

DIABETES Begins When Your Body Stop Producing Insulin Which Causes Increase In Blood Sugar Level

Forget about marriage, if you place your mother before wife -Ifu Ennada



Okpekpe 2024: Bumper Financial Reward Awaits Athletes with New Course, African Records

WWW.justliberationnews.com

Just Liberation Newspaper

...News, Entertainment, Investigative

May 11, 2024 / Vol. 2 No. 26

www.justliberationnews.com

[@justlibnews](https://twitter.com/justlibnews)

[Justliberationnews](https://facebook.com/Justliberationnews)

[@justliberationnews](https://instagram.com/justliberationnews)

[Justliberationnews](https://youtube.com/Justliberationnews)

₦200

FROM THE ARCHIVE

"If you don't build those around you, one day they will grow without you"

Actions Of The NFF Are Just, Statutory With No Encumbrances

Yahaya Bello Activate The June 13 Window



Tinubu Commissions Lithium Processing Factory In Nasarawa

Yahaya Bello Activate The June 13 Window



The stories around the pending case against the immediate past Executive Governor of Kogi State, HEYAHAYA BELLO who assume the esteem height of being a Governor at a very young age. As a youth, he has given hope to the youth considering that in the past after the military President General Yakubu Gowon emerge as a President at a young age. Not until recently that it has almost become a new trend that the youths were all hopeful.

The crises arising from the invitation of the Economic and financial crime commission EFCC to answer to questions about allegations which

did not emanated from the anti-graft commission which would have come through a petition that needed clarity .

For crying out loud, petitions are normal into the offices of the anti-graft and security Agencies which is usually an allegation against public officials but the investigating agencies are neutral to diligently access the weight of such information and make a wise decisions if it could be waved off to avoid unnecessary exercise and as well proceed to prosecution for the court to interpret and do otherwise that usually allow both the prosecuting agencies and the defendant to be

given fair hearing to be confronted on the matter.

It has been a drama all along and name calling to portray the prosecuting authority as if the matter was personal . All public servants are answerable for their infractions in the course of their public service and the offices occupied was transient holding the wealth of the state in trust on behalf of the people whom they govern for that every paraphernalia of office were enjoyed as well the liabilities to be answerable to the constituted authorities.

The youths of this great country are requesting the former Executive governor of Kogi State to

bear it in mind that he radiate hope to the youths to make the electorate get same opportunity in the government space in the nearest future like the incumbent President HE Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR.

has encourage the appointment of youthfully empowered the youths in his renewed hope agenda.

The white lion, it is not personal but a statutory assignment which you are still presume innocent of the charges and the window of opportunity is available to activate the relevant areas of the Nigeria constitutions of 1999 as amended.

Tinubu Commissions Lithium Processing Factory In Nasarawa

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu yesterday commissioned a lithium processing factory built in Nasarawa State by a Chinese firm, Avatar New Energy Materials Company Limited. The commissioning, which took place at Kama Otto in Nasarawa local government area, was in collaboration with the state government.

The president was represented at the occasion by the president of the senate, Godswill Akpabio.

In attendance were the Nasarawa State Governor, Engr. Abdullahi Sule, his Kogi State counterpart, Governor Usman Ododo, Minister of Solid Minerals Development, Dele Alake, some Federal lawmakers, former leaders of the state and traditional rulers.

In his address, Tinubu said the commissioning of the Avatar New Energy Materials Company Limited was an example of a good partnership between the federal government, states and investors.

The president said the establishment of the company would not only create opportunities for the youth but would also position Nigeria as a key player in the global lithium market.

This, he said, was in line with the government Renewed Hope Agenda of diversifying the nation's economy by leveraging on the mining sector in order to expand the country's sources of revenue for socio-economic development.

"Realising the benefits of lithium and other mineral resources, our administration will continue to pay particular attention to the maximum utilisation of the product for the benefit of our people.

"While we appreciate this investment in the first phase, processing of lithium, our goal is for investors to establish factories for the complete value chain processing of lithium and all other minerals," the president said.

Tinubu called on all Nigerians to support the policies of his government and urged local and international companies to patronise Avatar Company for the growth and prosperity of Nigeria.

He acknowledged the support of the people of Nasarawa during the last presidential election.

He said: "Today, we are here to thank you, not just in words. We are thanking you with a massive project, the commissioning of the state-of-the-art lithium processing factory, the first in this state and one of the best in Africa.

"What does this mean to our people? Lithium is a critical component in the production of batteries for electric commodities.

"Our people have been using phones, vehicles and other appliances powered by lithium batteries as consumers.

"For the first time in the history of our technology, we are becoming partners and partakers in the production value chain of this minerals. It is historic leap because we now have opportunities to know how it is done, to own and home the skills."

Earlier, Governor Abdullahi Sule said they would not have been able to open the state for such investment without the support of President Tinubu and support of the local communities.

The governor also appreciated the security agencies because, according to him, the site of the factory used to be a "no go area" on account of banditry activities but the area is now well secured.

Minister of Solid Minerals Development, Dele Alake said what Avatar New Energy Materials Company did with the commissioning of the factory was to show that it is not only possible but also profitable.



It's Your World

Get Informed, Get Inspired & Get Going!

With Just News Communication Company Limited (JNCCL) Services



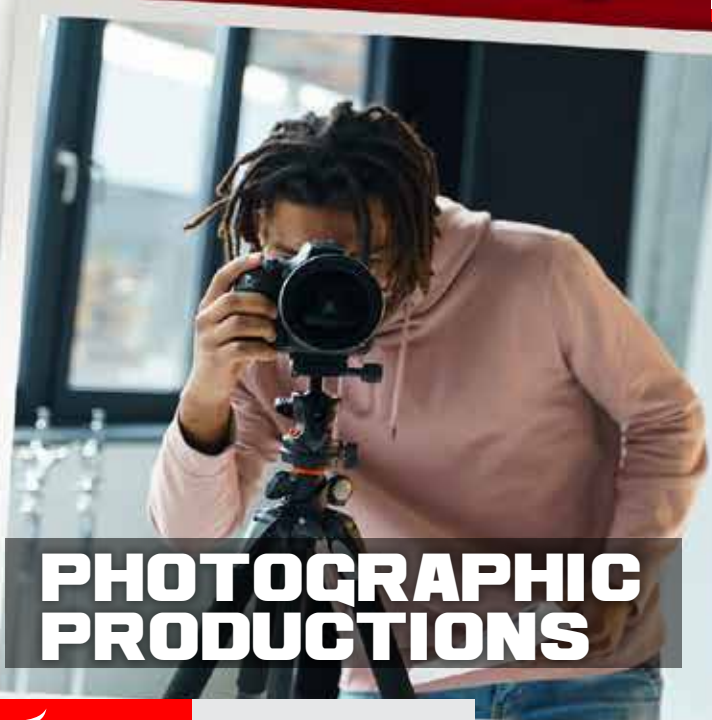
SPEAK ON THE ISSUES



EVENTS PROJECT



JUST-GPD
JUST GREAT PEOPLE OF DESTINY
MAGAZINE
Entertainment & Celebration



PHOTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTIONS



JLN JUST LIBERATION **LIVE**
COVERAGE OF EVENTS
JLN ONLINE **LIVE**
STREAMING



RADIO STATION

Amb Fanny Ikhayere Amun **MON**
Founder



TELEVISION STATION

JUST LIBERATION NEWS PAPER, TV, RADIO stations (ABUJA & LAGOS)
No. 17 Dipo Abe street off Grammer school Ojodu Berger Lagos- NIGERIA.
Email- fanniamunfanniamun@gmail.com
phone numbers - +234(0)8033461662 & 09055222998.
AFFORDABLE DIGITAL PRINTING PRESS AT A PROJECT PRICE.

The Ayo Family

1B, Obadina Street, Omole Estate, Ikeja, Lagos.

NOTICE OF PASSAGE

With heavy hearts but in praises to Almighty God for a life well and fully spent, we announce the passage to glory of our husband father, grandfather and uncle, **Chief Augustine Ademola Adeleke Ayo**, the *Otun Aare of Osogbo* and *Seriki Generalissimo of Ijeshaland* on Monday, March 25th 2024.

It is our pleasure to invite you to join us as we celebrate his passage with the following events:

Tuesday 7th May 2024 | 4:00pm

Service of Songs (St. Joseph Society)

Residence of Chief Augustine Ayo

1B, Obadina Street, Omole Estate, Ikeja, Lagos.

Thursday, 9th May 2024 | 5:00pm

Wake Keep

St. Leo's Catholic Church (Church Hall)

Toyin Street, Ikeja, Lagos - **(Colour of the day is Royal Blue)**

Friday, 10th May 2024 | 10:00am

Funeral Mass

St. Leo's Catholic Church,

Toyin Street, Ikeja, Lagos

Interment follows immediately at Ikoyi Cemetery, Lagos (for family members only)

Reception

All Seasons Plaza

Lateef Jakande Road, Agidingbi, Lagos - **(Colour of the day is Purple)**

Sunday 12th May 2024 | 11:00am

Thanksgiving Mass

St. Leo's Catholic Church,

Toyin Street, Ikeja, Lagos

Please accept this invitation as our special guest.

Warmest regards.

The Ayo Family

Police arrest 40 suspects at Yaba during night surveillance

The operatives of Lagos Rapid Response Squad (RRS) earlier in the week on Tuesday night arrested 40 suspected criminals in different black spots within Yaba in Lagos.

The 40 suspects were arrested at about 10:00 p.m. when the operatives of Rapid Response Squad (RRS) working with members of Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency swooped on the areas.

The raid is sequel to complaints from members of the public about the activities of criminals who waylay passersby and rob them of their belongings.

The Commander, Rapid Response Squad (RRS) CSP Olayinka Egbeyemi had following the complaints and the approval of the Commissioner of Police, CP Adegoke Fayoadé directed the operatives to commence discreet surveillance of the

area before the arrest.

40 suspects were arrested during operation while nine were released to their family members after a thorough screening of all the suspects at RRS Headquarters, Alausa by CSP Olayinka Egbeyemi.

The Commander has ordered that the 31 suspects be charged to court in line with the directives of the Commissioner of Police in Lagos.



Suspected robbers in minibus nabbed in Lagos

Operatives of Rapid Response Squad (RRS) on Sunday May 5, 2024, at about 10:00 p.m. arrested two suspected robbers and recovered three locally made pistols, as well as six cartridges inside a mini bus in Adekunle, Yaba.

The operatives, on routine patrol of the area,

intercepted the Ketu/Ojota bound Lagos coloured mini bus popularly known as Korope.

On searching the vehicle, three locally made pistols and six cartridges were recovered while two suspects, Ademola Adeniyi, aged 38 and Anjorin Afeez,

aged 41, were arrested.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the gang members boarded the bus at Jeba Bus Stop, Ebute Metta and were on their way for a robbery operation.

The suspects are currently assisting the police in ongoing investigations.

Security guard docked for alleged criminal trespass, theft

A 26-year-old security guard, Aminu Haruna, on Friday, was docked in a Magistrates' Court, Zuba, Abuja, for alleged criminal trespass and theft.

The prosecution counsel, Chinedu Ogada told the court that the complainant, Jerry George of Transportation Engineering Layout, Abuja reported the matter at the Divisional Police Headquarters, Dawaki, Abuja on May 7.

Ogada alleged that the defendant also destroyed

electrical wires worth N5 million from the complainant's building under construction.

He added that police investigations into the matter revealed that the defendant was the complainant's former security guard.

The offence, he said, contravened the provisions of sections 348 and 288 of the Penal Code.

The defendant pleaded not guilty.

The defence counsel, Geraldine Amah applied for

the bail of the defendant citing Section 36 subsection 5 of the 1999 constitution praying the court to grant her client bail.

Magistrate Abdullaziz Ismail admitted the defendant to bail in the sum of N2 million with one surety whom must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

Ismail ordered that the address of the surety must be verified by the court's registra and adjourned the case until May 30 for hearing.

Man in court for allegedly stealing generator from church

A 21-year-old man, Majesty Ibrahim, was on Friday docked in a Magistrates' Court in Zuba, for allegedly stealing an industrial generator from the Nation Dominion Deliverance Ministry, Anagada, Abuja.

The police charged the defendant with criminal conspiracy and theft.

The prosecution counsel, Chinedu Ogada told the court that Mr Muazu Yakubu of the Nation Dominion Deliverance church reported the matter at Zuba Police

Station on April 20.

Ogada said that the defendant and three others, at large trespassed on the church premises and stole one industrial generator, laptop camera and items all worth N2 million.

The offence, he said, contravened the provisions of sections 97 and 287 of the Penal Code.

The defendant, however, pleaded not guilty.

The defence counsel, Geraldine Amah applied for

the bail of the defendant citing Sections 158 and 162 of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA), urging the court to grant bail.

Magistrate Abdullaziz Ismail admitted the defendant to bail in the sum of N1 million with one surety whom must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

Ismail said the surety must produce means of identification and adjourned the case until May 23 for hearing.

A farmer, Onaye Ikutimumi and his two sons, Ojosimi Ikutimumi, 28 and Orimisi, 35 were on Friday docked in an Okitipupa Chief Magistrates' Court in Ondo State over alleged, malicious damage of economy trees worth N16.5 million.

The defendants, whose addresses were not given are charged with forceful entry, breach of peace, assault malicious damage and threat to life.

The Police prosecutor, ASP Zedekiah Orogbemi, told the court that the defendants on Oct. 11, 2023, around 11:40 a.m at Akeun farmland in Ode-Aye, Okitipupa magisterial district conspired to commit breach of peace and malicious damage.

Orogbemi said that the defendants conducted themselves in manner likely to cause breach of peace by

Farmer, sons docked over alleged malicious damage of crops worth N16.5m

forcefully entering the farmland belonging to one Allen Abayomi over undisclosed dispute among them.

The prosecution said that the defendants unlawfully assaulted the complainant by beating him up and threatened to kill him with cutlass, if he dare stopped them from damaging some economy trees.

He added that the defendants maliciously damaged 80 timber trees worth N4.5 million, uprooted 100 young palm trees worth N12 million, bringing the total cost to N16.5 million, property of the complainant.

Orogbemi said that the offence is punishable under

Sections 517, 81, 86, 355 and 451, Criminal Code, Cap.37, Vol. 1, Laws of Ondo State, 2006.

The defendants, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Chief Magistrate Cletus Ojuola admitted the defendants to bail in the sum of N200, 000 each and two sureties each in like sums.

He added that the sureties who must be residents within the court jurisdiction must show and present evidence of two years tax payment made to the state government.

He adjourned the case until May 17, for further hearing.

Betting shop attendant docked for allegedly stealing N249,000

A Bet Naija attendant, Warris Abiodun, on Friday appeared before a Grade 'A' Customary Court, Ibadan, for allegedly stealing the sum of N249,000 belonging to his employer.

Abiodun, 26, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences and theft, to which he pleaded not guilty.

The prosecutor, Insp

Philip Amusan, told the court that the defendant who works at a Bet Naija outlet in Amunigun, Ibadan, allegedly committed the offences on May 6, at the shop premises.

Amusan alleged that Abiodun fraudulently obtained the money from his employer, Mr Adedamola Akande, on the pretext of paying customers who won Bet Naija games, but failed to do so.

The prosecutor said the defendant, however, converted the money to his own personal use.

He said the offences contravened Sections 419 and 390(9) of the Criminal Laws of Oyo State, 2000.

The Court President, Mrs Sukurat Yusuf, granted the defendant bail in the sum of N200,000 and two sureties in like sum.

She adjourned the case until June 5 for hearing.

Court remands teenager over alleged defilement of 5-year-old girl

An Ikeja Chief Magistrates' Court, on Friday, ordered the remand of one Tochukwu Akalogwu accused of defiling a five-year-old school girl.

The police charged Akalogwu, 19, with defilement of a minor.

The Magistrate, Mrs E. Kubeinje, did not take Akalogwu's plea because the court lacks jurisdiction to

hear the case.

Kubeinje consequently ordered the police to return the case file to the Director of Public Prosecution for legal advice.

She adjourned the matter until May 28 for mention.

Earlier, the Prosecution Counsel, SP Kehinde Ajayi, told the court that Akalogwu, an employee of Hope

Primary School, Badagry, committed the alleged offence on April 3.

He said that the defendant allegedly defiled the minor in the school by forcefully having sexual intercourse with her.

She said the offence contravened the provisions of Section 137 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

Police arraign woman over alleged grievous assault

The police in Lagos on Friday arraigned a 24-year-old woman, Agnes Oluwatoyin, accused of inflicting injury on the right eye of another woman.

Oluwatoyin, whose address was not provided, is facing a charge of assault occasioning harm, before an Ikeja Chief Magistrates' Court.

She, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The Prosecutor, SP Kehinde Ajayi, told the court that the defendant committed the offence on April 19 at Omoyemi

Adesoga Close, Ikeja.

Ajayi said the defendant assaulted the complainant, Esther Adepelumi, by using a spoon to inflict injury on her right eye during an altercation.

Ajayi said that the offence contravened Section 173 of the Criminal Law of Lagos state, 2015.

The section stipulates that if the defendant is found liable of the offence, she could be sentenced to three years jail term.

The Chief Magistrate, Mrs E. Kubeinje, granted the defendant bail in the sum of

N100, 000, with one surety in like sum.

Kubeinje ordered that the surety must be gainfully employed with proof of tax payment to the Lagos State Government.

She adjourned the case until May 29 for mention.



I was always at the bottom of our class, Toke Makinwa recounts

Media personality, Toke Makinwa, has thanked her mother for being tough on her during her school days when she used to come last in the class. She recollected how she struggled academically as she was always coming bottom of the class.

She made this revelation at the launch of her new perfume, where she also took time to shower praises on her mother for standing by her and pushing her to success. She recalled one incident that reshaped her. She had changed the score on her report card from 52 to 2nd and rushed home to show her parents.

Makinwa said, "I remember an incident that somewhat shaped my life. I was always at the bottom of my class. And there was this one time, I think there were maybe 52 in class, and I came 52. A part of me then thought I was smart, so I bought Tipex and then changed the five and left the two. I was going home to show my parents like after always being at the bottom of the class that I finally came second.

"One look at the report card and my mum beat the hell out of me. She did not spare my behind. She was frustrated and really gave it to me," she said in between laughter.

The on air personality thanked the mother for always standing behind her and encouraging her to study hard and become better.

"I remember one night that



I was really ashamed and really down, this was the same woman who really believed in me and told me 'Omotoke, why don't you read your books? This thing is easy. It's not that hard.

"Today, I know I came last so many times those years but mummy today, I launched a perfume and I hope you're so proud of me," she concluded.

Her mother, who was in the audience said, "I thank God that my efforts were not in vain. It is well with you."

How Shan George recovered stolen N3.6 Million from fraudster

Nollywood actress Shan George is on top of the world now as she has recovered the 3.6m stolen from her bank account by scammers recently.

It would be recalled that last week Friday, the veteran actress had cried out for help after an individual identified as Cecilia Chiagoziem Okoro, allegedly scammed her and wiped away 3.6m being her life savings she kept with Zenith Bank.

The actress while lamenting her ordeal said she had been rendered 'koboless' and asked Nigerians, the Economic and Financial Crime Commission, the police and the concerned bank to help her recover the money. In the new post she made

on her Instagram page, on Wednesday, the excited Shan George, announced to Nigerians that she has retrieved her stolen money.

She expressed her deepest gratitude to everyone who showed concern to her plight and helped in recovering the money and also promised to share her story at a later date.

She wrote, "Please Join me here Live at 7pm Nigeria Time for full story. I've received my money back. Thank you to @zenithbankplc, @opay.ng, @safehavenbank. To all those who called, txted, and even sent me their token to enable me pursue d issue, God bless u abundantly and replenish ur pockets a billion folds"



Forget about marriage, if you place your mother before wife -Ifu Ennada

STORIES BY ORJI ONYEKW-ERE

Former Big Brother Naija housemate, IHEME Faith Uloma, aka Ifu Ennada has taken a swipe at men who prioritise the affairs of their mothers to their wives. She explained that men who do that are not ready for marriage, nor do they have any business getting married, so women in such relationship should be weary.

She made her position known in an Instagram message she posted on her page. She noted that anyone who wants to argue about this issue should read Genesis 2:24.

She wrote, "To all the men who place their mothers above their wives. I believe any man who places his mother above his wife is not ready for marriage. In fact, he has no business being married. Before you argue with me, let Genesis 2.24 be your guide."

Only recently, Ifu Ennada revealed that her refusal to engage in pre-marital sex cost her a great relationship. The outspoken former BBN housemate has never hidden her stand against sex before marriage. She added that her boyfriend humiliated and disrespected her because she refused to cave in to his demand for sex before marriage.

However, no matter the pressure, she is focused on maintaining her relationship with God and pleasing Him rather than pursuing earthly relationships, trusting His divine plans.

According to her, "I'll always say no to premarital s*x, even if it breaks my heart.



God over man.

"Because of my new life, I lost a relationship I invested so much of myself in. In fact, I was humiliated, mocked, and disrespected by this person.

"I'm not gonna lie, I was deeply hurt, but

I'll never choose man over God. My goal is to live a life that pleases God no matter who or what I have to say goodbye to.

"God's plan for me is far better and greater than anything I or anyone could offer me."

Why Cole family rejected actress Wofai Fada as their daughter in-law

Things are not really rosy for Taiwo Cole and his new wife, actress and comedienne, Wofai Fada, as the Cole family has placed a disclaimer on her and her marriage to their son, Taiwo Cole of the prominent Cole family in Victoria Island.

The Cole family had in a statement on Saturday, rejected

the recent traditional marriage between their son, Taiwo and Wofai.

The family in the statement dissociated themselves from the union, saying they were unaware of the marriage plans and did not give them permission to go ahead with the marriage.

They noted that anyone carrying themselves as a new member

of the Cole family heritage should get it clearly that they will not be accepted in the Cole heritage.

Despite the controversy, Taiwo took to his Instagram page to share some of the pictures from the traditional wedding. He said, he has found a good wife and will not change his mind or make another decision.

He wrote, "I found a good wife,

and there is no going back."

On her part, Wofai, on her Instagram page, wrote, "Let love lead."

Celebrities like Funke Akindele, Ayo Makun, Toke Makinwa, Kemi Adetiba, Shaffy Bello, Chio-ma Akpotha and Ric Hassani among many others have congratulated the couple on their traditional wedding.

Accolades as Enyinna Nwigwe clinches 'Overall Best Actor' at CAMIFF

It has been a horde of congratulatory messages from fans, colleagues and friends for Nollywood superstar actor, Enyinna Nwigwe, who was named the Overall Best Actor by the Jury of the 2024 edition of the Cameroon International Festival, CAMIFF. The honour was announced during the closing ceremony of the event which held from April 20 to April 25 in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Nwigwe, one of Nollywood's leading actors got the recognition for his superlative performance in the movie, 'Choke Hold', a Caribbean action drama which had him in a leading role alongside top Jamaican actress, Sherando Ferril.

Enyinna Nwigwe, who is celebrated for his depth and convincing character interpretation in films said,



"Yours truly was presented with an 'Overall Best Actor' award at the just concluded Cameroon International Film

Festival for my role in the Caribbean movie, Choke Hold. Choke Hold also took home the 'Best Screenplay' award on

the night. Shout out to the entire Choke Hold team! Special shout out to Gilbert Ebot for the relentless effort at keeping the film culture alive and thriving in Cameroon. And congratulations to all other recipients."

Choke Hold, the film that got him the award is a domestic violence drama which had earlier premiered in December 2023 to rapturous applause from an audience of government officials and film industry insiders drawn from countries in the Caribbean region of the world.

Nwigwe is not new to such cross-continental film productions as he has in the past featured in films like 'All About Love' (South Africa) and 'Black November', where he starred alongside global acts like Vivica Fox, Kim Basinger, Akon and Wyclef Jean.

GTI ...Financial Possibilities

THE FIRST CHOICE OF EVERY INVESTOR

Cultivating rewarding relationship
beyond the norm is our strength

INVEST IN TNFF



- GTI Asset Management and Trust Ltd, a Strategic Partner to NPFL
- GTI Marketing Team in it's mission to collaborate with Partners, Sponsors and Investors to support the NPFL
- GTI continued contribution for the upliftment of the NPFL have Earned them widespread commendations from stakeholders locally and globally.

GTI House 4, Tinubu Street, Central Business District Lagos.
Tel: 01-2772481, 01-2772484, +234 908 299 9291, (234) 1 2772489
Website: GTI.com.ng, Email: gtiamt@gti.com.ng

Tinubu Appoints Wike's Ally As River Basin Authority MD

President Bola Tinubu has approved the appointment of Engr Chukwuemeka Woke as the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority.

The Special Adviser to the President on Media and Publicity, Ajuri Ngelale, made this known via a statement on Thursday, May 9, 2024.

Ngelale noted that Tinubu expects the new CEO of the Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority to discharge his duties with integrity and in conformity with the highest standards

of transparency, while working at harnessing and developing the water resource potential of the area, as well as ensuring that the Authority is a channel for holistic and integrated industrial, agricultural, and community development.

Woke is a seasoned engineer and politician. He is a political associate of the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nyesom Wike.

He had served as the Chairman of Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State and was Chief of Staff, Government House, Port Harcourt, for many years.

Onasanya Urges Local Government Ministry To Prioritize Welfare Of Royal Fathers

Ogun State Head of Service (HoS), Mr. Kehinde Onasanya said the state government would continue to put in place policies that would strengthen the institution of Obaship.

This, according to him, was because the institution represented the custom, tradition, and beliefs of a people and must be given pride of place.

Onasanya spoke when he received in his office the Management Team of the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, led by its Permanent Secretary, Dr. Rotimiolu Akinlesi, who paid a felicitation visit to him.

He appreciated the Awujale and Paramount Ruler of Ijebu-land, Oba Sikiru Adetona for the

initiative of the Oba Sikiru Adetona College of Governance, which just received the approval of the Federal Government to be affiliated with the National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Kuru, Jos

Onasanya urged royal fathers in the state to keep partnering with the government to initiate landmark projects, thus emulating the Awujale.

"I want to laud the Ministry for playing a stabilising role between the government and the people, especially at the grassroots. I also want to thank you for keeping up to your responsibilities of the welfare and elevation of the traditional council, continue to see to their wellbeing, and rededicate yourselves to duties," he said.

UN Women: Security challenge has exacerbated GBV in Nigeria

The United Nations Women Representative to Nigeria and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Ms. Beatrice Eyong, said that security challenges arising from armed conflict, insurgency, banditry, and kidnappings across the country had exacerbated the prevalence of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Nigeria.

Eyong, in her welcome address in Abuja on Thursday at the Convening of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on Assessing EAW and GEWE Landscape in Nigeria, said "we are confronted with the harsh reality that gender-based violence continues to be a pervasive and deeply rooted problem in our society.

"It affects women and girls of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life, depriving them of their fundamental rights and freedoms. It is a violation of human rights, a barrier to development, and a threat to peace and security."

She noted that: "As practitioners, we are all very familiar with the statistics but we must never become numb to the fact that each number represents a life. A life with ambitions, potential and one that has value.

"Globally, an estimated 736

million women—almost one in three—have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their life. 33 percent Nigerian women have experienced physical violence by the age of 15. Similarly, data from the Mirabel Centre in Lagos show that 81 percent of reported cases of sexual assault between 2013 and 2019 were perpetrated against children—67 percent of the perpetrators were known.

"In Nigeria, these staggering statistics have worsened because of the security challenges arising from armed conflict, insurgency, banditry, and kidnappings across the country. Additionally, the economic downturns arising from the recent devaluation of the local currency, high inflation, and the slow recovery from COVID-19 have also exacerbated the prevalence of GBV. Furthermore, women's voices continue to be marginalized with Nigeria holding the lowest figure for women's representation in politics. Unfortunately, this situation impacts negatively on the gender profile of Nigeria."

Emefiele: Court Admits Bundles Of Documents In Evidence

The trial of the former Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor, Mr Godwin Emefiele, charged with abuse of office and alleged \$4.5 billion and N2.8 billion fraud continued on Thursday with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), tendering bundles of documents before the court.

The bundles of documents were tendered through the third prosecution witness, a Compliance Officer with the Zenith Bank, Mr Clement Ngolu, by the EFCC counsel, Mr Rotimi Oyedepo (SAN).

The documents were admitted into evidence following no objections from the first defence counsel, Mr Olalekan Ojo (SAN), and the second defence counsel, Mr Adeyinka Kotoye (SAN)

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Justice Rahman Oshodi admitted the original copies of Zenith Bank account opening package, statement of account of Lime-light Multidimensional Services Ltd, sent to the EFCC into evidence.

"I have read the documents dated March 2024, and I admit the original certified copy of the bundles of documents which include account opening package, statement of accounts into evidence and are marked as Exhibit A," Oshodi said.

Ngolu, in his evidence, said his department responded to regulators and law enforcement agencies in order to ensure that the bank activities were in line with banking policies and regulations.



He added that his department worked with agencies such as the EFCC, the Nigeria Police, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps.

The witness said that his department in 2014 got a request from the EFCC to furnish them with statements of accounts of Limelight and two other accounts.

"The documents we sent to the EFCC was duly signed by the staff of the bank.

"The process of generating the statement was through our computer system which was in good condition.

"The documents were printed out from the company's computer which was working well and the documents were in the bank's custody," the witness said.

The defence, however, said they had no question

for the witness.

Also, a former Director of Information Technology of CBN, Mr John Ayoh, in the continuation of his cross-examination, said he had a confrontation with Emefiele because he asked him to do something wrong.

The witness who further confirmed that he was sidelined by the embattled governor added that his being sidelined made him not to have any relationship with him.

"I was not happy being unpopular with the former CBN governor but on a number of occasions, I signed contract letters to vendors.

"While I was a director with the CBN, my loyalty was to the bank and the Nigerian nation and my relationship with Emefiele was only formal and based on instructions.

"The governor and the four deputy governors of the bank alongside the directors make up the management of the CBN," he said.

The fourth witness, a contractor, in his evidence, testified before the court how he was allegedly pressurised by the apex bank management to pay \$600,000 for the contract which he had executed.

NAN reports that Ayoh had on April 29 narrated before the court how he allegedly collected \$600,000 for contract gratification for Emefiele.

The EFCC had on April 8 arraigned Emefiele on 23 counts bordering on abuse of office, accepting gratifications, corrupt demand, receiving property fraudulently obtained and conferring corrupt advantage.

Also, his co-defendant was arraigned on three counts bordering on acceptance of gift by agents

The defendants, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The judge adjourned the case until May 17, for continuation of trial. (NAN)

DHQ Receives Improved Armoured Personnel Carriers To Curb Insecurity In Nigeria



The fight against insecurity has received a boost with the delivery of an improved version of the Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC's) to fight insecurity in the country. In a brief ceremony today, 8 May 2024, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Defence, Dr Ibrahim Abubakar Kana who represented

the Minister of Defence, Alhaji Mohammed Badaru Abubakar handed over the documents and keys of 20 APC to the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Christopher Gwabin Musa.

The APC's are improved version with improved weapons and communication systems that can locate adversaries from

distance and engage them effectively. They also allow for seamless military operations.

The Permanent Secretary during the handing over, said he is happy with the current synergy existing among the services, while describing the consideration for contracting local manufacturers for the

production of the APC's as a welcome development. He added that this will save the nation a lot of money, create employment for Nigerians and reduce over reliance on foreign currency.

The CDS in his response thanked the Minister of Defence for the noble act. He pledged to put the carriers to optimum and judicious use. He added that the machines will definitely boost the ongoing operations to rid the country of insecurity.

It could be recall that the APC's were produced and supplied by an indigenous company based in Nigeria. The chairman of the company, Engineer Kola Balogun, said the company will also train operators and provide after purchase services like maintenance, spare parts, and repairs. According to him, the company will soon start exporting these machines to earn foreign currency for the country.





Oakfield Int'l School
OAKFIELD INT'L SCHOOLS
...BUILDING BEACONS OF GREATNESS

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2023/2024 SESSION

Contact Us: Phone No: 08034788533
Email: info.oakfieldschool@gmail.com
School Address: Plot F2/F3 Frank Maluze Street, New GRA TransEkulu, Enugu.

ENROLL NOW!

REGISTRATION IS ON GOING FOR... **CRECHE NURSERY PRIMARY SECONDARY**




OAKFIELD INT'L SCHOOLS

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2023/2024 SESSION

ENROLL NOW!




Contact Us: Phone No: 08034788533

Email: info.oakfieldschool@gmail.com

School Address: Plot F2/F3 Frank Maluze Street, New GRA TransEkulu, Enugu.



Oakfield Int'l School
...BUILDING BEACONS OF GREATNESS

OAKFIELD INT'L SCHOOLS

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2023/2024 SESSION

Registration is On Going For... **CRECHE NURSERY PRIMARY SECONDARY**

Contact Us: Phone No: 08034788533
Email: info.oakfieldschool@gmail.com
School Address: Plot F2/F3 Frank Maluze Street, New GRA TransEkulu, Enugu.

ENROLL NOW!




Relocation Of Destitute To Home States 'll Continue – Lagos Govt

Lagos State Government has maintained that the relocation of destitute from the state to their respective states of origin will continue as part of measures to free Lagos of visible security risks, among others.

Though, the state government confirmed that it relocated some people to Osun and other states on their request to be helped to go back home.

This followed the furore over deportation of Osun State indigenes by the Lagos State Government at the weekend, with Osun Governor, Ademola Adeleke expressing anger over the incident.

Reacting to the development, Osun State Governor, Ademola Adeleke, condemned the act in it's entirety, saying Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has denied authorising the repatriation of youths.

Adeleke's reaction came following re-

port of several luxury buses seen dropping off hundreds of youth at various points of Ilesa area of the State at the weekend after allegedly and rounding them up in several parts of Lagos State.

A statement by the Spokesperson to Governor Adeleke, Mallam Olawale Rasheed, on Monday, said his principal has consequently interfaced with Governor Sanwo-Olu over the development, urging the Lagos State governor to look into the matter and put an end to the incident.

"I spoke with my brother, Governor Sanwoolu on the matter. He too was surprised and he denied ever authorizing any such action.

"Governor Sanwo-Olu has promised immediate investigation to unravel the facts of the situation. The Lagos team will update us as quickly as possible.

"I am subsequently directing our security agencies in Osun to mount surveillance in and around Ilesa to track the deported youths and their destinations.

"I will update our people on this development. I urge residents to be calm while the security agencies carry out surveillance", Adeleke stated.

Lagos government had on Sunday revealed that out of 450 miscreants rescued at weekend, 79 were absorbed into some government facilities for rehabilitation after showing signs of being unwell.

Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso, when can be asked to respond to the accusation that Lagos relocated indigenes of Osun, according to earlier statement issued late Sunday, said "that is the position of the Lagos State Government."

The commissioner had said that a state-

wide exercise to free Lagos of visible security risks continued after the arrest of some suspects under the Dolphin Estate Bridge.

According to Omotoso, "The ceaseless influx of miscreants, beggars, and the destitute onto Lagos streets has raised fears of insecurity of lives and property. This is unacceptable.

"As part of the exercise, 450 miscreants were at the weekend rescued. Of the lot, 371 pleaded for assistance to relocate to their various states due to the hardship they are facing in Lagos.

"79 have been absorbed into some government facilities for rehabilitation after showing signs of being unwell.

"The exercise will continue as part of the government's responsibility to keep our citizens safe and secure."

Nigerian Army hands over rescued Chibok girl, three children to Borno govt

The Nigerian Army has handed over Lydia Simon, the rescued Chibok school girl and her three children to the Borno government for reunification with her family.

Maj.-Gen. Waidi Shuaibu, the Theatre Commander, North-East Joint Task Force, Operation Hadin Kai disclosed this during the handing over ceremony at the Mailmalari Cantonment, on Thursday in Maiduguri.

He said that troops of the 82 Division Task Force Battalion rescued the six-month-old pregnant lady alongside her three children on Wednesday April 17, in Gwoza Local Government Area of the state.

Shuaibu said that she was number 18 among the girls that were rescued by the Nigerian military.

He explained that the abduction of the Chibok school girls in 2014, made both national and international headlines which culminated in the hashtag, "bring back our girls".

According to him, several efforts has been made both internationally and nationally to return the girls safely and reunite them with their families.

"One of such national efforts is the conduct of military operations deep within the terrorists' enclaves which have yielded positive results to facilitate rescue of some of



the Chibok girls.

"Starting from Esther Marcus, who appears on serial 103 on the abducted Chibok

school girls' list, who was the first to be rescued by troops of 7 Division Gar, till now efforts are still ongoing.

"Just recently on April 17, one more Chibok girl was rescued with her three children from the Mandara mountain

by troops of the theatre will continue to do its best to rescue those still in captivity.

"The rescue will be in line with the strategic direction and guidance from the Chief of Defence Staff and the Chief of Army Staff.

"We thank the Chief of Army staff for all the resources he has provided in the theatre to achieve its mandate," he said.

Also Speaking, Brig.-Gen. Abubakar Haruna, the Acting General Officer Commanding (GOC), 7 Division, said the girl received medical treatment and other care by the division since her released. (NAN)

Time To Eat

SPECIAL AKARA JOINT

PRINCE EBEBANO SUPERMARKET, CHEVRON DRIVE

+234 8033822222

HURIWA Says Abuja Is Becoming The Most Dangerous Place To Live In Nigeria

Civil Rights Advocacy group- HUMAN RIGHTS WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (HURIWA) – has described as absolutely intolerable and disturbing the information recently that thirteen persons have been kidnapped from Piko, a remote community in Bwari Area Council in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) by suspected gunmen, during a stealth invasion that caught vigilance group and other security agencies unawares.

HURIWA quoted a media source in the community as disclosing on Tuesday that the Maidakin of the community, Chief John Jatau, confirmed that 10 residents were kidnapped, including four nomadic Fulani herdsman. However, one of the nomads escaped from the kidnappers' custody.

He listed the following as people kidnapped and still in the captivity of the abductors: Nuhu Anyiwoyi, Emmanuel Nuhu, Danjuma Ali, Parisa Numa, Ezekiel Jatau, Shekwosa Ezekiel, Roseline Samuel, Salome Jacob, Abyelo Ezr and Ezra Male.

It was also gathered that the kidnappers have placed N900 million ransom on the victims. "The kidnapping incident occurred on Sunday at about 11pm. The kidnappers raided the village for about one hour without any response, reaction from the community or outsiders. The major challenge the community faced last night in terms of communication to others was as a result of no telecommunication network in the village. So they picked people

house to house. From the community they picked about 13 people and later released three.

"The Madakin Piko informed me that they have called and they said they need the ransom of N900 million. They picked about four Fulani people and one of them is released," the source said, as cited by the HUMAN RIGHTS WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA in a media statement endorsed by the National Coordinator Comrade Emmanuel Onwubiko on Thursday.

HURIWA said the fact that terrorists, kidnappers, 1-chance armed hoodlums and all genres of non-state actors are having field days, killing, maiming, kidnapping and intimidating residents of the nation's Capital has made it inevitable that the President should declare a state of security emergency so dedicated teams of well trained, well resourced and well equipped joint armed security forces are deployed on the 6 area councils of the Federal Capital Territory to quell these acts of criminality that have threatened peace, stability and security of the nation's Capital.

"It is such a crying shame that kidnappers, 1-chance armed gangs and terrorists are now committing brazen atrocities right inside the metropolis of the FCT shows that the architecture of the FCT security has spectacularly collapsed therefore demanding a huge surgical military cum police actions to stamp out the hydra-headed beast of wanton violence and incessant attacks against soft civilian targets of the FCT.

Nigerians Condemn Content Creator's "24-Hour Buried Alive Challenge"



Some Nigerians on Thursday condemned a '24-hour buried alive challenge' undertaken by a content creator known as Young C.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Young C had embarked on this daring challenge on Wednesday, announcing his intention to be buried alive in a coffin for 24 hours.

At 23 hours, he took to his Instagram page, @youngcentertainment, to give live footage, emphasising that

the stunt was genuine and not a hoax.

He also notified his followers that he had exhausted his water and would resort to taking his urine as he was obviously famished.

After being buried alive in a coffin for 24 hours, Young C was successfully exhumed.

He announced this on his Instagram page on Thursday afternoon, accompanied by the revelation that his TikTok account had been suspended.

Nigerian content creator,

Young C, engage in a 24-hour buried alive challenge NIGERIANS REACT

Some Nigerians, however, took the comment session of his post to condemn the challenge. While some called the attention of the Police to arrest him, others doubted his sanity.

@Soniahappygisttv said, "You for they live video for 24 hours make we for believe you."

@Jenpearlz wrote: "You don't care about your family to put them through

such nightmare. What are you trying to prove? Imagine the heartache you put them through."

@Oluwa_tomiie said: "Olobuku you think say I go write RIP for you if you die Odaju omo wey no pity his parent Oloshi oni content isonu."

"We never finish justice for Mohbad ooo, no think say we go do justice for you. Radarada still you no get pass 3k followers omo ale."

Also, Anuoluwarpho wrote, "@nigerianpoliceforce this guy needs to be arrested. Please look into this. Thanks."

@housemusic said: "You won't know when you pass out...get out of there."

@Cassandra_samuels wrote, "You are not fine."

@Jenny_amama said: "U wan trend by force abi. See u see die...I am just so pained with your challenge."

@Berrys_hairempire1 wrote: "You should be arrested after this stunt, what are you trying to achieve, is it for likes or what?"

NAN reports that Young C's attempt is similar to the challenge undertaken by American YouTuber, MrBeast (Jimmy Donaldson), who spent 50 hours buried alive two years ago to raise awareness about deforestation.

Recently, MrBeast attempted to surpass his record by spending seven consecutive days buried in a coffin, overcoming physical and mental challenges before being exhumed. (NAN)

Sowore, CSOs Protest At Police HQ, Demand Immediate Release Of FIJ journalist

A Coalition of Civil Society Group under the auspice of Action Group for the Protection of Civic Actors and a human rights activist, Omoyele Sowore on Thursday in Abuja staged a protest at the Force Headquarters to demand for the release of Daniel Ojukwu, a journalist with Foundation for Investigative Journalism (FIJ), who has been in custody since Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

He was transferred from Lagos to Abuja on Sunday May 5 and is being investigated by the National Cybercrime Centre (NPF- NCCC) for alleged Cybercrime violation following a petition written by one Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire, Senior Special Assistant on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to the former President Muhammadu Buhari.

The group expressed concerns regarding press freedom and shrinking civic space in Nigeria just as they vowed to continue to occupy the building until the journalist is released.

Speaking on behalf of the coalition, Bukky Shonibare said free press and public participation are fundamental pillars of



our democracy.

She said the recent abduction and continued detention of Daniel Ojukwu, exemplified this disregard for the rule of law and democratic principles.

According to her "Civil society organizations across the country are deeply concerned about the growing cases of attacks on press freedom, and the flagrant abuse of due process and the rule of law by the Nigeria Police under the Inspector

General of Police, IGP Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun, Ph.D., NPM.

Action Group on the Protection of Civic Actors, a Nigerian coalition of media and civil society groups working alongside international allies, sounds the alarm on the recent surge in attacks on press freedom and the silencing of dissent and civic voices.

A free press and public participation are fundamental pillars of our democracy. Thus,

the continuous silencing of journalists and civic actors who hold power accountable undermines the provisions of Sections 22 and 39 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), which guarantees freedom of the press and freedom of expression, respectively.

Furthermore, the coordinated use of state resources, the mischievous interpretation and hyper-application of laws,

especially the Cybercrimes Act of 2015 which has now been amended, and the abuse of power and public institutions are all draconian tactics deployed to further shrink Nigeria's fragile civic space. These tactics have no place in a democracy, where accountability and transparency in governance are essential.

Particularly, the recent abduction and continued detention of Daniel Ojukwu, a journalist with the Foundation for Investigative Journalism (FIJ), exemplifies this disregard for the rule of law and democratic principles. Mr. Ojukwu's fundamental human rights have been blatantly violated.

Even though the Nigeria Police has filed no formal charges, he remains in custody. Additionally, Daniel's unlawful arrest and detention contravenes the combined reading and cumulative effect of Sections 34, 35, and 41 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, which protects his rights to respect for the dignity of his person, personal liberty, and freedom of movement.

"Daniel Ojukwu's case is the

most recent in a recurring trend of similar attacks and harassment aimed at the media and other civic actors by Nigerian law enforcement and security agents. The familiar pattern these attacks seem to take is that the instrumentality of the Nigerian security apparatus is set loose on these individuals as soon as they express views unfavorable to the administration or in the case of journalists, as soon as they publish credible stories that cast the administration in an unflattering light. The expression of opinions, however critical they are of the government, is one of the critical bedrocks of democracy.

"Consequently, we unequivocally condemn Daniel's abduction and unlawful detention as unconstitutional, illegal, immoral, and unbecoming in a country that claims to practice democracy. We maintain that for Nigeria to claim its status as the continent's largest democracy, its institutions and law enforcement agencies must uphold established standards and procedures consistent with democratic norms.

DISCOVER I'M ALIVE BASKETBALL ACADEMY

Presents
**COACH FREGENE
MEMORIAL
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Team

Under 10 and 13 categories
Discover I'm alive minions (Warri)
Impression basketball academy
(Asaba)

Female team

Discover im alive sparks (Warri)
Divine speed basketball academy (Warri)
Impression basketball academy (Asaba)
Delta force (Asaba)
Peace basketball academy (Warri)

Male teams, Delta force, Peace basketball academy
Divine speed basketball academy, Impression basketball academy
Government house, Discover I'm alive Spartans
Discover mavericks 1, Discover mavericks 2, Achievers

Other Activities

Moment of silence

Exhibition game in memory of our beloved coach

Date
16th Of May
To 19th May 2024

Time
9am Daily

In Conjunction With Delta State
Basketball Association

For Sponsorship
Call Coach Kenny: 09061115167
Coach Benson: 08055860524

Omoyele Sowore Faults Cybersecurity Levy

Presidential candidate of the African Action Congress (AAC) Omoyele Sowore, has kicked against the 0.5 percent Cybersecurity Levy recently activated by the federal government.

The Cyber security (Prohibition, Prevention, etc) Amendment Act 2024 (An Amendment of the 2015 Act) prescribes a levy of 0.5% of all transaction value.

However recently the office of the National Security Adviser (NSA) directed the full implementation of the Act as was referenced in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) circular.

The fee is a debit charge on the initiator of the electronic transfer and not for the receiver of the transfer.

Reacting on his X platform, however, Sowore said, "The @cenbank is using the

newly amended #cybercrimes Prohibition Act of 2015 to rob Nigerians while the @PoliceNG is using the old Cybercrimes Prohibition Act as a tool to cage journalists.

"When we visited the Cybercrime Unit of the @PoliceNG yesterday to #FreeDanielOjukwu, they claimed not to be aware of the amendment of the Cybercrimes Prohibition Act 2015 assented to by @officialABAT in February 2024, under the newly amended law @Policeng had no right to arrest Daniel Ojukwu because the notorious "Section 24" has forbidden arresting people based on frivolous petitions by aggrieved thieves on govt. Lawless country! #RevolutionNow," he said.

Reps Direct CBN To Suspend Cybersecurity Levy.

The House of Representatives Thursday asked the Central Bank of Nigeria to withdraw the circular directing all banks to commence charging a 0.5 per cent cybersecurity levy on all electronic transactions within the country, Just Liberation News reports.

The motion on the urgent need to halt and modify the implementation of the cy-

bersecurity levy was moved by the member representing the Obio/Akpor Constituency, Kingsley Chinda.

The House urged the CBN to withdraw the circular and "issue a more understandable one," as Chinda had drawn the attention of the House to multiple interpretations of the CBN directive against the specifications in the Cybersecurity Act.

President Tinubu Resumes Work After Foreign Trip.

President Bola Tinubu has officially resumed work at the Villa, a day after returning from his trip abroad.

The President walked from his residence to his office accompanied by his security aides, his Chief of Staff Femi Gbajabiamila; the National Security Adviser, Nuhu Ribadu, and other aides.

President Tinubu traveled to the Netherlands on the 23rd of April at the invitation of the Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte. While in the Netherlands, he also met with the Nigerian-Dutch business community.

He proceeded to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for the World Economic Forum (WEF) where he engaged global leaders with the view to winning more investors in Nigeria.

After the meeting in Saudi Arabia, President Tinubu was said to have proceeded to Europe on a private visit.

He returned to the country on Wednesday, after two weeks of being away.

The governors of Kaduna and Plateau states, Uba Sani and Caleb Mutfwang paid a visit to the President on Thursday.

The reason for their visits could not be ascertained at the time of filing the report.



Cybersecurity Levy To Tackle Crimes, Terrorism – FG

2024. We live in a global village in Africa, we cannot afford to ignore the reality of the threats of cybercrimes to our economic survival.

"The management of the Cyber Security Fund has enough checks and balances to prevent abuse. This government is determined to fight cybercrime."

Section 44 of the Act reads: "(1) There is established the National Cyber Security Fund (in this Act referred to as "the Fund")."

"(2) There shall be paid and credited into the Fund established under subsection (1) of this section and domiciled in the Central Bank of Nigeria-

(a) a levy of 0.005 of all electronic transactions by the businesses specified in the Second Schedule to this Act;

(b) grants-in-aid and assistance from donor, bilateral and multilateral agencies;

(c) all other sums accruing to the Fund by way of gifts, endowments, bequest or other voluntary contributions by persons and organisations:

"Provided that the terms and conditions attached to such gifts, endowments bequest or contributions will not jeopardise the functions of the Council:

(d) such monies as may be appropriated for the Fund by the National Assembly; and

(e) all other monies or assets that may, from time to time, accrue to the Fund.

"(3) All monies accruing to the Fund shall be exempted



from income tax and all contributions to the Fund shall be tax deductible.

"(4) The levy imposed under subsection 2(a) shall be remitted directly by the affected businesses or organizations into the Fund domiciled in the Central Bank within a period of 30 days.

"(5) An amount not exceeding 40 percent of the Fund may be allocated for programs relating to countering violent extremism.

"(6) The Office of the National Security Adviser shall keep proper records of the accounts.

"(7) The Account of the Fund shall be audited in accordance with guidelines provided by the Auditor-General of the Federation."

"It is inconceivable to expect the suffering citizens of Nigeria to separately fund all activities of the government.

"Policies such as this not only impoverish the citizens but make the country's economic environment less competitive.

"At a time when the government should be reducing taxes to curb inflation, the government is instead introducing new taxes. And when did the office of the NSA become a revenue-collecting centre?"

"And why should that purely national security office receive returns on a specific tax as stated in the new cybersecurity law?"

Also, the CNG, rejected the proposal, saying it was an-

ti-masses and insensitive.

In a statement its National Coordinator, Jamilu Charanchi, CNG said: "This levy, which is expected to be effective within the next two weeks, exemplified the Federal Government's lack of compassion and empathy to the plight of Nigerians in the face of the current economic hardship.

"It is crass heartlessness that is a sequel to fuel subsidy removal which now took fuel above N1000 per litre and the electricity tariff abruptly soaring.

"It is tantamount to another daily-light extortion in the offing by the government that came to be through democratic processes."

Senate Approves Death Penalty For Drug Traffickers.



Senate on Thursday, May 9, approved the death penalty for those convicted on the charge of drug trafficking in the country.

The punishment prescribed in the extant NDLEA Act is a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

The resolution of the Senate followed its consideration of a report of the Committees on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters and Drugs and

Narcotics, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

The Chairman of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters presented the report during plenary, Senator Mohammed Monguno (APC-Borno North).

The bill, which passed its third reading, aims to update the list of dangerous drugs, strengthen the

operations of the NDLEA, review penalties, and empower the establishment of laboratories.

Section 11 of the current act prescribes that "any person who, without lawful authority; imports, manufactures, produces, processes, plants or grows the drugs popularly known as cocaine, LSD, heroin or any other similar drugs shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to be sentenced

to imprisonment for life" was amended to reflect a stiffer penalty of death.

Although the report did not recommend a death penalty for the offence, during consideration, Senator Ali Ndume moved that the life sentence should be upgraded to the death penalty.

During a clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill, Deputy Senate President Barau Jibrin, who presided over the session, put the amendment on the death penalty to a voice vote and ruled that the "ayes" had it.

But Senator Adams Oshiomhole objected to the ruling, saying that the "nays" had it.

He argued that matters of life and death should not be treated hurriedly, but Barau said it was too late, as he failed to call for division immediately after his ruling.

The bill was subsequently read for the third time and passed by the Senate.

1XBET

GRAB YOUR FRIENDS AND BE A CHAMP



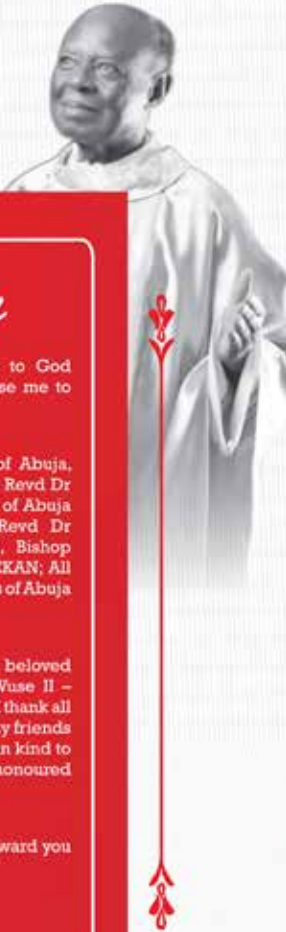
SPORT FOR EVERYONE!



1XBET
PROFESSIONAL BETTING

Cup 2023





Appreciation


Our sincere and profound gratitude goes to God Almighty, who unworthy though I am, chose me to serve him in the presbyteral Order.

I am indeed grateful to the entire Archdiocese of Abuja, through the eminent leadership of His Grace, Most Revd Dr IGNATIUS KAIGAMA, the metropolitan Archbishop of Abuja Archdiocese; our dear auxiliary Bishop Most Revd Dr ANSELM UMOREN, MSP; our beloved Cardinal, Bishop Emeritus, His Eminence, JOHN CARDINAL ONAIYEKAN; All the Bishops here present, all the Priests and Religious of Abuja Archdiocese and outside.

In a very special way, I thank and appreciate my beloved parishioners of St Pope John Paul Mass Center, Wuse II - Abuja, for their immense support and collaboration. I thank all the lay faithful within and outside the Archdiocese, my friends home and abroad, who contributed financially and in kind to the success of this ceremony. I feel so blessed and honoured with your presence and with your kind gestures.

May God in his infinite love and mercy bless and reward you abundantly through Christ our Lord. Amen

Revd Msgr KENNETH ENANG




CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ABUJA

50TH PRIESTLY ANNIVERSARY & 80TH Birthday CELEBRATION OF

Rt. Rev. Msgr.

KENNETH ENANG

PROGRAM OF EVENTS



DATE: SAT. 11TH MAY 2024 || TIME 10AM
VENUE: OUR LADY, QUEEN OF NIGERIA PRO-CATHEDRAL, AREA 3 GARKI, ABUJA

PROGRAMME OF LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon
It was not you who chose me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last (Jn 15,16)

COLLECT
 Holy Father, who, by no merit of my own, chose me for communion with the eternal priesthood of your Christ and for the ministry of your Church, grant that I may be an ardent yet gentle preacher of the Gospel and a faithful steward of your mysteries Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

 Isaiah 61:1-3
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the Lord's year of favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Sion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of faint spirit.

The Word of the Lord. R/ Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
 Ps 144:2-11, R

R/ I will bless your name for ever, O Lord.

1 I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. R/

2 Age to age shall proclaim your works, shall declare your mighty deeds, shall speak of your splendour and glory, tell the tale of your wonderful works. R/

3 They will speak of your terrible deeds, recount your greatness and might. They will recall your abundant goodness; age to age shall ring out your justice. R/

4 The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. R/

5 All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. R/

SECOND READING

 Hebrews 5, 1-4
A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.
 Every high priest is taken from among human beings and is appointed to act on their behalf in relationships with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; he can sympathize with those who are ignorant or who have gone astray, because he too is subject to the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself; it needs a call from God, as in Aaron's case.

The Word of the Lord. R/ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

 John 15, 5-16
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
 Jesus said to his disciples, I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a branch - and withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire and are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for whatever you please and you will get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and be my disciples. "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments,

you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Bishop: As a family of God gathered around the table of the Lord in this Eucharistic celebration, let us pray and ask the Lord to bless his people.

Reader: *Lord in your mercy hear our prayers R/*

- For the Church - that she may continue the mission of teaching the good news of Christ and that Christ faithful may believe and have faith though her teachings. *We pray O Lord.*
- For the Holy Father, Pope Francis, for all the Bishops especially our Bishops in the Archdiocese of Abuja that God will continue to strengthen them in their pastoral work and make them more like Christ the Good Shepherd. *We pray O Lord*
- For our beloved Monsignor Enang, who today celebrates 50 years of untiring service to God in the Church and to humanity, that God who has blessed and sustained him this far will continue to bless and strengthen him in his resolves. *We pray to the Lord.*
- For all of us gathered here, that we may continue to abide always in God, through the keeping of his commandments. *We pray O Lord.*
Silent prayer
Hail Mary

Let us pray
 Father of mercy, we give you thanks for your infinite love and mercy. Look with kindness on your people who are gathered in worship. Hear our humble prayer and grant our supplications through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

 We offer you the sacrifice of praise, O Lord, for the deepening of our service of you, so that what you have conferred on us, unworthy as we are, you may graciously bring to fulfillment. Through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Communion antiphon
The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord

For the glory of your name, O Lord, I have joyfully celebrated the mystery of faith to mark the anniversary of my priestly ordination, so that I may be in truth what I have handled mystically in this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.



JLN JUST LIBERATION
RADIO STATION

On air in August

Maiden Anniversary
Thursday 10th October 2024

**Round table discussion,
Award, Raffle, Souvenir**

DIABETES Begins When Your Body Stop Producing Insulin Which Cases Increase In Blood Sugar Level

But before the remedy kindly know that there is difference between HIGH BLOOD SUGAR LEVEL and DIABETES. When your blood sugar level is high you stand a risk of DIABETES and when it's too low you stand a chance of suffering a PARTIAL STROKE. Sugar itself is good for the body but not in excess. There are some patients who would suddenly slumps and their eyes become pale. Such patients go about with cubes of sugar with them so whenever they suffer such attack, a cube of sugar is forced down their throat and they get revived gradually. So sugar is not a demon, just too much of it is dangerous. Men believe too much of sugar affects our erection and performance, yes it's true. So we cut sugar off completely but still have the erection problems because we eat RICE which has a very high % of sugar. RICE needs to be well parboiled to get rid of excess starch

NATURAL REMEDY FOR HIGH BLOOD SUGAR LEVEL.

Its the common bitter leaf plant we use for cooking? Just pluck enough, squeeze out the juice very well and drink a cup on an empty stomach first thing in the morning and last thing at night for 3 days. You can add water to it in a blender and blend together, sieve it and drink, or pound it to extract the juice. If your problem is HIGH BLOOD SUGAR LEVEL, then this is all you need. Make it a habit.

NOW THE DIABETES PROPER

If the glucose level is high in your blood then it can lead to serious health problems. Glucose production and secretion by the liver is strongly inhibited by high concentrations of insulin in the blood. This insulin regulates the metabolism of carbohydrates, fats and protein by promoting the absorption of, glucose from the blood into fat, absorbed glucose is converted into either glycogen via glycogenesis or fats

DIABETES IS IN TWO FORMS: TYPE 1 DIABETES AND TYPE 2 DIABETES.

Type 1 diabetes can't be prevented, Its hereditary, runs in the blood and genes

You are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes if you:

- have prediabetes (slightly elevated blood sugar levels)
- are overweight or obese
- have an immediate family member with type 2 diabetes
- are over age 45
- are physically inactive
- have ever had gestational diabetes, which is diabetes during pregnancy
- have given birth to a baby weighing more than 9 pounds



have a lot of belly fat
Type 1 diabetes can appear at any age, but it's most common among children and adolescents. Type 1 diabetes requires daily attention to diet, exercise, and insulin. ...

Carbohydrate is the one nutrient in your diet that most affects blood sugar levels. ...

Exercise safely. ...
Smoking raises your cholesterol and makes it harder for your body to heal
TYPE 2 DIABETIC.

Excellent herbs are explained in details to lower and balance the blood sugar naturally. Here are some home remedies which can easily control sugar levels in the body. You can use any of these remedies but don't combine them at once. If you want to use different remedies, give a space of 6 hours before using another remedy or focus on any one that is within your reach.

DIFFERENT NATURAL REMEDIES EXCELLENT FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES

1) OKRO
Wash and cut okro and put inside 2liters of water, close and allow to ferment for one day, and drink half glass morning and evening, drink for one week and then check your doctor

OR
Slice the okro inside boiled water, close and allow for two hours then drink immediately

2) CELERY AND LEMON
6 lemons and 30grams of celery

Wash celery and blend, squeeze lemon juice into it, put inside a bowl, fill water inside a pot and put on the fire to boil then place the bowl of mixture inside the water, reduce heat and allow to

boil for 20min, remove pot from fire, donot open until mixture is completely cool off, sieve and put in a refrigerator. take one tablespoon morning evening for two weeks then check your doctor

3) WATERLEAF, COCONUT WATER AND WILD HONEY

Plug enough waterleaf, wash and squeeze inside plenty of coconut water, then add original honey to it, put inside a container, refrigerate and drink half glass morning evening for 6-8days, then check your doctor

4) AVOCADO (PEAR) SEEDS
Grind pear seeds and take as tea morning and evening, its a good source of insulin and regulates blood sugar

5) VINEGAR LEAVES (KING OF BITTERS)
This leaf brings sugar level down immediately, just squeeze half cup and drink first thing in the morning then go check your sugar level.

6) CINNAMON
Mix equal amount of cinnamon powder and honey together, grate little amount of ginger and galics together, add water to it, sieve then add to the mixture, then add small warm water and drink as tea, morning evening

7) MORINGA POWDER LEAVES AND SOUR-SOP LEAVES
Biol soursop leaves for 20mins, then add powdered moringa leaves to it or bitterleaf juice to it and drink one tea cup three times a day for one week, then check your doctor

8) Wash and blend fresh pawpaw leaves and drink twice daily for one week then check your doctor

9) MANGO LEAVES

Help in treating early diabetes

Take some MANGO LEAVES, wash properly, cut them into pieces and soak in a cup or bowl of water. Cover it and leave overnight. Next day in the morning you'll notice a change in the water to pale green, filter this water and drink on empty stomach in the morning. You can soak another set in the morning against night.

10) Take some NEEM LEAVES, wash properly and pound it to extract the juice or any method that suits you. Make sure the juice is extracted. Drink on an empty stomach first thing in the morning and last thing before bed. It's very bitter but if you know what you want please endure the bitterness and enjoy the smile later.

11). ALOE VERA:

This is use traditionally as a MEDICINE in type 2 DIABETES. It lowers BLOOD SUGAR, BLOOD GLUCOSE and BLOOD LIPID LEVELS. A regular use of this plant helps to cure diabetic problems

The recommended dose is two tablespoons per day (30 g) of the gel, which the aloe vera leaf contains. If you take this dosage then you'll be able to reduce blood sugar levels by up to 50 percent in two months. If you're lucky enough to have the fresh aloe leaf, just wash it well and extract the amount of gel you need to consume. Then wrap the sheet in a film and store it in the refrigerator.

12) ALFALFA LEAVES (The leaf that never dies)
plug 5leaves including stems, wash and cut, boil one liters of water, steep the leaves inside the water and cover for 5-10mins, then drink water when still warm, continue for one week and check your doctor

13) WATER:
Surprisingly, taking plenty of water helps to cure DIABETES. It helps in mobilizing the SUGAR CONTENT present in the body which controls the cause of DIABETES. Cultivate a habit of taking a lot of water, if you can get ALKALINE WATER, the better but if you can't, just make sure your water is well treated and healthy.

14) Make use of bitterleaf, drink the juice, cook as food, use as drinking water but do regular checks so your sugar wont go too low

NOTE

you must also follow a proper diet, no eating of food that has sugar, stop taking of carbohydrates, eat more fruits, vegetable and grains, get some exercise. Avoid too much belly fat and inactivity, and don't hesitate to consult your doctor if you have any doubts or before trying any alternative treatment so that he or she can supervise you because low sugar kills more than the diabetes itself.

Experts Reveal How To Avoid Deadly Asthmatic Attacks

Faithful was six months old when his breathing suddenly changed.

His mother took him to Divine Grace Hospital, Oshodi, Lagos, where the doctor informed her that if the breathing becomes normal after he clocked five years of age, it is not asthma. But it's asthma if it persisted. He took time to explain to her what asthma is and how it can be managed.

Faithful's mother became worried, saying she has not seen who was suffering from asthma before. Why should my son be suffering from asthma," she asked.

Many years have passed by, so, Faithful goes to school with his inhaler in case he has crisis.

In order to create more awareness about asthma, first Tuesday of May every is observed as World Asthma day. This year's theme is, "Asthma Education Empowers."

Presently, over 300 million people worldwide are suffering from asthma, which doctors said is a chronic disorder of the lungs in which inflamed airways are prone to constrict, causing episodes of wheezing, chest tightness, coughing, and breathlessness that range in severity from mild to life-threatening.

"Asthma affects about seven to 10 percent of children and about seven to nine percent of adults, and hence it is a significant public health

issue in countries worldwide, however, the majority of deaths from the disorder occur in underdeveloped countries.

"The improvement of care for asthma sufferers in these countries is one of the aims of the Global Initiative for Asthma, which since 1998 has sponsored World Asthma Day, an annual event occurring on the first Tuesday in May that is intended to raise awareness of the disorder, causes and inciting factors of asthmatic episodes.

"Asthmatic episodes may begin suddenly or may take days to develop. Although an initial episode can occur at any age, about half of all cases occur in persons younger than 10 years of age, boys being affected more often than girls. Among adults, however, women are affected more often than men.

"When asthma develops in childhood, it is often associated with an inherited susceptibility to allergens—substances, such as pollen, dust mites, or animal dander, that may induce an allergic reaction. In adults, asthma may develop in response to allergens, but viral infections, aspirin, weather conditions, and exercise may cause it as well.

"In addition, stress may exacerbate symptoms. Adults who develop asthma may also have chronic rhinitis, nasal polyps, or sinusitis.

"Adult asthma is sometimes linked to expo-

sure to certain materials in the workplace, such as chemicals, wood dusts, and grains, these substances provoke both allergic and nonallergic forms of the disease," they stated.

Nigeria Health Watch states that: "Asthma causes inflammation and narrowing of airways, leading to wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath. Education teaches people with asthma about triggers, warning signs, and proper medication use. Understanding asthma action plans can prevent attacks and improve quality of life.

"Let's spread accurate information, dispel myths, and support open conversations about asthma. By educating others, we can create asthma-friendly environments and reduce stigma. Together, we can empower those living with asthma and their communities."

A mother of three children, Katie Benson, said: "Asthma is one the biggest public health issues right now, two out of my three children have asthma.

She advised people who have it to avoid dusty environments, bleached oil when cooking, cats around, and also always keep the chest warm and so on. "When taking preventive measures like these the attack will not be frequent," she revealed.

While explaining how one can control asthma,

a woman in her 50s who is suffering from asthma, Shirley B., said one can control asthma. "For me it developed when my body system reached the age of 50 years old. I'm in & out of hospital. Whenever severe asthma attack triggers me, I take tablets for allergies and wear masks at home. I have "albuterol sulfate inhalation solution" always ready refilled by my primary doctor whoever is available to be reached in times of ER. In that way I can control my asthma medication "as needed".

Research proved that, "asthma can differ from one to another some have allergic asthma, some are acute and chronic asthma, some face during seasonal that is called seasonal asthma, best way to beat asthma is exercise like weight training, swimming, breathing exercise, light cardio like running and cycling helps to increase lung capacity. Lungs play roles in preventing asthma, diet rich in protein, good carbohydrates, lean meat, soups helps to reduce inflammation in lung. Asthma can be controlled 95 percent by making lung stronger. Triggers of asthma are dust, pet danders, over exercise, genetics, inactive lifestyle, smoking, inhaling chemicals in factories, allergens (some foods) like some get triggered by having certain foods, oily junks, over alcoholic and animal smells."



YOUR TOTAL WELLBEING IS OUR GOAL



INCREASE YOUR VIGOR & VITALITY

Enhances Sexual Performances.
Supports Prostate Health.
Boosts Kidney, Heart and Liver Functions.
Improves Relaxation. Improves Skin Health.
Improves Brain Alertness and many more...

NATIONAL FREE HOT
A7-101564L



THE REAL GOSPEL FOR WOMEN

Powerful Anti-Aging Beauty Tea.
Getting rid of Fibroids. Improves Sleep.
Prevents Hormonal Imbalance & Infertility.
Prevents Menstrual Pains.
Delaying Menopause and many more...

NATIONAL FREE HOT
A7-101562L



YOUR TOTAL BIO-CARE SIMPLY YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

Prevents & Fights All Types Of Cancer.
Regulates Blood Sugar Level. Relieves Type-2 Diabetes.
Improves Immune & Rejuvenates the Body Systems.
Fights Infections, Supports Sickle Cells Patients & many more...

NATIONAL FREE HOT
A7-101477L



HEALTHY HERBAL WEIGHT COMPANION

Supports Weight Loss and Skin Health.
Eliminates Belly Fats. Removes Bad Cholesterol.
Eliminates Insomnia. Powerful Anti-Aging Coffee.
Reduces Constipation. Fight Piles and many more...

NATIONAL FREE HOT
A7-101563L

PARTNERS & DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED NATIONWIDE

PHONE NUMBER(S)

+2348033822222



Foreign Policy Thrust Of This Administration

Soon, the Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration will clock one year in office. As expected, there will be a lot of discussion on the achievements of this administration. A lot of focus will be on the economic decisions of this administration and how it has affected the citizenry.

One area that Nigerians hardly take note in any administration is the foreign policy thrust of that administration. From inception, Nigeria has always practiced an Africa first foreign policy. From the Tafawa Balewa government all through the successive military administration. This led to Nigeria playing major roles in the formation of the Economic Community of West African State (ECOWAS) in 1975 and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1963 (now African Union- AU).

To show the importance the first republic

placed on Nigeria's foreign policy thrust. The Nigerians Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) was established in the year 1961 with the aim of providing a nursery of ideas on what direction Nigeria should take on international affairs. The institution is a specialized instrument of foreign policy formulation in Nigeria. The NIIA has helped successive governments tremendously in getting their foreign policies right.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs Amb. Yusuf M. Tuggar (OON) while unveiling the policy thrust of this administration said the new policy thrust of this government is anchored on 4D- Democracy, Development, Demography and Diaspora. Announcement and pledges are by themselves not enough to achieve the target set by the Minister. There needs to be a delineation of specific steps that will make the 4D foreign policy work.

This administration was thrown into the for-

foreign policy spotlight when ECOWAS Heads of States appointed President Bola Tinubu as its chairman on the 9th of July last year, less than a month after he was sworn in as president of Nigeria. Foreign policy experts were skeptical about this move of appointing a first term president as Chairman of the regional block. The first challenge the new chairman faced was the secession of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger from the body. The military juntas of these government formed their own body. The drum beats of war echoed as ECOWAS huffed and puffed. This is a far cry from the past where diplomacy was always deployed as first and last option. Lessons have been learnt.

Nigeria has been the leading voice from Africa for the continent to be giving a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council. This administration needs to make this a reality.

Since 2009, Nigeria have been striving to join the BRICS organization (it was named BRICS after its founding members- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). The group seeks to establish deeper ties between member nations and cooperate on economic expansion including trade. Countries like Ethiopia, Iran, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates have joined the organization. The economic benefits of Nigeria joining such an organization is too numerous to mention. Strategic markets will open for Nigerian conglomerate. This administration can achieve great strides in getting Nigeria to the zenith of world affairs if the right steps are taken.

Ogoh Michael Ogaga
damykel44@gmail.com
08035584971

Everything About Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway Has Wrong Smells

BY IKEDDY ISIGUZO

ANGER with which Minister of Works David Umahi addresses the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway project unleashes pungent smells that are entirely unpleasant. They have cast a pall of mystery on the project that is clothed with an urgency that is unbearably breath-taking.

Call the Coastal Highway project Umahi's delight. He likes to be at the centre of things, talk about big projects with a finality that forecloses anyone saying a thing about anything.

Umahi is not used to being questioned. His eight-year reign of Ebonyi State over was imperial, impenetrable, with dashes of perceptibility. It was beneath Umahi to be questioned.

Now he is being challenged. Journalists he would have incarcerated until their leaders geneflected for their release are asking him questions about his project. What do they know? Who are they?

Are they by any chance bigger than the President who has told him to proceed with the project? Umahi has really suffered in accepting an appointment that gives people the opportunity to question a former Deputy Governor, two-term Governor, former Senator, former presidential aspirant.

A garrulous fellow who makes his day listening to his own voice, he takes pride in elevating his participation in lawlessness. Re-elected in 2019 as Governor, on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, he was proud of fraternising with the All Progressives Congress, APC.

Umahi told a delegation from Ishielu and Onicha Local Government Area of the State, "Stay in one place. If you say you dey there (APC), know I am already there. If you go to APC, I am an APC member. If you go to PDP, I am there". He made this position on APC known in early January 2020.

"I am the only person that does anti-party and nothing will happen. Any other person that does anti-party is gone. So, I am representing you in APC while you all stay in PDP. If you like, go and write it on social media."

Only the emperor of Ebonyi could do whatever he liked. It was at the same event that he disclosed that he sent handsome Christmas gifts to APC leaders. One can imagine what else he brags about as his political achievements.

The Coastal Highway project could be an Umahi introduction to most Nigerians but he has adequately proven his belief in speaking before thinking.

Umahi is unable to explain anything about the Coastal Highway beyond defending what does not make any sense. His commitment to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu comes with the readiness to pause his own thinking unless it pleases the President.

What is so important about the Coastal Highway that it is priority over security and the attendant food scarcity? How did Hi Tech Construction Limited qualify for such complex project? Which other companies bidded with Hi Tech? Who set the cost of the project at N15 trillion? Who is lend-



ing Nigeria the money?

These questions irritate Umahi to no end. He obviously thinks he is still in Ebonyi where the unstated consequences of asking questions were too weighty for anyone to scrutinise Umahi's decisions.

Demolition of the Landmark Beach facilities, and the associated businesses, the loss of jobs, show government's haste to do whatever it wants to do without thinking about the impact on the people.

A government that is promoting a \$10 billion Diaspora Fund and inviting investors to Nigeria has made the demolition of one of Africa's most iconic tourism facilities - worth over \$100 million - a national assignment demanding full attention and to be executed with flourish. What message does the demolition send to investors?

Here are some of the putrescence of the project that Umahi cannot deodorise -

Is there an Environmental Social Impact Assessment, ESIA, report on the project? When an Arise TV reporter asked Umahi, he was enraged. Was there a report? Could the Minister share it with the media? It was for the government to issue the report, not the reporter, not the media, Umahi retorted, barely hiding his anger.

An effort may be on-going to produce an ESIA report. Umahi did not wait for the report to commence demolition. How can a coastline construction, stretching over 753km, on uncharted terrain, be executed without an ESIA, contrary to our laws?

There is evidence that the project has no ESIA. Again, why is this hurry about the project as if its non-execution will be the cessation of Nigeria's existence?

Let us be fair to the hardly working Minister of Works to establish that the Ministry has commenced the processes for ESIA and RAP as the letter below shows.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS
OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL CONTROLLER, LAGOS

E-mail: fedworkslagos05@yahoo.com

Telephon.....

Ref No.:

Date: 18TH April, 20

LAGOS-CALABAR COASTAL HIGHWAY PROJECT PHASE 1: SECTION 1: AHMADU BELLO WAY TO ELEKOVILLAGE AREA IN THE LEKKI PENINSULA (CH 0+000-CH.

47+474)

INVITATION LETTER FOR SCOPING WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA AND RAP STUDIES OF THE LAGOS-CALABAR COASTAL HIGHWAY PROJECT TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Federal Ministry of Works (FMW) of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is pleased to invite you to participate in a Scoping Workshop for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) studies of the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway Project.

This workshop is a crucial step in the development process of this major infrastructure project and will provide a platform for stakeholders to

engage, contribute, and shape the future of the project.

The Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway is a transformative project to enhance connectivity, economic growth, and transportation efficiency in Nigeria's coastal states. Spanning a distance of 753 km, the highway will connect major cities and regions, including Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Edo, Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa-Ibom, and Cross River States. The project footprint is divided into different sections. The first begins at Eko Atlantic's Ahmadu Bello Road (0.0km) and terminates at Ibeju Lekki (47.5km). The second Section 2 begins at the point Section 1 stops and terminates at the Ogun State Border with Lagos State. These imply that Sections 1 and 2 are within Lagos State, Nigeria.

The ESIA and RAP studies are being conducted to ensure that the project is developed in a responsible and sustainable manner, in line with local regulations in Nigeria as well as international standards and frameworks. The ESIA will assess the project's potential environmental and social impacts and propose mitigation measures, while the RAP will outline the compensation and assistance measures for people affected by land acquisition, involuntary resettlement, or loss of assets. These studies are essential for guiding the project's implementation towards a sustainable development.

The Scoping Workshop details are as follows:

Date: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Location: Eko Hotel Grand Ball Room

.Time: 10:00 AM

For any inquiries or request further information about the project, you can send an email to neclagcalcoastalroad2024@gmail.com

Engr. (Mrs) O. I. Kesha

Federal Controller of Works, Lagos

Address: Federal Ministry of Works, Field Headquarters, Glass House, 2nd Floor

The invitation to stakeholders emphasises the imperatives of the ESIA and RAP for critical decisions on the project. Did Umahi, the engineer, not the politician, wait for the reports?

Are we to believe the reports were concluded in one week, and got the approval of the Ministry of Environment in that time frame? Which ESIA and RAP studies is Umahi using to implement this project?

Nigerians need answers. Our safety is at stake apart from the N15 trillion that may be thrown into the sea in the name of a project that courts malodorous scents.

Finally...

THE exceptional achievement of the immediate past Anambra State Commissioner of Police Aderemi Adeoye in establishing a cooperative club worth N20 billion is about to be lost in Adeoye's denial that the business was worth that much. Controversies, a petition over the investment club have been parts of the tail-end of Adeoye's career. He has challenged anyone with a clip of where he claimed to be a billionaire to produce it. Did the reports of the prosperity of the resourceful officer embarrass the police?

Isiguzo is a major commentator on minor issues

Ghana Cocoa Board Refunds \$250m Loan Procured From ADB For Irrigation In Cocoa Farms

The Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Cocoa Board, Joseph Boahen Aidoo, has disclosed that the organisation has refunded \$250 million it acquired from the African Development Bank for irrigation purposes in cocoa farms.

According to him, the Ghana Irrigation Authority, who were the consultants tasked to execute the project, advised against its feasibility due to the contamination of rivers by illegal mining activities, which posed a threat to cocoa trees.

"When Cocoa Board went to the African Development Bank to secure some US\$600 million, then we had to return \$250 million. Part of that money was intended for irrigation.

"We commissioned the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority to do a pre-appraisal for our assessment and the report we brought was that almost all the rivers were contaminated."

He emphasised that until measures are

taken to address illegal mining, the cocoa industry remains vulnerable.

Mr Aidoo pointed out that the majority of rivers in cocoa-growing regions are polluted, rendering the water unsuitable for use in cocoa cultivation.

This situation, he said has forced farmers to incur additional expenses by transporting water from their homes to their farms.

"Previously, the farmer gets to the nearest stream around the farm, and then he fetches the water to do the mass spraying and all that. But now, you cannot, because the leaves have process, which we call the stomata.

"And once you spray this muddy water onto it, the mud is going to block, this stomata and within a short time, you find all the leaves coming down. The trees will die. You cannot also use it for irrigation because it means that you have to be changing your filters almost every day," he said.



Godwin Dudu-Orumeh Speaks On " Why Asue Ighodalo Is Best For Edo Future"



A lot had no doubt been said of the man of many parts called Chief Barr Godwin Dudu-Orumeh .

He was the former Executive Chairman Edo State Sports Commission. A Lawyer, Media practitioner who is a most engaging Sports enthusiast. Specialist in Sports marketing & Media, Sports marketing & media, Sports concept development & Management, Athlete Development/Management, Arbitration, Mergers, Acquisitions & Management of Sports Facilities, Sports Businesses etc and business man

Not so long ago, he organized and staged a long successful Walk in Owan Edo state in support of the Governorship aspiration of Dr Asue Ighodalo

Richlist Magazine (high politics segment) caught up with him in his Sports & Hotel Shaque to tell us why he is backing Asue Ighodalo

His words on marble...

"Asue represents the future. He understands the link between governance, leadership and development augmented by economics, especially global economy. A Lawyer, Banker , Industry Captain and Boardroom guru , he will be attracting Investors and investment to Edo State.

"Just as I told our people in Owan, I will tell Richlist Magazine again that I am giving my support to a most attractive , credible and distinguished candidate for the office and position of the Governor of Edo State, come the 2024 Gubernatorial Election in the State, Barrister Asue Ighodalo , LL.D on the platform of Sports.

Why Sports? It's my forte and a veritable vehicle for youth engagement and empowerment anywhere in the world.

UN statistics revealed that The youths, 35 and under make up 70% of the population south of the Sahara and that's a huge number to do business with.

Asue understands and very much too. So we can get his government to engage with youths and young adult, get him to BRING BACK AFUZE , the deserted Sports Complex for the training of Sports men, women and teams with the consequent knock on effect on Owan East and West.

A redevelopment of Afuze Sports Complex will ventilate the entire Owan Community in commerce, socioeconomic development, gainful engagement of Owan Youth.

Plans are on to have the maiden Annual Owan Community Football Competition, though there have been efforts in the past , the organisers shall be on this multi purpose vehicle to which I respectfully invite you to give your support so we can use it to GALVANISE OWAN YOUTHS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF OWAN.

But first let us give support to the political ambition of a good man , Asue Ighodalo so we can achieve our dreams through him. Please take this as a call to duty " Dudu-Orumeh posited

On the future, he was categorical

Hear him "To build a prosperous society that protects and provides for the most vulnerable, we must first build an educated population.*

We must commit to this as a people.

When we provide quality education to all our children in Edo State; they will change the world.*

The Man wey Sabi nor dy hard to Know.. the man is Asue Ighodalo " he concluded

Committee Of Friends For Late Rt. Hon. Steve Orji

This is a Committee of Friends, in view of the burial function of our revered friend and brother - Steve Orji, who recently passed on to eternal glory.

This is a coalition of dependable friends, for a clarion call in support of the burial of our reputable friend and brother, who always held strongly the bond of friendship among us.

We have all been added to this platform to support in the raising of funds towards his burial function.

This is not say that without us, the family cannot bury his. But we are just keying in to share in his family pains of losing a loved one, and to show solidarity as friends for losing one of our own.

We know how challenging the economy of the country is, at the moment. We however beckon on all to consider supporting in the burial of our dearly brother and friend. Nothing is too small to give. All donations here shall be duly acknowledged and accounted for.

In case of payment, kindly pay into this account:- Keystone bank 1012815143 Helen Obioma Orji May the Almighty God enable, empower and provide for us, in view of this heart-rending episode.

Hon. Mrs Chinedu Akaluso.....

(Convener)



Moriba Spot-Kick Fires Guinea To Paris 2024 Olympics As Africa Picks Fourth Slot

Guinea booked their place at the Men's Olympic Football Tournament in Paris after Ilaix Moriba's penalty sealed a 1-0 play-off victory over Indonesia on Thursday.

With the qualification via play-off, Africa will have four teams at the men's football event of the Olympic Games.

Guinea now joins Morocco, Egypt and Mali.

The Guinean midfielder's first-half strike from 12 yards proved the difference at Clairefontaine as the Syli Nationale secured qualification for just their second Olympic Games.

With the 16-team line-up for this summer's event now complete, Guinea have been drawn in a daunting Group A alongside hosts France, USA and New Zealand.

The decisive moment came on the half-hour mark when Algassime Bah was brought down in the box by Indonesia's Witan Sulaeman after a rapid Guinea counter-attack.

Moriba made no mistake from the resulting spot-kick, lashing the ball beyond the reach of the Indonesian goalkeeper to put the Afri-

can side ahead.

Guinea had opportunities to extend their lead, with Mohamed Soumah's close-range effort hacked off the line shortly after the restart.

But Indonesia rallied and went agonisingly close to an equaliser on the hour, substitute Alfeandra Dewangga's glancing header drifting just wide.

Dewangga was soon at the centre of the action again, conceding a penalty after fouling Bah in the box – an award that prompted angry protests from the Indonesian bench and saw coach Shin Tae-yong dismissed.

After a lengthy delay, Bah took responsibility from 12 yards himself but could only strike the upright as Guinea missed the chance to put the result beyond doubt.

Indonesia pushed for a late leveller but Guinea's defence stood firm to seal their historic place at Paris 2024 – 56 years after their Olympic debut in 1968.

The hard work starts now for the West Africans as they prepare to take on the might of France, USA and New Zealand in a daunting group stage.

FIFA Counters Players' Union; Defends Club World Cup Schedule

World football governing body Fifa has rejected claims that Fifpro and the World Leagues Association were not consulted over plans to host a 32-team Club World Cup.

It comes after players' union Fifpro and the WLA called on Fifa to reschedule the tournament, due to take place next summer, amid a threat of legal action.

Fifpro and the WLA said "players are being pushed beyond their limits".

In a letter sent to Fifpro and the WLA, which has been seen by BBC Sport, Fifa says it has "a duty and responsibility" to implement an international match calendar in the "best interests of world football".

Fifa insisted Fifpro and the WLA were consulted about changes to the overall 2025-30 international match calendar, including the 2025 Club World Cup, which was confirmed by the Fifa Council in December 2022.

Although it says it is open to talks, Fifa has no intention of altering next year's Club World Cup, saying it is "fully within our rights to set the parameters of our competi-

tions whilst respecting the regulatory framework in place".

Manchester City and Chelsea are among the 12 European representatives at the expanded Club World Cup, to be held in the USA between 13 June and 15 July 2025.

Fifa point out that domestic member leagues of the WLA, such as the Premier League, can arrange their own competitions, noting the organisation of "international tours" in recent years.

Last summer, the Premier League hosted a six-team summer series in the USA, involving Chelsea, Newcastle, Brighton, Fulham, Aston Villa and Brentford.

Fifa also asked if Fifpro and the WLA had been in touch with other bodies, given their games "are responsible for a fractional amount of the total elite club games around the world".

"While we disagree with the tenor and content of your letter, we have nonetheless taken note of your concerns and are more than happy to invite you to discuss the matter further at a time convenient to you," Fifa added.

Lobi Stars Protest: NANPF Ready to Prioritise Players' Welfare – Austin Popo Assures

Following the report of protest by players of Lobi Stars over unpaid salaries, the leadership of the Players Union said they are ready to intervene for the welfare of players.

According to the Executive Secretary of NANPF, Austin Popo, "I wish to inform you that following

news from the social media of your protest over unpaid wages today, I received directives from the Chairman of the players Union board Capt Abe Sunday to intervene which made me to open interactions with your club captain and the union Benue State administrative secretary. "We had the option of

contacting your State governor and drawing the attention of the Chairman of the Trade Union Congress in Benue State for his intervention. But following the advice of your Captain that you were already set to have a meeting with the club Vice Chairman, we had to stayed down our move.

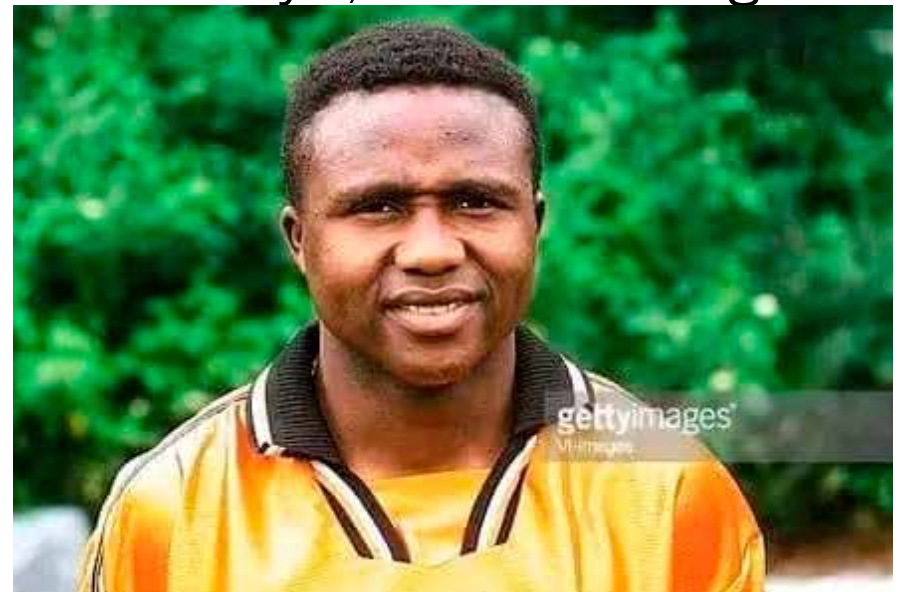
"But I am happy to find out the matter has been resolved. Leadership of the players Union wish to assure you that the Union is ever ready to support you on issues that has to do with your welfare in all of its ramifications. An injury to one, is an injury to all. Solidarity forever."

PFAN Mourns As Fatal Accident Claims Life Of Ex-Nigeria International Player, Ibrahim Babangida

The Nigerian football community has been thrown into a mourning mood over the involvement of the family of the President of Professional Footballers Association of Nigeria (PFAN) Tijani Babangida, in fatal accident that claimed the life of his younger brother, Ibrahim Babangida.

In a statement credited to the General Secretary of PFAN, Emmanuel Babayaro, OLY, the Babangida family that included Tijani, his wife, son, maid and Ibrahim, were travelling on the Kaduna-Zaria highway yesterday, when the fatal accident occurred.

The news of the unfortunate accident has continued to rock the Nigerian football community, as the media space has become flooded with the shocking news, particularly, as it has also claimed the life of



Ibrahim Babangida, who was a former Stationery Stores player in his active playing days.

Babayaro, while express-

ing deep regrets and sorrow on behalf of the players union, remarked that the body would come out with a categorical

statement on the heartfelt incident and on its plans towards supporting the bereaved family.

Manu Selects Golden Eaglets Squad For Africa Regional Youth Tournament In Accra



19 man playing squad of Nigeria's Golden Eaglets plus officials are expected to arrive today in the Ghanaian capital, Accra for defence of their WAFU B U17 Championship crown in this year's tournament, kicking off on Wednesday, 15 May 2024.

The five-time champions of the world, swept aside every opposition to achieve glory in another Ghanaian city, Kumasi, two years ago, but failed to light up the

Africa U17 Cup of Nations in Algeria where they came short in the race to compete for another global honour in Indonesia.

Chief coach Manu Garba who coached the country to world cup gold medal in 2013 will lead a technical crew that has the mandate of not only successfully defending the regional crown, but to continue to improve the squad for a great outing at the U17 AFCON and on-

wards to a probable sixth global title.

With qualification for next year's Africa Under 17 Cup of Nations at stake, the Golden Eaglets will begin the defence of their title against a Burkina Faso opposition at the University Stadium on Thursday, 16th May with kickoff set for 3pm Ghana time (4pm Nigeria time), before matches against Niger Republic on Sunday, 19th May (6pm

Ghana, 7pm Nigeria) and Togo on Wednesday, 22nd May (4pm Ghana, 5pm Nigeria).

The match against Niger Republic will also hold at the University Stadium while the clash with Togo will take place at the Accra Sports Stadium.

19 EAGLETS FOR WAFU B U17:

1. Adekunle Sunday Adedigba,
2. Sylvester Chizoba Chika
3. Daniel Ofonime Mendie
4. Destiny Samuel
5. Abdulwaris Yunus
6. Boluwatife David Eki-shola
7. Ibrahim Damilare Abdulganiyu
8. Edward Oloche Ochigbo
9. Rapha Adams
10. Simon Karshe Cletus
11. Oreoluwa Olawale Agbenla
12. Okorie Marvelous Chibuikwe
13. Abdulmuiz Adeleke
14. John Ogwuche
15. Qurib Adetola
16. Chinedu Levi Dominic
17. Abdulmuiz Oluwatimilehin Oladimeji,
18. Daniel Vovero Arierhi
19. Imrana Muhammad

Actions Of The NFF Are Just, Statutory With No Encumbrances

I will rather further compound the ignorance on the NFF issues by those claiming better knowledge of how the NFF should be administered from the outside when missiles in form of stones thrown into the market place constantly direct at the glass house and constant campaign of calumny 24/7. Prejudice to the matters in court and issues around the aggrieved parties but there can't be vacancy in the administrative structure hence the status of the federation has spelt out the functions of the football apex body which is the congress that the executive board derived their powers in the supervision of the day to day activities of the National secretariat on football matters. In same manner, the structure recognizes the primary roles of the state football association, that of the Local football councils LFC including the activities of the complimentary programmes nation wide.

How did we arrive at this serial controversies that has always been on the top burner with out solutions since the sincerity of those that has taking charge before now has always compromised. That integrity they claimed to have instead they mis informed the authorities for material gains against this noble institution that has brought some of us fame and honour. Yours sincerely is better informed haven been in charge of the secretariat at a turrulent time that gave the foundation to this crises that has caused distractions in the once vibrant football events that was the joy of all of us up till the template of the congress in 2004 was forcefully tempered with by the acclaimed football technocrats that has instituted all forms of illegalities. The shaky structure has existed by same people who has institut-



ed their cronies to continue from where they stopped till date. The faces of those that has felt disenfranchised has never been the issues which is normal for an aggrieved party to either ask for his rights, compromised his integrity like others for personal gains, while others championed by Mr Harrison Jala former founder and President of (APFON) Association of Professional footballers of Nigeria (APFON) and that of the (NANPF) National Association of Nigeria Professional Footballers (NANPF) championed by Mr Austen Popo was created including the several others that was initiated to checkmate the selfish mission of a very weak and focused-less leadership of the federations in the recent past given recognitions for selfish reasons to several players union which has further deepened the crises to have dragged this long. Shamelessly some beneficiaries from this great institution that dragged the same game into disrepute has the effrontery to parade themselves as technocrats and ARCHIEVERS of knowledge on the pages of the electronics, print and social

media like people that have better life than others mis dating the sports community. On matter arising on the periodic decisions of the Federations that may not have gone well with the football community but for records purposes every actions is guided by the status as amended which is usually a continuing process to accommodate every process that will add value to football development with opportunities that is more that enough to accommodate every body. Employment of coaches arises when the vacancies are opened and it can only accommodate a specific number. I was privately interviewed on the employment of the super eagles coach but to my surprise it was said that I was amongst those that were working against the employment of local coaches to my shock. However I am not in position to determine either foreign and local coaches and I still place it on records that it was only statutory that the NFF executive board and the administrative arm are capable to make a decision on behalf of the country hence they are

inside. I strongly suggest to those fighting from the outside to shelve their ignorance not to mis-inform the public and wait for the next elections process, run for office and if they emerge winners create legitimate structures to be a decision maker either at the executive board level and the administrative structure to effect your experiences to add value to building a foremost NFF that we so deserve. We may be heading to the crises that was initiated by the then beneficiaries which made it impossible to qualify for the 2006 Fifa World Cup finals hosted in GERMANY. We can only get better someday to make an amend that will expand the NFF congress, the executive board and liberalise the football community to achieve one purpose in the nearest future.

DECISIONS OF THE NFF REMAIN IMPERTIAL If you do not know, one will never know the procedure on decisions only as an insider not speaking from the outside. It has nothing to do with an assumption on critical issues like in the case of who should emerge as the choice of the federations on the Super Eagles coach. Mr. Finidi George was chosen being the choice of the Federation.

I can confirm that every of the coaches that applied were very competent to be appointed as the coach of the Super Eagles. My take home is to confirm that the present NFF leadership Ibrahim Musa Gusau is in the class of the Alh. Ibrahim Galadima that is calm, patient, accommodative and accessible to accommodate coupled with the relationship that has existed with the sports Ministry under the leadership of the sports minister HM, Sen John Ewah Enoh.

Mclroy denies fall-out with Woods on game's future

Rory Mclroy says there is "no strain" in his relationship with Tiger Woods but admits they have different views on the future of men's professional golf.

The disagreement arises from ongoing negotiations on a possible deal between the PGA Tour and the Saudi Arabian backers of LIV Golf.

World number two Mclroy, who has softened his stance on the breakaway LIV tour, revealed he is now a member of the "transaction subcommittee" that is trying to do a deal.

However, Mclroy said on Wednesday that he will not be returning to the PGA Tour's policy board after it "got pretty complicated and pretty messy".

The Telegraph reported, external that 15-time major winner Woods voted against Mclroy re-joining the board.

"I would say, I mean, I think friends can have disagreements or not see things - I guess not - not see eye to eye on things but have disagreements on things," Mclroy said.

"I think that's fine. But no, I wouldn't say - we had a really good talk last Friday for 45 minutes just about a lot of different things.

"No, there's no strain there. I think we might see the future of golf a little bit differently, but I don't think that should place any strain on a relationship or on a friendship."

Murray to make injury return next week



Andy Murray has brought forward his comeback from an ankle injury and will play at an ATP Challenger event in Bordeaux next week.

The 36-year-old Briton, who is expected to retire this season, has been out since late March after rupturing ankle ligaments at the Miami Open.

Murray intends to play at the French Open, which starts on 26 May, for what is likely to be the final time.

The three-time Grand Slam champion plans to compete at Roland Garros in both the singles and doubles, teaming up with fellow Briton Dan Evans in the latter.

After starting his comeback on the Bordeaux clay, Murray will return to the main ATP Tour at the Geneva Open - where he has been given a wildcard - the following week.

Murray opted not to have

surgery on the ankle injury to reduce recovery time with hopes of playing at the French Open, Wimbledon and the Paris Olympics this summer.

Murray, who turns 37 on 15 May, does not plan to "play much past this summer" but has not announced where his final tournament will be.

Murray wants to return to the French Open, having only played once - in 2020 when he lost to Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka in the first round - since 2017.

Before what is expected to be a final appearance at Wimbledon, Murray plans to start his grass-court preparations in Stuttgart on 10 June.

Wimbledon, where Murray is a two-time champion, begins on 1 July and the Olympics start on 26 July.

The US Open, the final Grand Slam of the season, gets under way on 26 August in New York.

Chelsea sacking would not be a problem - Pochettino

Mauricio Pochettino says it would "not be the end of the world" if he were to leave Chelsea at the end of the season.

The Blues boss called for an end to the "stupid rumours" following his side's victory against Tottenham last week.

But the Argentine says he and his coaching staff must be on the same page as the owners if he's to continue at the club.

Pochettino said the "organisation of the club is building" and that "we are all under assessment".

Chelsea chairman Todd Boehly said on Thursday that his plans for the club are "coming together" but Pochettino has made clear

that conversations with the club's board at the end of the season should include his input.

"If we are happy, perfect,"



said 52-year-old Pochettino.

"But it is not only if the owners are happy or the sporting directors happy... You need to ask us also,

because maybe (we) say 'we are not happy' and we accept the situation and we need to split," Pochettino said.

"It is not going to be the first time the coaching staff at the end of the season decide to not keep going. But at this end, it is always the opposite way, it is always the owners or the sporting directors."

Pochettino, who has also managed Tottenham Hotspur and Paris St-Germain, said "two parties" are needed to "make a decision".

"Maybe we are not happy because we arrive here with a job to do and in the end it has not happened," he added. "I am not saying I am not happy."



Manu Selects Golden Eaglets Squad For Africa Regional Youth Tournament In Accra

Okpekpe 2024: Bumper Financial Reward Awaits Athletes with New Course, African Records



Barely 14 days to the 10th edition of the Okpekpe international 10km road race in Okpekpe, Edo State, organizers of the historic race say athletes who break the Course and African/World records at the event will receive bonus awards of \$2,000 and \$5,000 respectively in addition to the race awards of between \$15,000 and \$2,000 for the first five finishers respectively.

The top winners at the Okpekpe race, men and women, can make a total of \$22,000 each if they break the official course and African (World) records (subject to ratification under World Athletics rules). This will be made up of the prize money of \$15,000 and \$2,000 for breaking the course record and \$5,000 for breaking the African/World record.

The Okpekpe race 10km course record stands at 28 minutes and 28 seconds (28:28)

for men set last year by Daniel Simiu Ebenyo and 32 minutes, 41 seconds (32:41) set in 2014 by Ethiopia's Wude Ayalew.

The African record for men which is also the world record is 26 minutes, 33 seconds (26:33) set by Kenya's Rhonex Kipruto in 2020 while another Kenyan, Agnes Jebet Ngetich holds the African nay World record for women at 28 minutes, 46 seconds (28:46) set in January 2024 in Valencia, Spain.

Zack Amodu, the Okpekpe international 10km road race director reveals why the performance bonus has been introduced to this year's race.

'This year, we have the \$2,000 and \$5,000 performance bonus to be earned by any man or woman who breaks the course record and African/World record respectively. Last year, we saw how Daniel Ebenyo moved very close to running a sub-28 minutes on

his way to setting the 28:28 course record.

"We are motivating the athletes to run a little faster with the introduction of the performance bonus as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the most prestigious and first World Athletics label road race in West Africa," said Amodu who is optimistic new course records will be set in the men and women's categories.

'With the quality of athletes that we have signed on and those who have signified interest in the race, I am sure a new course record will be set.'

Amodu says this year's edition will be used to celebrate Pamodzi Sports Marketing's 10 years of organising an event that World Athletics, the world governing body for the sport of athletics has recognised as a truly world class race and which it did not hesitate to classify as such with the award of

a bronze label status in 2015.

'As a recognition of the technical and administrative capabilities officials of Pamodzi have been displaying, the race was upgraded to a silver label status in 2018 and gold in 2023. We have proved that Nigerians are capable of organizing world class events,' said a delighted Amodu who has been at the heart of delivering a truly world class race.

The Okpekpe international 10km road race is an annual event held in Edo State, Nigeria. It's a challenging 10km road race that takes place over hills and tarred roads, starting from Apana Road and ending in Okpekpe town.

The race has attracted participants from various countries, including Kenya, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Uganda, Morocco, Israel, Bahrain, and Nigeria.