNA

All former documents remains valid, the general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

eventual rehabilitation of road would not only add to the economic and aesthetic values of the community, it would also reassure the community of the quality of leaders in this dispensation," she said.

Councillor demands Grassroots Development And Stability Allowance

By Damilola Kushimo

The Deputy Council Leader of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Akeem Adeyemi (Alarape) has made case for the need to give councillors grassroots development and stability allowance (GDSA), claiming that lack of such allowance causes slow pace of development at the grassroots. He decried the little importance given to councillors in the country as he explained that development and stability allowance would make them

more functional and responsive in the community like their state and federal counterparts.

He said the several constituency allowances and projects given to the federal and state legislators in addition to their lawmaking and oversight functions could be better handled by the councillors, being the closest to the grassroots, stating that it would fast track the pace of development at the grassroots. He emphasised that neglecting councillors is one of the reasons why development has not been realised as expected at the grassroots.

According to him, being one of the seven elected political office holders in Nigeria, councillors, as the closest grassroots' representatives, have direct contact with all citizens in their respective wards who are actually in need of assistance.

He believed that it would be a great advantage in governance if the councillors could be given the attention and recognition given to the Senator, House of Representatives members, House of Assembly members and local government chairman.

He said councillors should be

the busiest officers in Nigeria as they are the ones living with people.

Alarape, however, commended the state governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu for initiating the statewide Ward Project which is being overseen by councillors, explaining that similar projects with same means of execution by the president, senators, members of the house of representatives and state house of assembly will narrow development gap at the grassroots.

He maintained that the recent social unrest the country experienced was encouraged

by the frustration of helpless youths in the community as their agitation and desires could not be handled by the councillors who appear to be closer to them, reiterating that the Grassroots Development and Stability Allowance would be of great help in such situation.

He said: "The hijackers of the EndSARS protest are those youths who are more frustrated with the reality of things in the community. The Constituency allowances for Senators and Reps aren't felt at the grassroots at all. Every community has a councillor. It is just unfortunate that the

councillor gets the least attention. National councillors forum need Grassroots Development and Stability Allowance. We (councillors) should be more relevant in the governance for true development and stability across the nation.

"Lagos State Governor has introduced ward project across the state. Imagine the president, senators, reps and House of Assembly following suit. We are in government to introduce new ideas that will proffer solutions to national, state and local challenges. President, Senators and Reps need our voices."

Golden Stars FC thrash Flying Star 5-0 to book place in Precising Cup final

By Saheed Afolabi

Golden Stars FC booked a place in the final of Precising Cup by thrashing Flying Star 5-0 in a fun filled match.

Nnamdi Ambrose grabbed a hat trick in the match while Chinedu Nchoje and Akinboro Yusuf scored to tear Flying Star apart. Golden Stars FC ascertained their dominance in the game by taking the lead through

Nnamdi Ambrose who beat the opposing goalie in a one on one situation in the 25th minute. Flying Star were dealt another blow in the 39th minute through Nnamdi Ambrose of Golden Stars.

Golden Stars FC produced a good display in the first half by taming their opposition. Nnamdi Ambrose proved unstoppable by grabbing his hat trick in the 55th minute to send a warning to the rival team that they would play in the final.

Golden Stars FC dominated proceedings throughout the match while Flying Star could not get a goal on target in the match. Enterprising winger Chinedu Nchoje scored the 4th goal with a delightful shot on the edge of the 18 meters box.

Flying Star players became confused and tired, which gave Golden Stars FC the edge in the match. Akinboro Yusuf added the 5th goal for the Ejigbo base team in the 84th minute to send Flying Star out of the competition.



Golden Star Vs Flying Star

Diadem Stallion maul El Mirando 7-3

By Saheed Afolabi

Diadem Stallion continued their impressive run in front of goal to maul El Mirando 7-3. Frank Azuka netted a hat trick, Yisa Horipelaye scored a brace while Temidayo Odedeyi and Salaudeen Muri grabbed a goal each. Yisa Horipelaye scored the first goal of the match in the 9th minute which was assisted by Temidayo Odedeyi. Diadem Stallion continued dominating possession and were rewarded with the second goal in the 19th minute through Temidayo Odedeyi

who was well assisted by Shola Quadri. Frank Azuka got the 3rd goal for Diadem Stallion with a flying header in the 37th minute which was assisted by Temidayo Odedeyi who whipped in a nice cross. Frank Azuka put El Mirando FC to the sword by grabbing the 4th goal of Diadem Stallion in the 44th minute with a scintillating finish in the 18 meters box and was assisted by dynamic midfielder Shola Quadri. El Mirando FC half time talks paid out early in the second half as they scored two goals within the space of 10 minutes to bring the game back to life.

Frank Azuka netted his hat trick in the 67th minute to remind El Mirando FC of his class which was assisted by Shola Quadri who incidentally grabbed his 3rd assist of the game. Yisa Horipelaye also grabbed a brace in the match by cleverly scoring from the right hand side of the 18 meters box to send his fellow players to wild jubilation. El Mirando FC tried staging a comeback by scoring a goal in the 81st minute. Salaudeen Muri dashed the hopes of El Mirando FC by scoring from the set piece in the 88th minute to draw the game to a close.

Ishola Basit bags brace on return as Ghetto Light FC beat Zik FA 2-1

By Saheed Afolabi

Enthusiastic winger, Ishola Basit, scored two goals on his return to action as Ghetto Light FC's under 17 team came from behind to defeat Zik FA with two goal to one. The game started on a bright note for the home side team which created several scoring opportunities but were unable to achieve any of them. Against the run of play, Zik FA broke the defense line of the Ghetto ballers for first time in the first half and were clinical

about it to draw first blood. The first half ended with 0-1 as the host team had everything to worry about going into the break in a game they had hugely dominated. The first half team talk seemed to work magic as winger Ishola Basit finished off a sublime pass from Olawale Waliu in a rather audacious manner as soon as the second half begun. It was a 1-1 game for both teams. Six minutes later, creative midfielder Onalapo Olawale launched a pass through the entire defense line of Zik FA

and the keeper was left at the mercy of winger Ishola Basit, who made no mistake about the finish and the host team took the lead for the first time in the game. Two goals to one was how it ended as the Ghetto Light FC under 17 team extended their unbeaten run to four matches post-Covid-19 and began another streak of wins with back to back victories in the bag. The team has now registered victory against Future Stars, Onemco FC and Zik FA and a score draw against Lyon Blessing since the relaxation of the Covid-19 stay at home.

Kinsley Chibueze grabbed hat trick in Ms Success win

By Saheed Afolabi

Ms Success bounced back from their semi final defeat in the Timi Agbale Cup by defeating Utility FC 3-1. Ms Success FC dazzling striker Kinsley Chibueze grabbed a hat trick in the highly competitive match. It took Kinsley Chibueze only 4 minutes to register the first goal of the match with a

clinical finish, which was assisted by Seyi Odesanmi. Kinsley Chibueze doubled Ms Success FC tally in the 24th minute with a swift counter attacking move with Fuad Ola providing the perfect inch pass. Kocuvi Abiodun turned provider for the 3rd goal for Kinsley Chibueze, who converted a half volley to the back of the net. Ms Success FC led to the break but relaxed at the start

of the second half which gave Utility FC the upper hand by dominating possession. Utility FC grabbed a consolation goal in the 68th minute. Ms Success FC's goalie was outstanding as he kept the opponents attack at bay with fantastic saves to deny Utility FC. Ms Success FC are now back to winning ways, which they hope to consolidate on.

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Beneficiary thanks Idimogu for shuttle bus gift

By Abolaji Adebayo

Her alias foretold her miracle.

Mrs. Shogbamu Olubukola, popularly known as Alayo, (one who possesses joy), had cause to relive her alias last week when she received a shuttle bus as gift from the Member, representing Oshodi-Isolo II in the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Jude Idimogu.

Alayo, who often assists the wife of the honourable member, Mrs. Roseline Idimogu couldn't believe her eyes as she received the gift.

She prayed for her benefactor: "God will continue to bless

Hon. Idimogu for his benevolence, love and care. He has really done noble for the people of Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II. I am highly grateful and will continue to be grateful."

Explaining the choice of Alayo for the gift, Hon. Jude Idimogu, said the gesture is part of an effort to take people out of poverty, saying the empowerment item would have multiple effects on the beneficiary who is a committed party member and a faithful resident.

Idimogu, who is the House Committee Chairman on Wealth Creation and Employment, promised to continue to work towards the

empowerment of youths to ensure that his constituents are gainfully employed and self-reliant in order to bring development and transformation to the area.

He said he has given shuttle buses, motorcycles, tricycle, (Keke), skills acquisition slots and scholarship slots.

"I want the youths in my constituency to know that there is someone who cares and loves them. I just have to do this because they have been following me from PDP to APC and have been faithful to our party APC. This empowerment comes in batches - batch A, B and C which every loyalist would benefit from," he said.



Idimogu, presenting the bus to the beneficiary

The picture of a lion always on the prowl after unlawful elements in the

community is what is emerging from the deluge of tributes and dirges showered on the late leader of the Odua Peoples Congress in Ejigbo LCDA, Mr. Gbenga Agunbiade, much better known by his alias, Soloko.

The Nigeria Police in Ejigbo Police Divisional Headquarters and the entire community are extolling the virtues of Soloko who gave up the ghost on Tuesday November 3, 2020 following injuries from attack by hoodlums during the ENDSARS protest attack on the Ejigbo Police Divisional Headquarters. Born on December 1, 1973, Soloko would have been 47 years old in the next 22 days.

Police sources described him as a strong supporter of their operations in Ejigbo who gave information on criminals and led officers of the law to the dens of criminals.

Sometimes, he would single-handedly track down criminals

By Abolaji Adebayo

terrorising the community and hand them over to the police.

"He was a 'Lion' to the criminals in Ejigbo. They take to their heels when they notice his presence in their hangouts," a source said.

His death was traced to his role in preventing the hoodlums from razing down Ejigbo Police Station during the EndSARS protest crisis on October 21, this year.

According to reports, the gang had invaded the station with the plan to burn but Soloko and his team ran to its defence, explaining that if the station was burnt, the fire that would occur would burn the whole town because the station is located around the fuel pipelines.

During the faceoff between the hoodlums and the Police/Soloko led OPC group, two of the cult members were gunned down.

A close relative to the deceased told ECHONEWS that the hoodlum retaliated by attacking Soloko the following day.

He said they accosted Soloko on his way at Ile-Iwe, Ejigbo, dragged him down while his motorcycle was on motion hitting his chest against the ground in the process, beat him to the point of killing him while his motorcycle was burned to ashes.

According to the relative, Soloko went for treatment in a hospital and was later discharged.

The next day, Soloko ran to the school attended by his children when he was tipped off of a plan to attack them.

That same night, it was gathered that the hoodlums surrounded his house and OPC tarmac with petrol in an attempt to burn him up but his OPC colleagues got wind of their plan and mobilised to rescue Soloko. However, his house and Tarmac

were irredeemably destroyed.

The following day, around 6pm, he was said to have started gasping for breath due to complications of his violent encounter with hoodlums. He was rushed to the hospital where the doctor pronounced him dead.

According to another police officer who prefers to be anonymous: "Soloko died because of his support to the police. He was never a villain, he was never biased, never, I say never betrayed the police unlike others of his standing. He loved us to his own detriment. his very young children have been left fatherless, his wife husbandless, his family, childless. I can't stop weeping for him...many of our achievements in Ejigbo, he helped us achieve them either covertly or openly. We commiserate with his family over the loss of a friend indeed." In her tribute, the Public



Late Soloko

Relations Officer of the Nigeria Police Trust Fund, CSP Olabisi Okuwobi praised Soloko for his support when she was the Divisional Police Officer for Ejigbo LCDA.

She said: "Very pathetic...he deserves State honours, even in death. Rest on Soloko, the

ever dependable OPC member. We would miss you greatly," Meanwhile, the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Bello Obe, who, ECHONEWS gathered, picked the burial expenses, also gave financial support to his widow and children.

Tributes lionise OPC leader, Soloko

Red Grape Foundation donates books to Dele Alake primary school

By Saheed Afolabi

A non-governmental organisation (NGO), Red Grape Foundation, has donated books to students of Dele Alake primary school in Ejigbo as part of effort to support the pupils in their academic pursuit.

The Headmistress, teachers and students who received the items from the Foundation were full of joy, saying it was the first time such a gesture would be extended to the school from a private organisation.

According to the founder of the Foundation, Hon. Habeeb Anibaba, the purpose of the

free distribution of books is to enable the children to pay more attention to their studies. He said: "It is part of our support for public primary schools. We just want to help in whatever way we can to encourage our children to go to school. We will also do the same at Bola Tinubu Primary School in Ejigbo."

Appreciating the gesture, the Headmistress, Mrs. Ezebe J. N., said the organisation has given the school most valuable gifts, saying the school community needs such to encourage the students. She said the organisation has equally supported the parents with the materials as many pupils whose parents could

not afford the books at this period would be relieved. "We are grateful to the founder of Red Grape Foundation, Hon. Habeeb Anibaba for providing these materials for the pupils in this hard time. We pray that God will reward him a thousand fold. Wherever he brings this money out to remember this children, God

will bless him and the God of children that brings blessings will also double his blessings for him in Jesus name," she prayed.

Speaking on behalf of the pupils, Miss Juwon Kimiti also showed appreciation to the organisation for the materials, saying it would aid their learning in school.

Post EndSARS protest: Ariyoh appeals to police, community to work together

By Edith Igbokwe

The Executive Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo LGA, Hon. Bolaji Muse Ariyoh, has appealed to the police officers attached to the burnt Makinde Police station to reconcile with the community and work hand in hand to achieve success in securing the community.

Ariyoh made the appeal at a reconciliatory meeting of the Mafoluku/Ewu community represented by the twenty CDA executives and police officers of the station led by the station DPO CSP Francis Ebhuoma at

Pa Olabintan Marriage registry of the local government.

As reported by his media aides, the Local Government chairman, who was represented at the meeting by the Vice-Chairman, TPL Daisi Oso, appealed to both parties to show empathy, love one another, and remember that both the police and community need love to achieve peace and security in the community.

The chairman was quoted as saying: "We should start the healing of the heart by reaching out and extend the hand of love to ourselves, we all have learned our lessons and if given the opportunity to reverse the

situation am sure we would not go through that precarious situation again.

"It is not "forgive and forget" as if nothing wrong had ever happened, but "forgive and go forward," building on the mistakes of the past and the energy generated by reconciliation to create a new future."

He also appealed to the residents who are still in possession or know who is in possession of the looted properties to return them to the executive members of the CDA in their communities for onward transfer to the office of Special

Assistant on community matters at the local government.

He reiterated his commitment to the security of lives and properties in Oshodi-Isolo local government.

Reacting, the Makinde DPO, CSP Francis Ebhuoma, thanked the local government for the reconciliatory meeting, saying it would re-build harmonious relationship between the police and the community.

He said the meeting also served as a moral booster to his officers but appealed to members of the community to return some of the assets stolen to appropriate quarters as directed.

He also appealed to the authority to expedite action in re-building the burnt station which serves as offices to them as he expressed confidence in his officers to provide adequate security for the community.

The CDC chairman, Alhaji Olawoyin, sympathised with all the victims of the EndSARS protest and expressed hope that those with the looted properties would returned them as he advised every member of the community to always see police as their friends.

The Special Adviser to the LG Chairman on Agriculture, Youth & Sports, Hon. Saheed



Hon. Bolaji Muse Ariyoh

Animashaun, urged both parties to spread the reconciliation message in their community and preach love.

"The police and the community must live in peace and harmony to have a secured community," he concluded.

56 pry schools receive 7,542 LASUBEB intervention textbooks

By Edith Igbokwe

Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), Oshodi has commenced the distribution of Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) intervention textbooks to all the 56 primary

schools in Oshodi, Isolo and Ejigbo axes.

About 7,542 textbooks were released to the LGEA to be shared among the 56 primary schools within its care to enhance teaching and learning exercise in the schools.

The categories involved in

the textbook distribution include Early Childhood Care Development Education (ECCDE) (1-3) having Mathematics, English Studies and Social Norms while Primary (1-3) got English Studies, Mathematics, Basic Science and Technology, Social

Studies as well as Computer Science textbooks.

The eight different textbooks provided were shared 8 copies each to all the schools involved for effective teaching of the pupils in the foundation classes and as well to support parents' effort in all the crisis the year has witnessed so far.

ECHONEWS gathered that the textbooks are not to be taken home by the pupils, only to be used during class sessions and returned back to the teacher at the end of

the studies.

Schools involved have been picking up their copies from the LGEA to commence classes after post-protest resumption.



The intervention text books to ECCDE and primary pupils

Ifelodun CDA seeks end to water hunting

By Edith Igbokwe

Ifelodun Community Development Association (CDA), Dawodu Oshodi has requested for a public borehole to enjoy potable water which the community presently lacks.

The residents of the community suffer scarcity of potable water due to lack of public water which the Lagos State Water

Corporation was supposed to supply.

In the alternative, their cry for a borehole facility whose water could be piped to the streets of the CDA has not been answered.

According to the secretary of the CDA, Oluwasegun Aderoku, the residents beg to fetch water from few houses with private borehole facilities in their compounds, noting that many

people who could not afford the borehole strive to get good water.

He complained that the well water in the community is not hygienic for both cooking and drinking, claiming that it could only be used for washing and toilet.

"We have cried out several times on this water problem. We need the intervention of the government to provide us with a

borehole facility to solve the issue of water in the community and to stop labouring our wives and children on water hunting," he stated.

It was gathered that few years back the community had requested the Lagos State Water Corporation to provide public water for them to be channeled into the eight streets under the CDA but the effort failed.

Post EndSARS: Street sweepers begin battle to defeat refuse

By Edith Igbokwe

Following the EndSARS protest crisis that paralysed all activities some weeks ago, the street sweepers attached to Oshodi-Isolo LGA are faced with more works as they battle to clear the accumulated waste during the period.

During the crisis, more wastes were generated as many properties were destroyed but waste managers could not work because the streets were insecure.

According to the sweepers, they had to work extra hours on daily basis in order to maintain high level of cleanliness in the community. The cleaning exercise was achieved with the intervention of the Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) that rendered assistance in carting away the refuse cleared with its trucks to avoid heaping refuse in the community.

A co-ordinator, Mrs. Bukola Ajayi, while speaking to ECHONEWS revealed that the street sweepers have been working tirelessly to

effectively clear the mess on the roads to ease both vehicular and pedestrian movement.

Her words: "When we got to our duty post, we saw that all the surroundings were littered with wastes and we called on the LAWMA to assist us with a truck to cart away the refuse after sweeping to avoid heaps of waste on the road sides which may constitute nuisance on the roads."

However, she explained that their duty includes community enlightenment on proper cleanliness in the area in compliance with the Private Sector Participant (PSP) operators' rules on proper refuse bagging and to desist from blocking the drainages with refuse.

Meanwhile, Ajayi appreciated the community members over their compliance with the cleanliness rules, noting that the environment is fast returning to its clean state.

She said they have been recording gradual success and improvement on the streets as the sweepers continue to work harder.



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