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**2023:** APC's Muslim-Muslim Ticket A Monster, Unacceptable, Threat To Nigeria's Unity - **HEKAN President**  
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## Apostolic Church Allegedly Suspends Pastor For Hosting YPP's Thanksgiving, Dedication In Akwa Ibom *\*Police seals another church*

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

Onna, Governor Udom Emmanuel's hometown in Akwa Ibom State has become a no-go-area for political campaigns by opposition parties in the state, except the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). This position became clear on Sunday, as Apostolic Church has suspended one of its pastors for hosting the Thanksgiving and Dedication Service of the Young Progressives Party (YPP) in Onna.

New Nigerian learnt that while a church service was going on at Ndon Eyo Township Assembly of in Onna, Pastor E..E. Henshaw shocked everyone when he

announced that he just received a message of suspension for opening the doors of the church to YPP.

Henshaw also said the Field Superintendent, Dr U.S Ukpong, had ordered him to appear before the Disciplinary Council of the church the next day to explain why he should not be sacked for allowing YPP to dedicate its campaign and thank God in his assembly.

He said the previous night, (Saturday) the police had invaded his church, harassing him and threatening to detain him should he allow YPP to attend the church.

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## Nigeria Drops To 86th Position In Digital Wellbeing - Research

*\*Internet affordability ranks 114th*  
*\*Country's mobile internet is 2 times slower than South Africa's*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

According to a research finding made available on Monday October 3, 2022, Nigeria has slipped from 82nd position in Surfshark's Digital Quality of Life Index 2022 ranks, with the country placed 86th in the world by overall digital wellbeing.

This was contained in a research finding, which informed that the country has dropped by four positions since last year's edition, falling from 82nd to 86th:

The study covers 92% of the global population and indexes 117 countries by looking at five fundamental pillars of digital life – internet affordability and quality,

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## NDLEA Apprehends Another Billionaire Drug Baron, Recovers N8.8bn Worth Tramadol In Lagos Mansion

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

No fewer than 13,451,466 pills of Tramadol 225mg worth N8,860,000,000 billion street value have been recovered by operatives of the National Drug Enforcement

Agency, NDLEA, from one of the mansions of a billionaire drug baron, Ugochukwu Nsofor Chukwukadibia, in the highbrow residential estate, Victoria Garden City, Lekki area of Lagos. The arrest of Ugochukwu  
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Mu'azu Jaji Sambo

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# Buhari Releases Funds To Tackle Landslide in Ebonyi



By; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

President Muhammadu Buhari has released fund for the reconstruction of the Ogwuma section of Ebonwana-Ekoli Edda landslide.

Governor David Umahi of Ebonyi state disclosed this on Sunday, during an Interdenominational Church Service to mark the 62nd Independence Day celebration of Nigeria and 26 years of creation of Ebonyi State.

The church service was held at Saint Paul's Catholic Parish Onuebonyi, Abakaliki.

The governor appreciated the President for the gesture and other numerous assistance to the state within the period of his administration, adding that there has been no single memo taken to the President on behalf of the state that failed to receive his approval. Governor Umahi who restated his earlier decision to choose his successor from

Ebonyi North Zone in 2023, insisted that it is in the interest of justice, equity and fairness.

He urged the people to rally round the candidature of Right Honourable Francis Nwifuru, assuring that he would consolidate on his lofty achievements.

"I am a product of justice, equity and fairness and because of equity I insist that the next governor must come from the North, but I can see few people of Ebonyi North still wanting power to return to almost the same town with me.

"Anything that is not rooted in justice, equity and fairness is bound to fall.

"I believe in justice, equity and fairness.

"After waiting on the Lord, God spoke to me about my successor.

"That seat has been anointed, and it is for the Speaker who has served the State and I want to assure you that he is a product of the Church.

"May it please God and the church."

The governor, while attributing the successes of his administration to the partnership with the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), the Divine Mandate Pastors, the Elders Council; the founding fathers among others, reiterated that his government would continue to impact lives until it winds down in 2023.

"When I was building the Governor's Lodge in Abuja, Tinubu passed there and said he thought it was a five-star hotel.

Shettima passed and said it is the best house in the whole of Abuja.

"In other words, I was building for the future.

"That is the way to go."

Governor Umahi further admonished Ebonyi citizens to always give gratitude to God.

"We cannot get up until we begin to be grateful to God.

"Gratitude is an acknowledgement of the mercies of God in our lives so we have to give it because if

we keep it, it becomes dangerous."

Umahi pledged to assist the church complete its ongoing building, as well as provide solar lights, boreholes and a 50KVA transformer to enhance power supply from the national grid.

In a sermon, the South East Zonal Chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria, Rev. Fr Abraham Nwali, tasked Christians on the imperative of gratitude as a justification for God's benevolence to mankind.

Nwali, also the parish priest of the church, observed that constant complaints rob Christians of the spirit of gratitude, emphasized that Ebonyi State has many reasons to be thankful to God.

"We owe God gratitude; every living being should be grateful to God.

"Anybody that is always complaining in life finds it difficult to appreciate good things.

"Why are we grateful to God as Ebonyians?"

# Plateau Council Boss Harps On Patriotism As Nigeria Celebrates Independence

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

The Chairman of Qua'an-Pan Local Government Council, Plateau State, Honourable Ernest Abner Da'a has called on Nigerians to reflect on the nation's collective drive and appraise themselves to see whether they have been able to galvanize their energies towards productive service. Hon Da'a made the call on October 1, 2022, in his 62nd Independence Day celebration address to the people of Qua'an-Pan Local Government Area at its Mini Stadium in Ba'ap, the administrative headquarters of the council.

The chairman encouraged citizens to remain patriotic in their activities, adding that in so doing, people should also be able to strategize as to how we intend to harness both human and material resources to better our lives and living conditions.

Hon Da'a, who acknowledged the challenges facing the nation, however, appealed to the citizens to, "strive to consolidate on the sacrifices of our founding fathers, towards building a new Nigeria; where justice and good governance shall prevail. Let our diversity be our stronghold not a divisive measure."

He added that, "As we appraise ourselves, we should also be able to strategize as to how we intend to harness both human and material resources to better the living conditions of our people."

The chairman commended the resilience of Nigerians, and expressed the hope that if we put priorities right we can lay claim to being a closely knitted nation and turn the tide towards a stronger and vibrant nation.

He paid tributes to the founding fathers, who bequeathed the Nation to us and hope that our collective determination would lead to the consolidation on the legacies they left behind.

He also commended the efforts of security and law enforcement agencies, who he said, have been

working hard to keep our country safe, and prayed for the repose of those who paid the supreme sacrifice in the defense of the country.

Hon Da'a took time to list some of his administration's achievements to include provisions of computers to some secondary schools to enhance e-learning; tricycles to some people living with disabilities; promotion of peaceful coexistence through a Peace Football Tournament involving the Youths from the 8 Districts of LGA and inter religious dialogue.

Others include the prompt payments of counterparts fund to donor agencies and partnership with some health institutions to empower them to attend to the medical needs of the people of the locality, provisions of Free Medical Outreach for citizens; and praised the PHC staff for their dedication to work and for making the LGA, proud, especially on immunization.

He informed that he holds his workers in high esteem adding that, their emoluments are promptly paid.

"I wish to inform you that, we hold our workers in high esteem. Apart from ensuring that their emoluments and some arrears, and those of former staff, are paid, we have taken the bold steps to provide them with a conducive environment to perform their responsibilities to the highest level.

"To achieve this, the regime will expand the secretariat to accommodate more staff. Already, tenders for the secretariat extension and other projects have been advertised for bidders," Hon Da'a disclosed.

He assured the people of Qua'an-Pan that in the years ahead, the council has within its resources, earmarked many projects for execution, promising that, "As we look to the years ahead, the Council will look at ecological issues, organize another Free Medical Outreach for the citizens and restructure the Secretariat to provide enough and conducive working environment to the workforce, towards better

# Lack Of Transparent Leadership Responsible For Nigeria's Woes - Kaduna Guber Candidate

*\*Says Labour Party will change narratives*

By; AMOSTAUNA, Kaduna

The gubernatorial candidate of Labour Party (LP), Kaduna State in the 2023 elections, Jonathan Asake has opined that the main problems bedeviling the country is lack of transparent leadership.

He noted that Labour Party is determined to change the narratives of what is happening in the country with a view to ensuring that leadership has a human face in its dealing with people devoid of any different.

Speaking on Sunday at Zaria with some stakeholders, the gubernatorial candidate explained, "There is the need for justice, fairness and equity in

ensuring that the right thing is done in order to carry all along in governance so that together the country will move forward towards ensuring sanity in all spheres of life."

Jonathan Asake stated that in Kaduna state, the issue of lack of transparent leadership that is blessed with human and natural resources has been the major issue bedeviling the state.

He lamented that the insecurity that has bedeviled the country, and Kaduna state in particular has hindered farmers to go to farms and cultivate their farmlands.

He added that following the security challenges have hindered children to continue with their education, saying

that the insecurity situation has caused many communities to abandoned their ancestral homes as a result of incessant attacks by bandits.

According to him, "Insecurity will be dealt with decisively in order to pave the way for people to go about their legitimate business while school children are given the privilege to continue with their academic activities as well as ensuring that all and sundry go about their normal activities."

Most of the stakeholders that spoke explained that politicians seeking for elective positions should be true to their words in order to live in accordance to their promises when elected in office.



## FG Promises National Transport Policy Before Tenure Expiration

By: RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Federal Government has promised to deliver a National Transport Policy that will articulate seamless transportation system for the country before the present administration leaves office in 2023.

The Minister of Transportation, Mu'azu Jaji Sambo, disclosed this while interacting with journalists on Sunday, as part of activities marking the 2022 World Maritime Day Celebration in Lagos.

"We do not have a National Transport Policy. The Permanent Secretary and I agreed that we are going to do everything possible to see that this nation gets a National Transport Policy before May, 2023. It is only for not being too hopeful or ambitious, otherwise I would have said by God's grace before this year ends," adding that as soon as the grey areas are resolved, it will be forwarded to the Federal Executive Council for consideration, he said.

According to the Minister the other vision he intends to pursue is the unbundling of the Nigerian Railway Corporation, arguing that it cannot be the owner, operator and regulator at the same time.

"One of the things I want to see is a Nigerian Railway that is unbundled. Before I came, there was a Committee set up by my predecessor to look into the unbundling of Nigerian Railway Corporation. We cannot have an agency that is owner, regulator and operator at the same time", Sambo explained.

He further explained that the completed lines can be concessioned. "We can solicit for people who are interested in running the lines efficiently, competitively and cost effectively, so as to generate revenue for government to pay back some of the loans it took and at the same time for the concessionaires to make a living, employing Nigerians and putting food on the table for ordinary people."

On the potentials in the maritime sector, Sambo reiterated that "with the natural resources of the ocean and Inland waterways, we have no business expoliating oil and solid minerals because of their damaging effect on the environment.". He surmised that the country can survive on maritime alone if the right policies are put in place.

Regarding the Cabotage Vessel Financing Fund, CVFF, the Minister said: The law is very clear as to who owns the fund; the law is very clear as to how the fund is to be disbursed". He reasoned that by disbursing this fund to indigenous Shippers, the idea of having a National fleet flying Nigerian flag will be gradually realized.

Answering the question on how soon the Regional bank will take off, the Minister informed that the positions of the President, Company Secretary and Director has been ceded to Nigeria and what remains is for the Council of Ministers to meet and give approval so that the best people can be put forward.

Addressing the issue of the Abuja-Kaduna victims still in captivity, six months after. Minister said: "The life of one Nigerian is more important than the rail service we are providing, so I don't want anybody to think of how much we are loosing," adding that the Ministry is working assiduously to secure their release.

On why Nigeria lost the Category C Seat at International Maritime Organization, IMO, and the way forward, the Minister who was not there at the time called on the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Magdalene Ajani to respond and she said all the strategies have been reviewed and all the necessary things put in place to ensure favourable outcomes next time.

While calling on Nigerians, to support the country in this bid, she particularly enjoined the Press to report positively and not blow minor negative things out of proportion as they are bound to leave wrong impressions

## 2023: APC's Muslim-Muslim Ticket A Monster, Unacceptable, Threat To Nigeria's Unity - HEKAN President

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

A renewed outcry against the sane faith ticket adopted by the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) was at the front burner on Sunday October 2, 2022, as the President of The United Church of Christ in Nigeria (UCCN), popularly known as HEKAN, Reverend Amos G. Kiri described it as a monster capable of further dividing Nigerians.

Reverend Kiri expressed this, while delivering a welcome address at a Pastoral Ordination Service for 8 Catechists, elevated to Reverends on Sunday October 2, 2022 at the HEKAN Centre, Katsina Road, Kaduna

"Nigeria is a secular state and still remains a secular state. No one religion is superior over the other. One of Nigeria's biggest challenges is religion. Many people have used religion to divide us along imaginary lines. The Nigerian constitution guarantees freedom of association and religion for every Nigerian. Our politicians have turned religion into an avenue to promote one religion over and above the other.

"The trend of Muslim-Muslim ticket is not going to augur well to us as a Nation. Nigeria has two main religions - Christianity and Islam. We have lived together as a nation tolerating each other, not minding which religion one belongs to. Suddenly, this monster called Muslim-Muslim ticket has stirred

unhealthy debate across the nation.

"What this choice seems to depict is that no single Christian is good enough to serve as a Vice President in Nigeria or Deputy Governor in states where the two main religions are dominant. The decision by some political parties to field Muslim-Muslim as candidates, to my mind will not be healthy for us as a nation which is secular in nature.

"Therefore, the Muslim-Muslim ticket is unacceptable because it does not encourage inclusivity and diversity for which the founding fathers of this great country, Nigeria, encouraged right from the beginning. Any arrangement that does not respect who we are as a people is a threat to our unity and must be discouraged and discarded," he said. Speaking further, the HEKAN President said that fielding candidates who are incompetent for leadership based on religious lines can never bring about peace, unity and dividends of democracy that Nigerians



Reverend Amos G. Kiri

are yearning for.

"I want to use this medium to call on our political leaders at all levels, to always be mindful of our secular status as a nation," he stressed.

Reverend Kiri in his address, announced that HEKAN General Church has also created three additional District Church Councils.

"This is to bring the church close to the people expand God's kingdom here on earth.

"The decision to create the three additional District Church Councils was part of several decisions taken by the General Church Council Meeting, held over the weekend," he

said.

According to him, the newly created District Church Councils are, HEKAN DCC Jalingo, Taraba State with its Headquarters in Jalingo, HEKAN DCC Yola, Adamawa State, with its Headquarters in Yola and HEKAN DCC Kuya with its Headquarters in Kuya. He also informed that the church has also transferred some of its pastors from their present station to the areas.

"This is also to meet the church need and for effective service delivery, reach the unreachable.

"The Transfer will take effect from First January 2023," he disclosed.

## Nigeria Drops To 86th Position In Digital Wellbeing - Research

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e-infrastructure, e-security, and e-government.

Some of the key findings about the country's in the ranking, include, Nigeria's internet affordability ranks 114th in the world.

"To afford mobile internet, Nigerians have to work 183 times more (15 min/month) than Israeli citizens, for whom the most affordable 1GB

package costs only 5 s of work monthly.

"Meanwhile, fixed broadband costs Nigerian citizens around 36 hours 13 minutes of their precious working time each month," it informed. Furthermore, Nigeria's internet quality, considering internet speed, stability, and growth, ranks 99th in the world and is 26% worse than the global average.

"Since last year, mobile internet speed in Nigeria

has improved by 10.8% (2.5 Mbps), and fixed broadband speed has grown by 15.9% (2.6 Mbps).

"Compared to South Africa, Nigeria's mobile internet is 2 times slower, while broadband is 3 times slower.

"Out of all index pillars, Nigeria's weakest spot is internet affordability, which needs to improve by 13970% to match the best-ranking country's result (Israel's).

"Global overview: Overall, 7 out of 10 highest-scoring countries are in Europe, which has been the case for the past three years.

"Israel ranks 1st in DQL 2022 pushing Denmark to the second place after its two-year lead. Germany ranks 3rd, and France and Sweden round up the top five of the 117 evaluated nations. Congo DR, Yemen, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Cameroon are the bottom five countries."



## NDLEA Apprehends Another Billionaire Drug Baron, Recovers N8.8bn Worth Tramadol In Lagos Mansion

who is the Chairman of Autonation Motors Ltd is coming barely two months after NDLEA uncovered a methamphetamine clandestine laboratory in the residence of another drug kingpin in the estate, Chris Emeka Nzewi, who was arrested on Saturday 30th July along with a chemist, Sunday Ukah, who cooked the illicit drug for him.

At least, 258.74 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine and various precursor chemicals used for the production of the toxic drug were recovered from Nzewi's home during his arrest.

Following credible intelligence, NDLEA operatives on Friday 30th September stormed the Plot A45 Road 2 home of the 52-year-old billionaire drug kingpin.

A search of the expansive mansion led to the discovery of 443 cartons of Tramadol Hydrochloride 225mg, which contains 13, 451, 466 pills of the drug while some cartons were already burnt in a fire incident in the house same day.

Before his arrest, Ugochukwu who hails from Ihiala local government area of Anambra state has been on the Agency's watch list as one of those behind the tramadol drug cartel in Nigeria.



The agency's Director, Media & Advocacy Femi Babafemi made the disclosure in a release made available to journalists on Monday.

He stated further that preliminary investigation showed that the suspect has about six mansions within the VGC, one of which he uses to warehouse the

tramadol consignment, while he lives in the one at Plot Z-130 Road 67 and another as his office.

Five exotic vehicles have also been located in two of his mansions, out of which two SUVs including a bullet jeep have been successfully removed to the Agency's facility.

Reacting to the latest drug haul, Chairman/Chief Executive of NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Retd) commended the officers and men involved in the operation for their diligence while also appreciating Nigerians for supporting the Agency in its arduous task of ridding the country of the menace of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking.

According to him, "I'll like to reassure Nigerians and other stakeholders wherever they are located across the country and beyond of our preparedness to work with them on this onerous task of saving our people from the drug scourge.

This partnership is a further warning to the drug barons and cartels that there is no hiding place for them anymore, because we remain on their trail and we'll always get them."

## Apostolic Church Allegedly Suspends Pastor For Hosting YPP's Thanksgiving, Dedication In Akwa Ibom *\*Police seals another church*

**By; PATRICK TITUS,** Two days earlier, while the YPP officials were trying to secure a church for the dedication of its national assembly campaigns due to start on October 3, 2022, the Apostolic Mount Olive Church in Awa Iman, Gov Emmanuel's village, which was the initial venue, was sealed off by policemen from Ikot Akpan Abia, allegedly on the orders of the government.

Thugs were also deployed to block off the entrance of the church on Sunday morning, in anticipation that YPP will force its way there, after the preacher-in charge, Prophet David, had earlier been warned not to host the party.

Undeterred by this alleged persecution, the governorship candidate of the Young Progressives Party (YPP) and frontline runner for the Hilltop Mansion in Akwa Ibom State, Sen. Albert Bassey Akpan a.k.a OBA stressed that only God enthrones and unseats governments.

"God unseats governments and enthrones governments and that same God who made Obong Attah governor; who made Godswill Akpabio governor; and who made Udom Emmanuel governor, will also make me governor", the senator declared.

He added: "We are a people others rejected, but God saw our

sincerity of mind and is using us to achieve His purpose".

OBA then predicted that YPP will shock other parties, through the mass support of the people so that "when we come in, we will not behave like them."

OBA said like God told Samuel, God is going to do something in Akwa Ibom that ears will hear and marvel.

He lamented a situation where YPP has been blocked from all the public venues in the state, including Ibom Hall, Ikot Ekpen Stadium and even some

churches in Onna.

YPP is the party with the strongest candidates, he said, adding, "You must not belong to occultic circles before they give you opportunity".

OBA also questioned why the member of Mbo defected but his seat was not declared vacant in the state House of Assembly, but when Usoro Akpanusoh and Asuquo Nanna were suspected to belong to YPP, their seats were declared vacant.

"Whether they like it or not, Akwa Ibom will be free", he

said, adding that "YPP is for service to the people and now is the time".

Akparawa Ephraim Inyangeyen, speaking on behalf of other candidates, made a covenant with God and pledged that when they become victorious, he will sponsor the refurbishment of the entire church.

As a secret for constant replenishing, Inyangeyen encouraged people to always sow into God's hand and expect multiplication, later.

In his homily, Apostle Evans Adam said God was prepared to take Akwa Ibom out of misery. "For every generation, God prepares a man that will transit the people to a destination. He may not be our choice but God prepares him for the next champion. May you never miss the opportunity God has given to us by choosing and voting wrongly", he said.

Drawing from Ezekiel 21: 27, Adam said: "God will overturn because he has heard the cries of his people, not to please a man" he added.

The pastor also said God will pick a man after his heart; a man with a track record and legacy to change the story of the people for the better.

"When God sends a Moses, he sends a man who has felt the pain before. He sends a man that has left a legacy...He sends a man that has the power and influence to help the people to do the right thing", he added.

"If you follow a man that knows the way, you will not miss the way", Adam said. He then urged the people to vote for transformational leadership identified by its selfless contributions, when the time comes, to "push God's agenda".

While dedicating the National Assembly campaigns, Prophet David Udo Udo, reading from Lev 26:36, prayed God to use "the sound of a shaken leaf" to change many Akwa Ibom voters in favour of the Young Progressives Party (YPP).



Pics of YPP Thanksgiving and dedication service in Onna on Sunday



# Nigeria @ 62, Gombe @ 26: In Spite Challenges, We Have So Much To Celebrate - Governor Inuwa

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya says in spite of all the challenges confronting Nigeria, there is so much to celebrate, "particularly the fact that we are still together as an entity and hopeful that the lofty height of greatness we covet is still within our reach to accomplish".

According to a statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs)

Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, in a message to mark the 62nd

Independence of Nigeria and the 26th anniversary of the creation of Gombe State, Governor Inuwa urged the citizenry not to despair, but to keep hope alive in the quest to build a prosperous state and nation "as envisioned by our founding fathers".

He said though Nigeria is passing through tough times occasioned by insecurity, the socio-economic effect of the war in Ukraine among others, the challenges confronting the nation are not insurmountable,

urging the people of Gombe state and Nigerians in general, to rekindle their hopes and renew their commitment and love for the country.

While calling on the people to see the greatness and prospects of Gombe state and the country as a motivating factor, the Governor urged that "as the country celebrates its 62nd independence anniversary, all hands must be on deck to foster unity, peace, security and understanding regardless of our differences".

He noted that in spite of all the challenges facing the country right now, there is so much to celebrate, "particularly the fact that we are still together as an entity and hopeful that the lofty height of greatness we covet is still within our reach to accomplish".

Underscoring the importance attached to the twin celebration, Governor Inuwa said "for us in Gombe State, it is a double celebration: we are marking the 62nd independence as a nation and the 26th year anniversary of

the creation of our dear state".

He reassured that under his leadership, Gombe state will continue to wax stronger in all facets of human endeavours, vowing to keep initiating people-oriented policies and programmes that will better the lots of the people and the state.

"Since assuming office in May 2019, I emphasised the importance of eschewing short-term expediency and gains, and instead committed to implementing long-term

deepening democracy by actively participating in the electoral process.

He, however, called to exhibit decorum and maturity as well as shun all acts that will undermine the process.

While rejoicing with president Muhammadu Buhari and the entire nation on the auspicious occasion, Governor Inuwa Yahaya said that the celebration is an opportunity to continue to sustain the legacies of our heroes past.

solutions to deeply complex developmental problems. I firmly believe that by introducing better ways of doing things in government, we will not only address difficult developmental challenges but also establish a solid foundation for long lasting prosperity, peace and progress in our dear state".

As the campaigns for the 2023 elections begin in earnest, Governor Inuwa enjoined the people of Gombe state to continue to play their role in



## Nigerians Must Trust God To Use Ordinary People To Solve Country's Problems - SDP Presidential Candidate

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) presidential candidate, Prince Adewole Adebayo has said that in finding solutions to the problems of Nigeria, Nigerians must trust God to use ordinary people.

He said this on Sunday October 2, while speaking during the send forth programme for Bishop Dr John Eze at the

Liberation Methodist Church, in Gwarinpa Abuja, where he was invited as a guest speaker.

He said God does not work through people of physical majesty, but with people of humble hearts and diligence to serve.

"God does not work through men of valor, men who think they're big, or people of physical majesty. He works with people

with humble heart and diligence to serve"; and one of the problems we've been facing in this country is that we do not trust in God, we trust in men."

Prince Adebayo while commenting on the send forth of Bishop John Eze to Nsukka, described it as an opportunity to celebrate, because it is a fresh chance to spread the gospel.

"The way John Eze, bishop elect is going

to Nsukka where there is no cathedral; it is just a fresh ground to spread the gospel. That was how the Methodist Church came to Nigeria."

The SDP presidential candidate was accompanied by Pst Ade Alabi, Hon. Richard Oriri, Chief Godwin Osigbeme, Dr. Osaro Iredia and Amb. (Dr) Odion C. Okpebholo, Convener/National Coordinator UPPG.

## Work As A Team For Labour Party's Victory, Kaduna Guber Candidate Advises Support Groups

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

Barely two days after the ban on presidential campaign was lifted, Labour Party (LP), support groups have been advised to work as a team for the victory of the party at all levels.

The governorship candidate of the party in Kaduna State, Hon Jonathan Asake, gave the advise in Kaduna on Thursday, during the official unveiling by the party of Morrison Ikpeamaeze as

the state coordinator of all support groups in the state.

He stressed the need for the support groups to work for the success of the presidential, governorship, national and state assembly elections harmoniously.

The stakeholders meeting which was attended by about 60 support groups also had the deputy governorship candidate, Rt. Hon Bashir Aliyu, state party chairman, Auwal Tafoki, the

three senatorial flag bearers, House of Representatives and House of Assembly candidates.

A press release made available to journalists in Kaduna, signed by Asake's media aide, James Swam, quoted the gubernatorial candidate urging the support groups to work in harmony for the overall goal of winning the 2023 elections.

"The purpose of this meeting is to harmonise all support groups in the state under one umbrella

so as to be organised, focused and to achieve victory for our candidates.

"Labour Party has so many support groups. Before now, support groups have been operating individually, but from today, you will work as a team," he said.

Asake urged the various support groups to sacrifice now so that tomorrow will be better for everyone, saying the country

was in a bad shape and needed leaders that would fix it. He said only Labour Party, LP, had the blueprint to make the country work again.

The support groups coordinator, Morrison Ikpeamaeze, said he was humbled by the overwhelming trust reposed in him and called for unity and understanding.

He added that, "if these contestants have agreed that this is what they want, I believe we should work with them".



## Independence Anniversary: Nigeria's Democracy Yielding Dividends - Dr Wailare

By; JABIRU A. HASSAN, Kano

People's Democratic Party's (PDP) flagbearer from Dambatta/Makoda Federal Constituency, Dr. Saleh Musa Wailare has described Nigeria's democracy as profitable that has influenced national development that is being enjoyed today. He stated this in his 62nd Independence Anniversary message in Kano, adding that Nigeria is now growing in all sectors and from what is being seen, democracy is getting more strength despite some challenges that can be overcome in a little while.

Dr. Wailare said that, "Being an independent nation for 62 years, Nigeria is now one of the best countries across the African continent especially in the areas of democracy, economic progress and a nation which is rife for all aspects of investment opportunities that we can be proud of," he stressed. In conclusion, Dr. Saleh Musa Wailare thanked the people of Dambatta and Makoda Federal Constituency for supporting his candidature since he answered their call to aspire for the House of Representatives in the forthcoming 2023 general elections.

## Osun Guber: Federal High Court Judgement Won't Affect Tribunal Sitting - Chief Alliyu SAN

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Legal luminary, Chief Yomi Alliyu (SAN) on Saturday, was optimistic that the Federal High Court judgement voiding Gov Adegboyega Oyetola's nomination as All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate in the July 16 election, won't affect the sitting of the state election petition tribunal.

Chief Alliyu (SAN) stated this during a chat with the New Nigerian on the Federal High Court judgement on the nomination of Governor Oyetola as Osun state APC governorship candidate for the last July polls.

According to the legal luminary, Governor Oyetola will be filing an appeal on the judgement of the Federal High Court on Monday, "by all means".

"I was in total disbelief on hearing the news that the Federal High Court held that Gov Oyetola's nomination was void! The law sits on its head whenever election is around! However, *JEGEDE v. AKEREDOLU* CASE has shown that this is just a storm in a teacup", he said. Chief Alliyu (SAN) added, "the appeal should be filed on Monday by all means. However, the judgment does not affect the Tribunal since the FHC and Tribunals are deemed in law to have equal power being Courts of coordinate jurisdiction."

"Preliminary objection to the petition, if filed as it will, will also not work cos the Tribunal by law must hear both the petition and the objection together and by law it is mandated to give judgment on both on conclusion of the petition. So no cause for alarm."

## Evangelist Agu Resumes As Congregational Preacher Of Church Of Christ, Karu-Jikwoyi

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

It was a joyous moment of Praise, worship and admonition on Sunday as Evangelist Innocent Agu resumes as the Congregational Preacher of the Church Of Christ, Karu-Jikwoyi Congregations..

The brief unveiling ceremony took place at the church auditorium after the weekly church service. Speaking at the event, Evangelist Moses Obakemi of the Church of Christ Nyanya enjoined the new Preacher of the congregation to show strong commitment and dedication to duty. He enjoined him to be spiritually minded and focus as he prepares souls for heaven. He charged him to humble in service and not see himself as Lord over God's people.

He also charged the new Preacher and his family to maintain high moral standards as both the Church and community now see them as standards for measuring God's



people.

Evangelist Obakemi also charge members of the congregation to support the new Evangelist and take good care of him so that he would put in his best to grow the Church.

Also speaking, Evangelist Imoh Atakpa of the Church of Christ, Kubwa enjoined Preacher and congregants to be passionately committed to the course of heaven and the welfare of one another.

He admonish the church to brace up for more duties noting that the new preacher is coming with strong zeal to Reposition the church.

In his speech, The New Preacher promise to do all to ensure that the church grows spiritually and work in compliance with the Teachings and doctrines of Christ.

Evangelist Innocent Agu told members that his first task is to ensure total unity amongst Brethren. He pointed out that his main goal is to prepare believers for heaven and expand the frontiers of the gospel of Christ.

While thanking the Evangelists who graced the occasion, he called on members

to brace up for more works in God's vineyard.

Highpoint of the event was the offering of special prayers for the new Preacher, his family as well as the congregation

## 2023: It's Not Hate Speech, Fake News Or Thuggery That Make Contestants Victorious - Gov Bala

By; MOHAMMED KAWU, Bauchi

Governor Bala Mohammed of Bauchi State has counseled political parties, candidates and their supporters to note that it is not the amount of money, hate speech, fake news or political thuggery that would make contestants to emerge victorious during the elections.

According to the governor, the trio must conduct themselves according to the rules of the game, as contest for elective offices should not be seen as a do or die affair, bearing in mind that it is God Almighty that gives power to whoever He likes.

Senator Bala Mohammed in a message to the people of the state marking the 62nd Independence anniversary celebration, appealed to the people to rededicate themselves to the country, be patriotic and continue to pray to Almighty God to shower his mercy and blessings on

all to live in peace with one another and make Bauchi and Nigeria great.

"We are fast approaching the 2023 general elections, and the ban on electioneering campaigns for the Presidential and National Assembly elections has been lifted by the electoral umpire, INEC. I would therefore like to call all political parties, their candidates and supporters to conduct themselves in an orderly manner".

The Governor also called on Nigerians generally to reflect on the struggle and sacrifice of the nation's founding fathers and strive to ensure that their labour shall not be in vain, saying, they have sixty-two after independence belied the skepticism on their ability to govern themselves.

He emphatically said, "Today, we have shown to the world that we are not only able to govern ourselves, but are able to understand our differences, respect each other's values and unite

towards developing our country despite our diverse cultures".

Mohammed recalled that Nigeria, like many other countries, has in the process of its growth experienced a lot of turbulence in the last 62 years, as the country suffered serious setbacks in the political arena which seriously affected its political and economic growth.

Governor Bala explained that his administration has been constructing rural and urban roads network across the state with some on-going while most of them completed and put to use, adding several other projects have also been executed in the areas of education, health, housing, agriculture, water and power supply and poverty alleviation.

On spate of insecurity blowing across the country in the form of banditry, kidnapping and other violent crimes, the governor said that as responsible and responsive government in

Bauchi, the PDP administration in collaboration with security agencies has taken measures to protect the lives and property of its people.

Mohammed said however that the state government is not unmindful of the present hardship being experienced as a result of the downturn in the nation's economy, and therefore assured the people that palliative measures would continue to be taken with a view to cushioning the effect of the hardships on the people.

He assured that government would in addition seek other means and ways of improving the socio-economic condition of the generality of the people of the state through collaboration with public spirited organizations and individuals, stressing that with the support, understanding and cooperation of the people, the hardships shall be overcome.



# Nigeria @62: Feedback On Our Performance In Gombe, Outstanding, Encouraging - Gov Inuwa Yahaya

## *\*Thanks citizens for support*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

As Nigeria marked its 62nd Independence Anniversary on Saturday October 1, 2022, Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya is excited that citizens of the state are impressed by successes recorded under his administration since coming into office in 2019.

He expressed this in a broadcast to citizens of the state on Saturday, October 1.

"Despite all these accolades, there's no greater recognition than the support and cooperation our administration continues to enjoy from our people.

"In my daily interactions with individuals, groups and organizations, the feedback I receive on our overall performance has been outstanding and encouraging," he said.

According to Governor Inuwa Yahaya, "This support will come handy as we move towards all-important local and national elections in the next few months.

"We are going to campaign on our records and people will get the chance to choose between four more years of progress and responsive governance, and the uninspiring alternative that's being dangled before them by the opposition," he said.

Read the full text of the broadcast below:

TEXT OF A STATEWIDE BROADCAST BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF GOMBE STATE, MUHAMMADU INUWA YAHAYA ON THE OCCASION OF NIGERIA'S 62ND INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY AND GOMBE STATE'S 26TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, OCTOBER 1ST, 2022

My Dear People of Gombe State

It is with gratitude to Allah (SWT) that I address you today on the occasion of Nigeria's 62nd Independence Anniversary celebration. For us in Gombe State, today is a day of double celebration as it also coincides with the 26th Anniversary of the creation of our dear State. The occasion also provides us an opportunity to reflect on what we did and what we need to do in order to actualize the dreams of our founding fathers of building a peaceful, all-inclusive, cohesive and prosperous state.

2. The struggles for the Independence of Nigeria and that for the creation of Gombe State share many similarities. Beside the common date of October 1st, both struggles were marked by collective sacrifice, undying commitment and shared hope in our future as one indivisible union.

3. The creation of Gombe State heralded a new era which enabled us to attain our rightful position in the history of this country. From relative obscurity, Gombe has risen to become one of the fastest developing states in Nigeria, surpassing its peers and predecessors. Twenty-Six years down the line, Gombe State has remained faithful to the dreams of its founding fathers. By leveraging on our unity in diversity, faith in God, rich heritage, abundant human and material resources, the jewel in the savannah is shining brightly atop the entire country.

4. Last year, we celebrated our silver jubilee and paid special tribute to all successive administrations, individuals and organizations for the various roles they played in the development of Gombe State. We demonstrated how our relentless march towards progress relies on three major attributes: our unity in diversity, the amazing resourcefulness of our hard-working people, and the spirit of continuity in governance.

5. It is my great honor to witness this important milestone as Governor, and to lead Gombe into a new era of progress and prosperity. I am conscious of the weight of responsibilities that history has placed on my shoulders. I'm committed, together with your support and prayers, to steer the ship of our collective destiny towards progress.

6. Our journey after attaining statehood is not without its challenges. However, with your support and prayers, there are no challenges that are not surmountable. There is no limit to what we can achieve as a people. We have been able to prove that Gombe is capable of becoming a bastion of peace and stability despite the scourge of Boko Haram insurgency and other security challenges in the North-east subregion and the country at large.

7. Over the past three and half years, our record speaks for

itself. Our approach to governance has been pragmatic, evidence-based and prudent; one that is guided by the need of our people and the realities of our finances. We have been able to consolidate on past gains, complete projects started or abandoned by previous administrations, break new grounds and initiated new reforms and projects. Some of our achievements so far include:

The charting of a long-term road map for the development of Gombe State as encapsulated in the 10-year Development Agenda for Gombe State (DEVAGOM), which is the first of its kind in the history of our state, and fully aligned with the United Nations sustainable development goals.

Massive infrastructural development in all spheres of development, especially the Network 11-100 project, with over 500km of rural and urban roads constructed across our 11 LGAs

Remobilization of contractors for the completion of the abandoned Gombe Mega Motor Park project.

Construction and renovation of over 1200 classrooms in various schools across the state

Upgrading of 5 Legacy Secondary Schools to Mega Schools that are capable of accommodating up to 15000 students with special facilities.

Mopping up of over 400,000 out-of-school children through BESDA

Recruitment of 1000 teachers through the Teachers' Service Commission to address the human resource gap in the education sector.

Provision of 1 fully functional PHC in each of the 114 wards across the state

The establishment of Hospitals Services Management Board to improve service delivery in our hospitals.

Upgrade of the State Specialist Hospital Gombe, General Hospitals Kaltungo and Bajoga.

Construction of a brand new 200-bed capacity General Hospital in Kumo

Construction of brand new 600-student capacity College of Nursing and Midwifery.

Provision of affordable health coverage to over 100,000 residents of the State, including over 40,000 poor and vulnerable under the GoHealth scheme

Expansion and rehabilitation of the Gombe Regional Water Supply Scheme, and other water and sanitation interventions through PEWASH, RUWASSA, etc.

Unprecedented reforestation campaign through the Gombe Goes Green (3G) project that has seen the planting of over 3 million trees to combat deforestation and soil erosion.

Rehabilitation of the 7.5km monstrous gully traversing GSU to Mallam-Inna.

The ongoing construction of the Muhammadu Buhari Industrial Park in order to harness our huge economic potentials.

The establishment of Gombe State Geographic Information System (GOGIS) to reform land administration in the state.

Establishment of the Bureau of Public Service Reforms to improve productivity and performance in the civil service.

Youth empowerment through the At-Risk Children Project (ARC-P); Gombe State, Security, Traffic, Environmental Corps (GOSTEC); KEKE rider's scheme, joint skills development initiatives with ITF etc

And many other policies, programs and projects that impact directly on the lives of our people.

8. The above reforms and projects have earned us national and international recognition. Only recently, our state was



Gov Inuwa Yahaya

invited to share the experiences behind our success in health system reforms at the world-renowned Royal Institute of International Affairs, popularly known as the Chatham House. You may also recall that at the beginning of this year, our state was adjudged the best state in the entire country in terms of ease of doing business, a testament to our success in transforming Gombe into the commercial hub of the North-east subregion. In the next few days, all eyes will be on Gombe as we host the First-ever Gombe State Investment Summit. The summit will bring business leaders from within and outside the country, showcase our huge investment potentials, and attract the much-needed investments in targeted sectors of our economy and livelihood.

9. Despite all these accolades, there's no greater recognition than the support and cooperation our administration continues to enjoy from our people. In my daily interactions with individuals, groups and organizations, the feedback I receive on our overall performance has been outstanding and encouraging. This support will come handy as we move towards all-important local and national elections in the next few months. We are going to campaign on our records and people will get the chance to choose between four more years of progress and responsive governance, and the uninspiring alternative that's being dangled before them by the opposition.

10. As the political season kicks-off, I implore on all stakeholders to play by the rules, embrace peace and eschew political violence and blackmail. Our administration is committed, in line with the reforms introduced by President Muhammadu Buhari, to provide a level-playing ground for all parties. However, our commitment to the rule of law and democratic tenets should not be mistaken for timidity. As the chief security officer of the state, I will stand firm and deal decisively with any individual or group seeking to disturb our peace for political gains. The peace and security of our State are non-negotiable. The peace and stability of Gombe State is bigger than the political ambition of any individual or group.

11. Let me conclude by paying special tribute to the good people of Gombe State for your constant support and prayers. I call on you all to continue praying for peace and security in our dear state and Nigeria at large, especially as we transit into a new administration. I would like to also pay special tribute to our founding fathers who have paid the ultimate price for Gombe State and the Nigerian federation. Their sacrifice will always be remembered. On our part, we pledge to carry on with the struggle so as to actualize their dreams.

To borrow from our national anthem: 'the labour of our heroes' past shall never be in vain.' May Allah (SWT) make it easy for all of us.

Thank you for listening.

God bless you all!

God bless Gombe State!!

God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria!!!



unicef   
for every child

## FG, UNICEF Sign Handover Protocol To Protect Children Encountered During Military Operations

By ; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The Federal Government and UNICEF on Friday, signed an agreement on the protection and welfare of children encountered by Nigeria's security agencies during military operations.

The handover protocol is the first civil human rights instrument to specifically cover the transfer, custody, and care of children in North-East Nigeria and minors from other nationalities, who escape or are rescued from armed groups.

A statement issued on Friday by the UNICEF Communications Officer, Borno State, Ms. Folashade Adebayo and made available to newsmen in Maiduguri, said under the new protocol, children either recruited and used as child soldiers or detained on the suspicion of affiliation to armed groups, shall be immediately or within a maximum of seven days, transferred to safe shelters where they can access basic services, including medical, food and psychosocial support.

It added that children played no part in the creation of the conflict that has ravaged North-East Nigeria, decimated livelihood and disrupted the provision of the most basic services, while more than 6,400 grave violations of children's rights in the region have been verified since the start of the conflict.

"And 5.4 million children currently need urgent humanitarian assistance.

Food insecurity, acute malnutrition, recruitment and use of children by armed groups, abductions as well as killings of children are some of the devastating badges of the protracted conflict," UNICEF said.

According to the statement, between 2013 and 2020, more than 4,787 children were killed in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States, according to the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) established by the United Nations in 2014.

While since the beginning of the conflict, more than 90 per cent of indirect deaths, about 324,000, were of under-five children.

"Today marks the beginning of a long recovery process for millions of conflict-affected children in north-east Nigeria," said Cristian Munduate, UNICEF Representative in Nigeria. "Today, we choose to stand up for children against the violation of their rights and the abduction of our future. This protocol represents a safety net and a voice for helpless children.

"Now, we must work harder to prevent abductions and the recruitment and use of children by armed groups. We must ensure that no child encountered during counter-offensives languish in the custody of security agencies.

"UNICEF is excited about the prospect of recovery for children caught in the web of armed conflict and the impact of their healing on our world," the statement said.

## Umahi's Legacy Projects Assure Realization Of Our Collective Dreams - Commissioner

By ; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

The Commissioner for Trade and Investment in Ebonyi State, Barr. (Mrs) Chioma Nweze has commended the unimaginable infrastructural development taking place across the state, courtesy of Engr. David Nweze Umahi, stating that the legacy projects which are generously sprinkled across every corner of the state, have successfully deflated the bulging balloons of backwardness and ensured faster realization of their collective dreams as a people.

In her Independent Anniversary message, the Commissioner stated that 26 years of creation of Ebonyi State and Nigeria at 62, firmly depicts the collective journey into statehood and nationhood, while political journey is full of courage and perseverance.

She further noted that Umahi has won the war against underdevelopment, and backwardness witnessed in the state right from its creation having restored the lost Glory of Ebonyi state.

"On behalf of my family and the Management and staff of Ministry of Trade

and Investment Ebonyi State, I heartily congratulate my fellow countrymen and women on the symbolic occasion of Nigeria's 62nd Independence anniversary celebration.

"As proud Nigerians, Independence Day is significant as it commemorates the valour and spirit of the freedom fighters and brave hearts, who defiantly liberated us from colonial rule.

"As we delightfully toast to 26 years of creation of Ebonyi State and 62 years of nationhood, it can be firmly stated that our collective journey into statehood, nationhood and political leadership remains a story of courage and perseverance.

"On this twin celebration, I most heartily salute, congratulate and celebrate a phenomenal leader and trailblazer, His Excellency, Engineer David Umahi, the mother of the state, Chief Mrs Rachel Umahi, the Deputy Governor, Dr Kelechi Igwe, and all leaders at all levels across the state for excellent leadership trajectory.



Barrister Nweze

"As we appraise our collective journey and all the issues that impact on our polity we acknowledge, shoulders high, many pioneering indelible landmark infrastructural projects across various sectors of Ebonyi state which have cloaked Ebonyi in gold-plated armour as the infrastructural showcase of the Southeastern region.

"Your Excellency, our hardworking Governor, your legacy projects which are generously sprinkled across every corner of the state have

successfully deflated the bulging balloons of backwardness and ensured faster realization of our collective dreams as a people. You have singlehandedly won the war against underdevelopment, and aggressively sustaining it.

"On this premise, and with full gratitude to God, I celebrate and extend warm congratulations to you, your lovely family and the entire organogram of Ebonyi State leadership, while pledging my continuous support to your progressive government".

## Ebonyi MASSCOM Professor Dies At 60, Laid To Rest

By ; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

The people of Ogharugo Umuoghara, Ezza North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State have mourned the sudden demise of their son and in-law, late Professor Hygeinus N. Aligwe, who died at the age of 60 years.

The burial service which took place at St. Pius Parish, Ogharugo Umuoghara, witnessed great turnout of friends and well wishers from all walks of life, who came to sympathize and pay their last respect to the late professor.

While delivering his homily, the parish priest in charge of St. Pius Parish

Ogharugo, Umuoghara in Ezza North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Rev. Fr. Chukwuma Agha Ewa, charged Christians to always place priority in their spiritual lives and have good relationship with God to ensure their eternal life.

Rev. Fr. Ewa further said that God has given everyone on earth an opportunity to repent and live a holy life by sacrificing His only begotten son to save mankind from destruction, urging Christians to remain steadfast and committed in serving God with everything they have in order to make heaven at

last. Speaking with newsmen after the burial, the Head of Mass Communication Department, Ebonyi State University, Dr Agatha Orji Egwu, stated that the sudden departure of late Prof. Hygeinus Aligwe came as a rude shock to everybody, saying that the entire department and Ebonyi University as a whole, has lost an icon; an academic giant and a renowned professor who has distinguished himself in every aspect of human endeavour.

She encouraged the family of the deceased to take solace in the Lord, since only Him knows the best. Also speaking, a senior lecturer in the Department

of Mass Communication, Dr Samuel Nweze noted that late Professor Aligwe died when his services to humanity were needed most, but the legacies he left behind will continue to speak for him always.

He therefore, prayed God to grant his soul eternal rest.

The burial was attended by dignitaries from within and outside the state, including a former Secretary to Ebonyi State Government, Dr Boniface Chima; the Chairman of Ebonyi State Universal Basic Education, Chief Hycent Ikpor, Prof Joseph Afiukwa, Prof Ngozi Emeka Nwobia, Prof. Jonathan Aliede, Prof. Ifeyinwa Nsude, among others.



## Osun Guber: No Regrets Over Legal Battle With Senator Adeleke - Babayemi

### \*Congratulates Adeleke, PDP

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) governorship aspirant in Osun State, Omooba Dotun Babayemi on Friday, said he has no regrets whatsoever over his legal battle with the state's governor-elect, Senator Ademola Adeleke over the party's governorship ticket.

Omooba Babayemi in a statement stressed that the exploration of the legal process was good for the country's democracy and that efforts at ensuring that Osun State becomes one of the best states in Nigeria as envisioned by the founding fathers, should be the task for its indigenes and residents.

In the statement personally signed by him, Omooba Babayemi congratulated the Governor-elect, Senator Ademola Adeleke, the PDP and the people of Osun state on the decision of the apex court on the pre election case.

"For us, the legal journey was a long walk and

worthwhile with no iota of regret. The kernel of our case at the Supreme Court was not reviewed as it was decided on technical grounds. Above all, no regrets", he said.

Omooba Babayemi added, "I want to wish the Governor-elect, Senator Ademola Adeleke, the PDP and the good people of Osun the very best as a new administration under the PDP prepares to berth in Osun. I pray it will bring about the long awaited turn around to the state and its people".

Commending his legal team, especially Barrister Edmund Biromoini, for the efforts and time invested into the litigation process while it lasted, Omooba Babayemi thanked leaders of the party, his supporters, party members and the people of the state for standing solidly behind him



Governor-elect,  
Senator Ademola Adeleke

throughout the struggle.

"From the depth of my heart, I want to thank everyone for their wonderful support in various forms. I'm indeed very grateful. I want to plead that we ensure that nothing breaks our resolve at making sure that Osun never lags behind

developmentally".

He however, called on PDP members and the people of the state to continue to support things that would always aid the growth of the state, appealing as well that they should continue to be law-abiding.

## Katsina Information Ministry Holds Routine Management Meeting With Agencies Heads

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Ministry of Information, Culture and Home Affairs has organized a routine management meeting with the heads of parastatals under the ministry.

Speaking at the occasion, the state Commissioner of Information, Alhaji Abdulkarim Yahaya Sirika revealed that the meeting was organized to discuss the progress from various parastatals of the ministry.

He said the meeting would also assist in creating synergy among the various parastatals of the ministry as it serves as voice of government, there is need of working together.

Alhaji Abdulkarim Yahaya Sirika who used the occasion to call on state owned media stations to give all necessary support towards promoting government's image, also admonished Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to patronise them in showcasing their activities.

The commissioner further

commended the present Governor Bello Masari-led administration for his concerns, especially in terms of promotion of staff when due.

Also speaking, the Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Alhaji Sani Bala Kabomo noted that the meeting is organized annually to review the activities of the ministry ahead of budget preparation.

According to him, the meeting would enable the ministry to scrutinize and provide comprehensive report for a smooth budget presentation.

Alhaji Sani Bala Kabomo also assured that the ministry would continue doing its best to reciprocate the gesture.

The representative of parastatals that attended the event included, the General Manager of Katsina State Radio Service, Malam Abba Dayyabu Safana and his counterpart of Katsina State Television (KTTV), Malam Sani Garba Kuringafa, Executive Director Library Board as well as Government Printer, Sada Dutsinma, among others.

## PSC Elevated 417 Senior Officers, Appoints 2 DIGs, Approves Promotion Exams For Police Officers

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Police Service Commission (PSC) has approved the promotion of four hundred and seventeen Senior Police Officers (417).

It also approved promotion examinations for police officers, scheduled to start in 2023 in line with the Public Service Rules.

These were the highpoints of the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Commission holding in Abuja and presided over by Justice Clara Bata Ogunbiyi, JSC (rtd), acting Chairman of the Commission.

The Commission made the disclosure in a release by Ikechukwu Ani, Head Press and Public Relations unit on Friday, September 30th 2022.

According to the release, the commission also approved the appointment of AIG Bello A. Sadiq, currently AIG Zone 1, Kano and AIG Dandaura Mustapha, AIG Zone 4, Makurdi, to the substantive rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police. While the new DIG Sadiq was appointed to fill the vacant position of DIG, Force Intelligence Bureau (FIB), DIG Dandaura whose appointment takes effect from October 20th, 2022 will be replacing, DIG Sadiq who is expected to retire from the service on the said date.

" The Commission further approved the

promotion of twelve Commissioners of Police to the next rank of Assistant Inspector General of Police. The new AIGs are: CP Egbetokun Olukayode Adeolu, Admin Medical, Falamo, Lagos; CP Emienbo Tony Tuesday Assayomo, Kwara State Command; CP Christiana Ibisoo Cookey, Welfare, Force Headquarters; CP Evelyn Tamunoimi Peterside, Eastern Port and CP Eboka Friday, Rivers State Command.

" Others are: CP Adesina Musbau Soyemi, Nasarawa State Command; CP Asafa Adekunle, CMOT, FCT; CP Edward Chuka Egbuka, Kogi State Command; CP Janet Agbede, Abia State Command; CP Oruebo Josiah Daso, Research and Development, FHQ; CP Olokode Taoheed Olawale, Osun State Command; and CP Abutu Yaro, Edo State Command.

" Fifty seven Assistant Commissioners of Police were also promoted to Deputy Commissioners of Police. They include; ACP Suel Yerima Gimba; ACP Alhaji Mohammed Danladi; ACP Richard Bala Gara; ACP Lasis Titilola; ACP Obuagbaka John and ACP Aliko Mohammed Dankoli.

" Others also include; ACP Silas Bamidele Aremu; ACP Sylvester Onyie Uzoefuna; ACP Shaq Ismail Salihu; ACP

Magaji Ismaila; ACP Ali Garba Sarbi; ACP Theodore Chukwuemeka Obasi and ACP Sarah Idowu Ehindero among others

" Other approvals also include: Sixty Chief Superintendents of Police to the rank of Assistant Commissioners of Police. Included among the newly promoted ACPs are; CSP Odion Benedict Aire; CSP Garba Sule yaro; CSP Abayomi Akinpelu Oni; CSP Badamasi Musa former DPO 9th Mile Division, Enugu; CSP Rabiou Musa and CSP Bamidele Awoniyi.

" The Commission further approved the promotion of two hundred and eighty six Superintendents of Police to Chief Superintendents.

" They include; SP Joseph Sunday Eyanagho, Osun State Command; SP Oluwatoyin Joseph Adesope, Anambra State Command; SP Christopher D, Chiroma, SIB Sokoto; SP Ugochukwu Kingsley Ijeoma, DPO Omoku, Rivers State; SP Emmanuel Okwudili Nwangwu, Commander EOD Base 6 Port Harcourt; SP Moses Maku, FCT Command; SP Numan Umaru Ismaila, Bauchi State Command; SP Uchenna Noah, Commander Anambra State Special Anti Cult Squad; SP Jummai Omata Kuforiji; SP Ugah Okoh Joseph; SP Makama Evans Linus; SP Dahiru Nda

Ibrahim; SP Ibrahim Ignatius; SP Mohammad Bashir; SP Dorothy Igweze, Enugu state Command; SP Joseph Ugwu Onaji, FCIID and SP Andrew Mgbabor, Lagos State Command among others.

" The Commission had earlier approved the commencement of Promotion Examinations for Police Officers from 2023. The Commission took notice of the Public Service Rules 020701, 020702, 020703 and 160304 which prescribed examinations as one of the conditions for promotions in the Public Service and approved that henceforth promotion examination will be a pre-requisite for promotions in the Nigeria Police Force.

" The Commission also approved the setting up of the Police Promotion Examination Board. The 11-Member Board will have a representative of the Nigeria Police Force who must not be below the rank of a Deputy Inspector General of Police.

"The on-going 15th Plenary Meeting of the Commission will resume on Thursday, October 6th 2022 with an interactive meeting with Deputy Commissioners of Police recommended for promotion to the rank of Commissioners of Police", it stated.



## Ninzo Youth Group Constitutes Interim Executive Committee



Alhaji Umar Musa

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

A new executive committee has been inaugurated for the growth and development of the Ninzo Youth Apex Sociocultural Group (NPY).

This followed the dissolution of the former executive committee which had over stayed its tenure by close to three years in office, without recourse and respect for the constitution of the NPY.

The deliberate refusal by the former leadership of the body to call for congresses in the last three years in line with the constitution was what compelled members of the who have supreme powers to converge on Tattaura Village in Ninzo Chiefdom to dissolve the erstwhile exco and constitute an interim leadership with a view to organising a fresh election for the smooth administration of the youth body.

Members of the congress had repeatedly implored the outgone exco to call congresses, but the clarion appeal fell on deaf ears.

Feeling dissatisfied, the congress summoned an emergency meeting in accordance with the dictates of their constitution, a notice was immediately greeted with a counter emergency exco meeting by the former leadership in Abuja, through a circular by a fake secretary, who was appointed by the former leadership of the group.

Having sensed a looming constitutional danger, the former chairman explored other possible avenues to

persuade members of to shelve their planned action as well as a possible soft landing via a proposed congress by his group, hence constituting a laughable electoral committee.

However, not satisfied with his usual antics, the congress converged on Tattaura on Saturday, October 1, 2022 and boldly dissolved and constituted an interim leadership for the group.

Those elected on the interim leadership include; Engr Ugah Anto as chairman, Mr. Stephen Ambi Secretary, Sam Audu, Treasurer, while Mr. Emmanuel Audu Kalla emerged as PRO, as well as Mr Manasseh Musa to serve as the Ex-Officio.

Meanwhile, the NPY emergency congress was peaceful with a large turnout of members from across the country.

In his inaugural speech, the interim chairman of NPY, Engr Ugah Anto thanked members for the degree of confidence reposed on him and expressed his readiness to work vigorously towards taking the group to the next level of greatness.

Engr Ugah Anto also appealed to members to close their ranks and bury their differences in the interest of peace and development of Ninzo chiefdom.

Meanwhile, members of the congress have proceeded to the palace of the Paramount Ruler of Ninzo, Alhaji Umar Musa to pay homage and to present the newly inaugurated interim executive committee for royal blessings.

## Nigeria @62: SDP Presidential Candidate Tasks Citizens On Choosing A New Path For Nation

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

In commemorating Nigeria's 62nd independence anniversary, the social democratic party (SDP) presidential candidate, Prince Adewole Adebayo has urged Nigerian citizens to come together and to form a people's republic where the welfare, the safety and security of the common person is paramount to the state.

Prince Adebayo made this known on Saturday 1st October, in his speech to mark Nigeria's independence.

He said despite the country having faced its highs and lows, this marks an opportunity to choose a new direction and to do

what is right as citizens.

"Today marks 62 years since we gained sovereignty from the United Kingdom of Great Britain. For a nation, such as ours and for any person who has spent 62 years there will be a lot of stories to tell; there will be low moments and high moments, there will be moments that will make us to question whether all of this is even worth it at all".

"But there are some moments like this when despite how many years we've been in the wilderness, we are coming to a junction where we have an opportunity to travel a road less traveled to make a pivot to choose a new direction, to do for ourselves what we ought to do to ourselves a long

time ago, to form a people's republic where the welfare and the safety and security of the common person is paramount to the state."

He noted that Nigerians should be grateful to the nation's founding fathers for gaining independence from British rule, and forge ahead in doing the right thing by voting in good governance, in order to get it right for the future generation.

"We also owe ourselves justice to do unto others only that which we want to do to ourselves and in this coming year we owe ourselves a special duty of commitment to the course of progress.

"We need to perform our civic duty in a manner which speaks truth to our

desire for a good country, we need to vote in a good government that serves the interests of the Nigerian people."

The SDP Presidential candidate revealed that the Social Democratic Party is ready to offer investment in the welfare of the people, abolition of poverty and insecurity, the enthronement of justice, equity and fairness, and the inculcation of competence, character and commitment as ethos of good governance.

"In the contest that is coming, we will prove to you that we merit your confidence and we can earn your support. I wish every Nigerian a hearty 62nd independence celebration God bless Nigeria".



## Mechanic Village In Uyo Shut Down Indefinitely Over Violence

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

Activities at the Mechanic Village in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital have been shut down indefinitely, following a crisis between its operators on Friday.

A statement signed by Local Government Council Secretary, Mr. Ubong Udofia on behalf of the Chairman, made available to New Nigerian, stated that the decision for the closure is

to forestall further break down of law and order within the area.

Accordingly, the chairman of the Council, Dr. Uwemedimo Udo, has directed security officials to continue to maintain adequate security around the facility and the entire area until investigations are completed and normalcy returns.

Eye witnesses who pleaded anonymity said that the violence started about 11am after a disagreement by two two

spare parts dealers in the market and escalated into a free for all fight, leaving property worth millions of Naira destroyed while some traders were left with various degrees of injuries.

Free flow of traffic along Abak axis where the Mechanic Village is located, was blocked for about an hour, while the incident took place, until a detachment of mobile police arrived to restore calm.

Police Public Relations

Officer (PPRO) in the state, SP Odiko MacDon who could not be reached for comment on the number of arrests made, was yet to issue a statement on the incident as at when this report was filed.

Mechanic Village In Uyo is a location approved by government to accommodate cluster of motor spare parts dealers and mechanics and other allied services to carry out their trade within Uyo metropolis.



## 2023: Obi Supporters Storm Kaduna Markets, Distribute Awareness Aprons

By; **ALEX UANGBAOJE, Kaduna**

Supporters of Labour Party's Presidential Candidate, Peter Obi and his Vice, Ahmed Datti, on Wednesday, stormed markets in Kaduna State to distribute Aprons and stickers as part of strategy to sensitize traders on how to vote and create awareness about their principal.

Kaduna State governor, Nasir el-Rufai, had through a twitter post while reacting to a tweet from one supporter of Peter Obi, @ZamarOmar who wrote "Kaduna Two Million March for Peter Obi", said the proposed 2 million-man march in Kaduna for Peter Obi is only a daydream as the chances of getting 200 supporters for the march is not certain.

But this Ebiega, said would shock the governor because people from all tribes are religion are tired of the current situation in the country and are ready for a new Nigeria with OBIDATTI.

"The responses from traders and others here in the market is very encouraging, you can see that everyone is clamouring for a change, they all want a new Nigeria with a better economy and security and only Peter Obi can deliver that and I can assure you we are going to deliver Kaduna for OBIDATTI come 2023.



"People are already tired, the economy is harsh on the people and virtually all Kaduna residents have been grossly affected in way or the other with insecurity problem in the State". She said.

A 75-year old woman, Mrs Ojoma Onalu, who was optimistic that Obi, would bring about the needed change in Nigeria, laments that under the current government, most Nigerians are now living from hand to mouth without any hope of improvement.

She therefore, called on every Nigerian to vote Peter Obi, noting that he has the capacity to return the country back on track. On her part, LP, Women Leader Sabo ward, Mrs Pauline Ezekiel said the party's presidential candidate would bring the required change the poor have been clamouring for in Nigeria, and to that with the responses from the Nigeria people, it is obvious that they are ready to vote for OBIDATTI ticket.

Mr. Nwonsu Peter, a trader, who left his shop to join the group, noted that it is high time Nigerian youth stand up for the survival of their country, because they have been deceived severally.

"I joined this group because I believe Peter Obi is the only president that can save Nigeria from sinking". He said.

## Plateau Lawmaker Disburses N10,000 Each To 500 Women As Starter Packs

By; **BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos**

Over 500 women in Jos North Local Government Area have received ten thousand Naira each as starter packs for small and medium scale businesses. This is in addition to the 2,500 beneficiaries courtesy of Ibrahim Baba Hassan's plans and policies to enrol over 10,000 women into small and medium scale businesses as a panacea to entrepreneurial skills to enable them become more successful, at the event held at the State House of Assembly hall in Jos.

It would be recalled that during the graduation of over 4,000 at Islamiya Primary School last week, Ibrahim Baba Hassan assured citizens of Jos North Local Government Area of his desire to empower over 10,000 in the area.

The lawmaker did not renege on his words and continued to demonstrate that commitment by swinging into action in fulfillment of the promise he made so far, to take women out of poverty.

Baba Hassan explained that his benevolence cuts across ethnic, religious cultural and political divides as he empowers his constituents.

Aside from the N10,000 empowerment plans, the lawmaker reiterated his commitment to encourage twenty thousand women into skills acquisition to lessen the burden of their families and empower them to become self reliant and independent.

The Executive Chairman of Jos North Local Government Council, Shehu Bala Usman said that the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Jos North Local Government Area will enter the nooks

and crannies to deliver all candidates of the party and assured of his determination to lead the party to victory come 2023.

Some of the beneficiaries, Abigail Ashom, Akare Ishaya, Akutse Joseph and Aisha Abubakar as well as Rakiyatu Jibrin appreciated Ibrahim Baba Hassan for his benevolence in prioritizing the welfare and well-being of his constituents and prayed God grants him victory at the polls.

Similarly, member representing Jos North-North in the Plateau State House of Assembly, Ibrahim Baba Hassan has received Minders Support Group, Automobile Technicians Associations in Jos North, BABS Charity Foundation and APC Secretaries Association Jos North.

He expressed gratitude for

their cooperation and unflinching support, assuring that with his experience in the House, he will work closely with the youth and women, as well as enrol them into economic ventures and provide employment opportunities to all and sundry in the locality.

Leaders of the various groups, hailed the virtues of Baba Hassan in driving the ticket of the APC to deliver the seat to the party and assured him of their support at all times.

The occasion climaxed with the presentation of a branded car by the lawmaker's Charity Foundation to Baba Hassan to ease his campaign in addition to the presentation of an award of excellence by the foundation for his unique input in impacting positively on humanity.



## Why We Cancelled 1m-man March In Kaduna - Labour Party

By; **AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna**

A member of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the Labour Party (LP) and a senatorial candidate for Southern Kaduna senatorial zone, Engr. Michael Ayuba has noted that following fragile nature of Kaduna State and based on intelligence report available, the 1million march had been cancelled in the state.

He made the decision known in Kaduna on Thursday, during the harmonization of over 50

support groups in support of Peter Obi's presidency and all the party's candidates in the 2023 general elections.

According to him, after the meeting they would meet with the groups in order to identify with them, after which, they will publish their names in one of the national dailies. He explained, "We will work with security agencies to ensure that we hold the match in the next two weeks."

He enjoined the members of the party not to come out on Saturday (1st October), advising that all

stay at home as they are concerned about their well being is better they remain alive to mobilise for their candidates rather than losing their lives on the streets.

Earlier, Jonathan Asake, the gubernatorial candidate for Labour Party (LP) in Kaduna, Jonathan explained that the Obi Movement is turning into a revolution because of the disenchantment especially among the youths and the challenges other Nigerians are going through.

The newly elected

president of the Peter Obi's support groups in Kaduna State, Chief Morrison Ikpeamaze, expressed his joy over his election said God has vindicated him and promised to work hard for the overall success of the party in the state.

He said from today (Thursday) there's no faction in the Labour Party, noting, "let us unite and work as a team to surmount any problem that may be a hindrance to the success of the party from the presidency to the state level."



## NSCDC Kills Suspected Kidnapper In Ibadan, Foils Abduction Of Foreigner

*\*State Commandant says 7 others escape with bullet wounds*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Commandant of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), CC Michael Adaralewa on Thursday, said officers of the command on Wednesday, foiled attempts by eight suspected abductors to kidnap a foreigner on his farm in Ibadan.

Commandant Adaralewa stated this while speaking on the activities of the command at its headquarters at old NITEL building, Agodi area in Ibadan.

The Oyo State NSCDC

Commandant stressed that the eight suspected kidnappers reportedly invaded the foreigner's Easy Gate Farm along Abanla Ogunmakin Road, Ibadan shooting sporadically during which one of them was shot dead by officers of the command.

He stressed that the suspected kidnappers gained their entry into the farm to kidnap the owner, but met stiff resistance from gallant NSCDC officers who engaged them in gun duel.

"The suspected kidnappers numbering eight gained their entry to the farm to kidnap the

owner, who is a foreigner, but had to engage the gallant officers of the corps in a gun battle in which one of them was shot dead and others escaped with bullet wounds", he said

Commandant Adaralewa added, "the officers of the Corps yesterday around 1030hrs shot one suspected Kidnapper at Easy Gate Farm along Abanla Ogunmakin road Ibadan, in Oyo state."

He however urged the people of Oyo State to join hand with all Security operatives by giving credible information to them about what is happening in their

jurisdiction and also inform NSCDC or the sister agencies anytime they suspect anybody with bullet wound in other to arrest other members of the kidnapped gang that escaped with the bullet injuries.

"We are created to protect you, if you see something, please say something".

The command recalled that on June 1, 2022, the suspected kidnappers visited the farm to kidnap, in which one of their officers was shot during a gun battle before the reprisal attack that happened on September 28, 2022.

## Family Planning Stakeholders In Kaduna Raise Concern Over Non Release Of N250M Cash

By; ALEX UANGBAOJE, Kaduna

Stakeholders advocating for improved Family Planning (FP) services in Kaduna State on Thursday, raised concerns over the non cash backing of FP budget, months after the governor, Nasir el-Rufai approved the funds. It would be recalled that the Kaduna State Governor, approved the sum of N250m Family Planning Budget for release for the procurement of commodities in 2021.

However, months later, the cash is yet to be released to the agency responsible for the purchase of the items.

This delay prompted Family Planning Advocacy in Nigeria Initiative (FHANI), to bring all stakeholders working around FP to a high level roundtable meeting to discuss ways of getting the government to cash back the approved fund, supported by Pathfinder International.

According to a presentation by Nafisat Musa, Reproductive Health/Family Planning Coordinator of the State Primary Healthcare Development Board (SPHCDA), the state is 63 per cent stocked out of FP commodities and 100 per cent stocked of FP consumables.

She revealed that not a single fund has been released for procurement of FP Commodities and consumables since 2020, despite the board submitting memo to the government in May and that there has also been delay in supply from the Federal Ministry of Health.

On demand creation side, she said that they have been very effective, but however, expressed fears that because of the stock out, the increasing demands are not being met.

This, the stakeholders said, would dent the good record the state government had on FP among other states in the country as one of the first to come up with a line budget for FP, and the accolade they got when the N250m was approved by the governor in 2021.

They therefore, urged the government to act by cash backing the fund to meet up with the FP2030 commitment signed by the Nigerian Government.

Earlier, FHANI's Chairman, Bala Tijjani, said the meeting became imperative, following the situation the state is facing as far as FP service delivery is concerned.

He noted that there is no doubt that the state government have done well in FP in the past, but that there are lot more to be done.

"If something is not been done at this stage, the success stories we have achieved over the years will now be talking to something else."

"Child birth spacing is one major fundamental window that can win a lots of windows for us. It is the window where we can easily penetrate into the largest hall where a lots of other issues can multiply our efforts". He said.

State Team Lead of PERL, Abel Adejo, on his part, noted that FP is very critical as one of the health indices and so the issue need to be tackled right from the beginning of the budgeting process so it could be part of the top priorities.

He therefore, advocated for the mobilization of citizens looking at Family Planning to begin to identify the gaps in budget allocation and releases so they can be added to the budget final analysis the would be presented during the budget town hall meeting as well as to the House of Assembly during public hearing on budget.



## Adamawa Flood; Laori Decries FG's Negligence, Donates Relief Materials Worth Millions

By; TINA PHINEAS, Yola

The member representing Numan/Demsa and Lamurde, Federal Constituency in Adamawa State, Rt. Hon. Kwamoti B. Laori has decried the continuous negligence by the Federal Government towards the plight of the people affected by the incessant flood that perennially overruns their communities.

Laori was displeased to note that flood in the country has become a yearly occurrence.

He stressed that all efforts to make the Federal Government take proactive measures towards prevention of the recurring disaster were not taken with the anticipated seriousness it deserves.

Laori made this known while donating relief materials worth millions of Naira to the affected communities of Numan, Demsa and Lamurde.

The lawmaker who was represented by Hon. Happy Maxwell, Hon. Joshua Dariye and Hon. Geoffrey Kwashi Alhassan, said the FG was advised by professionals to dredge the River Benue to rid the water channel of the siltation.

"Review the agreement if any, between Nigeria and Cameroon on the use of water resources from Lagdo Dam and the construction of a buffer Dam at Dasin- Hausa in Fufore LGA of the state to break the water pressure by containing the excess releases to prevent flood in the area

However, he said that the FG has turned deaf ears to professional advice provided and several motions moved by himself and other members of parliament being affected by perennial flooding in other parts of the country, especially, states along the Benue trough.

While commiserating with the flood victims, Laori assured them of his unrelenting efforts to ensure that the FG do the needful in providing relief as well as taking permanent measures to prevent future occurrence. He maintained that though the relief materials provided may not be sufficient to address the huge needs gaps that the flood has caused, it is only meant to palliate their suffering.

He encouraged the people to be brave in this trying moment which shall soon be history.

Also he called on the people to be their brother's keepers by showing love through caring and sharing.

The victims on their part expressed great appreciation to the Law maker for coming to their aid and assured him of their continuous support and prayers.

Community Leaders also assured the member that the relief materials provided would be judiciously distributed to victims.

Items distributed included, bags of rice, sugar, gari, cartons of spices, noodles, spaghetti, tubers of yam, vegetable oil, among others.



## Tinubu/Shettima Ticket A Wicked Agenda Against Christians - Sen Abbo

*\*Says it depicts anti-Christian if Buhari, other party stakeholders allow it to sail through*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Muslim-Muslim joint ticket adopted by the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential flag bearer, Alhaji Bola Ahmed Tinubu has caused a lot of aspersions and disruptive arguments by many party stakeholders. Party loyalists like Mr. Ishaku Abbo (Cliff), the Senator representing Adamawa Northern Senatorial District have openly criticized the choice of Senator Kashim Shetima as Tinubu's running mate for the 2023 general election.



Senator Abbo

Abbo in many fora and media outlets, said that the joint ticket is a slap and disrespectful to the Christian community.

He asserted that the decision is outrightly a blasphemy and a sacrilege to all Christians in Nigeria, especially those who are card-carrying members of the party.

The Adamawa Northern Senator recently in a church sermon and a meeting of the APC Christian Northern Forum spearheaded by Engr Babachir Lawal, former Secretary to the government of the federation, said anyone in the party that is supporting the Muslim-Muslim ticket is a "potential Boko Haram member."

On the Muslim-Muslim ticket, Abbo stated his position on both his verified social media handles and said that his "soul is not for sale", he cannot trade truth for votes, and he cannot be used to cover up injustice. Following the condemnation of the Muslim-Muslim ticket by Senator Cliff, an APC stakeholder in Adamawa North, Rilwan Haruna Lawal is of the view that the aggressive lawmaker has declared open war on all party critical stakeholders.

According to Lawal, the Senator has disrespected the party's leaders who have supported Kashim Shetima's choice to be the next vice president of Nigeria.

He said Abbo's views of all "APC members who do not rise against the Muslim-Muslim joint ticket are potential Boko Haram members," is

a denigrating statement that should not be taken lightly.

"The implication of Abbo's statement is simply to mean that both President Muhammadu Buhari, Senator Abdullahi Adamu, the party's national chairman, the party's Presidential candidate, Senator Bola Tinubu, and the 15 governors of the party who supported this ticket are all potential Boko Haram members because they have endorsed the ticket and seen its legibility to win the election come 2023.

"This is where he is having an issue, this man is busy de-marketing the party in our area, giving the New Nigerian People's Party (NNPP), undue popularity, giving free campaign for Dr. Abdullahi Dauda Bell at the expense of our party losing the 2023 Senatorial seat.

"The question is this, who is Senator Abbo in APC to respectfully call his party men Boko Haram members? This is the same person holding the party's ticket and is busy captivating and attacking all prominent party men in the name of fighting for the Christian religion.

"I'm calling for a rescue mission to our party and the only way to do it is to sanction Abbo by sending him out of the party, then the party will have peace and be focused on winning the election, not losing it, or else, we are in for a big loss," Lawal said

The party stakeholder in Adamawa North is worried that the alleged anti-party activities of Senator Abbo are worrisome to the extent of affecting the political arithmetic of

the zone and the chances of APC winning the election.

He revealed that the electorate in the area are already having the feeling of not having a candidate in APC and they rather go for NNPP to make their votes count by stopping Abbo from winning the election.

"I want to authoritatively tell you that Mubi is the

stronghold of APC but with what Abbo is doing, a chunk of the votes will be deflected in favor of parties whose logos are hardly known in the state.

"APC will be virtually left with nothing because Cliff has discredited himself and is on the verge of killing the party if something urgent is not done.

"The annoying part of the whole issue is that nobody in APC is saying anything. They are sitting down mute, watching how the party is going to lose the election, allowing the unpopular party win the election on a platter of gold.

"This is a zone control and owned by APC, a zone in search of a credible candidate. Right from the onset, one of the reasons why Dr. Belel is out for the seat is because there is no one good thereby, having the ticket by APC.

"The party, therefore, has to call Senator Abbo to order or seize his membership card. If he is not going with the party's collective agenda, and interest, there is no way for the party leaders to allow anti-party to continue to thrive, it will do more harm than good.

"His behaviour is bad, going unchecked to the detriment of the party. The parent-party should withdraw his membership due to his unrepentant anti-party activities because the party is at liberty to do that." Lawal added.

## National Population Commission Assures Nigerians Of Credible, Acceptable Census

By: DAHIRU SULEIMAN, Dutse

The National Population Commission (NPC) has assured Nigerians that the forthcoming 2023 National Population and Housing Census will be credible and acceptable to Nigerians as it will be first ever digital census in the country.

The assurance was given by one of the an NPC Federal Commissioner, Hon. Garba A.G. Zakar.

"The conduct of the 2023 Population and Housing Census is among the most concerned of the country. Therefore, the National Population Commission is committed to ensuring that the results are acceptable to Nigerians. The exercise will be fully digital, so the commission has deployed technology to cater for that to enhance data quality," he said.

Representing Jigawa State at the Stakeholders Summit on 2023 Population and Housing Census held at Ahmadu Bello Hall of the Jigawa State Secretariat in Dutse, he said that before reaching the stage of summit, the commission has conducted various exercises in the state, adding, "we always consider maximum support given to us in terms of security, mobilization, finance, among other logistics.

"As birth and death registration are the most challenging programmes in the state, we appeal on Jigawa State Government to recruit more adhoc staff and provide more registration centres in the 27 LGA's in the state for effectiveness," he said.

According to him, birth and death registration is among the fundamental exercise in the programme of the National Population Commission because it enables an individual to know his identity, ensure the age of school enrolment, be qualified for voting and visa obtainment, while the death registration will give a history of a disaster and give a room for research and prevention by the medical experts.

He also solicited that the state government supports improving and sustaining a strategic sensitization, advocacy and publicity through the use of traditional rulers to scale up the activities of the National Population Commission in Jigawa State.

Earlier in his remarks, Jigawa State Deputy Governor, Alh. Umar Namadi, who represented Governor Badaru Abubakar urged NPC staff among other stakeholders to close ranks in performing credibly for the success of the upcoming national head count.

He urged the participants to the stakeholders summit to be steadfast, dedicated and committed to ensuring the success of the incoming head count and housing census.

The stakeholders summit is aimed at creating public awareness, promoting conversation on the process and procedures, to convince citizens and cooperate for the enumeration purposes, to solicit the cooperation and support of the stakeholders as well as to provide a platform to offer clarification and receive feedback and suggestions.

## Ochor Greets Nigerians At 62

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Deputy Speaker, Delta State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon Ochor C. Ochor has felicitated Nigerians on the occasion of the country's 62nd Independence celebration.

The Deputy Speaker, in a statement by his Press Secretary, Emmanuel Enebeli on

Friday, September 30, 2022, said the country has come a long way from the day of independence, on October 1, 1960.

He pointed out that despite the many challenges that may have been identified as hindrances to the development of the country, Nigeria has improved in different areas of development, such as

human capital, economy, infrastructure development, health and education sectors.

He however, urged Nigerians to continue to pray and never to relent in seeking the face of God to conquer the negative developments in the country, especially in the area of insecurity, which he said has

bedeviled the country of late.

"As we mark another Independence Day, today October 1, 2022, I congratulate us all, as we have continued to show resilience despite numerous challenges plaguing the country."

"We know that such challenges such as insecurity,



## Rail Transport Safety: FG Sets Up Committee On Deployment Of Modern Security Hi-Tech

By; MATTHEW UKACHUNWA Lagos

Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has set up a committee to find lasting solution to insecurity of life and infrastructure in the railway sector, the management of Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has said.

The mandate of the committee includes the recommendation of present day technology to be used in real time monitoring of railway infrastructure and the deployment of enough security agents to be at strategic locations in the railway corridor.

The committee will also come out with a report on when to resume operations on Abuja-Kaduna train services which suffered the terrorist attack on 28th March this year, resulting in the kidnapping of many passengers.

Managing Director of Nigerian Railway Corporation, Engr. Fidert Okhiria, released the information in Lagos on Wednesday at a Press briefing which was held to explain why the corporation has not resumed train operations on Abuja-Kaduna Train Service (AKTS) route.

"We have made several visits to the IG (Inspector-General of Police) and various military formations, and we are working together to ensure that Nigerians are safe, not just train users," Okhiria said. "So, Director of Operations is on that subcommittee that are meeting to identify the technology that will be recommended, not only for protecting the rail movement but also protecting the infrastructure."

The NRC chief executive officer said that the management of the corporation took time to ensure the restoration of the tracks and rolling stocks damaged by the terrorists who attacked the train.

He said, "We're trying to work and cooperate with security agents to ensure that those being held regain their freedom."

According to him, four members of staff of NRC were among the captives. "They were the loco driver, the train lightning technician who were officially on duty. We later knew about two other staff that were travelling unauthorized. We're working to ensure the four of them are released. We also have third party arrangement that were working on the train, like cleaners. Any time they are released we cross-check from our manifest to ensure that their names are in the manifest."

Okhiria disclosed that the corporation has lost 531 million Naira worth of revenue from March to August this year, as a consequence of the attack on the Abuja-Kaduna train.

He stated that there is insurance cover for passengers on transit, but that the insurance does not cover terrorism and banditry.

The NRC leader said that there is insurance cover for the rolling stocks.

Okhiria admitted that government subsidizes the railway sector, stressing that government provides for salary in the budget. "Yes, government is subsidizing the rail sector," he declared.

## Bulleting Announcing Reopening of ABU Fake - Management

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria, has described as fake, a bulletin in circulation, announcing its reopening. This was contained in a statement signed by the Director, Public Affairs Directorate, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Auwalu Umar, dated Friday September 30, 2022.

"The attention of Ahmadu Bello University has been drawn to a bulletin announcing the re-

opening of the institution. "The bulletin, which has been making the rounds on the Social Media since Tuesday, 27th September, 2022, is, to say the least, fake, as it did not emanate from the university," the statement said.

According to the statement titled, "Re: Reopening of the University" the institution's management advised, "all members of the public, particularly students and parents are, therefore, urged to ignore it in its entirety."

## How We Provided Engineering Equipment For Greenfield University Through Local Sourcing - Pro Chancellor

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The secret of how Kaduna's first private, Greenfield University City Campus Engineering Faculty was accredited by the National University Commission (NUC), was laid bare by the Founder/Pro Chancellor, Engineer Simon I. Nwakacha (Onwa of Umueri). Nwakacha disclosed the process when he hosted the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), Kaduna State Branch on Thursday September 29, 2022, during a facility tour visit to Greenfield's city campus in Kudenda.

"I listed all the equipment I needed for engineering faculty to get NUC accreditation, they told me it would cost over 78 million Naira.

"I had to think outside the box and embarked on local sourcing, which did the magic," he said.

According to him, he approached a lecturer in the Engineering Faculty of the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), who ticked some of the items that are needed for 100 to 300 level and the cost came down to 11 million Naira from initial amount.

"I went to DIC and the price came down to five million, I took it to NUC and they okayed it," he

said.

The Pro Chancellor lamented that this was after someone he contracted to import the engineering equipment had duped him, lying about delays in supplying the items for about two years.

"Also I have challenges, one of the challenges is that we have a lot of fraudulent Nigerians as contractors.

"That my brother I gave contract for eight items for Mechanical engineering department, fraudulently told me lies. Of recent I took the case to EFCC because he faked an invoice, and said the items had arrived, he needed another two million Naira for clearing at the ports.

"After delays and collecting funds, finally, he said the items were coming, but they had an accident. Up to today, the items have not arrived, since 2020," he lamented.

On how the university started, he said that the late Emir of Zazzau, Alhaji Shehu Idris came for a function at the Imperial College Kudenda and predicted that it would berth into a university.

"Fortunately in 2019, we were given approval and we went back to him to say his prophecy has come true.

"Since we started the construction of that place in 2014, I retired in 2013 from NNPC after serving as an engineer for 35 years, we adopted local sourcing.

"When I was at NNPC, our manufacturing plant was the only section built by the Japanese, I travelled to Japan and as we were landing, they welcomed me and they regarded us as technological spies from Nigeria.

"I sustained the KRPC manufacturing department through local sourcing of materials, thanks to Defence Industries Corporation (DIC).

"When I left NNPC, I told myself, that thing that the Emir said, came to my mind. I said the local sourcing I did at NNPC, I would put it to practice.

"I am proud to say, applying my engineering prowess, I was able to build a university.

"I started thinking of the local sourcing, I quickly set up a quarry to source the stones, and God was with us at Greenfield University," he said.

Commenting on the present location of the university, he said after the tragic invasion of the main site located along Kaduna-Abuja Highway, they had no option but to build up the city campus.

"After that incident, NUC was surprised we had to build a university, which they said is like building of a second university," he said.

During a tour of facilities, Engineer Nwakacha at the HRM Alfred Achebe (Agbogidi) The Obi of Onitsha Greenfield University Digital Resource Centre at the Prof Abubakar Adamu Rasheed House, said the facility connects to lectures all over the world, from top universities like Harvard and others.

He said from his interaction with the visitors, they encouraged him and urged him not to give up on the civil, mechanical, electrical electronics department

On the prolonged Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) strike, he prayed the differences are resolved quickly.

"As an investor in education, it pains me to see students at home," he stressed.

When asked how cheap it is to train students at Greenfield University, he said it is relatively affordable.

"It costs the university over 250,000 to provide for bed space, but you see that we are charging only 50,000 per student," he declared.





## Group Launches APP For Transparency, Accountability In Ebonyi LG System

By; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

The Public Enlightenment Project (PEP) with support from USAID/Nigeria State Accountability, Transparency and Effectiveness (State2State) Activity has launched a new digital mobile application known as "MEEPEEYA" which is designed to monitor the activities of local government areas to ensure fiscal transparency and accountability in Ebonyi State.

While launching the 'Meepeeya' mobile application in Abakaliki, capital of the state, the Executive Director of Public Enlightenment Project, Mrs. Lilian Ezenwa said that the purpose of designing the new mobile APP is to provide information about budget; local government budget and the state budget, saying that anybody can download it and know how much government is budgeting for projects and services in all sectors in Ebonyi state.

Mrs. Ezenwa also explained that the mobile application can be downloaded from Apple playstore and Google Playstore.

She further noted that the APP not only contains budget, it also contains the project sites which means you can also visit the project site and ascertain what is on ground; whether the project is up to the standard and specifications and the reality on ground.

"MEEPEEYA" It is a mobile application that can be downloaded from Apple playstore and the google playstore. It is a three application; just like you can use your normal phone, you can also use to get the application.

"What we have done with it is to provide information about budget; local government budget and the State budget. Anybody can download it and know how much government is budgeting for projects and services in all sectors in Ebonyi State.

"So, not only that it contains budget, it also contains the project sites which means you can also visit the project site and ascertain what is on ground; whether the project is up to the standard and specifications and the reality on ground," she said.

She added that, "the APP is to open our eyes and that is why it called 'Meepeeya' which simply means in Igbo language to 'open'."

Mrs. Ezenwa also assured that through this APP, citizens and government will engage better.

"They will be able to tell government about the projects the executed in various communities and who is accountable for it so that government can act swiftly."

On her part, the Head of Service, Dr. Mrs. Lita Mary Okoro applauded the efforts of USAID State2state for designing the new mobile APP saying that it will help to monitor and evaluate the activities of council chairmen to ensure transparency and also provide a feedback mechanism that will help government and citizens to have a cordial relationship since you don't need to know anybody in government before you use the APP.

Responding, the Principal Secretary to the Governor, Chief Emmanuel Obasi congratulated Public Enlightenment Projects (PEP) and USAID/S2S for the Implementation of Ebonyi State Local Government Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (LFTAS) Programme in Seven (7) selected LGAs in Ebonyi State namely: Abakaliki, Afikpo South, Ebonyi, Ezza South, Ikwo, Ohaukwu and Ohaozara LGAs but more especially for conceiving and developing the Meepeeya Mobile App.

According to him, Meepeeya Mobile App is the first-ever Transparency Software in the South East dedicated to monitoring of Government Projects to ensure Value for Money and Transparency in the Implementation of Local Government Council Budgets.

Chief Obasi noted that, as the Co-Chair of Open Government Partnership (State Actors Side), Fiscal Transparency, Access to Information and Citizen Engagement which the Meepeeya Mobile App represents and intends to address are part of the proposed Thematic Areas of the First State Action Plan (2022-2024) of Ebonyi State OGP.

He added that Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a global coalition of Reformers from Government (State Actors) and Civil Society Organisations (Non-State actors) working together through voluntary processes to make Government more transparent from both sides.

## Nigerians Must Trust God To Use Ordinary People To Solve Country's Problems - SDP Presidential Candidate

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) presidential candidate, Prince Adewole Adebayo has said that in finding solutions to the problems of Nigeria, Nigerians must trust God to use ordinary people.

He said this on Sunday October 2, while speaking during the send forth programme for Bishop Dr

John Eze at the Liberation Methodist Church, in Gwarinpa Abuja, where he was invited as a guest speaker.

He said God does not work through people of physical majesty, but with people of humble hearts and diligence to serve.

"God does not work through men of valor, men who think they're big, or people of physical majesty. He works with people with humble heart

and diligence to serve"; and one of the problems we've been facing in this country is that we do not trust in God, we trust in men."

Prince Adebayo while commenting on the send forth of Bishop John Eze to Nsukka, described it as an opportunity to celebrate, because it is a fresh chance to spread the gospel.

"The way John Eze, bishop elect is going to

Nsukka where there is no cathedral; it is just a fresh ground to spread the gospel. That was how the Methodist Church came to Nigeria."

The SDP presidential candidate was accompanied by Pst Ade Alabi, Hon. Richard Oriri, Chief Godwin Osigbeme, Dr. Osaro Iredia and Amb. (Dr) Odion C. Okpebholo, Convener/National Coordinator UPPG.



## Plateau 2023: Lalong Will Break Succession Jinx, Says LG Boss

*\*Says Nentawe would win gubernatorial election*

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Executive chairman of Kanam Local Government Area of Plateau State, Hon Dayyabu Garga, has said that Governor Simon Lalong will install his successor, contrary to the belief that no incumbent governor can choose his successor.

He also expressed confidence that the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate in the forthcoming Plateau governorship election, Dr. Nentawe Yilwatda would

win the election because the people of the state are with him.

According to him, the last administration in the state could not break the jinx because the governor then circumvented the zoning arrangement in place on the Plateau by returning the governorship seat to the Plateau North, where he hails from.

Garga, who gave the assurance in an interview with newsmen at the weekend, argued that, "This time around, Governor Lalong, being a democrat, meticulously

supervised the zoning of the governorship to the central zone on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in line with the zoning arrangement. And for this reason, there is no dissenting voice; everybody is happy."

"Apart from this, the incumbent governor has performed creditably well. He has stabilised the state; there is peace in the once troubled parts of the state and, most importantly, he has carried everyone along irrespective of creed, religious or tribal

affiliation. I want to tell you that Governor Lalong is a team player.

He said the APC would deliver the presidential election in Plateau, noting that the party's flagbearer, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, has made significant contributions to the growth of democracy.

According to him, the presidential candidate has the requisite experience and all that it takes to turn around the economy and arrest the security challenges facing the country.



## Lagos Govt Orders Investigation Into Death Of 3-year Old Boy

**By; MATTHEW BUKACHUNWA, Lagos**

Commissioner for Health, Lagos State, has directed that an independent investigation be carried out into the death of a three-year old boy in a Lagos-owned hospital.

Abayomi communicated his decision in a statement titled, "Re: Family of Three-year Old Boy Who Died in Lagos Hospital Demand Justice," which he issued on 28th September 2022.

He said the attention of Lagos State Ministry of Health had been drawn to a news report published in a newspaper on September 25, 2022 titled, 'Family of Three-Year Old Boy who Died in Lagos Hospital Demand Justice'.

Abayomi said that it was reported that a three-year old child died of negligence and misconduct at one of the Lagos State Government-owned secondary care facilities, the Eti-Osa Maternal and Childcare Centre, Lekki-Ajah.

He said, "While expressing condolence to the family of the deceased and praying for the repose of the soul of the departed, he said that the incident which occurred between Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September, 2022 is rather unfortunate, and sad."

He stated that for the avoidance of doubt, it is pertinent to note that the management of the facility had also officially reported the incident to the Ministry while

investigation into the allegation and the circumstances surrounding the unfortunate incident has since commenced at the facility level.

"In the same vein, I have also requested an independent investigation into the incident. Our investigation will include an autopsy, a review of medical records of the patient and additional documents, enquiries from medical staff who attended to the deceased, and parents of the child.

"Without pre-empting the outcome of the on-going investigation, I would like to state that this is a Coroner's inquest case, which is why an autopsy has been requested to determine the actual cause of death. I therefore sue for calm and assure members of the public of our commitment to conduct a transparent and thorough investigation into the incident, and make available the outcome of the investigation.

"Our resolve to halt avoidable deaths of neonates, infants and children is unshaken. We will continue to vigorously implement policies and strategies geared towards preventing and halting maternal and child mortality in the center of excellence. Once again, I commiserate with the family of the deceased, and request for their full cooperation whenever they are called upon in the course of the investigation," the health commissioner stated.

*"Abayomi said that it was reported that a three-year old child died of negligence and misconduct at one of the Lagos State Government-owned secondary care facilities, the Eti-Osa Maternal and Childcare Centre, Lekki-Ajah."*

## Play According To Rules, Don't See Elections As Do Or Die Affair, Oyo NUJ Cautions Politicians

**By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

**W**ith the commencement of electioneering campaign, Oyo State Council of Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), on Wednesday, advised politicians in Nigeria not to take 2023 general elections as do-or-die affair.

Oyo NUJ in a communique issued at the end of its monthly Congress held at its Press Centre, Iyaganku Ibadan, asked Nigerians to learn how to play the games

according to the rules.

The union in the communique emphasized that there is the need for Nigerian politicians to at all times put the overall interest of the country into consideration and place it above their selfish interest.

Oyo NUJ tasked journalists to on their part adhere strictly to all the ethics of the profession by being truthful, objective and factual in reporting political activities as the electioneering for 2023 Poll commences.

The union in the communique commended

the State Police Commissioner, CP Adebowale Williams, for reactivating stop-and-search operation for motorcyclists, carrying more than two passengers in the state as part of efforts at checking ways and manners people of questionable characters have been using the means of transportation to perpetrate nefarious activities in the society.

Lauding the command operation as a good idea, the union noted that complaints have started coming that some policemen deployed for

the operation have been hiding under the stop-and-search to extort money from motorcyclists and other members of the public.

Oyo NUJ then tasked CP Adebowale Williams "to investigate the allegation and if it is true, he should caution his men to desist from the act that can drag the name of NPF in the mud."

It also appealed to members of the public not to take laws into their hands whenever they are aggrieved. Rather, they should adhere to lawful means of getting justice.



## Terrorism, Insurgency: Over 1,500 Schools Forced To Close In North Eastern Nigeria - TRCN

**By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

**T**he Registrar/Chief Executive, Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) Professor Olusegun Ajiboye on Thursday, said that over 1,500 schools have been forced to close in North Eastern Nigeria as a result of terrorism and insurgency.

Prof Ajiboye who made this known while speaking at the NUT National Delegates Conference, disclosed that over 910 schools have either been damaged or destroyed through terrorism and insurgency.

According to the TRCN Registrar/ Chief Executive, 2, 295 teachers were killed in the North East part of Nigeria between 2009 and 2022, saying, the world is grappling "with terrorism which has dealt a serious blow on every facet of the economy including education".

Prof Ajiboye emphasized that despite the insecurity challenge, TRCN will continue to champion the professionalism and welfare of Nigerian teachers and that Federal Government should review its security architecture to address the "deteriorating security

situation because of its effect on education"

"Government should implement fully the safe schools declaration guidelines endorsed by Nigeria in 2015 and ratified by President Muhammadu Buhari in 2019", he said.

Speaking further, Professor Ajiboye lamented that over 600,000 have lost access to education adding that the "attacks on education create a ripple effect, setting in motion range of negative impacts such as loss of education, early marriage, early pregnancy, and stigma associated with sexual

violence and children's born from rape all of which can dramatically affect female students futures".

Stressing that insurgency has reduced foreign investment by putting local economy on pressure, Prof Ajiboye said 1.2million people require emergency education in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe.

"The presence of armed forces in and near schools can make it a target of retaliatory attacks increasing the risk to children and teachers as well as the likelihood that education will be disrupted"



## Commandant Nigeria Police Academy Pays supervisory visit to Kaduna Screening, Automation Centre For Regular Course 9 Applicants

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Commandant Nigeria Police Academy (POLAC) wudil, Kano State, AIG Ahmad Abdurrahman, had on Friday, paid a supervisory visit to the Kaduna center for screening and automation exercise for regular cadet course 9th applicant.

A statement signed by the Police Public Relations Officer, (PPRO) Kaduna State Command, DSP Muhammed Jalige, dated Friday September 30, said that the Commandant and his entourage were received by the Deputy Commissioner of Police Administration and Finance Kaduna Command, DCP Chukwudi Arieperkere on behalf of the Commissioner of police.

The August visitor after inspecting the ceremonial guard of honor at the state headquarters proceeded to the screening venue at Kaduna Police Command officers mess independent way where he interacted with the screening panel as well as the applicant.

In his words, the Commandant tasked the screening panel to justify the trust reposed on them and rate the applicant based on merit and to shun any form corruption and corrupt tendencies during before and after the screening so as to induct into the training institution only a crop of officers who deserve to serve based on merit.

He also called on the prospective cadet to see police organization as a call to duty and not avenue to harness wealth or to violate human

right. He called on parents and guardians to allow the process to take

care of itself as only a qualified applicant can be administered into the institution and to avoid any person who might posed to assist them gain entry by whatever means in kind or in cash as the institution is ready to deal with any person who is found wanting in that regards.

The head of screening committee Kaduna center equally briefed the commandant on the progress so far as the committee have screen one thousand and fifty two applicants (1052) and assured him that the committee will complete the exercise on the stipulated date.

The Commandant in his closing remarks tasked the Commissioner of Police Kaduna Command to ensure the safety and security of the applicants throughout the screening period.



## Prepare To Accept Outcome Of 2023 Election, UN Peace Commission Tells Atiku, Obi, Tinubu, Others

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

As Nigeria celebrates its 62 Independence anniversary, major contenders vying to succeed President Muhammadu Buhari, in 2023 have been advised to embrace peace ahead of the presidential elections, even as they are asked to prepare for the outcome in good faith.

Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, former Lagos State Governor, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, former Kano State Governor Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso and former Anambra State Governor, Peter Obi are the top presidential candidates.

In a goodwill message to mark 62nd Independence Anniversary of Nigeria, released on Saturday in Abuja, Acting Head of Mission and Country Representative, International Peace Commission of the the United Nations, Amb. Hussaini H. Coomassie, said the presidential candidates should prioritise

message of peace, unity of Nigeria and her development during this campaign period.

Dr. Coomassie, who is double as the global vice chairman, Advocacy for Good Governance & Social Justice Network (AGGSJN) also warned supporters of the major presidential candidates against thuggery, hate speeches and fake news during the electioneering campaign.

While congratulating Nigerians home and abroad for the 62nd Independence Anniversary, the UN Representative expressed hope that the country will overcome all the challenges confronting her presently.

The statement reads: "From the International Peace Commission of the the United Nations we felicitate with Nigerians home and abroad for celebrating the country's 62nd Anniversary of Independence from the colonial rule. It is our firm believe that

Nigeria shall overcome all her challenges and emerge a great Nation that is destined to be.

"As the Nigerians getting ready to elect another leader to succeed the incumbent President Muhammadu Buhari next year, it is our hope, however, that the major contenders will prepare their minds and that of their supporters to gladly accept whatever the outcome will be in the sportsmanship spirit.

"This I emphasise should be registered in their minds that only one of them will emerge victorious at the poll as Nigerian voters will decide. Therefore, I urge the political gladiators and their supporters to embrace peace, preach peace and practice peace during and after this forthcoming exercise.

"Nigeria should be seen as a collective project and not a personal project. This Nation is greater than anyone and history will not forget in a hurry whatever said

and done either in the country's favour or against her," Dr. Coomassie said.

According to Dr. Coomassie, something is now clear that no administration will ever take the country and her youths for granted again based on the current political consciousness of Nigerians.

He also called on the Nigerian youths to actively and peacefully participate in the ongoing process and elect a leader that will protect their future and the generations yet unborn.

"I believe that God in His mercy has magnanimously blessed Nigeria with enormous resources. This nation is only yearning for a right leadership to creatively tap into these resources and turn around her fortune. The forthcoming national election is another opportunity to right the wrong," Dr. Coomassie stated.



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## ADVERT RATES FROM JANUARY 1, 2022

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL PAGE	395,176.32	29,638.22	424,814.54	323,433.00	24,257.48	347,690.48
HALF PAGE	248,970.00	18,672.75	267,642.75	203,175.00	15,238.13	218,413.13
QUARTER PAGE	164,670.00	12,350.25	177,020.25	94,724.44	7,104.33	101,828.77
10" x 6 Col	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
10" x 5 Col	333,960.00	25,047.00	359,007.00	224,588.11	16,844.11	241,432.22
10" x 4 Col	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
10" x 3 Col	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
9" x 6 Col	327,888.00	24,591.60	352,479.60	220,504.68	16,537.85	237,042.53
9" x 5 Col	273,240.00	20,493.00	293,733.00	183,753.90	13,781.54	197,535.44
9" x 4 Col	218,592.00	16,394.40	234,986.40	147,003.12	11,025.23	158,028.35
9" x 3 Col	163,944.00	12,295.80	176,239.80	110,252.34	8,268.93	118,521.27
8" x 6 Col	291,456.00	21,859.20	313,315.20	196,004.16	14,700.31	210,704.47
8" x 5 Col	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
8" x 4 Col	194,304.00	14,572.80	208,876.80	130,669.44	9,800.21	140,469.65
8" x 3 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
7" x 6 Col	255,024.00	19,126.80	274,150.80	171,503.64	12,862.77	184,366.41
7" x 5 Col	212,520.00	15,939.00	228,459.00	142,919.70	10,718.98	153,638.68
7" x 4 Col	170,016.00	12,751.20	182,767.20	114,335.76	8,575.18	122,910.94
6" x 6 Col	218,592.00	16,394.40	234,986.40	147,003.12	11,025.23	158,028.35
6" x 5 Col	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
6" x 4 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
6" x 3 Col	109,296.00	8,197.20	117,493.20	73,501.56	5,512.62	79,014.18
6" x 2 Col	72,864.00	5,464.80	78,328.80	49,001.04	3,675.08	52,676.12
5" x 5 Col	151,800.00	11,385.00	163,185.00	102,085.50	7,656.41	109,741.91
5" x 4 Col	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
5" x 3 Col	91,080.00	6,831.00	97,911.00	61,251.30	4,593.85	65,845.15
5" x 2 Col	60,720.00	4,554.00	65,274.00	40,834.20	3,062.57	43,896.77
4" x 6 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
4" x 5 Col	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
4" x 4 Col	97,152.00	7,286.40	104,438.40	65,334.72	4,900.10	70,234.82
4" x 3 Col	72,864.00	5,464.80	78,328.80	49,001.04	3,675.08	52,676.12
4" x 2 Col	48,576.00	3,643.20	52,219.20	32,667.36	2,450.05	35,117.41
3" x 3 Col	54,648.00	4,098.60	58,746.60	36,750.78	2,756.31	39,507.09
3" x 2 Col	36,432.00	2,732.40	39,164.40	24,500.52	1,837.54	26,338.06
2" x 2 Col	24,288.00	1,821.60	26,109.60	16,333.68	1,225.03	17,558.71
1" x 1 Col	6,072.00	455.40	6,527.40	4,083.42	306.26	4,389.68

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- COPY DATE:** for all the Title Heads is two working days for the North and three working days for the South.
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### TECHNICAL DATA

#### 6 COLUMNS

Depth	38.1 (CM)	Depth -	15 (Inches)
Width	25.4 (CM)	Width -	10 (Inches)

### POLITICAL RATE

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FRONT PAGE MAST HEAD EAR PIECE	461,622.86	34,621.71	496,244.57
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	787,474.29	59,060.57	846,534.86
FRONT PAGE STRIP	787,474.29	59,060.57	846,534.86
BACK PAGE EAR PIECE	420,889.54	31,566.72	452,456.26
FULL PAGE (COLOUR)	465,967.54	34,947.57	500,915.11
FULL PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	364,037.14	27,302.79	391,339.93
HALF PAGE (COLOUR)	303,285.71	22,746.43	326,032.14
HALF PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	247,500.00	18,562.50	266,062.50
QUARTER PAGE (COLOUR)	203,877.14	15,290.79	219,167.93
QUARTER PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	111,692.74	8,376.96	120,069.70

### LOOSE INSERTS

S/NO	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
1	Handling for the first 40 copies	120,000.00	9,000.00	129,000.00
2	Per 1000 Copies (1 Page)	28,000.00	2,100.00	30,100.00
3	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine 2-8 Pages)	50,000.00	3,750.00	53,750.00
4	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine above 8 pages)	80,000.00	6,000.00	86,000.00

### CLASSIFIEDS

S/NO	POSITION	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
1	Registration of Trustees	3" x 2 Cols	6,857.14	514.29	7,371.43
2	Loss of Documents	2" x 2 Cols	4,400.00	330.00	4,730.00
3	Change of Name	Per Box	2,000.00	-	2,000.00

### SPECIAL POSITION

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL WRAP AROUND	6,750,000.00	506,250.00	7,256,250.00
HALF WRAP AROUND	4,500,000.00	337,500.00	4,837,500.00
PAGE 2 OR 3	400,000.00	30,000.00	430,000.00
PAGE 4 OR 5	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
PAGE 6 OR 7	325,000.00	24,375.00	349,375.00
FRONT PAGE MAST HEAD EAR PIECE	225,000.00	16,875.00	241,875.00
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	312,500.00	23,437.50	335,937.50
FRONT PAGE STRIP	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
BACK PAGE EAR PIECE	200,000.00	15,000.00	215,000.00
BACK PAGE STRIP	250,000.00	18,750.00	268,750.00
CENTRE SPREAD (COLOUR)	837,500.00	62,812.50	900,312.50
DOUBLE SPREAD (COLOUR)	700,000.00	52,500.00	752,500.00
CENTRE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	575,000.00	43,125.00	618,125.00
DOUBLE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	550,000.00	41,250.00	591,250.00
FRONT PAGE (10" X 6)	3,250,000.00	243,750.00	3,493,750.00
ROP STRIP (COLOUR)	125,000.00	9,375.00	134,375.00
ROP STRIP (BLACK & WHITE)	85,000.00	6,375.00	91,375.00

### PROPERTY AND IT, VACANCY, AGRIC, AND EVENTS/EDUCATION RATE

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
7 X 3	108,571.43	8,142.86	116,714.29	62,857.14	4,714.29	67,571.43
6 X 3	102,857.14	7,714.29	110,571.43	57,142.86	4,285.71	61,428.57
6 X 2	45,428.57	3,407.14	48,835.71	32,285.71	2,421.43	34,707.14
5 X 3	53,428.57	4,007.14	57,435.71	37,428.57	2,807.14	40,235.71
5 X 2	42,571.43	3,192.86	45,764.29	24,857.14	1,864.29	26,721.43
4 X 3	47,714.29	3,578.57	51,292.86	30,571.43	2,292.86	32,864.29
4 X 2	33,142.86	2,485.71	35,628.57	21,714.29	1,628.57	23,342.86
3 X 3	34,571.43	2,592.86	37,164.29	23,142.86	1,735.71	24,878.57
3 X 2	22,857.14	1,714.29	24,571.43	14,285.71	1,071.43	15,357.14
2 X 2	16,000.00	1,200.00	17,200.00	9,142.86	685.71	9,828.57
2 X 1	7,714.28	578.57	8,292.85	4,975.71	373.18	5,348.89



## 2023: Tinubu's Govt Will Ensure Accelerated Progress in Nigeria - Folarin

### *\*Greets Nigerians at 62 Independence*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The governorship candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Oyo State, Senator Teslim Folarin on Saturday, declared that Nigeria will witness accelerated progress, unhindered development under the government of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu come 2023

Senator Folarin stated this in his Independence Day message to Nigerians on the occasion of the nation's 62nd anniversary celebration.

He stressed that Nigerians on their part will enjoy massive improvements in socioeconomic status if they vote in Asiwaju Tinubu as the next Nigeria President, adding that the 2023 elections would present another chance for Nigerians to freely choose the right candidates for leadership positions.

"With the incoming government of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, by the grace of Almighty Allah, Nigerians are assured of accelerated progress, unhindered development and massive

improvements in their socioeconomic status", he said.

Senator Folarin added, "Asiwaju's track record of excellence as the initiator of groundbreaking developmental projects in Lagos State, which has made that state Nigeria's best-managed, will surely be translated to the management of the affairs of the country once he takes over".

"With the upward trend in infrastructural development across the country, I opine that better days are indeed on the horizon, and that with patience, loyalty and patriotism, Nigerians will reap the benefits of good governance in the long run".

The Senator representing Oyo Central Senatorial District and the Chairman Senate Committee on Local Content then urged Nigerians to remain steadfast in promoting peace and unity across the nation irrespective of their ethnic and religious differences.

According to Senator Folarin "Nigeria will attain legendary status and global recognition in



Senator Teslim Folarin

economic growth and development if the nation can harness the abundant resources, innovation and talents of its diverse population".

"We must regard our socio-cultural diversity as a unique strength that is capable of accelerating economic growth as well as advancements in education, science, technology, entertainment and sports development. We must shun bigoted views and divisive tendencies to avoid

inciting hate, discrimination, hostility and violence."

Lauding the administration of President Muhammadu Buhari for the modest achievements it has been able to record, despite the challenges besetting the nation, Senator Folarin charged voters to exclusively support leaders who are committed to good governance and nation-building.

## Independence Day Marked In Maiduguri 12 Years After, Zulum Laments Daunting Security Challenges Bedeviling Nigeria

### *\*Commends President Buhari's commitment to indivisibility of country*

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

As Independence Day Anniversary was marked on Saturday October 1, 2022 in Maiduguri, Borno State, Maiduguri for the first time after about 12 years due to security challenges from the Boko Haram insurgency in the past 12 years, Governor Babagana Umara Zulum said, "Regrettably, this auspicious occasion could not hold in Borno State for quite sometimes, due to the peculiar security challenges bedeviling the state."

He also commended President Buhari for his good leadership in standing firm not to allow divisibility of the country, saying, "It is evident that the administration of His Excellency, President Muhammad Buhari as Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria has shown strong commitment to the indivisibility of Nigeria and ensure that every citizens have access to freedom of live and basic social amenities."

Zulum stated this on Saturday, while delivering his 62nd Independence Day Anniversary speech at the Ramat Square, Maiduguri, immediately after inspecting NPF parades and salute to mark the 62nd Independence Day under tight security as celebrants were scanty and mostly security agencies with less civilians during the 1 hour, 30 minutes celebration.

The governor who was represented by his deputy, Hon. Umar Usman Kadafur further said, "Notwithstanding, today's celebration is indicative that peace is gradually returning to the state and the country at large, as a result of the successes recorded by the gallant troops of the Nigerian military and other sister security agencies, which steered the state government to close down all IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council and Jere Local Government Area, as well as voluntary resettlement of many communities across the state."

According to him, "our forefathers and past nationalists struggled for freedom and decolonization of the country, sacrificing their lives and energy to gain independence from the colonialists.

"They sacrificed their personal comfort, energy, time and wealth for the country to be independent, united and an indivisible entity. As such, we shall not allow these sacrifices to be in vain.

"On this day and in the spirit of rededication, we renew our commitment to confronting the challenges of critical infrastructure destroyed by the decade long Boko Haram insurgency and explore avenues to create job opportunities to our teeming unemployed youth, thereby, minimizing the upsurge of social vices in the society.

"We remain confident that with the massive investments we have made in the last three years in the expansion and strengthening of our resettlement and recovery efforts, we shall succeed in our commitment to provide the dividend of democracy.

"On a sustainable basis and attainment of our Policy Thrust. We have a duty to improve on job creation, access to education, healthcare delivery services, security, portable water supply for both human and animal consumptions, among others.

"We can do these only in a climate of peace and security. I enjoin the citizenry to remain united, live peacefully and shun all tendencies capable of plunging the nation into chaos and anarchy as the 2023 general elections is fast approaching.

"In this regards, we shall imbibe the spirit of patriotism and peaceful co-existence for a prosperous nation. We need to make commitment beyond our hero's past to reflect on the gains and lessons learnt over the years and face the challenges of our time.

"We must be evident in our character of selflessness and sense of responsibility that characterized the lives of our heroes. For the nation to actualize its corporate vision, there is need for all citizens to appreciate the differences and diversity inherent in Nigeria.

"Finally, our nation is today faced with a number of daunting challenges, which I strongly believe are surmountable, however, in face of all these challenges, our resolve and abiding faith must remain unshaken for the interest of the country.

"I wish you happy Anniversary celebration. I believe this occasion is worthy of celebration by all well-meaning Nigerians home and abroad", Zulum said.

## Nigeria Yet To Be Fully Independent At 62 - Legal Practitioner

By; AMOSTAUNA, Kaduna

Kaduna based legal practitioner, Mr. John Achimugu, has opined that even at 62 years, Nigeria is yet to be fully independent of itself.

He said that what the leadership of the country has achieved in the past six decades has alienated its people from real independence and divided the people along religious, ethnic and sectional differences in order to achieve their selfish pursuits.

Speaking to New Nigerian in Kaduna on Friday, the legal practitioner stated, "The journey so far since the country got its independence has not been encouraging, we got independent in 1960, the independence is purely ceremonial not in substance. We expect that by now we will be matured in our journey to nationhood, but, unfortunately, it has been a pathetic one.

"We were more united when we had the colonial masters and together we were all aspiring to become independent. Since independence up to this 62 years, our journey today reflected a more divided nation, completely a country that has become more polarised on the basis of ethnicity because of the pure art of nepotism that has perverted every face of government appointments over the past decades.

"We are a nation that has become more ethnically sensitive and alienated from

one another, at independence, we were more of a community than today. The level of evil that pervert our land today in terms of banditry, kidnapping, insurgency, ritual killings, robbery and all the violent crimes, it seems to me that the past, the early 60s, we had greater good conscience than what pervert our society today that were no longer even in the fullest expression of it our brother's keepers."

He lamented that today, a certain group of people are ready to take the citizens of the country into custody just for the sake of extorting money from them through kidnapping that becomes a lucrative business, stressing that all have become restricted and imprisoned at their homes and even in their homes, they are no longer safe.

He asked, "So what is the independent we are talking about? Is it because the whites are no longer ruling us? What is our independence when we can no longer feed ourselves? We do not have our education going on, yet, we claimed to have 62 years of independence?"

He believes that the emergence of true, patriotic leaders not rulers through a democratic process has also been a mirage, saying, "the reason is very obvious, what we call democracy in Nigeria is a deception where party platforms have become avenues to seek power for self aggrandisement for corruption, for economic power to the

detriment of the people."

The legal practitioner noted, "There is no internal democracy in the parties, and, therefore, we are expecting the parties to sponsor people and give us as a nation, how can political parties that have no internal democracy give the nation democracy, it is not possible to give us what they do not have."

"The politicians having gotten power, use whatever that is available to their benefits and of people of their ethnic persuasions, and religion. For us to have leaders that will truly serve this country, we need to be very careful in looking at the antecedents of the people contesting for the election of offices in the country. They are new colonial masters that this country has, everything about them is outside the country including their resources and family.

"The only thing they seek from us is our mandate so that our resources can be exported to other foreign nations so that after they have finished depriving us, they go and enjoy and leave us in the heat of problems of their misrule.

"The mandate to purchase voter cards, purchase votes and through every form of demonic manipulation to attend power, we have not improved as a country because the election is not about us but about them and when they obtain the power, their objective is about themselves and it is not about



# Border Drill Sector 4: Setting Pace Amidst Arduous Tasks

By: USMAND SHEHU

The quest to secure Nigeria's borders against smugglers, terrorism, banditry and other illicit activities received a boost over three years ago with the inauguration of the Border Drill patrol by the Nigeria Customs Service through the office of the National Security Adviser to the President of the Federation.

This event of August 20, 2019, is prioritized to boost local food production in the country. Not only that, it is to also encourage indigenous manufacturers and to fast track governmental policies on economic diversification of this present administration.

Proactively, the Federal government took the bull by the horns despite the general outcry that the country was not ripe for such policy, border closure and border drill brought strict sanity into our then porous borders.

Our concentration here is on the North West, Sector 4 of the Operation Border Drill. The trans-border security and economic challenges faced by the North West zone of the country.

These challenges are enormous, activities of these unpatriotic individuals snowballed into arm banditry, smuggling, Illegal migration, illicit drug trafficking and proliferation of light weapons among others.

Unarguably, these ugly trend had led to increasing insecurity and economic downturn for Nigerians over the years.

Despite the Economic Community of West African States ECOWAS protocol, experiences have so far shown that our neighbours have failed complying with this protocols.

Nigeria had on the altar of trade facilitation among nations exposed her citizens and it's economy to sabotage, illicit drugs, arms and ammunition are allowed easy passage or goods that should have paid 35 per cent duty rate allowed at 5 per cent, the nation had lost huge revenue and is confronted with all sorts of security challenges.

From statistics available, seizures dropped since the commencement of the Partial Border closure. This was attainable because the increase in manpower and working tools from the participating agencies made it possible for rigorous patrol of all nooks and crannies of the porous borders.

This sent fear down the spines of smugglers with some of them re-routing their cargoes to seaports raising revenue from such commands.

The successes recorded so far in the area of security, taming the Boko Haram, Banditry, kidnapping were due to strengthening the Border Drill. The Sector 4, Jigawa State, where we have, Babura border and some others of this operation came to relevance as it wholly deal with the zone where the terrorism, oil smuggling have much stamina in the country.

It is important to note that about 90 per cent of illicit drugs and weapons that are being used for acts of terrorism and kidnapping in Nigeria today came in through borders in the Sector 4.

Of recent, the oil and gas smuggling, have drastically reduced. An incident at Babura border, where smugglers transport these

products have been checked. In a country like Nigeria, we all agree that it is hard to fully stop activities of these unpatriotic elements but the with the seal and determination of the personnel attached to Babura community, things are taking normal shape.

No doubt, Sector 4 of the Border Drill Patrol team have lived up to the responsibilities of the scheme. Mr Hameed Ali, the Comptroller General, Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) who in one of his visit to the North West eulogized officers of the team said the ongoing Operation Border Drill is secure Nigeria's borders was as important as the fight against Boko Haram and other insecurity challenges.

Ali said; "We are here to see the condition of your health and operation. We're also here to convey the message of President Muhammad Buhari to you.

"The President directed us to come and see your condition of health and operation. He asked us to come and express his gratitude and commendation for your dedication and commitment to your fatherland and your resolute stand to ensure the security of Nigeria.

"The President wants to bring to your notice that your coming to these border communities is as important as those fighting Boko Haram," Ali said.

He tasked the operatives to ensure national security, the wellbeing of Nigerians and stem human trafficking.

Ali continued; "What is bedeviling Nigeria now is insecurity which is as a result of proliferation of arms used by criminals to terrorize our people, and without those arms they cannot do any harm to us.

"Secondly, it is to ensure the wellbeing of our people by stopping contraband food into the country. This is because contraband foods such as frozen chickens and rice are harmful to our health." The Comptroller said.

The Customs boss added that another reason for the operation was to check the influx of unknown people into the country.

"Most importantly it checks human trafficking and influx of unknown people into our country. Most actors in the insecurity that bedevils our country are not Nigerians and because our borders are porous they come in, perpetrate their heinous acts and disappear.

"So the idea is to ensure everyone coming in or going out of the country follow the laid down procedures," the customs boss said.

Ali called on officers of the Sector 4 to sustain the successes recorded so far in this operation adding that "security is like a puzzle, if you miss a link then you're in a dilemma."

The Sectors 4, especially in Jigawa State already made some positive impacts in their operations with high degree of professionalism. The cordial relationship with the members of the host communities is a huge attainment.

As we all know, host communities must be given clear respond for conducting these operations and to live peacefully with them.

The present administration, through ONSA took a definitive step to put Nigeria on the path to food sufficiency,

stem the flow of illicit, arms into the country and improve national security through the exercise.

The joint border security exercise, has no doubt saved the country huge resources and enhanced national security. The exercises of the Sector 4 have also boosted production of agricultural products, especially local rice, tomatoes, maize, poultry e.t.c and this has stimulated the growth of the agricultural sector.

Today, Nigeria is fast attaining self-sufficiency in rice production, as the border drill has drastically reduced rice smuggling into the country and catalyzed rice production by farmers across the country, while millions of direct and indirect jobs have been created.

Huge amount in foreign exchange, that previously went into rice importation saved. The rice farmers in the country are now venturing beyond rice cultivation to milling, packaging and marketing.

In all of these achievements, Sector 4 of the Border Drill patrol are faced with lots of challenges bedeviling the operation of the Sector.

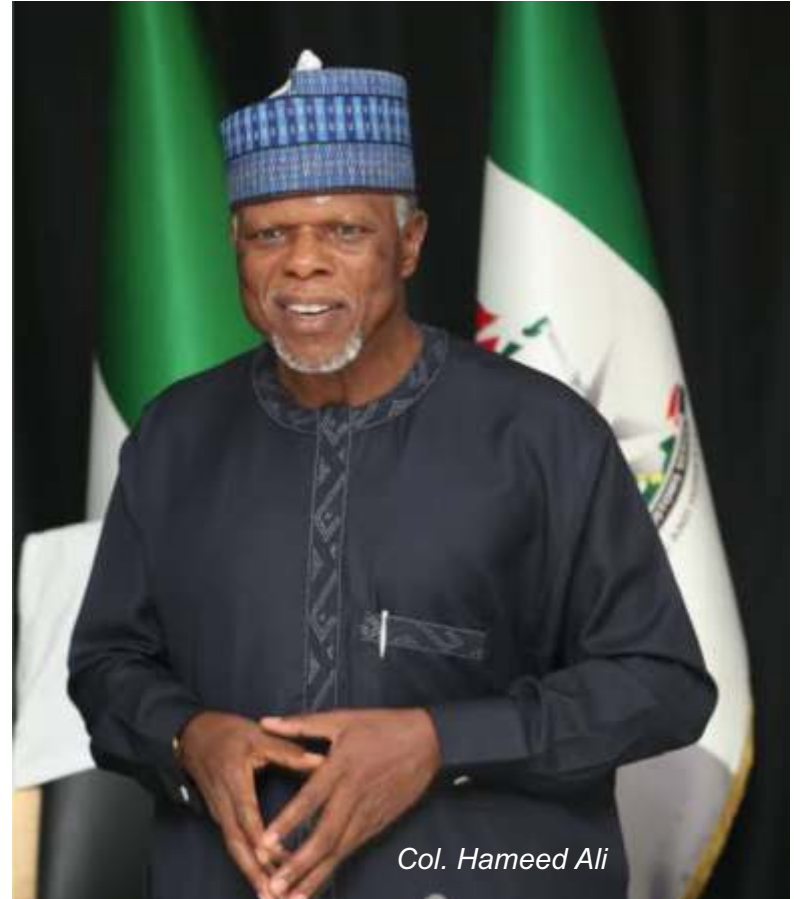
Sponsored allegations by saboteurs, mostly from the border communities and even an insider war, ploy to paint a picture of incompetence among the officers of the Sector.

Of recent, a police officer attached this operation was killed by bandits, even as sad as this news was, no media outfit reported the news, but in the other way round, reports of activities of these officers will filter all the news platforms in an efforts to bring down the good work of the Seetor 4 patrol team.

Sponsored media war, blackmail and propaganda are doctored with a call to scrap the functions of the Border Drill patrol. One of the most recent was the gas explosion at Babura community where some drivers were seen smuggling gas cylinders and when asked to stop for check, one of the drivers took off and in the process, eye witness said a gas cylinder fell off as a result of over speeding, the driver at that spot jump off the vehicle, the vehicle lost control and ram into shops, houses along the road and exploded.

This sad news was falsified to destroy the functions of the Sector 4 patrol team at Babura border. Even to an extend that investigation revealed that a senior customs officer from one of these host communities is responsible for the bad reportage and mainly sabotaging the good work of the personnel.

If the Federal government should look



Col. Hameed Ali

the way of these unpatriotic elements in the society, the attainment and successes recorded would be defeated on the platter of blackmail.

Border Drill patrol, Sector 4 are saddled with the responsibilities of the founding fathers of this operation, they are professionals and carrying out their functions with full sense of patriotism to their fatherland. Some personnel who joined few months back already belnd with the system and formation.

The level of professionalism is next to none. The Federal government should understand that the failure of Border Drill patrol is the success of smugglers, the drug traffickers and terrorists.

We should look beyond the outcry of these scrupulous elements in the society to bring down functions of the Border Drill operations.

We have the responsibilities to get Nigeria out of the hands of these unpatriotic individuals who are belt at going any length to shatter the successes by the Nigeria Customs Services with the operatives of the Border Drill.

Some engaged negative media campaigns against the operatives while others are left with no other options than to blackmail the officers of the Patrol with falsehood.

Conclusively, for the purposes of this laudable initiative of the office of the National Security Adviser to the President and the Comptroller General of Customs, are that, what the Joint Border Patrol team, Sector 4 and other Sectors have been able to achieve are glaring, even a lay man can differentiate what the nation was made through before the Border Drill operations and what we have presently, Government should not relent nor deterred in their determination to rid Nigeria borders off these saboteurs and give the nation, a more prolific services where all and sundry will continue to live peacefully while the sanity and safety of the nation's borders remain intact.

Usman D Shehu, is of the Department of Communication Bayero University Kano.



# Nigeria @ 62: The Good, The Bad And The Ugly

By; AUWAL AHMED IBRAHIM (GORONYO)

Nigeria is making another history, history of reflection, looking back and forward as a nation to count its gains and loses in the journey of independence.

Nigeria as the giant of African nations gained its freedom in the year 1960 from the colonial rule and on the 1st of October, 2022 the country clocked 62 years of independence.

The country as an independent nation has achieved a lot in steering its affairs. Nigeria has a government of its own, a vision to rekindle, a hope to ignite, a passion to achieve and a dream to resuscitate.

Nigerians are doing very well around the globe, making names in their professions and contributing to the world development. We have a Nigerian as the most richest man in Africa and the 97th richest person globally, we have renowned scholars that excelled in the world. We have great scientists, technologist and doctors that are giving good name to our dear nation.

In art, we have people that are whirling the name of Africa from the landscape of our dear nation. We have professional footballers, finest musicians, and good sportsmen in the world of sports.

Nigeria is great because we have patriotic people that sacrificed their time and energy for what we are enjoying. Nigeria "no dey take last", because Nigerians are committed and dedicated to excellence. This means the labours of the past heroes, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Herbert Macaulay, Sir Ahmadu Bello, Obafemi Awolowo, Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, Hajia Gambo Sawaba, Margaret Ekpo and other nationalists were never in vain. Nigerian men and women are doing very well in all human endeavours for the growth of a prosperous and successful nation.

Despite the successes, Nigeria began to plunge into anarchy by the first coup that annihilated the first journey of our democracy on the 15th January, 1966. The coup d'état which killed 22 people divided the centre of the country and bred tribalism.

The system became one of the genesis of religious politics in the country and it led to the five

other military coup d'états in the country, and, also sparked the root of the Nigerian Civil War, known as the Biafran War. The war began on July 6, 1967 to January 13, 1970.

After the return of civilian rule, Nigerians which were better known as most peaceful people turned on each other. Ethno-religious war and religious crises permeated into the nooks and crannies of the dear innocent helpless nation. Many cases of corruption were presented and many people have been castrated in the courts.

Corruption has become the termite that eats deep into the giant flesh of Nigeria. Corruption is the main reason of Nigeria's retrogressive journey. Top politicians, administrators, security personnel and educationists have been charged and punished. Nigeria's economy dwindles and its effect felt by the innocent poor citizens. Moving to our 62 years of independence, Nigerian universities are locked for seven months. This means, the legacy of our forefathers have been misplaced. Before, independence and after it, our tertiary schools were free and effective in teaching and learning, but, how could this happen in our 62 years' journey? The journey of Nigeria brought

about an ugly situation of terrorism, kidnapping and banditry. Before 2007, Nigeria was described as the most peaceful nation in the world. A research explained that Nigerians were the most peaceful people that have no fear of any insecurity problem.

October 2010 marked the first era of bombing in Nigeria and the beginning of terrorism and kidnappings. This ugly situation snowballed from urban communities and crept into rural areas. Kidnapping has cost trillions of Naira to Nigerians and terrorism has destroyed hundreds of lives. The two are adding to Nigerians' hardship and poverty. They made hundreds of people homeless and sacked unaccounted people from their businesses.

But, as we mark 62 years of independence and freedom, Nigerians pray that our leaders should stand up to their promises and be committed in making Nigeria peaceful, united and justifiable nation for all. Long live Nigeria, long live Nigerians!

*Auwal Ahmed Ibrahim (Goronyo) is a lecturer of Mass Communication Department, Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna and be reached on [auwalahmed@kadunapolytechnic.edu.ng](mailto:auwalahmed@kadunapolytechnic.edu.ng)*



Goronyo





## Frustrations Of A Dancing Wannabe President (2)

By; **HASSAN GIMBA**

In June this year, writing under the title 'Of Atiku's sucker punch, Wike's tantrums and APC's only door,' we said, "In reality, the primaries had long been done with because Atiku started early. He had those in control of delegates on his side. Anyone conversant with Nat Geo Wild documentaries on how animals hunt might have seen lions in action. The lions have those who lay in ambush to disorganise herds and those who shepherd the prey to the trap, akin to wingers in a football derby lobbing the ball to their main striker to score. Atiku's people, like Adamu Maina Waziri, who is in the thick of the Wazirin Adamawa's preparations, not only have delegates that can do anything for them but can hunt as well as shepherd others to be banked."

Any serious campaign, just like any government that desires to succeed, must have people like Waziri in its heart. They are called "enforcers". They go about with a whip in one hand and a carrot in the other. For a campaign or government to be successful, some people must be whipped into line and some cajoled. They know who should get what treatment, how and in what dosage.

But to be fair to Wike, he did his best to bring Waziri, the man he cast as his "tormentor in chief", to his side. When he started nursing the ambition to contest the presidency, he identified and singled out those who he thought could be vehicles for his journey. He wanted to bring to his side those whose influence was beyond their localities, those who could bring delegates to the table for one to emerge as

the candidate, as well as plan for secondary success. Among those, he zeroed in on Waziri.

And so, in July last year, he invited Waziri to Rivers State to commission the Ogoni-Opobo-Andoni unity road project. At the event, Waziri confessed to the "sour" relationship between the two of them.

He said, "I tell Wike I don't like him and he tells me he doesn't like me." He even revealed how he refused to answer Wike's phone call but he was beguiled into speaking with him before accepting to go for the commissioning event.

But Waziri refused Wike's courting and overtures. Perhaps, being the serious person he is, he would have understood Nigeria is in a grave situation and that what it needs now is not a comedian or an egotistic dancing president full of himself, a man who thinks everything must start and end with him. A man-kid, who when denied anything, throws tantrums about like an infant denied access to his

feeding bottle.

And so, Waziri was in the centre of the battle of wits that made Wike a loser. That they outsmarted him miffed him and so everyone that did not follow the prompting of the pocket emperor is an enemy that must be publicly traduced and ridiculed, while the person that defeated him must be made to lose.

One of the ways to achieve that is through disorganising the party. It was the same Wike that spearheaded the removal of Adamu Mu'azu from the north as party chairman and brought in Senator Ali Modu Sheriff, who the party stakeholders had to battle hard to retrieve the party from.

He, later on, brought in Uche Secondus from the south. When he started nursing the ambition to be President, he removed him and then brought in Iyorchia Ayu, believing that he and Atiku were "sworn enemies" and so he would work for him.

Now he wants Ayu to resign. Just like that. But can it stop at just that? In the PDP, the deputy national chairman (1),

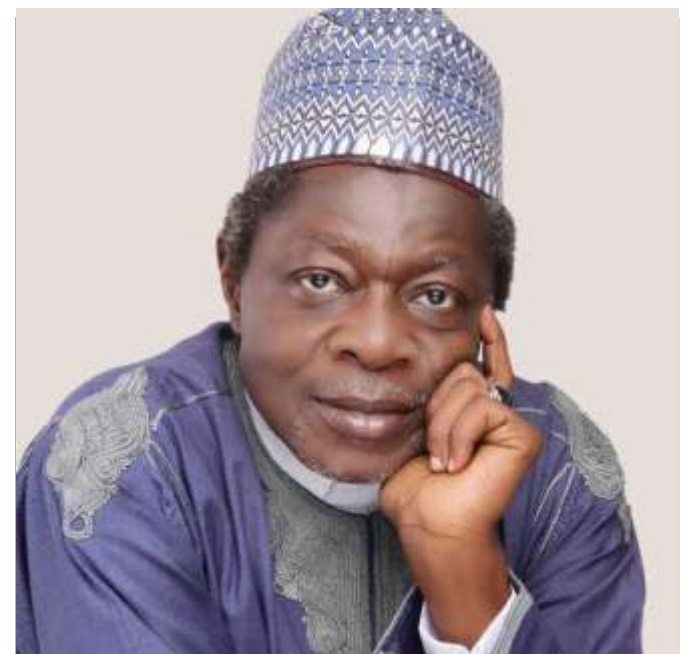
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, national treasurer, national legal adviser and national youth leader all come from the region that produces the national chairman.

The positions of deputy national chairman (2), national secretary, deputy national secretary, national publicity secretary, national financial secretary, national auditor and national woman leader go to the other region.

Therefore, if Ayu resigns and his office is taken to the south, what happens to the office of the national secretary? Would he resign and the office brought to the north, or would the chairman and secretary remain in the same region? Or should all positions be swapped as a result without holding any convention?

Therefore, this is a great constitutional crisis Wike is inviting on the PDP that would cause grievances, bad



*Hassan Gimba*

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prehensions and disenchantment, which, no doubt, would distract the party from its campaigns. It is plain mischief echoed by those whose intention is to cause havoc on Atiku's chances. These are the things Wike is "bringing to the table".

But with or without him, Rivers' people know where their votes are going. He benefited from that; he became governor because of it and not because he is Wike. Having failed to achieve constitutional mayhem, the next best way is to derail Atiku's campaign by shooting down some of its arrowheads, one of whom is Adamu Maina Waziri. By attacking him personally and sponsoring others to attack him, Wike will hope to demoralise him, weaken his drive, and put a wedge between him and Atiku.

However, Adamu Maina Waziri is one tough nut to crack. Charismatic and full of confidence, weakening him through that means is not possible. Not every human being will go through his political experience and still come out with his confidence intact. Atiku, too, may not easily be hoodwinked.

And unlike Governor Samuel Ortom, former Governor Ibrahim Dankwambo and others held spellbound by Wike and afraid to move out of his lair, Adamu Maina Waziri wouldn't give a hoot about what Wike thinks of him. Insults and blackmail do not hold him back.

*"But to be fair to Wike, he did his best to bring Waziri, the man he cast as his "tormentor in chief", to his side. When he started nursing the ambition to contest the presidency, he identified and singled out those who he thought could be vehicles for his journey. He wanted to bring to his side those whose influence was beyond their localities, those who could bring delegates to the table for one to emerge as the candidate, as well as plan for secondary success. Among those, he zeroed in on Waziri. And so, in July last year, he invited Waziri to Rivers State to commission the Ogoni-Opobo-Andoni unity road project. At the event, Waziri confessed to the "sour" relationship between the two of them. He said, "I tell Wike I don't like him and he tells me he doesn't like me." He even revealed how he refused to answer Wike's phone call but he was beguiled into speaking with him before accepting to go for the commissioning event."*



## 21st NSF: North West Zonal Eliminations Begins

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Following the directives handed down by the Minister of Youth and Sports Development, the North West Zonal office has announced that the team sports eliminations ahead of the 21st National Sports Festival (NSF), commence on Monday October 3, 2022.

This was made known in a statement signed by the Sports Coordinator North-West Zone VI, Kaduna, Muhammed Kabir Datti, made available to newsmen in Kaduna on

Sunday October 2.

"I have the mandate by the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development to respectfully draw your immediate attention that the Hon. Minister, Mr. Sunday Dare has approved the conducts of the above named championship in the 6 geo-political Zonal Offices across the country from 3rd - 7th October, 2022," he said.

According to the statement, seven events will be featured at the elimination, from where Representatives of the Zone in Football (Male

and Female), Basketball (Male and Female), Hockey (Male and Female) and Handball (Male and Female) would emerge.

Representatives from Volleyball (Male and Female), Baseball and Softball (Male and Female) and Beach volleyball (Male and Female) would also emerge, making available slots for 14 tickets in both male and female categories.

The statement informed that the following seven states under the zone are expected to participate at

zonal championship, hosts Kaduna, Zamfara, Kano, Katsina, Jigawa Sokoto and Kebbi.

The statement informed that Monday October 3, 2022 is slated for arrival and accreditation, while the competition holds between 4th and 6th from 8:30am at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium and Murtala Mohammed Square, Kaduna, while departure is on October 7.

"The North-West Zonal Headquarters is holding its Zonal Elimination at in collaboration with the Kaduna State Government," it informed.

## NDA Prize Giving/Beating Of Retreat: Mogadishu Battalion Emerge Overall Champions With 9 Trophies

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

As part of activities scheduled for the Passing Out Parade (POP) of Cadets of the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), of 69 Regular Course, on Thursday October 6, 2022, the academy held its Prize Giving Day and Beating of Retreat on Friday September 30, 2022.

The exercise signified the culmination of the training period for cadets, while the award ceremony is an opportunity to reward hard work by individual cadets who have excelled in military training.

The Mogadishu Battalion emerged the overall winners with 9 trophies which include, Shooting Competition, Drill Competition, Ex Camp Highland, Table Tennis, Badminton, Boxing, Judo, Cross Country Event and Volleyball at the prize giving ceremony and received the trophy from the Chief of Air Staff (CAS), Air Marshal I.O. Amao, who was the special guest of honour.

The event which was held at the Afaka Parade

Ground, NDA attracted other dignitaries, including Principal Staff Officers of the Defence and SVC Hqtrs, Corps Commanders, General Officer Commanding and Air Officer Commanding, Director Generals and Commandants of various SVC institutions and a host of others

20 sparkling trophies for the 69 Regular Course were presented in recognition of their hard work and dedication.

Other battalions that participated in the beating of retreat were Abyssinia Battalion winners in four competitions, Exercise Camp Initial, Exercise Camp Farauta, Athletics event, and Basketball competition, Burma Battalion winners of two, in Obstacle crossing and Interior Economy, Dallet Battalion, winners of five, which include, SitUp & Beam Heaving Event, Swimming, Football, Handball and Tug of War Event.

Awards were also presented to cadets who distinguished themselves in various sporting activities for male and female categories.

## Gusau Emerges NFF President



Members of the NFF Executive Committee (2022-2026) take their oath of office in Benin City on Friday night.

## Gov Bello Commissions 18,000 Seater-capacity Stadium in Eket

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

Niger State Governor, Alhaji Abubakar Bello has on Friday, commissioned the 18,000 Seater-capacity ultra-modern Sports Stadium in Eket, Akwa Ibom State.

The Stadium, which was built by the Akwa Ibom State Government, is complete with a tennis court, standard rooms for dressing, referees, massage therapy, conference, doping and a mini-clinic, VIP lounge, eight marked lanes, as well as a Germany made floodlights and a standby generating set.

While inaugurating the facility, Gov Bello lauded the Akwa Ibom State Governor, Mr Udom Emmanuel for building it, noting that the stadium would help to discover the budding talents from the state and raise them for both national and international sporting competitions

Bello also described the stadium as a fantastic facility, built on record time to encourage the young sportsmen and women of the state to make career in sports, which he noted was money spinning venture all over the world.

"Before I commission this stadium, I must commend my brother, Udom Emmanuel your governor for what he has done in this state. He is a great man with a great heart given his development path in every in every sector of the state economy.

"Nothing comes easy now anywhere in Nigeria and globally but your commitment and dedication to the growth and development of Akwa Ibom and her people through your numerous achievements despite this difficult time, have shown clearly that you are a great leader.

"You have used the resources available to the state judiciously

in the areas of infrastructure, education and sports among others.

"With the commissioning of this fantastic 18,000 Seater-capacity Stadium here in Eket, it is my believe also that it will encourage young boys and girls from Eket and indeed the entire Akwa Ibom state to excel in the act of football and other sports to become superstars in the world", Gov Bello stated.

In his goodwill message also, the governor of Oyo State, Mr Seji Makinde who said he lived in Akwa Ibom from 1995 to 1999, noted that the state has changed considerably for better. He described Governor Udom Emmanuel as a visionary leader who focuses on things that unite the people, saying that at 35 years of creation, Akwa Ibom has become a fastest growing state in Nigeria.

In his remarks, Emmanuel noted that the multi modern Eket Sports Stadium is built for both the youth and sports community in the state and Nigeria at large, adding the provisions of the facility is one of the major drivers of talents in the state.

Governor Emmanuel announced that the first major competition due to hold at the stadium would be the Nigeria Police Sports Festival planned to take place in the last quarter in the year.

He also used the occasion to reassure the people of Eket that every ongoing project in the area would be completed within the life-span of his administration which would end in May 29, 2023

The Governor however stressed saying, "Even if the contractors will not want to work, we will push them to work." He thanked the indigenous contractors for delivering on the

stadium project according the specification and raising the bar of confidence that they can handle more complex projects which were hitherto used to be given to foreign contractors.

Earlier, Mr Monday Uko, the Commissioner for Youth and Sports said that the stadium was built by the indigenous contractors from the state.

Mr Uko expressed satisfaction with the quality of work done on the new 18,000 seater-capacity Stadium saying that it would serve as a rallying point to harness and develop the abundant raw sporting talents in the state.

The commissioner said that the facility which came out of the rubbles of the demolished old Eket sports stadium would relieve the Godswill Akpabio Stadium in Uyo of the burden of hosting many major sporting activities in the state.

He added that it would also provide an alternative match venue to the many professional football clubs in the state plying their trade in the Nigerian Professional Football League and the Nigerian National League.

Meanwhile contractors who handled the construction of the stadium have expressed satisfaction with the work they have done but advised that a strategic maintenance plan be adopted.

Among the special guests of honour at event were the former governor of Katsina State, Alhaji Ibrahim Shema and current governor, Alhaji Aminu Masari represented by the Commissioner for Youth and Sports.

Other highlights include the friendly match between Akwa Utd FC and Katsina Utd FC which ended in 2-1 goals in favour of Akwa Utd.



**21st NSF:**  
**North West Zonal**  
**Eliminations**  
**Begins**

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## Independence Day Marked In Maiduguri 12 Years After, Zulum Laments Daunting Security Challenges Bedeviling Nigeria

*\*Commends President Buhari's commitment to indivisibility of country*

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

As Independence Day Anniversary was marked on Saturday October 1, 2022 in Maiduguri, Borno State, Maiduguri for the first time after about 12 years due to security challenges from the Boko Haram insurgency in the past 12 years, Governor Babagana Umara Zulum said, "Regrettably, this auspicious occasion could not hold in Borno State for quite sometimes, due to the peculiar security challenges bedeviling the state." He also commended President Buhari for his good leadership in standing firm not to allow divisibility of the country, saying, "It is evident that the administration of His Excellency, President Muhammad Buhari as Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria has shown strong commitment

to the indivisibility of Nigeria and ensure that every citizens have access to freedom of live and basic social amenities."

Zulum stated this on Saturday, while delivering his 62nd Independence Day Anniversary speech at the Ramat Square, Maiduguri, immediately after inspecting NPF parades and salute to mark the 62nd Independence Day under tight security as celebrants were scanty and mostly security

agencies with less civilians during the 1 hour, 30 minutes celebration.

The governor who was represented by his deputy, Hon. Umar Usman Kadafur further said, "Notwithstanding, today's celebration is indicative that peace is gradually returning to the state and the country at large, as a result of the successes recorded by the gallant troops of the Nigerian military and other sister security agencies, which steered the state government to close down all IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council and Jere Local Government Area, as well as voluntary resettlement of many communities across the state." According to him, "our forefathers and past nationalists struggled for freedom and decolonization of the country, sacrificing their lives and energy to gain independence from the colonialists.

"They sacrificed their personal comfort, energy, time and wealth for the country to be independent, united and an indivisible entity. As such, we shall not allow these sacrifices to be in vain.

"On this day and in the spirit of rededication, we renew our commitment to confronting the challenges of critical infrastructure destroyed by the decade long Boko Haram insurgency and explore avenues to create job opportunities to our teeming unemployed youth,

thereby, minimizing the upsurge of social vices in the society.

"We remain confident that with the massive investments we have made in the last three years in the expansion and strengthening of our resettlement and recovery efforts, we shall succeed in our

commitment to provide the dividend of democracy.

"On a sustainable basis and attainment of our Policy Thrust. We have a duty to improve on job creation, access to education, healthcare delivery services, security, portable water supply for both human and animal consumptions, among others.

"We can do these only in a climate of peace and security. I enjoin the citizenry to remain united, live peacefully and shun all tendencies capable of plunging



the nation into chaos and anarchy as the 2023 general elections is fast approaching.

"In this regards, we shall imbibe the spirit of patriotism and peaceful co-existence for a prosperous nation. We need to make commitment beyond our hero's past to reflect on the gains and lessons learnt over the years and face the challenges of our time.

"We must be evident in our character of selflessness and sense of responsibility that characterized the lives of our heroes. For the nation to actualize its corporate vision,

there is need for all citizens to appreciate the differences and diversity inherent in Nigeria.

"Finally, our nation is today faced with a number of daunting challenges, which I strongly believe are surmountable, however, in face of all these challenges, our resolve and abiding faith must remain unshaken for the interest of the country.

"I wish you happy Anniversary celebration. I believe this occasion is worthy of celebration by all well-meaning Nigerians home and abroad", Zulum said.

## Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic Staff Excited With Re-appointment Of Rector

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

The Staff Community Forum, Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic Zaria, Kaduna State has expressed satisfaction with the step Governor Nasir el-Rufai took for the re-appointment of Dr. Muhammad Kabir Abdullahi as Rector of the institution for the a second term.

President of the forum, Malam Muhammad Jibrin expressed this in a statement he issued on Saturday in Zaria.

Jibrin said the re-appointment has justified the commitment of

el-Rufai-led administration to acknowledge and reward competency, hard work, and dedication to work in the public service of the state.

He said the forum hopes the council would continue to show this kind of spirit, sincerity of purpose, and undeterred commitment in all their future undertakings, to take



the institution to a greater heights.

The forum, therefore, advised the Rector, Dr. Muhammad Kabir Abdullahi, not to rest on his oars in navigating the affairs of the institution to a new amiable pinnacle.

"The unprecedented achievements recorded in your first tenure in the areas of academics, infrastructure, the welfare of staff and students, despite the dwindling financial resources, should be sustained and consolidated

during this renewed tenure.

"The forum is also drawing the attention of Governor Nasir el-Rufai and the general public to the nefarious activities of some unscrupulous, academic staff which constitutes serious havoc to teaching, learning, and allied activities in Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic," the statement said. The forum therefore, made a passionate appeal to Governor el-Rufai to investigate an alleged financial and academic fraud purportedly perpetrated by some staff of the institution to strengthen it.