

# New NIGERIAN

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Published since January 1, 1966

Vol. 5 No. 161

Wednesday 21st June, 2023

Zul Hijjah 3, 1444 AH

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## Ag IGP Egbetokun Vows To Crush Nigeria's Internal Enemies

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Criminals across the country are billed for a tough time as the new acting Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun has vowed to crush all criminals in the country.

Egbetokun, who roared shortly after he was decorated with the rank of IGP by the Vice President Kashim Shettima at the State House Abuja yesterday, said, "am ready to devour Nigerias internal enemies".

The new police chief said he is looking forward to assuming office today, adding that he is keen to "chase away" all criminals in the country.

"I am looking forward to taking over tomorrow morning by 11 am," he told

state house correspondents.

"I really can't describe how I feel presently, but if I have to tell you anything, I will tell you that right now I feel like a tiger inside of me, ready to chase away all the criminals in Nigeria.

"And some other times, I feel like a lion in me ready to devour all the internal enemies of Nigeria. That's my feeling right now," he said.

Usman Baba, the immediate past IGP, was also present at the decoration ceremony of Egbetokun.

Baba said he believes his successor is up to the task, noting that he has confidence in him.

"I'm happy I am handing over to somebody that I know will carry the mantle of leadership from where I



Vice President Kashim Shettima decorating the Ag Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, being assisted by Mrs. Egbetokun yesterday.

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## Tinubu's New Appointments: Sen Girei Congratulates Ribadu, Others

*\*Hails president's vibrant, purposeful leadership*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

An All Progressives Congress (APC) stalwart in Adamawa State, Sen Abubakar Girei has felicitated with president Bola Ahmed Tinubu's new appointees saying that their appointment at this critical point in Nigeria's drive towards socio-economic renaissance is a step in the right direction. Girei equally hailed President Tinubu for his vibrant, purposeful and effective leadership noting that with the courageous and meticulous leadership of the president, Nigeria will sooner than later get out of its maze of socio-economic malaise.

The president who was sworn in on 29th May 2023, virtually hits the ground running from day one earning him the sobriquet "Baba go fast" a new catch phrase in Nigerian political stratosphere.

The president has taken tough measures and policies which his predecessors failed to take including the removal of the egregious and troubling subsidy that has become a conduit through which unscrupulous Nigerians shortchange the nation, and addressing the multiple exchange rates that exposed Nigeria's economy to series of blatant abuses.

He noted that with such zeal and valiant disposition, Nigeria will get it right under the able stewardship of president Bola Tinubu.

Girei who also hailed the appointments noted that all of the appointees are



Ribadu

highly accomplished personalities in their different fields of endeavor adding that through the appointments the president has succeeded in putting square pegs in square holes.

He particularly lauded the president for appointing a consummate technocrat, an accomplished administrator and a thoroughbred politician, Sen George Akume as the secretary to the government of the federation (SGF) noting that with the appointment of such versatile persons, Nigeria is surely on the path of national rebirth.

He urged the new appointees to discharge their given responsibilities with patriotic fervour,

diligence and commitment so as to prove to the president and Nigerians that their appointments is not in vein.

He particularly extolled the patriotic demeanor of the newly appointed National Security Adviser (NSA) Malam Nuhu Ribadu, a younger brother whom he said has done the country proud and will continue to do the country proud.

"I have no slightest doubt that my brother, Malam Nuhu Ribadu will do us proud as he did to Nigerian in the past. I must acknowledge Mr. President's courage in appointing people with proven integrity and excellent track record of service to the fatherland.

"I have no doubt with

Nuhu Ribadu's vast experience in the security, diplomatic and intelligence circles coupled with his no nonsense stance against corruption, the social insecurity currently bogging down our nation will sooner than later become history.

"I also wish my other brothers, including the newly appointed service chiefs, the police and customs bosses successful tenures in office. It is our fervent hope that all the appointees will live up to the dream of Mr. President in rebranding Nigeria as the bastion of the rule of law and the true giant of Africa in the true sense of the word," Sen. Girei said.

## Gov Makinde Never Offer Me Commissionership Slots - Mrs Ajimobi

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The wife of former Governor of Oyo State, late Senator Abiola Ajimobi, Dr (Mrs.) Florence Ajimobi on Monday, said there was no time Governor Seyi Makinde offer her commissionership slots. Mrs Ajimobi made the clarification in a statement issued on her behalf by former Special Adviser, Communication and Strategy to late Senator Abiola Ajimobi, Mr Bolaji Tunji.

She declared that contrary to an insinuation, said there was no time that such overture was made to her by Governor Seyi Makinde "This news is strange to us. We can state categorically that at no time was such an offer discussed.

Mrs Ajimobi holds the Governor in high regards", she said Mrs Ajimobi stressed further "He has continued to exhibit good leadership traits while playing the politics of a unifier with the aim of bringing peace to the State, however the report about Commissionership slots overture could only be attributed to mischief makers."

The statement emphasized, "Mrs Ajimobi who was the Oyo State Coordinator of the

Oyo State

Tinubu/Shettima (OTISHE) Women Presidential Campaign Organisation worked for the victory of the presidential candidate of the party."

"During the period, she engaged various stakeholders in the state - such as the leadership of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Trade Associations, Market Men and Women, Moslem Women groups, youths and students bodies among others in the build up to the election.

"To her joy, her modest contribution led to an overwhelming victory for President Bola Tinubu with Oyo State having the highest votes in the South West States of Ogun, Osun, Ekiti and Ondo."

While asking the mischief makers to desist from propaganda aimed at further tearing the party apart", the statement said Mrs Ajimobi "is committed more than before to the unity of party and she has put all the targeted attack on her during the electioneering period behind her while enjoining all the stakeholders to continue to look for the peace and stability of the party" and promised to work more with other stakeholders to achieve a lasting peace in the state.

## Uba Sani Appoints 14 New Special Advisers

By: FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Governor, led by Senator Uba Sani has approved the appointment of 14 Special Advisers.

The appointments, which take immediate effect, are in recognition of their wealth of experience, extensive knowledge, dedication and commitment to service.

In a statement made available to newsmen by the Chief Press Secretary to the

Governor, Muhammad Shehu Lawal on 19th June, 2023, the appointments, which take immediate effect, are in recognition of their wealth of experience, extensive knowledge, dedication and commitment to service.

The Governor congratulated the new Special Advisers and urged them to see their appointments as a call to service.

They must therefore discharge their duties with diligence and humility.

He wished them God's guidance in the discharge of their assignments.

The new appointees are:

Dr. Abdul Ishaq - Stakeholders Relations, Atiku Sankey - Peace and Conflict Resolution, Dr. Daniel Manzo Maigari - Political Affairs, Ibrahim T. Muhammad - Economic Matters, Dr. Mustapha Musa - Legal Matters, Fabian Okoye - Research, Documentation & Strategy, Dr. Abdullahi B. Ahmed - Project Monitoring,

Implementation and Result Delivery, Mary Adeola Olarerin - Programme Monitoring & Evaluation, Sagir Balarabe Musa - Human Capital Development, Muktar Ibrahim - Chieftaincy Matters, Sabiu Sani - Investment & Promotion, Bridget A.O. Sulaiman - Social Investment Programme, Dr. Abdulkareem Mayere - Energy, Samaila Suleiman - Counselor, Infrastructure



## Zamfara CP Presents N23m Cheques To Families Of Deceased Officers

By; ADAM MUH'D, Gusau

The Commissioner of Police Zamfara State Command, Muhammad Bunu has presented cheques worth 23 million Naira to the family of deceased officers serving under the command.

A statement signed by the command's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP. Yazid Abubakar made available to our correspondent in Gusau on Monday, hinted that CP. presented the cheques on behalf of the Inspector General of police IGP Usman Alkali Baba.

"The cheques were presented to the twenty one (21) next of kins of the officers who lost their lives

in active service".

The statement hinted that the cheques issued were part of the Group Life Assurance/IGP Family Welfare Insurance Scheme of the Force.

The CP appreciated the IGP for his kind gesture and also urged the families of the deceased officers to judiciously use the money to take care of their families.

Meanwhile, Mr. Abdulrahman Ahmed, one of the beneficiaries in his remarks on behalf of other beneficiaries, thanked the Inspector General of Police and the Command for the support.

He also assured that the money given to them will be spent wisely.

## Nestle's MD/CEO Leads Employees In Mentoring 12,000 Students On Youth Leadership

By; MATTHEW UKACHUNWA Lagos

A total of 280 Nestle Nigeria Volunteers, including the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer (MD/CEO), Mr. Wassim Elhousseini, have mentored 12,000 students on Youth Leadership.

"At Nestle, we believe that communities cannot thrive if they fail to offer a future for younger generations. I am therefore delighted that Nestle is collaborating with REVAMP Africa on this initiative that prepares young people for success in life. The Youth Leadership Mentoring Program is a great opportunity to encourage children to imbibe the right values, build good character and develop leadership skills," Elhousseini said.

Mr. Kelechi Anyalechi, Founder of REVAMP Africa Foundation said, "We are thrilled to commence another stream of the transformative Youth Leadership Mentoring Program in collaboration with Nestle Nigeria." Beneficiaries of the Youth Leadership Mentoring Program are students in JSS2, SS1, and SS2 across Nigeria.

"The Youth Leadership Mentoring Program is aimed to instill the right values, skills and attitudes requisite for success and positive personal

development from an early age in children," Nestle's Corporate Communications Specialist, Bola Audu, explained in a news statement made available on 16th June 2023.

The program which is at the present time in its second season is a collaboration between Nestle Nigeria and REVAMP Africa.

REVAMP Africa is a youth-focused non-profit organization with a vision to revive educational values and maximize potential among young people, especially in public secondary schools.

Through the Youth Leadership Mentoring Program, Nestle Nigeria and REVAMP Africa are equipping young people across the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria with skills, knowledge and confidence needed to excel in an ever-evolving world, Nestle authority stressed.

Nestle Cares is the company's employee volunteer program which provides opportunities for Nestle employees to give back to society by offering their time, talent and resources to impact individuals and families, communities and the environment.

Students of Estate Senior Grammar School, Ilupeju, Lagos State were among the participants in the programme.

## Skills Acquisition: SFH Trains Over 2,011 Married Adolescent Girls In Kaduna

By; ISRAEL BULUS, Kaduna

A Non Governmental Organization (NGO), Society for Family Health (SFH), has trained over 2,000 adolescent married girls on various skills acquisitions, to improve their livelihood.

Project Director Roselyn Ode stated on Monday in Zaria, that the training programme is in partnership with the Kaduna State Government and aimed at improving the effectiveness of the exercise among the girls.

Ode explained that the project is to present some of the girls that they have trained in batches for the past year to showcase the impact of the work the organization has done.

She said the organization is open to partnership with any agency to replicate the same to reach and impact more on the critical mass adolescent married girls in the country.

She noted that their training was able to inculcate the spirit of "I can do" to learn and initiate business skills with their clients to enable them to succeed.

The Project Director explained that the

empowerment component code-named A360 program provides a holistic system where adolescent married girls access skills of their choice.

"Out of the 2,011 adolescent married girls that we have trained, over one thousand have already established their businesses while 200 have upskilled and expanded their businesses.

"The adolescent married girls were trained in the areas of; Poultry farming, Skin Bags, fishponds, Soap making, scents, Blankets, and Cakes among others.

"The long-term impact was for married Adolescent Girls to have improved agency and

financial resources to lead the lives they desire and the ability to make and act on decisions that involve the control over and allocation of financial resources, financial independence, and owning a sustainable business of their own," Ode said.

"The Adolescent married girls were also Supported to improve their livelihoods and economic outcomes, going beyond access to contraception to support girls' empowerment holistically towards sustained human capital development," Ode said.

Dr. A'ishatu Sadiq, Director of Health Kaduna State, said, "We were a little bit worried at the beginning because of the

cultural limitations and the plurality of the environment."

She said the response from the community leaders and traditional Institutions was supportive and encouraging.

Princess Adenike Akindele, who was on a courtesy visit to the Emir of Zaria and a special guest at the event respectively commended SFH for the training.

She said her NGO is also gathering information to offer support to the less privileged because Government alone cannot be able to it alone," Princess said.

Some of the participants thanked SFH for the training and promised to step down the training to others.



## Police Arraigns 7 Oodua Nation Agitators Over Invasion Of FRCN Station In Ibadan

*\*Suspects remanded in Abolongo Prison custody till Sep, 13*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Seven members of Oodua Nation Agitators that invaded FRCN, Amuludun FM Ibadan late last month were on Monday arraigned at an Oyo State Magistrate Court, sitting in Iyanganku, Ibadan.

The seven suspects were arraigned before the Magistrate Court by the Police on four count

charge of conspiracy, treason and two counts of armed robbery.

According to the Police, the arraigned Oodua Nation agitators are Noah Atoyebi, Adeleke Gbenga, Abdulganiyu Mustapha, Bashiru Kehinde, Ifagbola Elijah, Oladapo Ajani and Rasheed Jimoh.

However, Magistrate P. O. Adetuyi did not take the plea of the seven defendants and ordered their remand at Abolongo

Prison, Oyo.

Counsel to one of the defendants, Adeleke Gbenga, Barrister Abiodun Adeleke requested for medical attention for his client, while the Prosecutor, Inspector Folake Ewe did not object to the request.

Magistrate Adetuyi said the case file would be duplicated and sent to the office of the Director of Public Prosecution for advice and adjourned to

13th September, 2023.

It would be recalled that the suspected Oodua Nation Agitators hijacked Amuludun 99.1 FM, Radio Nigeria, Ibadan in the early hours of Sunday 28th of May this year with dangerous weapons and charms and hijacked the station as well as broadcast for almost one hour before they were overpowered and arrested by security agents.





## NDA Set To Hold Range Exercise For Cadets

By; **IBRAHIM DAHIRU DANFULANI**

The Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) will conduct Range Exercise for Cadets of Direct Short

Service Course 27 (Army) and 31 (Airforce) at NDA Open Range Afaka from June 19 to 22, 2023. This was contained in a statement signed by the Academy Public Relations

Officer, Major Victor Olukoya made available to the press advised inhabitants of Mando, Tsamiya, Kauya and Afaka of Igabi Local

Government to stay clear of the Range area. He also urged the public not to panic on hearing the sound of gunshots during the period of the exercise.

## Stakeholders Applaud Tinubu, Demand Disbanding Of Federal Universities Councils

By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

Stakeholders and experts in the education sector have applauded President Bola Tinubu's approval for the immediate dissolution of all boards, and Councils of all Federal Government's parastatals and Corporation.

While they said the action was a timely positive decision, they also insisted that all Governing Councils of Federal Universities across the country must be included. Some of the experts noted that the universities councils should not be considered in the exception clause, derived from the Third Schedule, Part 1, Section 153 (i) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended. Although in the past there may have been pressure from other groups to exclude university councils which must be vacated.

Dr. Abednego Silverstone, an educational researcher, argued that a relevant provision in the Act establishing the Councils, also supports the idea of sacking them, in an event they are "found to be incompetent and corrupt".

Silverstone urged the President to remain resolute and intentional in addressing the obvious challenges affecting university system and standard of education in Nigeria. Investigations show that due to political patronage, many unqualified persons were appointed into the governing Council of most of the Federal Universities.

It was also revealed that many of the Councils members were going outside their mandate, and were interfering with day-to-day running of Universities, thereby hampering progress with inordinate conflicting interests.

An insider source, who pleaded anonymity, called on the President to sack the Councils and reconstitute them, appointing only those with proven track record and can add value to the system.



President Tinubu

The source disclosed that most of the members in many Universities Councils, have not made any significant contributions towards the growth of education, simply because they are hugely bereft of relevant knowledge.

The source added, that if the President is interested in proffering lasting solutions to the problems of education in Nigeria, he should beam his searchlight on the governing council, as most have become springboard for corruption.

"Many of the people appointed into the

Governing Councils of most Universities, do not have requisite knowledge and technical expertise to contribute meaningfully to the development of the systems.

"Great majority of them, were political errand boys, who were simply emplaced in the positions as reward from their political benefactors.

The President should start sanitising the education sector from the councils. He should appoint only technocrats with high pedigree and people that have cognate experience and can help the system to grow,"

## Ebonyi: Ohanaeze Youth Leader's Father, One Other Gunned Down

*\*Another abducted, as Bandits attack community*

By; **M K P U M A ENYINNA, Abakaliki**

No fewer than two persons have been killed, while one was abducted in Ivo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

It was gathered men suspected to be Fulani herdsmen yesterday, also killed Ohanaeze Ndigbo youth leader's father during the attack at Ishiagu Community in Ivo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

While narrating his ordeal, the National Youth leader of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, Mazi Damian Okafor stated that the Suspected Herdsmen Lunched the attack on Sunday which claimed two lives including his father. "Suspected herdsmen

attacked Ishiagu community again, killed my father, one other person and abducted one", he said.

Reacting to the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, SP Onome Onovwakpoyeya who confirmed the incident, explained that it was carried out by suspected Fulani herdsmen, from where two lives were lost, while others sustained injuries.

Two persons were reportedly killed by suspected Fulani herdsmen.

One was shot in the head through his windscreen and the other murdered in his farm with his throat cut," PPRO said.

## Hajj 2023: Islamic Scholars Laud NAHCON, Call For Prayers, Support

By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

A group of Islamic scholars under the Umbrella of the Ummah Leadership Forum has expressed its support and commendation to all hajj stakeholders currently working rounds the clock to facilitate the transportation of Nigerian pilgrims from Nigeria to Saudi Arabia for this year's hajj exercise.

A statement signed by the Chairman of the forum, Alh Sulaiman Yahaya and Secretary Abdullateef Olawale praised NAHCON for its ability to surmount the many unforeseen challenges that come along with this year's airlifts.

The leadership of the group who are currently in Saudi Arabia for this year's hajj said Nigerians need to appreciate the sleepless nights and hectic nature of transporting over 95,000 people from their homes to another country.

The leadership of the forum who are currently in Saudi Arabia said "We arrived here through the second flight from FCT and to be fair, NAHCON staff here have been up and doing and a lot of pilgrims have expressed their appreciation".

"For example, the commission along with other stakeholders were

able to find workable solutions to the closure of Sudan airspace – an unforeseen challenge that propped up less than two weeks before the commencements of airlifts of Nigeria pilgrims to Saudi Arabia."

"We also learned from the Media recently that NAHCON faced a lot of administrative bottlenecks in funding the air carriers that manifestly limit the ability and capacity of airliners during this period".

"Remember that the initial date set for the commencement of airlifts was changed due to the inability of the airlines and NAHCON to agree on the "exact cost of air tickets" Which also derailed the airlifts process".

"While we acknowledge the pains of pilgrims whose flights were delayed, we should also understand that the process of a mass evacuation of pilgrims is tedious and appreciates the efforts of the commissions and other stakeholders".

The statement said Hajj airlifts is the only exercise in the world that involves transporting hundreds of thousands of people within stipulated time. Each country participating in hajj airlifts has its peculiar challenges because of the nature of the operations".



## Nigerians Congratulate Reps Speaker, Say Tajudeen's Victory For All That Share His Ideology

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

Following the emergence of Rt. Hon Abbas Tajudeen (Iyan Zazzau) as the Speaker of the 10th National Assembly, well wishers, Demas Etuk and Comrade Shaibu Friday Justice have congratulated him.

They expressed this in congratulatory message in Abuja yesterday.

"We use this medium to write a congratulatory message to a patriotic and very detribalized Nigerian, our most ebullient Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen (Iyan Zazzau) on your landslide victory in the just concluded House of Representative Election.

"Giving your long track records of Nation-building hence, emerging the 10th pragmatic Speaker of the National House of

Representatives is not surprising," they said.

According to the duo, the Speaker's emergence, "is indeed--a testament of your leadership skills, long term vision for national development, good governance and experiential constitutional intelligence.

"There is no doubt that your hard work, dedication and unwavering commitment to ideals have paid off in a big way.

"Your victory is not just a personal triumph, but a triumph for all those who share in your ideological values and humane Philosophy.

"Dear Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen (Iyan Zazzau), you have taught and demonstrated before us once again--that with passion, perseverance and clear sense of purpose, any



Abbas Tajudeen

height in life is attainable. "Therefore, as you embark on this new journey of Nation building-assignment, we pledge our full support and trust of your loyal lieutenants, for

we believe in your objective ability to making positive impacts across divides and leading the modern Nigeria to a better and reformed successful end," they said.

## Billami Educational, Charity Foundation Established To Assist Needy - Chairman

By; JABIRU A. HASSAN, Dutse

Billami Educational and Charity Foundation Hadejia, would continue to offer humanitarian assistance to people of all categories, especially in the area of Western and Islamic education.

This was expressed by the Chief Executive Officer of the foundation, Dr. Isah Billami Hadejia in an interview with our correspondent at Hadejia, adding that humanitarian

assistance would also be a continuous programme to give more contributions in a charity format.

He disclosed that he resolved to single handedly form Billami Educational And Charity Foundation Hadejia in 2021, in order to sacrifice the little he earns in assisting the less privileged, despite many challenges.

"I decided to use the little I am having from my pension, farming and other businesses to assist

vulnerable persons in my locality although my dream is to expand our services to other locations whenever there is a good opportunity because I always remember that many are in need," he said. Dr. Isah Billami Hadejia explained that from the establishment of the foundation to date, they have successfully provided humanitarian assistance to both Islamic and Western education sector, assistance to less privileged homes and now

making move to expand to other areas that would be more beneficial to the people.

He commended some of his friends who also contributed to the foundation with the little they could offer, assuring that from what they are planning, Billami Educational And Charity Foundation Hadejia would become one of the most formidable charity organisations that assists the vulnerable especially in education.



Dr. Isah Billami (right) fielding questions

## NSCDC Boss Removes Rivers Commandant Over NUPENG Faceoff

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Commandant General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Dr. Ahmed Abubakar Audi has ordered the immediate removal of the Rivers State Commandant of the Corps, Micheal Ogar, over a face off between the Command and members of the Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG).

Similarly, he directed him to hand over the affairs of the Command to his Deputy, pending the deployment of a substantive State Commandant.

Consequently, Audi has constituted a high-powered investigation panel to look into the circumstances leading to the clash between the two bodies.

It would be recalled that members of the Rivers State chapter of NUPENG had last Wednesday blocked the entrance of Rivers State Command of the NSCDC, located at Olu Obasanjo way, GRA, Port Harcourt.

The Director public relations department of the Corps CC Olusola Odumosu who made the disclosure in a statement on Sunday, said the NSCDC Commandant General expressed shock at the action taken by NUPENG which painted a surprising scenario and an unwarranted contradiction to the ideals of the Corps.

It reads, "A high-powered investigation panel has been constituted by the Commandant General (CG), of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Dr Ahmed Abubakar Audi, mni, OFR, to look into the circumstances leading to the blockage of the entrance of Rivers State Command of the NSCDC, located at Olu Obasanjo way, GRA, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, by the Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) on Wednesday.

"The committee headed by the DCG in charge of Operations, Dauda Mungadi, is to objectively investigate the role played by the State Commandant and members of the command Anti-vandal team in the crisis.

"In the same vein, the CG ordered the removal of the Rivers State Commandant,

Micheal Ogar, and directed him to hand over the affairs of the Command to his Deputy, pending the deployment of a substantive State Commandant.

"He expressed shock at the action taken by NUPENG which painted a surprising scenario and an unwarranted contradiction to the ideals of the Corps.

"Dr Audi noted that, humility and integrity in service delivery is the watchword of the Corps, as such, any breach of trust or suspected compromise by any personnel will not be treated with kids gloves.

"I have constituted a high powered committee to carry out full scale investigation into the incident in Port Harcourt.

"Nigerians are fully aware that we are the lead agency in protection of critical government assets and infrastructure.

"Therefore, under my watch, no act of indiscipline, compromise or sabotage would be condoned from anyone within and outside the Corps.

"I have given the committee a marching order to ascertain the role played by either of the parties and anyone found guilty would be severely dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the law.

"Recall that the CG recently summoned Niger Delta State Commandants to Abuja, to charge them on the need to rejig their anti vandal units in line with Mr President's order to stop oil theft and other criminal activities within the sector.

"He expressed confidence in the ability of of the committee to carry out unbiased investigation and appealed to members of the public and all interested stakeholders to await the outcome of the investigation and proposed recommendations.

"The CG assured that NSCDC will continue to sanitise the oil sector by waging war against oil thieves and illegal oil bunkerers sabotaging the nation's economy.

"He urged all critical stakeholders to continue supporting the Corps in its renewed fight against oil theft by giving credible information that may lead to the arrest of all nefarious individuals involved in sharp practices within the oil industry".



# Rear Admiral Jamila Appreciates Buhari For OFR Honour

**By: TOM GARBA, Yola**  
**R**ear Admiral Jamila Sadiq Malafa (rtd) has thanked ex President Muhammadu Buhari for honouring her with the Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR). The Navy General was among the 77 Nigerians

who were given the national honour for the services they rendered to the nation. She bagged the award along with prominent Nigerians who President Muhammadu Buhari at the exit of his regime, consider worthy to be so honoured. The Adamawa-born Rear

Admiral is one of the Northern Women who made trail and blazing records while serving in the Nigerian Navy. Jamila from Gombi Local Government, Hona by tribe, who recently retired, started her career with the Navy as a Nurse and later

on, changed cadre to law. While thanking President Muhammadu Buhari for considering her worthy of the national honour, she promised to give her support whenever she is called upon for the development of the nation.





## My New Cabinet Will Be In Place Within Next Two Months - Gov Makinde

**By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan**  
 Oyo State Governor, Engineer Seyi Makinde on Friday, hinted that his new cabinet will be in place within the next two months of his administration.  
 The governor who dropped this hint in a newsletter, disclosed that necessary consultation is presently ongoing on the composition of the new cabinet. Governor Makinde pointed out that capable hands among his former aides would be engaged to continue their service to the state.  
 "Of course, I have also been busy consulting widely to ensure that I keep to my promise of having a cabinet in place within the next two months. I ask for your support and prayers as I make the necessary decisions to move our dear state forward," he said.  
 Governor Makinde added, "As I have previously stated, those who served Oyo State well under Omotunmbi 1.0 will get a chance to continue their good work,"  
 The governor stressed further that politics is a game of principles and deep interests and that trade-offs and alignment will be his operating principles to achieve sustainable development in Oyo state, adding that "equity, fairness and justice" are essential elements to achieve good governance which, he said would remain the watchword of his administration.  
 According to him, meaningful

development and advancement would be a mirage without unity, especially among political stakeholders, saying, young politicians who wish to go far in politics to shun hostility and enmity but embrace alignment when necessary.  
 "Many people still think, in 2023, opposition politics is about hostility and perpetual enmity. It is not. This is one lesson that young people who really want to go far in politics should learn quickly. After years of contesting and losing elections, I realised that politics is a game of principles and deep interests.  
 "I also learnt that politics is about trade-offs. But again, trade-offs should be based on principles. You gain followership when people know what your principles are. In a country such as Nigeria, where political parties are not yet set on proven ideologies, it is these principles that will determine political trade-offs and alignments".  
 He maintained, "For me, those principles are equity, fairness and justice. My support will go to anyone who subscribes to those principles. It really does not matter whose ox is gored. We cannot advance in disunity. Trade-offs lead to progress. And so, this will continue to be our operating principle in Oyo State as we march towards sustainable development."

## Alleged Oil Theft: Direct DSS To Question Asari-Dokubo Over Allegations Against Military, Yoruba Group Tasks Tinubu

**By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan**  
 A Yoruba socio-cultural organization, Maja Maja Group, (MMG) on Sunday, asked President Bola Tinubu to direct the Directorate of State Services (DSS) to invite a former Niger-Delta warlord, Mujahid Asari-Dokubo, for questioning over his allegations against the military on alleged oil theft.  
 MMG in a statement by its National Coordinator, Akinpelu Adesina stressed that Asari-Dokubo needs to make more clarifications about his allegations.  
 According to the Yoruba socio-cultural organization, Asari Dokubo "should be bold enough to mention names of military officers involved in the criminal act".  
 The group while condemning the call for continue detention of Kanu by Dokubo, described it as an act of hypocrisy, saying, "it is uncharitable for the former Niger-Delta warlord to call Kanu a Criminal that should be made to face the law, all because he (Dokubo) is seeking for pipeline contract from President Tinubu.  
 MMG emphasized that Dokubo should remember that he himself was once detained by the Federal Government during former President Olusegun Obasanjo's regime, adding that Dokubo is just scheming to rubbish Government Oweizide Ekpemupolo (a.k.a Tompolo) before the Tinubu's

administration.  
 The Yoruba socio-cultural group stated that no amount of hypocrisy by Dokubo can rubbish Tompolo's achievements in the Niger-Delta region, especially as regards protection of petroleum pipelines.  
 On the proposed Population Census, the group however advised President Tinubu to use the proposed population census exercise to get accurate data base for Nigeria, as accurate data base is needed if the Tinubu's administration really desire to address the socio-economic and political problems of Nigeria.  
 Emphasized that both BVN and NIN policies could not address the lingering insecurity problems in the country because of the lack of accurate data base, MMG particularly made reference to the student loan Act recently signed by the President, saying the programme does not reflect the realities in the country.  
 "For instance, an applicant for the loan or his parents must be earning total income less than N500k a year. To earn N500k a year means that the husband and wife are earning less than N41,000 a month. That is N20,000 each, while minimum wage is N30,000. This means that any student whose parents are working, no matter how petty the job might be, is not qualified for the loan".

## Uba Sani Committed To "SUSTAIN Manifesto" - CPS

*\*Says media vital component of society, visits AIT, Nagarta, DITV, Vision FM, others*

**By: FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna**  
 In a continued familiarization tour to media organizations in Kaduna, the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor of Kaduna State has assured citizens of Governor Uba Sani's commitment to keeping to promises contained in his "SUSTAIN manifesto".  
 In a statement by the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Public Affairs, Mock Samuel Kure dated Saturday June 17, 2023, the CPS

emphasized the significance of the media as a vital component of society and a crucial element of democracy.  
 He conveyed the government's interest in cultivating a collaborative relationship with the media to promote the administration's positive policies.  
 He said Governor Sani is known to have a media-friendly approach, open-door policy, and practice inclusive governance.  
 The SUSTAIN manifesto he stated is a

comprehensive plan aimed at improving the well-being of citizens in Kaduna State.  
 Mr Shehu urged the media to continue playing the role of society's watchdogs and hold the government accountable. He called for collaboration in promoting good governance and development in Kaduna State.  
 The media houses visited include Nagarta Radio, Vision FM, AIT/Raypower,

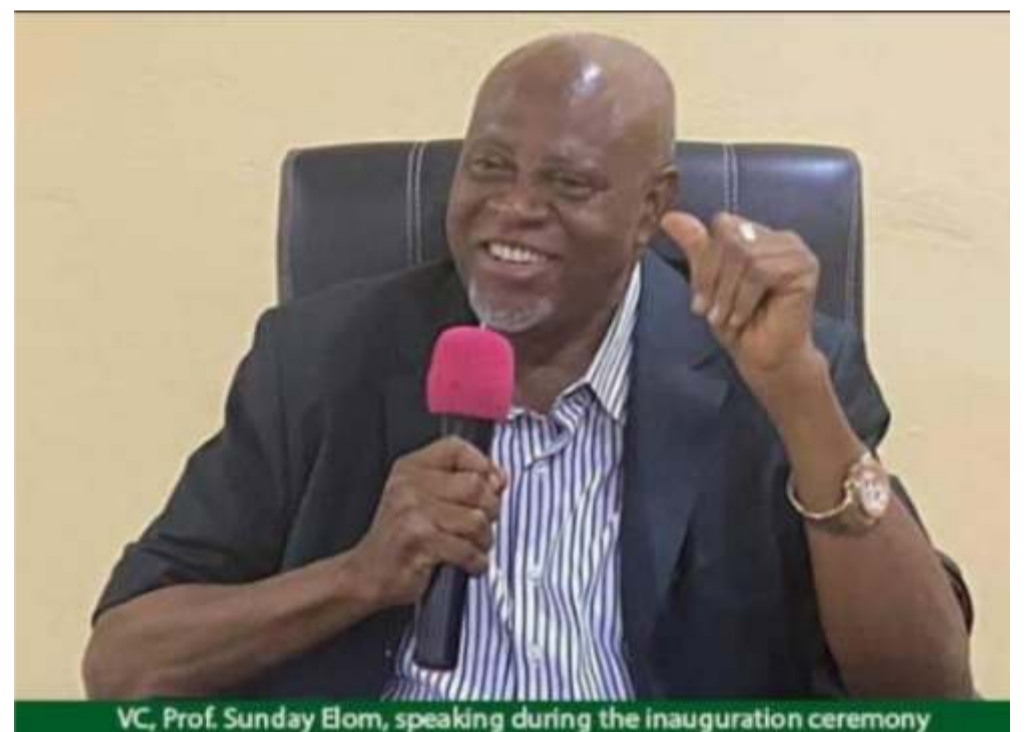
DITV/Alheri Radio, Correct FM and Invicta FM.  
 The heads of media organizations in their remarks, pledged to ensure maximum coverage of the policies and programs of Governor Uba Sani, to inform and educate the public on the positive impact of the policies on the state.  
 They also promised to provide accurate and unbiased reportage of government activities.

## Emerging Technologies Will Revolutionize Education In Nigeria - Alex Ekwueme Varsity VC

**By: MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki**  
 The Vice-Chancellor of Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State, Prof. Sunday Elom has said that emerging technologies in teaching and learning can revolutionize education in Nigeria.

The Vice-Chancellor stated this at the opening ceremony of the 3rd International Conference of the Faculty of Education of the institution, themed, "Emerging Technologies in the 21st Century Teaching and Learning" held at the Abubakar Adamu Rashied Auditorium.  
 The Vice-Chancellor who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academics, Prof. Romanus Ejiaga, said that emerging technologies have the power to revolutionize education in developing countries like Nigeria by increasing access, quality, equity, and efficiency.

He asserted that the overall goal is to enable more Innovative and engaging teaching methods and learning experiences, adding that the conference is actually



VC, Prof. Sunday Elom, speaking during the inauguration ceremony

**Alex Ekwueme Varsity VC, Professor Sunday Elom**

coming at the right time when the University is in the process of incorporating blended learning in its academic activities.  
 Speaking further, the Vice-Chancellor urged scholars in the field of Education and other related disciplines to develop tools that would add value to both teaching and learning in this digital age in order to counter the challenges that confront Education in the 21st Century.  
 He maintained that in the evolving landscape of education, institutions are

urged to provide technological support that fit the needs of these diverse groups.  
 He reiterated that AE-FUNAI is adopting emerging technologies in its classrooms in order not to be left behind in this technological age, and admonished the teachers and students to embrace the emerging technologies and step up their digital competencies in order to fulfill the required needs of 21st century classrooms.  
 Earlier in her welcome address, the Dean, Faculty of Education, Dr.

Francisca Ogba said that the conference is exceptional on its standard as it was aimed at providing a platform for educators, researchers, administrators and other specialists in the field, within and beyond the shores of Nigeria to keep abreast with the changing landscape of education methodologies and to discuss the opportunities and challenges in teaching and learning in the 21st Century classrooms.



# Use Your Wealth Of Experience to Ensure Effective Service Delivery, Uba Sani Tasks New Appointees

**By; FUNMIADERINTO, Kaduna**  
Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani, on Monday, admonished the newly sworn in top government officials, to be discipline, loyalty and committed in carry out their duties, hence all hands must be on deck to move the state to greater heights. Governor Uba Sani made this known after the swearing in and oath of allegiance to Balarabe Abbas Lawal as Secretary to the

State Government (SSG), Chief of Staff Sani Liman and Head of Service, Habiba Anana Shekarau, held at Government House in Kaduna. At the brief ceremony which the governor personally conducted, he congratulated the new appointees, pointing out that they all came highly recommended. While swearing the appointees, Governor Uba Sani expressed confidence that they would add value to his administration and

assist in stabilizing it. He said his administration is committed to delivering on its seven point agenda by ensuring safety and security, upgrade of infrastructure, strengthening of institutions, trade and investment among others. According to the governor, his administration concentrates on the development of the rural areas by improving the rural economies through

massive infrastructural development. Governor Uba Sani charged the newly appointees to deploy their wealth of experience to ensure effective service delivery. He urged them to be disciplined, loyal and committed in carrying out their duties. Governor Uba Sani congratulated the new appointees and wished them God's guidance and protection while discharging their duties.





# Southern Kaduna Leaders Renew Calls For Gurara State

**\*Allege el-Rufai encouraged genocide, impoverishment of area**

By: **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

While decrying the alleged roles played by the immediate past Governor, Malam Nasir el-Rufai in subjugating its people, the Southern Kaduna Leadership Council (SKLC) has demanded that a recommendation of the 2014 National Constitutional Conference which agreed that Gurara State should be carved out, be implemented.

SKLC made the appeal in a statement signed by its chairman, Mr Ishaya Dary Akau, made available to our correspondent on Monday June 19, 2023.

"We hereby wish to let the nation and international community know of the heinous plans and to draw the attention of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the 2014 National Constitutional Conference where it was agreed to create Gurara State from the present Kaduna State and to invite the President to activate the demand which has gone through the constitutional process of obtaining the consent of two thirds of the 36 Houses of Assembly in the Federation.

"The nation and international community should know that the Southern Kaduna region was recorded to have above 3,000,000 people by 2006, and present projections show that there are now above six million people in the area," the group said.

They explained that the total land size of Southern Kaduna is above 26,000 square kilometres.

"Southern Kaduna is larger in population than 21 states and larger in land size than 26 states in Nigeria. There are 58 ethnic groups in Southern Kaduna, with

similar culture, traditions and beliefs.

"The Southern Kaduna people are requesting for protection from the Government of Kaduna State, the Federal Government of Nigeria, the African Union and the United Nations. We call on the international community, to constitute a visitation panel to ascertain the genocide orchestrated and supervised under the Islamist regime run by Nasir el Rufai as Governor of Kaduna State between 2015 and 2023," they said.

According to them, propaganda by certain disgruntled elements in their midst has had the tacit support of government.

"The Southern Kaduna Leadership Council, and indeed the people of Southern Kaduna will not use the statements of Nasir el Rufai to determine how we live and relate with Muslims, settlers or visitors to Southern Kaduna.

"We are a peaceful people and will follow peaceful and lawful means in pursuit of our goal of surviving as a people under the regime of hostility and hate instituted and handed down as a legacy by Nasir el-Rufai in Kaduna State. However we will not fail to tell our people to defend their lives, lands and heritage.

"The Southern Kaduna Leadership Council, desirous of developing harmonious and peaceful relations with all the citizens and people of Kaduna State, call on the present government not to follow the path of their predecessor," the statement said.

**SOUTHERN KADUNA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,**

**KAFANCHAN PRESS STATEMENT ON**

According to the statement titled, "Nasir el-Rufai's Viral Video and His Eight Years of Misrule in Kaduna State" the Southern Kaduna Leadership Council (SKLC) said that it held its regular meeting on the 17th June, 2023, and considered several important matters, including the speech by Mal. Nasir el-Rufai, the immediate past governor of Kaduna State, delivered to some religious clerics.

"The SKLC noted that the video of Nasir el-Rufai's speech has gone viral and has made public certain issues that have hitherto remained in the domain of conjecture and hypothesis among Nigerians generally, but which we the victims of el-Rufai's actions have lived and experienced over a period of eight years.

"That Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai set out deliberately to misinform the Nigerian Public and the world, and waged false propaganda amongst certain religious circles, to the effect that the people of Southern Kaduna who are mainly Christians did not vote for the APC.

"The voting figures cast in Federal, State and Local Government elections in Kaduna State between 2015 and 2023 bear testimony to the fact that Nasir el-Rufai deliberately deceived those in the APC who are not Muslims of his actions.

"The system of governance by exclusion practiced by el-Rufai was deliberate against the people of Southern Kaduna.

"That el-Rufai picked a Muslim deputy from Southern Kaduna to spite the Christian majority for not supporting the APC. The most insidious aspect of this el-

Rufai Islamist agenda was his claim that he extended such a Muslim-Muslim system to the presidential election in order to extend the scope of "Islamic subjugation" across the length and breadth of Nigeria within twenty years," they said.

SKLC said that from the above and many more revelations by el-Rufai in his now viral video, they and the people of Southern Kaduna as a whole conclude as follows:

"The impoverishment of our people arising from the total neglect of the area in 8 years, and the deliberate destruction of farmlands, crops, plantations and forests, harvests and food stocks, in an orgy of terrorist violence were deliberate actions in pursuit of subordination of the people of Southern Kaduna to el-Rufai's implementation of jihadism in Kaduna State.

"That the incessant killings and maiming of our children, women and youth, and the burning of our homes and destruction of our villages and communities from 2015 to 2023 was part of a strategy for "Islamic dominance" by the government of Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai in Kaduna State.

"That the assassinations, murders, kidnappings, arrests and imprisonment, and removal of indigenous Southern Kaduna traditional rulers, and the balkanization of our chiefdoms to create emirates out of districts under our traditional leaders, was part of an undeclared jihadist campaign being surreptitiously waged by Nasir el-Rufai as Governor of Kaduna State.

"The removal of our traditional leaders and imposing foreign ones on the people of Southern Kaduna has been calculated to change the structure of

traditional leadership in the region, and create conditions facilitate creation of new settlements of foreigners and change the demography of the area for el-Rufai's "Islamic Dominance".

"That while the people of Southern Kaduna paid taxes to government, as Governor of Kaduna State Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai made sure our people were not entitled to the benefits derivable therefrom, in the regime of crass discrimination and marginalization institutionalized under his administration.

"False statistics have been churned out to show "settlements" of foreigners as "indigenes" of Southern Kaduna. Consultants from "Islamic States" were recruited to carry out "Settlement Surveys" in Southern Kaduna, which "showed" that there were "more" Fulani settlements in Southern Kaduna than the existing settlements of the indigenous communities.

"To justify these false statistics Fulani terrorist gangs began attacking, destroying and removing the existing settlements. Without our consent, our lands were given to the foreigners with the intention of growing their population in 20 years to outstrip that of the indigenous people.

"Just before the now postponed 2023 National Population and Housing Census, thousands of Fulani herders were taken into Southern Kaduna, where they went into the forests and plantations grown by our communities, and began hanging clothes and bags of belongings on the trees, which would then be counted as "Houses" belonging to Fulanis during the planned census."

## Join Hands With NUJ, Other Stakeholders To Rid Journalism Of Quacks, Senate President Tasks NGE

**\*Congratulates Anaba, others NGE new executive**

By: **BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

The Senate President, Senator Godswill Akpabio on Monday, tasked the Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE) to join hands with the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) and other relevant stakeholders to rid journalism profession of quacks and fake news peddlers.

Senator Akpabio gave the task in his congratulatory message to the Editor of Vanguard Newspaper, Mr Eze Anaba on his

election as the President, Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE) and others newly elected NGE officers.

According to the Senate President, Anaba and the entire leadership of the NGE should lead the needed change in the journalism profession in the country with the aim of making it more responsive and development focussed.

"Your elevation came at a time the entire nation is desirous of a new thinking in the management

of its affairs. I am confident that you are well-equipped to contribute to the realization of a new NGE, the journalism profession and Nigeria in general, during your tenure", he said.

The Senate President stressed that the new NGE executive should work towards upholding the ethics of the journalism profession as well as using the vast powers of the media to support critical economic and social reforms being

championed by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for the overall benefit of Nigerians.

Senator Akpabio then advocated renewed partnership between the media, the Legislature in particular and the Federal Government led by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu in general to advance democratic governance in the country

According to him, doing this will also make the Renewed Hope Agenda a reality for the generality of Nigerians, Maintaining that though the

requirements of the new responsibilities are daunting, the Senate President said he is convinced that the new officers have what it takes to effectively and efficiently lead and take the organization to higher heights.

Wishing Anaba, Uwugiaren and all newly elected NGE national officers a successful tenure of office, Senator Akpabio charged them to bring their rich experience in further uplifting and expanding the frontiers of the apex Editor's body in the country.





# COMMUNITY FOCUS

## Billamin Foundation Brings Succour To Hadejia Communities

By: JABIRU A. HASSAN, Dutse

In most of our societies nowadays, well meaning citizens often establish charity foundations that would be a channel towards assisting the needy and less privileged at both rural and urban settlements. And some of the charity groups or foundations join hands with other non-governmental organisations at both domestic and foreign locations, to embark on community services that are solely related to humanitarian

assistance.

In this respect, it is necessary to applaud the existence of Billami Educational and Charity Foundation Hadejia, which was single handedly established by a patriotic citizen, Dr. Isah Billami Hadejia, a retired civil servant, a business tycoon and large scale farmer in order to use the little he is earning in assisting the less privileged of all categories.

Billami Educational and Charity Foundation Hadejia was established in the year 2021 and under the period of close to two

years, the foundation has done commendable and humanitarian programmes in both Western and Islamic education, which remain recognized.

Speaking to New Nigerian Correspondent in Hadejia on Sunday, Dr. Isah Billami disclosed that, "I decided to establish a foundation that would assist the needy and other categories of people especially in the area of education at both Islamic and modern system, to ensure that even the less privileged would afford good

education, and from what we have gathered, our foundation is making excellent progress".

Furthermore, Dr. Hadejia announced that although the foundation is yet to get support from other sources, aid is being offered by some of his friends and close associates, that usually enable good charity assistance, which is another landmark achievement.

He assured that in the near future, Billami Educational and Charity Foundation Hadejia, would

extend its helping hand to other vital sectors in order to meet the desires and goals for the organisation's establishment.

He thanked all those who are offering helping hands towards the success of the foundation and called for establishment of more charity organisations at the grassroots levels.

Educational And Other Vulnerable Persons Assistance By Billamin Foundation, Hadejia.





## NDLEA Apprehends 2 Qatar Based Drug Kingpins, Destroys 30.9 Hectares Of Hemp Farms In Delta, Edo and Ondo

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Two Qatar based Nigerian drug kingpins have been nabbed by operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) over alleged involvement in drug trafficking.

This occurred just as the agency said it destroyed 30.9 hectares of cannabis (Indian Hemp) farms in Ondo, Delta and Edo states within the past week.

The arrest of the duo drug kingpins, identified as Eyah Celestine Nnamdi alias Murphy) and Ugwuoke Peter Oluchukwu followed the interception of their methamphetamine consignment at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Ikeja, Lagos.

The Director of Media and Advocacy of NDLEA, Femi Babafemi in a statement yesterday, disclosed that Ugwuoke was apprehended on June

9 during the outward clearance of Qatar Airways passengers at the departure point, Terminal 2 of the Lagos Airport.

According to the statement, the Narcotics officers discovered that the suspect was travelling to Doha with an Ivorian international passport with the name Hien Narcisse.

"A further scrutiny of his black carry-on luggage led to the discovery of a false bottom concealment of two parcels of crystalline substance that tested positive to meth weighing 1.00kg.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the suspect is a Nigerian who had gone to obtain an Ivorian passport for his travels.

"He confessed that he travelled to Qatar in August 2022 and returned from the Arab nation about two months ago to perfect arrangement for the movement of the drug consignment.

"A further probe led

operatives to discover that his Qatar-based senior partner in the trade simply identified as Murphy was lurking around in Eziani, his home town in Nsukka LGA, Enugu state.

"A prompt deployment of NDLEA operatives on June 10 to Eziani community led to the arrest of 'Murphy' whose true identity was later discovered to be Eyah Celestine Nnamdi, who had lived in Indonesia for some years before relocating to Doha, Qatar", Babafemi stated.

Meanwhile, a total of 30.9 hectares of cannabis farms were destroyed in Delta, Edo and Ondo in the past week.

In Delta, 18 hectares of cannabis farms were destroyed on Monday, June 12 in Umuchime village, Ogume, Ndokwa West LGA by NDLEA operatives supported by soldiers.

Four suspects arrested on the farms include two men and two women: Kingsley

Atuola, 40; Okikiolu Adekunle, 44; Osai Doris, 40, and Ublenu Joy, 28.

In Edo State, operatives on Wednesday, June 14, stormed Awakpa forest in Owan West LGA where they arrested Malachy Amaechi; Nanmua Peter; Ojo Momoh; Afam Luke and John Danladi who were apprehended inside a hut located on 2.5 hectares of cannabis farm, which was destroyed and 102 kilograms of the substance already harvested recovered.

Another farm measuring 1.294870 hectares was also destroyed with the three farms razed totalling 3.978217 hectares.

In Ondo State, John Emmanuel, 30, was arrested at Ofosu, with 81kg cannabis on Thursday 15th June while operatives on same day nabbed Gideon Akoh at Ala forest where a total of nine hectares of farm were destroyed and 12kg harvested substance recovered.



INEC Chairman

## Ohanaeze Faults Calls For Removal Of INEC Chairman

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Apex Igbo socio-cultural organisation, Ohanaeze Ndigbo Youth Council Worldwide has faulted calls for the removal of the chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Mr. Mahmood Yakubu.

A former Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Olisa Agbakoba, SAN, had advised President Bola Tinubu to sack Yakubu.

Agbakoba had praised key decisions already taken by the Tinubu administration, including the sack of CBN Governor, Godwin Emefiele, as well as EFCC chairman, Bawa Abdulrasheed and the uniform exchange rate. He asked Tinubu to take a step forward and sack Yakubu.

But in a statement made available to journalists on Saturday by the National President of the Igbo group, Mazi Okwu Nnabuike, he urged Tinubu not to throw away the baby with the bath water.

Okwu said though he agreed with Agbakoba on the other decisions taken by the Tinubu presidency, there was no need for Yakubu's sack at this material time.

He was of the view that "despite the shortcomings

we witnessed during the 2023 general elections, it was one of the best elections ever conducted in Nigeria history.

"In the same election conducted by Yakubu, we had sitting governors lose elections across the country; we had popular National Assembly members lose election. This did not happen before in the country's election.

"We are not making excuses for the lapses during the elections, but it is wrong to totally disparage the efforts of the commission.

"There is no perfect election in any part of the world, even the United States, which prides itself as the capital of world democracy."

Okwu further advised that any attempt to remove Yakubu at this time was ill-timed, stressing that "aggrieved candidates are before the election tribunals ventilating their anger; how then can we remove the INEC chairman on whose table the bulk stops?"

"Yakubu should be allowed to remain as the INEC helmsman at least pending the conclusion of the cases."

He further advised that efforts should be made to improve on the gains made during the 2023 general elections.



The suspected drug kingpins and the substances intercepted from them.



## Wade Into Lingering Crisis Over Selection Of New Aseyin Of Iseyin, Group Tasks Gov Makinde

By; **BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

The Iseyin Youths Development Group (IYDG) at the weekend, called on Governor Seyi Makinde to wade into the lingering crisis over the selection of a new Aseyin of Iseyin.

IYDG in a statement by its National President, Babajide Oniyo, said the absence of an Aseyin, after the demise of the last Aseyin of Iseyin, Oba Dr. Abdulganiyu Salawudeen Adekunle Oloogunbe, Ajinese 1 on the 24th July, 2022 has been making issues of security of lives and properties of residents difficult for stakeholders to settle.

The social economic body stressed that the vacant stool of Aseyin has also resulted into what he called stagnant economic development' in the community, hence the need for Governor Makinde to find express solution to the gridlock.

In the statement titled, "Aseyin Stool so critical to be vacant: A special appeal to the kingmakers and stakeholders", IYDG called for the collaboration of all Oke-Ogun Obas on ending cases of kidnapping and sundry criminal occurrences.

"The prolonged vacuum to the Aseyin throne created by the passing of Oba Dr. Abdul Ganiyu Salawudeen Adekunle Oloogunbe, Ajinese 1 almost a year ago has become a great concern to Iseyin people home and abroad; as continuance of the Royal stool's vacancy will pose a magnificent developmental challenges to the Ancient town", he said.

Babajide added, "It can not be forgotten in a jiffy that Kabiyesi joined his ancestors on Sunday, the 24th July, 2022 at 62; and after spending fifteen 15 years on the throne. It's then worrisome to note that the throne still remains vacant almost a year after the Monarch's departure. This definitely will not come without a prize".

"We are much aware and treasure the fact that Iseyin has three Ruling Houses from which the throne is being rotated viz. Akando, Ajisibi and Majaro. And very conspicuously, the last three Aseyins from Oba Moshood Osuolale Adeyeri, Oba Abdul Ganiyu

Alobalowo and Oba Dr. Abdul Ganiyu Salawudeen Adekunle were from Akando, Majaro and Ajisibi ruling houses respectively. Hence, it's clear that it's the turn of Akando; going by the monarchical rotational system of Iseyin land from the time immemorial. If this is correct, we feel it should be seamless".

According to Babajide, "This is a period when a qualified Oba is needed on the throne in the interest of Iseyinland and it's environs. Apart from the insecurity part ravaging ÒkèÒgùn that requires a quick collaboration of ÒkèÒgùn Obas to address; this is a period major decisions will be taken in the state and at the Federal level, of which Aseyin should be physically present. Invariably, absence of an Aseyin at this critical time is tantamount to self-gagging the developments currently being experienced and enjoyed in land".

"We can all testify to the loads of developments Iseyin welcomed during the 15 year reign of late Oba Ajinese; which include, the reconstruction of Moniya-Iseyin Road, rehabilitation of Iseyin-Oyo road, Construction of Iseyin-Ogbomosho Road, Establishment of Lautech Iseyin Campus of Renewable Natural resources, Establishment of Federal Road Safety Corps Iseyin Command, amongst other developments. We don't want these to cease due to lack of a reigning king.

"Therefore, this is a clarion call to our amiable Governor, Engr. Seyi Makinde to help us in Iseyin by wading into the raging crisis among the kingmakers and other stakeholders, so as to have another monarch in place within a short period"

Babajide however appreciated the efforts of the valuable and respected king makers in Iseyin towards ensuring a seamless process to producing the next Royal Highness, saying, "we appeal that they bury all hatchets that could further tarry the process amongst them and make peace with one another in the kind interest of our dear origin. May God help them through the entire process and may Iseyin continue to be great"

## Human Trafficking Second Biggest Transnational Organized Crime - NAPTIP

By; **RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos**

The National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) has said that Human trafficking is the second biggest transnational organized crime.

Adding that it is a \$150 Billion global criminal enterprise, NAPTIP said the crime is trailing drug trafficking in the second position.

The Director General of the Agency, Prof Fatima Waziri-Azi gave the hint at a stakeholders meeting in Benin.

The Benin Zonal Commander Mr. Nduka Nwanwene, alluded to the assertion at a 3-day Training and Capacity Orientation on Standard Reporting Template for members of the TIP Media Corps and Officers of Press and Public Relations Unit held at GolfView Hotel, GRA, Ikeja, Lagos, supported by FIIAPP/ A-TIPSOM, funded by European Union.

He added that NAPTIP has rescued and sheltered no fewer than 17,753 human trafficking victims compromising

13,026 females, 4,727 males and 8,935 children as at May 2022.

In Mali, he disclosed that no fewer than 20,000 Nigerian women and girls are trapped, living in shanties, in mining areas, where they are sexually exploited.

He further disclosed that many victims of human trafficking who returned to Nigeria from Libya have had their kidneys or other vital

organs harvested in the countries to which they were trafficked without their knowledge.

The Zonal Commander explained that the victims were usually served drinks laced with drugs before organ harvesters take advantage of them, adding that most of the victims only knew when they were assisted back



NAPTIP DG Prof. Wasiri Ari

to the country by International Organisation for Migration.

He added that many Nigerians had lost their lives through organ harvesting by the cartels who deals in the clandestine business.

According to him, Nigerians and other nationals in Oman, Saudi

Arabia, Qatar, Libya, Lebanon and Malaysia's food and drinks are always sedated and their organs such as Kidney, Pancreas are harvested, while corpse of those whose hearts, liver and bile are harvested are thrown into the desert for wild animals to feast on them.

## Best Uniuyo Graduating Students To Receive N200,000, Alumni Pledges

By; **PATRICK TITUS, Uyo**

The University of Uyo Alumni Association has pledged to award a cash prize of N200,000 each graduating year to best students across the faculties of the university. President of the association, Barr Onofioke Luke said that the decision was taken during the National Executive Council (NEC) meeting of the Association in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital last week.

Luke explained that gesture is to encourage academic excellence

among students of the institution through scholarship awards and prizes for best graduating students in all the faculties of the university.

"By this arrangement, the best graduating student in each faculty is to be awarded a cash prize of N200,000 each graduating year." Luke said.

He added that the Alumni Association pledged to continue to give back to the University as well as initiate programmes that will create positive impact for members and students.

According to Luke, to actualize the Association's

vision for the University of Uyo, NEC set up some strategic committees, namely: National Legal Council, Convocation Committee, Budget Committee, Education Development Committee, Diaspora Development Committee, Project Development Committee, Sports Development Committee and Welfare Committee.

The Uniuyo Alumni NEC also appointed Mrs. Amayo Atope as Secretary General and Mr. Sunday Umanah as Assistant Secretary General. This followed the resignation

of the former Secretary and the demise of the former Assistant Secretary.

The University of Uyo Alumni Association congratulated one of its own, Pastor Umo Eno on his emergence as Governor of Akwa Ibom State and also felicitated with other members who are elected or appointed into various positions across the country.

The association called on Alumni members to be prepared to join in the task of making the University of Uyo better and bigger.



# Eight Killed In Fresh Plateau Attack

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

Gunmen on Friday night in Rawuru community, Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State, killed about eight persons in a fresh attack.

A source who confirmed the killings to New Nigerian said, "So far, we have confirmed that eight persons were killed during the attack last night in Rawuru community in Barkin LGA. What we don't understand is that before the attack took place, some soldiers came to the village in the afternoon. We also saw them in the night."

He explained that the villagers were attacked leading to the killing of the victims who were in their homes, wandering how the assailants carry out the attacks successfully

without being apprehended by the soldiers and the security agents who are also within the community.

He described the attacks as one too many called for an investigation into the activities of the personnel of the Military Taskforce deployed to maintain peace in Plateau communities.

He lamented that a total of 276 persons had been killed in different communities in the past month following the persistent attacks with over 30,000 persons now being displaced.

According to him, they have the mass grave sites where deceased bodies were buried for those that care to go round and see for themselves, saying that thirty thousand (30,000) IDPs were scattered in Mangu, Panyam, Mangu Halle, Yilpo (Sabon Gari)

Fan in Barkin Ladi, Maikatako in Bokkos, Marish in Bokkos, Bukuru in Jos-South and a lot in Jos North local government areas of the state.

He said children at Primary, Secondary Schools and some students of tertiary institutions in the affected Local Governments have missed their examinations in the Junior NECO Exams set for JSS 3, the ongoing Senior Secondary School Examination and the Tertiary examinations due to forceful migration of their people to various places as IDPs president stated.

He expressed delight that their Plateau ethnic brothers that have been supportive of their people and regretted the silent position of SEMA and NEMA which before now were known for their quick

response in time like this, stressing that until now, they have not felt their presence.

He called on SEMA to work in accordance with their constitutional responsibilities and attend to the 30,000 IDPs scattered across the state.

He accused the Military Special Taskforce in charge of maintaining security in the state of not doing enough to secure the lives of the people and called on the federal government to disband all military checkpoints in the state and replace them with that mobile police for more operational effectiveness.

Alabo Alfred, the Police Command in the state could not confirm the incident as he did not pick up his calls when contacted on the latest attacks in the affected communities.

## Zazzau Emirate Is Supporting UNICEF Programmes - Emir Bamalli

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

Zazzau Emirate is fully supporting all UNICEF programmes which focus on women and children.

Emir of Zazzau, Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli stated this when he received UNICEF Country Representative in Nigeria in his palace.

He said, Zazzau Emirate is working round the clock together with all its district heads and other traditional title holders whenever supporting programmes such as UNICEF.

Emir Bamalli assured the country representative that they will continue to do the needful at any given time to support children's progress and development.

The monarch gave assurances that people of the emirate are very cooperative.

In her remarks, Ms. Cristina Munduate UNICEF Country Representative Nigeria, expressed appreciation to the Zazzau Emirate for the support and cooperation their organization is receiving.

Munduate said, UNICEF is very confident with people of the Emirate for accepting their programmes, particularly for the women and

children support.

The country representative reiterated UNICEF's commitment towards assisting women and children in Nigeria and Zazzau Emirate in particular.

She appreciated the traditional ruler's commitment and support for UNICEF's programmes.

Earlier in his remarks, the Executive Secretary Kaduna State Primary Healthcare Development Agency, Dr. Hamza Ibrahim Ikara told the emir that they were in the palace to pay homage in appreciation to Zazzau Emirate for the support and cooperation UNICEF is receiving.

Hamza Ikara said, even though the country representative is not a new person in the country, she is back on a new role in UNICEF's operations.

The team of stakeholders to the palace included, Executive Secretary Kaduna State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (PHCDA), Dr. Hamza Ikara, Alhaji Zubairu Galadima Soba Director NOA Kaduna, DG RUWASSA Kaduna State, Engineer Mubarak Shehu Ladan, among others.

## Four Die In Oyo Expressway Accident

*\*FRSC blames over speeding*



Scene of the accident

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Four persons, all males died in an auto crash on Saturday along the Ibadan-Oyo expressway. New Nigerian gathered that the accident occurred when an 18-seater passenger white Toyota Hummer bus with registration number JJJ

941 XA (Lagos) somersaulted.

It was learnt that trouble started when the bus said to be overloaded and traveling at top speed lost control and somersaulted many times.

According to the Atiba Unit Commander of Federal Road Safety Corp (FRSC), DCC Bayode Olugbesan, 20 people

were involved in the accident but only four were confirmed dead at State Hospital, Oyo.

DCC Olugbesan blamed the accident on over speeding and overloading, disclosing that four people who died in the accident had been taken to the mortuary in Oyo General Hospital.

"All the victims are male

and their destination is North, the cause of the crash was over speeding and overloading, the bus was supposed to carry 14 passenger but was loaded with 20 passengers," he said

Mr. Olugbesan then urged road users to be careful while driving, avoid over speeding, overloading and night traveling.

## Ag IGP Egbetokun Vows To Crush Nigeria's Internal Enemies

have stopped," the former IGP said.

"We grew up in the job together, I was his boss at a time or even when I was IGP.

"He worked under me twice, we've been working together and I know how he can go ahead to champion the cause of the police from where I stopped."

President Bola Tinubu on Monday, approved the immediate retirement of Baba and all the other security chiefs.

Nuhu Ribadu replaced Babagana Monguno as the national security adviser (NSA), while Christopher Gwabin Musa took over from Lucky Irabor as the Chief of Defence of Staff.

Taoreed Abiodun Lagbaja was named Chief of Army Staff, while Emmanuel Ogalla is the new Chief of Naval Staff.

The president appointed Hassan Bala Abubakar as the Chief of Air Staff, while EPA Undiandeye was named Chief of Defence Intelligence.



# Timi Frank To Tinubu: Don't Allow Sylva, Kyari, Malami, Sirika, Bala, Jamoh, Others Escape Justice

*\*Says Nigerians awaiting arrest, prosecution of ex-serving top officials under Buhari*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Comrade Timi Frank yesterday, pleaded with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu not to allow former and serving top officials appointed by ex-President Muhammadu Buhari alleged to have abused their offices to escape justice.

Frank who made the call in a statement in Abuja, listed those that deserve to be guests of the Department of State Services (DSS) and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to include former Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Timipre Sylva, former Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika, former Attorney-General for the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami and Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO) of Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL), Mele Kyari.

Others are former Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster management and Social Development, Sadiya Umar Farouq, former Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Ms. Hadiza Bala Usman (now appointed

Special Adviser to President Tinubu on Policy Coordination), former Comptroller general of the Nigeria Customs Service, Col. Hammid Ali, Director General and Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Bashir Jamo, former Managing Directors and Sole Administrators of Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) as well as former and immediate past Service Chiefs appointed by Buhari.

Frank, who is the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), Ambassador to East Africa and the Middle East, said: "Nigerians know how agencies managed or still being managed by these former and present government officials were run in the most opaque and corrupt manner. The President has no choice but to demand accountability on behalf of the people.

"The suspension and arrest of the Governor of Central bank of Nigeria (CBN), Godwin Emefiele and Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), AbdulRasheed Bawa have been hailed by Nigerians but this is just a tip of the iceberg; the President must not let his anti-corruption drive stop with these

two individuals.

"Those that must be investigated and prosecuted are still running free out there and the earlier they are rounded up and made to face the law for economic sabotage, the better for this country. Besides, some of them have already found their way into the present administration like Ms. Hadiza Bala-Usman.

"There is further intelligence that others like her are currently lobbying cabal around Tinubu to get a soft landing or better still find their way into the administration by way of appointment."

Frank, who is the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), Ambassador to East Africa and the Middle East, insisted that failure to arrest and prosecute these suspects known to have used their offices for selfish gain would show that the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration is only out to witch-hunt Emefiele and Bawa now under DSS custody.

He insisted that that ex-officials like Sylva need to answer questions on alleged identity theft, sale of oil blocks, marginal oil fields and refineries. Siriki needs to tell Nigerians the whereabouts of Air Nigeria and monumental funds spent on it so far.



Timi Frank

On her part, Sadiya Umar Farouq needs to tell the DSS and EFCC how money voted for social investment programme especially school feeding were expended.

He urged the EFCC and DSS to extend that probe actives to cover former Service Chiefs and Inspector General of Police from the administration of former Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai up to the ones recently retired by the President administration.

He further urged Tinubu to be wary of former Governors

especially of the PDP who are now pretending to support his administration.

He described their motive as selfish while warning that Tinubu not to allow his administration to be a dump site for known corrupt elements.

He said despite the pendency of the presidential election petitions at the tribunal that will determine the true outcome of the last presidential election, Nigerians will commend Tinubu if he is doing well and also call him out if he goes wrong.

## UN Allocates \$20m To Scale Up Emergency Response On Food Security, Nutrition Crisis In North East

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The United Nations has allocated US\$20 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) to urgently ramp up the humanitarian response to the worsening food security and nutrition crisis in north-east Nigeria.

In support of government's efforts, some \$9 million in CERF funding and a complementary \$11 million NHF allocation will go towards a coordinated multisectoral response aimed at preventing a deterioration to famine or famine-like conditions.

According to a statement issued and signed by Ann WERU, Head, Public Information, OCHA Nigeria, and made available to journalists in

Maiduguri on Monday, almost 700,000 children under five are likely to suffer from life-threatening severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states in 2023. This is more than double the number of SAM cases in 2022 and four times the number of cases in 2021.

More than half a million people in the BAY states are also projected to face emergency levels of food insecurity – one step away from famine, from June to August which is the peak of the lean season, according to the March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé analysis.

The lean season also coincides with the rainy season, when the incidence of acute watery diarrhoea, cholera, malaria and other diseases increases, aggravating the precarious situation of malnourished children.

"Extremely high rates of acute malnutrition and deaths are predicted unless there is a rapid and significant scale up of humanitarian assistance," warned Mr. Matthias Schmale, the Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria.

"Government, donors and the international community must make urgent funding available to protect the lives and future of vulnerable children in north-east Nigeria," the statement said.

The bulk of the CERF allocation, \$6 million, will go to the World Food Programme for food security interventions (including food and voucher assistance) for 95,000 extremely food-insecure people in three garrison towns of Borno State.

Some \$2 million will go to the UN Children's Fund for the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition (including providing ready-to-eat

therapeutic food and Tom Brown solutions (a nutrient-rich locally produced supplementary food).

Also, \$1million will go to the Food and Agriculture Organization for seeds, tools and other agricultural livelihood support to boost local production of nutritious foods to build resilience.

Most of the NHF funding (\$11 million) will go towards improving access to clean water and sanitation hygiene, and nutrition (including reactivating, sustaining and scaling up the bed capacity at stabilization centres and scaling up outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes).

The rest of the funding will go to healthcare (including the integrated management of childhood illnesses and complicated SAM cases), and to protection services with a focus on gender-based violence, child

protection and mine action. The NHF aims to allocate 50 per cent of funding to eligible national partners on the frontlines.

The alarming food security and nutrition crisis is primarily the result of years of protracted conflict and insecurity which continue to prevent many people from growing the food they need or earning an income to procure food.

On May 18, humanitarian organizations appealed for a prioritised \$396 million of this year's Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) appeal for a multisectoral response to the lean season food security and nutrition crisis.

While the CERF and NHF funds will help jumpstart this response, combined they represent less than five per cent of the required funding.



# Internet Fraud: EFCC arrests 48 suspects in Abeokuta

\*Recovers 7 exotic vehicles, several mobile phones, laptops and apple wrist watches, among others.

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

No fewer than 48 suspected internet fraudsters have been arrested by Operatives of the Ibadan Zonal Command of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) over alleged internet fraud.

The suspects according to EFCC included a staff of Federal Medical Centre, Idi-Aba, Abeokuta, Ogun State, identified as Balogun Olawale.

According to EFCC, Olawale alongside 47 other suspects were arrested on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at Idi-Aba

area of Abeokuta following intelligence on their alleged fraudulent activities.

The commission listed items recovered from the suspects to include seven exotic vehicles, several mobile phones, laptops, hi and apple wrist watches, among others.

EFCC gave names of the arrested suspects as Sodiq Iremide, Abiona Solomon, Moshood Sakiru Olamide, Olalekan Sodiq Olawale, Adebayo Ifeoluwa Timilehin, Joshua Gilbert, Adeleke Oluwafemi, Lawal Yusuff Abiodun, Olaleye Adedolapo Emmanuel, Opaley Olanrewaju, Kazeem

Oladimeji, Akinlosotu Ayodeji Ayomiposi, Omowale Haruna, Akinsolotu Kolade Olayinka, Soremikun Ibrahim, Kolawole Boluwatife Daniel, Olufunkunmi Emmanuel, Olatunji Uthman Alabi, Afeez Jimoh Akorede, Lateef Abdulmujeeb Akanbi, Boladale Olajide James and Enitan Tolulope John.

Others according to EFCC are Orunsolu Sodiq Babatunde, Lamidi Micheal Akolade, Lateef Rahamon Olamilekan, Idowu Micheal Oluwasegun, Peter Adio Olakunle, Ahmod Kazeem Olayemi, Okewole Daniel

Olayiwola, Ogundeyin Faruq Olamilekan, Edunjobi Toheeb Ayobami, Simon Dare Tosin, Ahmod Mustapha Olawale, Oladende Mubarak Olansile, Olanrewaju Kabiru Olamilekan, Olowookere Abeeb Lolade, Dolaoso Uthman Olamilekan, Kodagbese Emmanuel Aduragbemi, Simon John Seyi, Idemudia Lucky, Ahmod Waheed Olamide, Olowookere Soburu Ademola, Agboola Oladimeji Taofeek, Awoniyi Segun Gbenga, Babatunde Mathew Ayodele, Alaye John Saheed and Odediran Oluwole Ayomide.



The arrested suspects

## Arewa Youth Felicitate Chief Wale Edun Over SA On Monetary Policy Appointment By Tinubu

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Arewa Youth Assembly (AYA), has described the appointment of Chief Wale Edun as Special Adviser, Monetary Policy to President Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu as a good omen to the present administration's desire to revamp the fortunes of the country.

The group said Chief Edun, who is also a co-founder of Stanbic IBTC

Bank and a core professional with the requisite experience in the financial sector to initiate policies that would strengthen the naira and improve the economic standing of the nation.

A statement issued on Saturday in Kaduna by the group's Speaker, Salihu Mohammed Danlami, said, "As a group committed to the development of the Northern region, the Arewa Youth Assembly is

proud to associate with the accomplished and distinguished Wale Edun, who has demonstrated his expertise in various capacities, especially when he served as Commissioner of Finance in Lagos State."

The Arewa youth believe that his appointment is a testament to his outstanding record of service and prayed for a successful tenure in his new role.

The Arewa Youth Assembly pledged its support to Chief Wale Edun in the discharge of his duty and expressed confident in his ability to steer the monetary policy of the country towards the path of growth and development.

The group urged him to work tirelessly to ensure that policies that would positively impact Nigeria as a whole are initiated and implemented.

## CSO Salutes Exemplary Patriotism, Cooperation Of Hajj 2023 Air Carriers

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON (CBN)

Independent Hajj Reporters (IHR), a civil society organization made up of Nigerian journalists who monitor and report activities in the Hajj and Umrah industry, has saluted what it describes as the "Exemplary Patriotism" and full cooperation shown by airlines selected by the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) for this year's pilgrimage.

NAHCON had selected seven Airlines including Max Air, Azman, Air Peace, Aero Contractors, Ari Air, Value Jet and Saudi based Flynas for the airlift operations of Hajj 2023.

Payments to these airlines for the airlift exercise was agreed on United States Dollars as is the norm in international travels.

A statement released Saturday by IHR, signed by its National Coordinator, Ibrahim Mohammed said it is aware that based on the agreement reached with the Airlines, NAHCON was expected to pay at least 50% of the total amount due to them ahead of the commencement of the airlift of intending pilgrims.

"We are aware that after receiving all deposits from across the states, FCT and the armed forces, NAHCON had gone ahead to deposit these monies into its accounts at the Central Bank of Nigeria

"The normal practice is for the apex bank to provide the dollar equivalent of monies deposited based on the approved official rates for disbursement by NAHCON to meet its obligations. However, we are sad to note that in spite of repeated appeals, the CBN could not provide the needed foreign exchange equivalent not just before the commencement of airlift on May 25, but almost 3 weeks after.

"It is, however, gratifying to note that after receiving assurances of payment whenever the USD is made available, the airlines have gone ahead to not just offer full services, but is so far doing a wonderful job. Over 50,000 pilgrims have so far been airlifted to Saudi Arabia by the airlines who are yet to get the needed funds from Nigerian authorities.

"This is most commendable and patriotic," the statement said.

IHR also noted that following relentless efforts of various stakeholders and coupled with recent change of leadership at the CBN, the necessary authorisation have been received and NAHCON is set to get the due amounts for disbursements.

"We urge all concerned to ensure everything that is needed to be done ahead of the second leg of the airlift that is expected to begin immediately after the Hajj rites is done" IHR said.

## Osun APC Doors Open To Members Ready To Apologize Genuinely - Igbimo Agba

By; BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

The All Progressives Congress, (APC) Igbimo Agba Osun, on Friday, said the party's door is opened to any member ready to apologize genuinely to the party for his/her misdeeds.

Chairman of APC, Igbimo-Agba Osun, Engineer Sola Akinwumi stated this in a statement made available to journalists.

Engineer Akinwumi stressed that the decision was arrived at in wide consultations with the body's members and that the decision included that the All Progressives Congress (APC) Osun State Chapter remains intact while the leadership is

exploring all avenues towards ensuring a united and focused Party.

"It has come to the knowledge of this body some comments made by the Fmr Gov/Minister of Interior H/E. Rauf Adesoji Aregbesola during his recent event in Osun State and wish to inform the public that our party's door is opened to any party member who is ready to apologize genuinely to the Party for his/her misdeeds", he said.

The Chairman APC Igbimo Agba Osun added, "Finally, this body deeply appreciates all committed and loyal members for their unwavering and firm support for the party despite all odds".



# Governor Inuwa Flags Off Sales, Distribution Of Subsidised Fertilizer For 2023 Farming Season

**\*Restates Commitment To Supporting Agricultural Activities, Ensuring Food Security In Gombe State**

**\*Announces 25% Subsidy On Market Price Of Commodity**

**G**overnor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya has flagged off the sales and distribution of fertilizers for the 2023 farming season.

Performing the ceremony at Lawanti Farm Service Centre in Akko Local Government Area, the Governor said the commodity will be sold at the rate of N19,000 per bag, against the market price of about N26,000 to alleviate the financial burden on the farmers.

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

Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, made available on Monday, he said that the timely distribution of the subsidised fertilizers for this year's cropping season is aimed at boosting agriculture and ensuring food security in the state and beyond while creating wealth and providing employment opportunities for the teeming populace.

The governor said "the government has procured 160 trucks (5000 MT) of fertilizer at the cost of Two Billion, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Seven Million, Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N2,837,500,000.00)", an addition of about 35 trucks from the quantity distributed last year. To ensure the commodity reaches its intended beneficiaries, Governor Inuwa explained that his government has put in place an effective framework for the sales and distribution of fertilizers across all the 114 political wards of the state to ensure that the commodity reaches the real farmers at the grassroots.

Governor Inuwa said his administration is mindful of the high price of fertilizers in the market which adversely affects the farmers and reduces the overall contribution of the sector in the economic development of the state.

"We understand that the high cost of fertilizer and other farm implements can be a significant barrier to our farmers. That's why we are working diligently to make these essential inputs available at reduced prices to alleviate the financial burden on our farmers. Our aim is to empower our farmers with the essential resources to enhance crop yields, improve soil fertility, increase profitability, and achieve sustainable agricultural practices".

The governor explained that his

government has engaged in different projects and programmes to revamp agriculture in Gombe with the state keying into many agricultural initiatives at both state, regional and national levels to boost productivity.

"Government has also secured an NG-cares intervention on the provision of fertilizer and agrochemicals to our farmers free of charge. We also collaborated with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development FMARD in training farmers on the maize and yam value chain in which the beneficiaries were provided with relevant inputs as starter packs.

"We are also embarking on agricultural extension services and awareness campaigns on modern farming techniques, soil management, and sustainable agriculture for Gombe farmers to get the necessary tools and information to make informed decisions and embrace practices that benefit both their farms and the environment", he added.

"I would like to assure you that we have put measures in place to ensure that the procured fertilizer reaches the grassroots. This informed my approval of the distribution method that captured adequately our small, medium, and large-scale farmers. To ensure smooth and hitch-free distribution of fertilizers, I have directed the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry to deliver the fertilizer to all our 114 political wards across the State".

Announcing the price for this year's fertilizers, Governor Inuwa said, the commodity will be sold at the price it was sold last year despite the increase in the market price of the commodity.

"Last year, we sold the fertilizer at 19,000 Naira per bag; we still maintain that price." He said, adding that, each bag of fertilizer is subsidised at the rate of 25%.

He appealed to the farmers to cooperate with those assigned with the responsibilities of sales and distribution across the state for the success of the exercise.

He cautioned them against diversion or any form of mismanagement of the commodity, adding that the law will take its course on anybody found wanting.

The governor restated his government's commitment towards mitigating farmer-herder conflicts in the state through the setting up of conflict

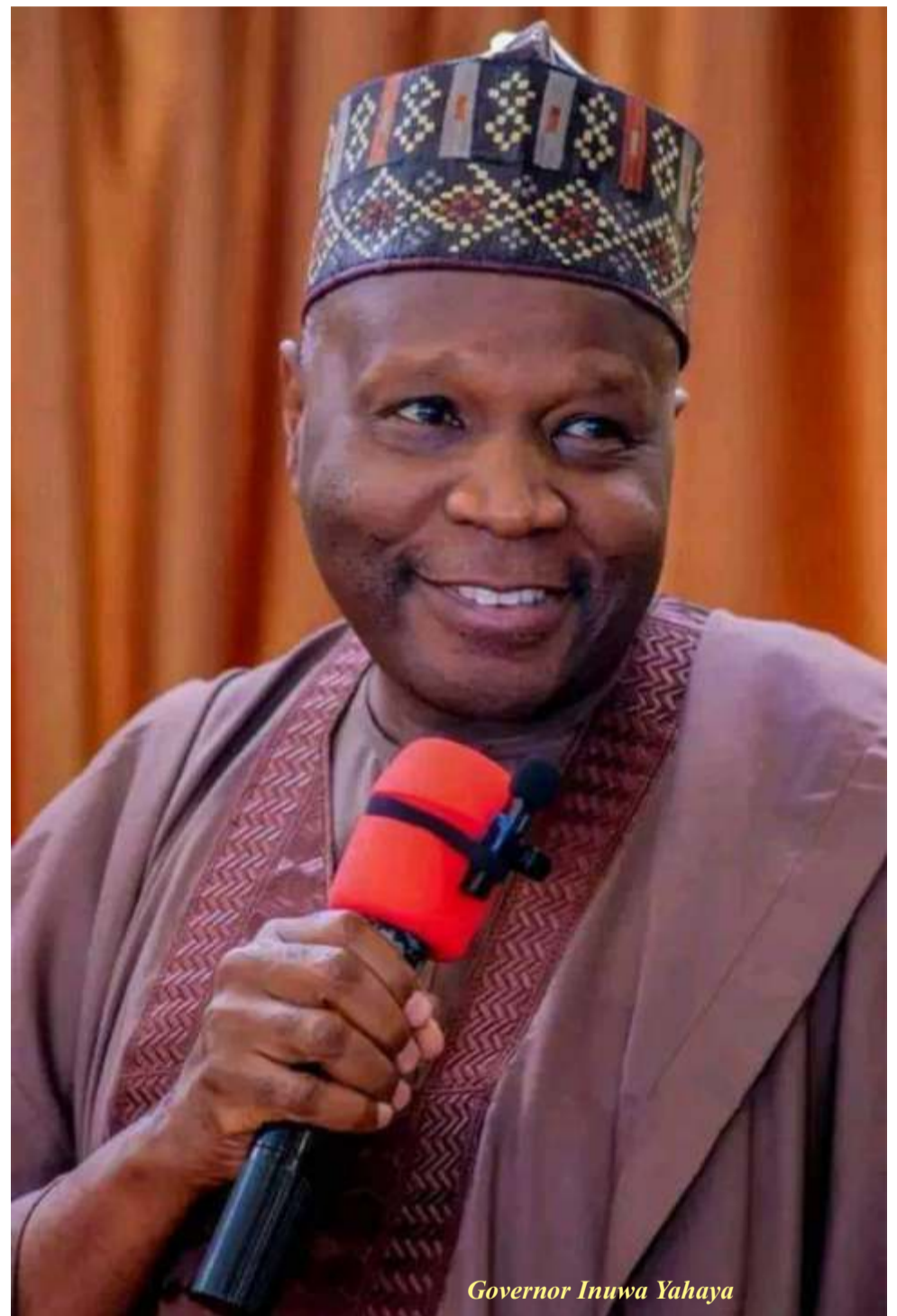
prevention and dispute resolution committees in all the eleven local governments of the state, the efforts that he said have so far recorded tremendous success in bringing harmonious and peaceful co-existence between herders and farmers which has significantly increased crop and animal productivity in the state.

He maintained that Gombe State is largely an agrarian state with over 80% of its population engaged in Agriculture. "Supporting this sector is therefore crucial to economic development, food security, and sustainable livelihood for our people", the governor noted.

He used the occasion to thank local farmers for their contribution towards the growth and resilience of the agricultural sector in the state, urging both farmers and herders to live in harmony with one another and avoid infringing on others' properties and rights for peace to reign in Gombe state and the nation.

The governor pledged continued support to the agricultural sector, promising to address the shortage of manpower in the agricultural sector, thereby improving farming productivity. Earlier in his welcome address, the Director, Planning, Research and Statistics in the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr Ibrahim Yakubu Usman thanked Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya for giving the agricultural sector in the state the attention it deserves, explaining that since the inception of this administration, the governor has been consistent in providing all the needed funds and necessary support for agricultural development in the state.

Dr. Ibrahim specifically noted the establishment of Farmer-



*Governor Inuwa Yahaya*

herder Prevention and Settlement of Disputes committees, annual vaccinations against transboundary animal diseases, procurement and distribution of fertilizers, agrochemicals, farm equipment, building livestock infrastructures among others as some of Governor Inuwa's keen intervention in Agricultural sector towards making the state self-reliant and agricultural hub in the Northeast Subregion.

In his goodwill message, the Acting Director, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Gabriel Baba Yila thanked the governor for his support to farmers in the state.

"The Management of Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on behalf of the teeming farming population of Gombe state wishes to thank

His Excellency most sincerely for his continuous support to the farmers of Gombe state with basic farm inputs; fertilizers, agrochemicals, improved seeds, and farm implements to Improve productivity, create wealth, reduce poverty and guarantee national food security," he said. The event was attended by the Deputy Governor, Dr Manassah Daniel Jatau, Speaker, Hon. Abubakar Mohammed Lugerewo, APC Chairman, Mr. Nitte Amangal, Secretary to the State Government, Professor Ibrahim Abubakar Njodi, Acting Head of Civil Service, Alhaji Ahmed Kasimu Abdullahi, heads of security agencies, traditional rulers, farmers communities and organizations, among other stakeholders.





## 'Women Wahala!'

By Safiya I. Dantiye

**W**OMEN trended this week and not for a good reason, rather as a butt of a joke and the 'problem' of polygamy, with comments emphasising 'women wahala.' No thanks to the wives of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tajudeen Abbas, at his inauguration on Tuesday where one pushed away the other for space.

"In any event some may assume that this sort of rivalry happens only where the husband is wealthy or is a high office holder, but the reality is that even where the husband is so poor that the wives have to scrounge to feed their children, they still engage in rivalry."

While nobody will deny that there are undertones between co-wives even where there are seamless cohesion, but even where there is strong rivalry, some would not show it in public. They would present a friendly mien between themselves and pick up their quarrel when they go back home.

This should be more so for wives of public officers, especially in the full glare of cameras at his swearing in! And to make matters worse in this age of social media where things that would not be noticed before are now amplified to high heavens. This may cause remorse, disappointment from their loved ones, embarrassment from some quarters and their husband would not be happy.

Just imagine if he is a governor, only God knows what would happen in the state, with the position of the First Lady.

I recall that many years ago, two wives of one governor competed vigorously at attending functions, but at least they attended different ones therefore there was no clash; only that the state television was full of the news of the functions.

It was like a bazaar, each wife with her entourage, making people and clerics to complain. One cleric asked the governor to call them to order. They were turning government into something else, but that was before the coming of the social media, allowing them to get away with it.

Perhaps that is why some governors with two wives don't encourage the office of the First Lady or the title, if you like, even though the first wife ought to be the First Lady. But where the second wife or third or fourth, as the case may be, is more assertive, she may try to take over the position. Where the first wife may not really care and would like to leave it, her relations and friends may instigate her not

to allow the co-wife to usurp her position. Meanwhile they may be doing it for themselves.

"If wives are living in the same house, they know the whereabouts of the husband, at least if he is at home, but if they live in different houses one wife may suspect that he is always at the other wife's house even if he is not. And if they suspect him of having a girlfriend or wanting to bring another wife, they can rally together and confront the challenge."

If care is not taken, a problem may arise where there would be different camps of the wives fighting on their behalf.

In any event some may assume that this sort of rivalry happens only where the husband is wealthy or is a high office holder, but the reality is that even where the husband is so poor that the wives have to scrounge to feed their children, they still engage in rivalry.

It all boils down to how to getting the affection and attention of the husband whether he is rich or poor, though there is higher stake if he is a governor or a speaker, so you cannot afford to be sidelined and treated as if you too are not his wife. After all, you hold the same position, whether he has spent forty years with the first wife and one year with you, you are both his wives.

To mitigate rivalry, some men keep their wives in separate houses, but surprisingly it doesn't prevent bitter rivalry and quarrels if they meet somewhere. For example, they may meet at the occasion of their husband's brother's wedding.

Some would avoid the meeting at all cost; they attend occasions on different days where possible.

If wives are living in the same house, they know the whereabouts of the husband, at least if he is at home, but if they live in different houses one wife may suspect that he is always at the other wife's house even if he is not. And if they suspect him of having a girlfriend or wanting to bring another wife, they can rally together and confront the challenge.

Though taken as a joke, as 'women wahala', it is a serious matter where men as leaders in their homes should be firm and not allow their wives to wash their dirty linen in public.

Women as mothers should have more restraint and not engage in open rivalry with their co-wives in public. They should set good examples for their daughters. Enough of this wahala!

## Kogi 2023: APC Sure Of victory - Fanwo

By: ADAMA JOHN, Lokoja

**K**ogi State Commissioner for Information and Communications, Hon. Kingsley Fanwo has assured Kogites that the party will win the November 11, 2023 polls, "massively".

Speaking with journalists during the weekend in Lokoja, Fanwo said the pedigree of the party in the state is such that the opposition will "continue to struggle", adding that the aspiration of Alh. Usman Ododo is a "movement of a united Kogi people".

"Our candidate, Alh. Usman Ahmed Ododo has met virtually all key stakeholders in Kogi state as he continues on his way to consolidate on the legacies of Alh. Yahaya Bello," he assured.

He is confident that his programmes and the achievements of the Yahaya Bello administration will deliver victory to him.

To him, the commitment of stalwarts and compatriots across ethnic, religious and class lines has been phenomenal, a clear demonstration of what Yahaya Bello laboured for seven years to build.

He boasted that the incumbent governor delivered Kogi to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, won all the three Senatorial seats, won six of the nine Reprs seats and won 22 of the 25 Assembly seats.

The APC Chieftain said those campaigning on ethnic lines "missed their roads to a new Kogi where ethnicity and

religion do not determine who drives the car but the competence to drive the car", insisting that they will "meet their political Waterloo at the appropriate time".

The state image maker opned that "Ethnic and religious politics ended in Kogi in January 2016 and will never raise its ugly head again. That is why those who truly cherish the development of our State are leaving our opponents in their sinking ship to join the Team that has done Kogi proud in the last seven years", he said.

"While they are talking about ethnic agenda, we are discussing with Kogites, how to take the budget for education and healthcare further. We are discussing with Kogites how to expand the nets of our health insurance to capture more beneficiaries and how to empower rural women and rural farmers"

On the vandalization of the Kogi State Broadcasting Corporation at Ochaja, Fanwo said the State Government is still awaiting police investigations on the matter, assuring the people that those who vandalized the broadcast facility will surely be brought to book.

"We are in touch with security agencies and we have given them the intelligence at our disposal. They know how to do their job and we are confident they will get to the root of the matter" assuring that it will soon be back on air after improving the security around our broadcast facilities across the state".

## Kaduna: Romi Community Praises Uba Sani For Awarding Roads Construction In Chikun LGA

By: AMOSTAUNA, Kaduna

**R**omi Development Association, Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State has hailed the initiative of Governor Uba Sani for awarding of contracts for the construction of Romi-Karatudu Road and Pro. Amos Road in Janruwa New Extension.

Comrade Duniya Victor, the spokesman of the community in a statement, explained that Romi-Karatudu Road spans six kilometers and is expected to be completed within 12 months, while Pro. Amos Road in Janruwa New Extension spans 0.7 kilometers and is expected to be completed within 6 months.

The statement emphasized that the projects are critical to the improvement of transportation in the city, enhance drainage systems, and bring urban renewal to the grassroots, saying that awarding the contract is a pleasing news to the residents of the two affected communities and the entire Chikun Local Government Area.

According to the statement, "This singular act has sent a signal that consolidation and sustaining Kaduna project is possible with His Excellency; Sen Uba Sani and that Kadunites will live to attest to it."

The statement explained that the newly sworn-in administration of governor Uba Sani by the initiative, has brought spontaneous recovery thereby driven home a bold statement that all inclusive governance has kicked-off in Chikun and that governor's administration has now shifted its attention to delivering Urban renewal to the grassroots and Chikun

Local Government Area will witness tremendous projects of different magnitudes as the journey continues.

The statement added, "Considering the strategic location of Chikun Local Government Area in Kaduna metropolis; its proximity to the city centre, and the predominant occupation of the residents, who are mostly civil servants and artisans, (the real drivers of the economy of the heart of Northern Nigeria i.e Kaduna) whose daily contributions are indispensable for greater economic breakthrough in the State, it is safe to say that, the Governor has demonstrated vis-a-vis leaving no one in doubt that he understands the importance of creating enabling environment for businesses to strive and is willing to do that with all sense of equity and fairness."

It stated that the two roads are almost inaccessible, especially during the raining season, stressing that commuters will have to make a detour through longer routes in order to reach their destination as the construction of the roads would take away the dilemma that residents have been into, especially students.

The community appealed to Governor Uba Sani not to relent in sharing the dividends of democracy across the state by considering other areas of the local government and the rural areas in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the state in subsequent interventions in order to give everyone a sense of belonging and to also



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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

### TERMS OF ADVERT PLACEMENT

- All adverts are expected to be prepaid in cash or bank draft in favour of New Nigerian Newspaper's Limited.
- Series discount is subject to the stipulated number of insertions, and it is payable only at the end of a campaign (to be deducted from balance pay).
- COPY DATE:** for all the Title Heads is two working days for the North and three working days for the South.
- Cancellation of previously booked advert will be accepted in writing within four working days notice, less than 24 hours to the date of publication will attract 50% surcharge.
- Advertisers/Agencies are to provide their Camera ready artwork in electronic copies, in e.g. PDF, or JPEG format.
- Advertisers will be surcharged 20% of the applicable rate where artworks are not provided.
- Adverts may not be published if the visuals given are considered too poor as to affect the reproduction.
- Alterations to original order should be conveyed in writing at least 24 hours to desired alteration date.
- Colour guides are to accompany coloured adverts.
- The management of New Nigerian Newspapers Limited reserves the right to reject an advert or any publication in any of its titles where such materials are considered distasteful for public exposure or libelous.

### 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



# ABU Partners UK Varsity On African Agricultural Knowledge Transfer

By: SANIALIYU, Zaria

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and its United Kingdom counterpart, University of the West of Scotland have agreed to work on the African Agricultural Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (AAKTP) with the focus specifically on local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in four target countries in Africa namely: Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and South Africa.

According to a statement made available by the Public Affairs Directorate, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria dated Monday June 19, 2023, the project is designed to facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building in the agricultural sector by bringing new skills and latest academic thinking to support strategic innovation in agriculture and enhance economic growth.

The Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabiru Bala, who secured the partnership with the UK university, stood in for ABU at the meeting on collaboration and partnership between the two universities at University of the West of Scotland, the United Kingdom, recently. Discussion for the collaboration was facilitated by the African Forum Scotland through the Director of the Centre for Policy

Research and Development, Glasgow, Dr. Festus Olatunde Ogunmola. Prof. Bala was in company of the Director, Division of Agricultural Colleges (DAC), Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Musa Abdullahi Mahadi; DAC Linkages Coordinator, Dr. Usman Ibrahim; and DAC's Dr. Emmanuel Opoola, at the partnership meeting. Officials from University of the West of Scotland at the meeting

included the institution's Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Stephanie Pitticas; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Innovation and Engagement, Prof. Milan Radosavljevic; Director, Centre for Africa Research and Economic Development, Prof. John J. Struthers; and Dr. Kingsley O. Omeihe of School of Business and Creative Industries.



From left: Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration University of West Scotland Professor Stephanie Pitticas; Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University Professor Kabiru Bala; Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Innovation and Engagement, Professor Milan Radosavljevic and the Director Division of Agricultural Colleges, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria after the meeting on Collaboration and partnership between the two Universities.



From left: Director of the Centre for Policy Research and Development, Dr. Festus Olatunde Ogunmola; Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University Professor Kabiru Bala; the Director, Center for Africa Research and Economic Development, Professor John J Struthers; The Director, Division of Agricultural Colleges (DAC), Professor Musa Abdullahi Mahadi; the Linkages coordinator DAC, Dr Usman Ibrahim.





# Senator Bulkachuwa and the “Go to Court Syndrome”

By Jibrin Ibrahim

**I**N his valedictory address to the Senate, “distinguished” former member, Adamu Bulkachuwa, has confessed to influencing the decisions of his wife, Zainab Bulkachuwa, while she was serving as a judge and President of the Court of Appeal. Mr. Bulkachuwa, an 83-year old chieftain of the ruling APC, who represented Bauchi North senatorial district in the 9th Senate, confirmed infringing on: “My wife, whose freedom and independence I encroached upon while (she) was in office, and she has been very tolerant and accepted my encroachment and extended her help to my colleagues,” he said.

“The 2023 elections were contentious and acrimonious. Many citizens believe for whatever reasons that the elections were not free and fair. A lot of Nigerians are therefore looking up to the judiciary to deliver justice in the election tribunals currently sitting. The Bulkachuwa confession would shake their belief. It is for this reason that it would be unwise for the National Judicial Council to remain aloof on the matter.”

The former Senate President, Ahmad Lawan, realised the old man was making dangerous revelations of their secret practices in public and stopped him saying: “Distinguished, I don't think this is a good idea going this direction. It is not a good idea, please.” It would have been great to hear examples he might have given on how they perverted the course of justice.

Very few Nigerians would have been surprised to learn that such behaviour happens. What the episode does is to confirm what we know. It is not for nothing that the joke during this election season is that after you have been rigged out, you would be told go to court and get justice. It is not a joke but one of the deepest concerns of Nigerian citizens about the sharp decline in the delivery of justice in the nation's judicial system.

The President of the Nigerian Bar Association, Yakubu Maikyau, in his comments on the matter correctly asserted

that the statements were clearly admissions by the Senator that he did attempt to, and/or actually perverted the course of justice, which makes him liable to be investigated and prosecuted even on his admission. That this came with a huge negative impact on the integrity and the independence of the Judiciary can only be an understatement.

Unfortunately, the National Judicial Council (NJC), which met on 14 June 2023, did not take a stand on the matter, arguing through an official that the judge in question has already retired so no disciplinary measures can be taken against her. They are yet to understand the basic issue that the integrity and independence of the Judiciary is in question due to widespread belief, based on credible allegations, that very many judicial officers soil the reputation of the judiciary through decisions based on pecuniary rewards, political, ethnic and religious influences making nonsense of the entire judiciary. In such a context, lame excuses to justify inaction is not the way to go.

“In Nigerian parlance, Jankara judgement refers to a judicial outcome that has been procured illegally. It draws its meaning from a Lagos market that was notorious at one time for selling fake products. Sad is the country where law enforcement and judicial decisions are assumed to be for the most part based on injustice – bribes, corruption, peddling influence and/or blackmail.”

A senior lawyer and former President of the Nigerian Bar Association, Olisa Agbakoba, has called on the Inspector General of Police (IGP) and the Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), to immediately invite Senator Bulkachuwa for interrogation and proceed to prosecute him accordingly. It is indeed important that strong action should be taken on the basis of this confession.

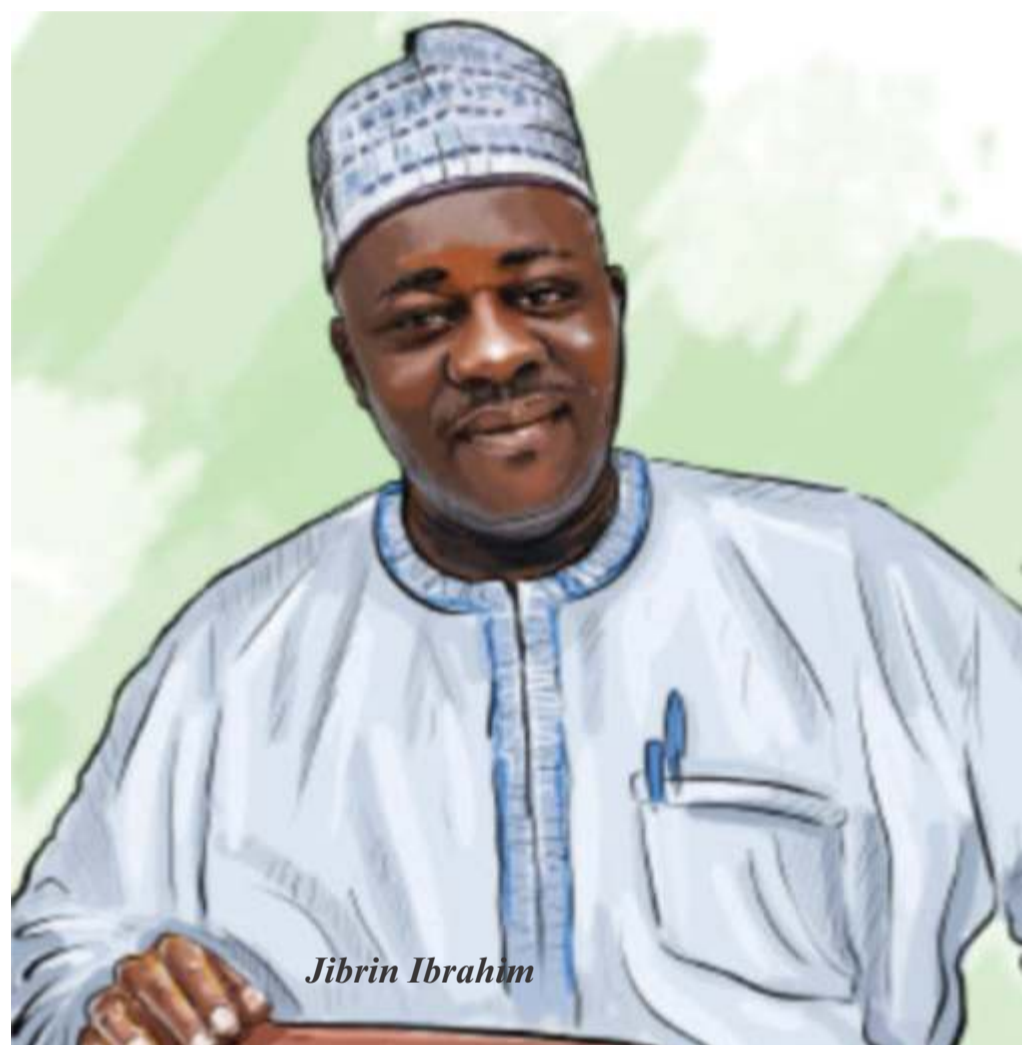
Premium Times reports that in the waning days of her headship of the appellate court in February 2020, Justice

Bulkachuwa shared her four-decade experience with journalists in Lagos. Specifically, she denied an allegation that she took a six billion naira bribe: “There was a time when allegations were flying around that I was given N6 billion, and I laughed. So, if I was given N6 billion, do you think I would still be here?” she wondered. The jurist went on to distance her judicial duties from her husband's political life.

After her husband's comments, it is now difficult to believe her because if she indeed betrays the ethics of her profession based on spousal influence, why not for financial reasons.

The 2023 elections were contentious and acrimonious. Many citizens believe for whatever reasons that the elections were not free and fair. A lot of Nigerians are therefore looking up to the judiciary to deliver justice in the election tribunals currently sitting. The Bulkachuwa confession would shake their belief. It is for this reason that it would be unwise for the National Judicial Council to remain aloof on the matter.

“Perverting the course of justice cannot remain our sociological reality. There are still judicial officers with integrity in the system. They must become more active and denounce and expose the corrupt ones amongst them. The National Judicial Council itself must become more proactive in seeking out and expelling the bad eggs within the system. That would be a big step in re-establishing



Jibrin Ibrahim

confidence in the system.”

On Wednesday, President Bola Tinubu suspended the chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Abdulrasheed Bawa, from office for “weighty allegations of abuse of office levelled against him.” It would be recalled that last month, the immediate-past governor of Zamfara State, Bello Matawalle, accused Mr Bawa of demanding \$2 million as a bribe from him, an allegation he denied. He was in turn accusing Mr. Matawalle of organising a N70 billion fraud as governor. In 2021, Mr Bawa took over the helms of affairs at the commission under similar circumstances when his predecessor, Ibrahim Magu, was suspended from office by then-President Muhammadu Buhari, over allegations of corruption. This is the predicament of Nigerians – are there public officials who are not corrupt? Indeed, some commentators attribute Mr. Bawa's suspension to his previous efforts to investigate the current President for corruption three years ago.

In Nigerian parlance, Jankara

judgement refers to a judicial outcome that has been procured illegally. It draws its meaning from a Lagos market that was notorious at one time for selling fake products. Sad is the country where law enforcement and judicial decisions are assumed to be for the most part based on injustice – bribes, corruption, peddling influence and/or blackmail.

Perverting the course of justice cannot remain our sociological reality. There are still judicial officers with integrity in the system. They must become more active and denounce and expose the corrupt ones amongst them. The National Judicial Council itself must become more proactive in seeking out and expelling the bad eggs within the system. That would be a big step in re-establishing confidence in the system.

Ibrahim is a professor of Political Science and development consultant/expert, and Senior Fellow of the Centre for Democracy and Development. He is also the Chair of the Editorial Board of Abuja-based online newspaper, PREMIUM TIMES.



# The United States' Recurring Memory Loss in Diplomacy

By Owei Lakemfa

**F**OUR archenemies of the United States (US) met variously in its Latin American 'backyard' this week. It was the five-day Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Venezuela, Nicaragua and Cuba. No, the quartet did not make themselves enemies of the US, it was the latter which at various times had dictated to those countries, that designated them as such.

"First, Saab, is a moral burden on the US. During the Covid-19 pandemic when virtually all countries in the world including the US needed aid, Saab was on a mission to Iran to buy urgently needed food and medicines for Venezuelans. On June 12, 2020, his plane touched down in Cape Verde to refuel. He was abducted by the authorities on the instigation of the USA for the 'crime' of trying to buy food for his starving compatriots when the almighty US had ordered that no country carries out any transaction with Iran."

All four are under the unilateral sanctions of the US which punishes any country that dares befriend them. So, only the independent-minded and strong countries maintain trade relations with them.

The US also punishes the quartet if they dare trade amongst themselves. In 2020, the US ordered the seizure of four Iranian vessels with 1.1 million barrels of fuel bound for Venezuela. The US said the ships must be seized because they violated the unilateral sanctions it had imposed on both countries. It was a show of might over right. So, the defiant visit this week by the Iranian President and the various sanction-busting agreements the four countries signed, is a declaration that they are not ready to abide by the dictates of the US.

Raisi was defiant throughout his tour. At the start of his June 12 visit, he said the four countries have "a common enemy...common interests and we have common enemies." He added in reference to the US and its allies: "They do not want the two countries, Iran and Venezuela, to be independent" To these declarations,

Venezuelan President Nicholas Maduro responded: "We are on the right side of history and together we will be invincible." Both sides signed agreements on various fields including oil, defence, technology, energy, maritime and medicine.

Raisi on Wednesday told Nicaraguans: "There is a great geographical distance between Nicaragua and Iran and the Latin American region, but our hearts are very close and our goals are also very close (we) share a common history of struggle, of resistance, of revolutions, of combat against a common enemy."

In Nicaragua, both countries signed agreements including one on a bi-national commission before the Iranian President flew to Cuba, the country that gave the world unforgettable international radical leaders of the 20th century like Ernesto Che Guevara and Fidel Castro.

A common thread between Venezuela and Iran with its ends flapping in the US is the case of Alex Saab, a Venezuela Ambassador currently on trial in Miami, USA.

First, Saab, is a moral burden on the US. During the Covid-19 pandemic when virtually all countries in the world including the US needed aid, Saab was on a mission to Iran to buy urgently needed food and medicines for Venezuelans. On June 12, 2020, his plane touched down in Cape Verde to refuel. He was abducted by the authorities on the instigation of the USA for the 'crime' of trying to buy food for his starving compatriots when the almighty US had ordered that no country carries out any transaction with Iran.

The ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) Court, was ashamed of the role of Cape Verde in not only detaining an ambassador with diplomatic immunity but one on an urgent humanitarian mission. It ordered its Member country not just to effect the immediate release of Ambassador Saab, but also pay him a \$200,000 dollar compensation. But Cape Verde betrayed the African brotherhood and the spirit of its biological son, Amilcar Cabral who fought for the brotherhood



of humanity before being murdered by Portuguese security agents. Under US pressure, Cape Verde handed over the ambassador to the US which flew him to Miami for a controversial trial.

"Given the age of the US establishment and its increasing inability to come to terms with the unfolding global reality, it is certain that it is suffering from recurring diplomatic memory loss. Let me demonstrate this with facts of interactions between the Biden and Maduro governments in 2022 alone."

Now, the US is part of the human race that accepts and enjoys diplomatic immunity. In its 'Diplomatic and Consular Immunity: Guidance for Law Enforcement and Judicial Authorities,' the Department of State, in accepting diplomatic immunity as sacrosanct, wrote that: "International law, to which the United States is firmly committed, requires that law enforcement authorities of the United States extend certain privileges and immunities to members of foreign diplomatic missions and consular posts." Its reference is to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

So, the Ambassador Saab case was ordinarily a straight forward one; all he needed was to tell the American court that he is an ambassador which under the American constitution and obligations, grants him

immunity from prosecution in any US court.

After long delays including denying Saab medical treatment for his post-cancer treatment, family and consular visits, he had his day in court. That he had been an ambassador of Venezuela since 2018 could not be controverted but the US Government said it does not recognise the Venezuelan Government headed by President Nicolas Maduro which had appointed Saab an ambassador. For the US, the Maduro government does not exist!

This submission of the Biden administration exposes the American government as either being utterly dishonest or suffering from dementia.

Given the age of the US establishment and its increasing inability to come to terms with the unfolding global reality, it is certain that it is suffering from recurring diplomatic memory loss. Let me demonstrate this with facts of interactions between the Biden and Maduro governments in 2022 alone.

In March 2022, President Joe Biden dispatched a top-level US diplomatic delegation to Caracas which held meetings with the Maduro government. The White House delegation composed Juan Gonzalez, the National Security Council Director for the Western Hemisphere, Roger Carstens, the special presidential envoy on hostage affairs and Ambassador James Story, the US Ambassador to Colombia who

oversees the American Venezuelan Affairs Unit.

In June, 2022, President Biden again sent a special delegation which included Roger Carstens and Ambassador James Story to meet with the Maduro government. President Maduro confirmed the presence of the US delegation and directed it to meet National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez. Maduro had said the meeting was to "give continuity to the bilateral agenda between the government of the United States and the government of Venezuela."

Then on Saturday, November 26, 2022, President Biden eased some of the oil sanctions against the Maduro government. Under it, the US Treasury authorised Chevron oil to resume 'limited' oil production in Venezuela under the supervision of the Maduro administration.

These are facts. But the Biden government could not seem to recall these events and the US court concurred. It ruled that: "At the time he was arrested, Saab Moran truly was no diplomat at all."

Venezuelan Congress head, Jorge Rodriguez, said of the ruling: "If the United States, or in this case, this judge, takes that decision, which is an atrocity, no diplomat in the world will be safe from now on."

But who cares; at least not the American establishment that is striving so hard to stand the world on its head?



# 2023 African Beach Games: NVBF Unveils Beach Volleyball Squad

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Nigeria Volleyball Federation (NVBF) has unveiled its beach volleyball squad for the 2023 African Beach Games in Tunisia.

The 2023 African Beach Games will be hosted by Tunisia from 23rd to 30th June at the Yasmine Hammamet resort in Tunisia.

The NVBF named 12 players in the squad, consisting of six men and six women as well as two coaches.

The list made available by the Secretary General of the NVBF, Ngozi Amayo, also has 2022 National Beach Volleyball Tour Champions, Obayemi Ogunshina and Hilary Simon (men) as well as Albertina Francis and Happy Wushilang (women).

Other players selected for the African Beach Games include the 2022 National Sports Festival Champion, Uchenna Okereafor and Peter Ibrahim (men), and highly experienced Francisca Ikhiede and Tochukwu Nnoruga (women).

Kayode Ajilore will handle the men's team, while John Iwerima takes charge of the women's team.

Coach of the men's team, Kayode Ajilore said Nigeria will perform extremely well at this year's African Beach Games.

The Nigeria Immigration Service gaffer said the players have the capacity of delivering medals for the country this time.

He said, "The beach volleyball teams Nigeria is parading have a point to prove at the 2023

African Beach Games. The players have been playing various beach volleyball tournaments in the country including the National Sports Festival, National Beach Volleyball Tour, and the President Cup.

"Each player going to Tunisia has played not less than 70 matches in the last two years; this has put them in good shape. The only way the players can reward the country is by winning medals.

Meanwhile, the President of Nigeria Volleyball Federation, Engineer Musa Nimrod commended the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development for including beach volleyball amongst the teams to participate at the 2023 African Beach Games.

He charged the players to give their best and ensure the national anthem is sung on the podium.

**FULLSQUAD**

**Male:**

Obayemi Ogunshina, Hilary Simon, Peter Ibrahim, Emenike Ezike, Uchenna Okereafor, and Philip Zaka

**Female:**

Esther Mbah, Albertina Francis, Tochukwu Nnoruga, Naomi Yaro, Francisca Ikhiede and Happy Wushilang

**Coaches:**

Kayode Ajilore and John Iwerima





# 2023 AFCON Qualification: Okumagba Congratulates Super Eagles, NFF

By; AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

The founder and President of Super Eagles Supporters Club (SESC), Vincent Okumagba has congratulated the Super Eagles of Nigeria for their qualification for the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations finals, to be hosted by Côte d'Ivoire, early next year. The Super Eagles grabbed the ticket with a hard fought 3-2 conquest against the Leone Stars of Sierra Leone, in Monrovia, capital of Liberia via a dramatic comeback in the late minutes of the tie. Okumagba who had also emerged the Vice President of Africa's football supporter's body about three week ago described the match as a tough and exciting one while commending he boys for securing the very vital point which have qualified them for the African Cup of Nations

(AFCON) in Côte d'Ivoire, with a game at hand.

"I say a very big congratulation to the players, coaching crew, NFF and members of my Super Eagles Supporters Club, but I must specially commend the team for their spirited and disciplined performance against a very formidable opponent which earned them qualification with a match at hand", Okumagba noted.

Red smoking Napoli of Italy striker, Victor Osimhen netted a first half brace to put Nigeria two goals up, but a goal in either half by the Leone Stars, pegged back the Super Eagles, before Kelechi Iheanacho scored deep in stoppage time, to seal the win for Nigeria, who regained top spot of Group A from Guinea Bissau, who are now second with 10 points, but have also qualified for the AFCON finals.



# Ensure Success Of Olympic Day Celebration -NOC

By; AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

The Chairman of the Sports-for-All Commission, Dr Ibrahim Abdul of the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC), has called upon all members to fully commit themselves to ensuring the success of the Olympic Day celebration. He made the observation during opening of virtual meeting ahead the celebration of the Olympic Day holding on June 24, 2023.

"This is a significant event that promotes the values and goals set by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). "It is worth mentioning that the Commission benefits from the expertise and experience of two former chairpersons, Anthony Oyetayo and Prince Henry Amike, who bring valuable insights to the table.

"With their guidance and the collective knowledge of all members, the success of this celebration becomes highly feasible," he said.

Additionally, Secretary-General Tunde Poopola has made an appeal for a marketing initiative to raise funds.

"This step is crucial in sustaining the values of Olympism and ensuring the continuation of events such as the Olympic Day celebration.

"It reflects the Commission's dedication to maintaining and promoting the essence of the Olympic Games," he said.

The Assistant Secretary In-charge of the Commission, Austin Odigie, then, highlighted the impressive turnout at the inaugural meeting before the official unveiling.

"This demonstrates the enthusiasm and commitment of the members towards organizing and executing a memorable Olympic Day celebration. Such support is vital for



the success and impact of the event."

The Assistant Secretary, Odigie, also revealed that this year's theme for the Olympic Day celebration will be "let's Move," sending a powerful message of promoting physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.

"It is encouraging to note that 13 states have volunteered to host the event on their territories.

"This number showcases the wide participation and interest in the celebration, further reinforcing the expected success of the occasion.

"Overall, with the collaborative efforts of experienced members, the appeal for fundraising, and the strong support and participation from various states, the Olympic Day celebration has all the necessary elements to be a resounding success.

"It is an essential event that brings people together to celebrate the values of Olympism and promote physical well-being," he said.



**2023 AFCON Qualification:**  
Okumagba  
Congratulates  
Super Eagles, NFF

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## Delta Police Busts Car Snatching Syndicate, Recovers 7 Vehicles, 16 Engines, 8 Gear Boxes, Others

By; **RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos**

Police detectives in Delta have bust a vehicle theft and vandalism syndicate, recovering a total number of seven vehicles, 16 vehicle engines, eight gear box and 15 motor batteries.

Two motorcycle engines suspected to have been stolen were reportedly recovered from the suspected syndicate.

The vehicles were said to have been recovered from parks in Asaba, Warri, Ughelli environs by the hoodlums.

Our correspondent gathered that two suspects were arrested in connection with the crime by police operatives attached to Ughelli Division led by the DPO and supervised by the Area Commander ACP Adebayo Ademola on 15th June, 2023 while acting on credible intelligence.

Identified as Phillip Ekugbe and Onome Erikefe both of Ekpan community Effurun, the duo were alleged to specialize in snatching of vehicles from Warri and environs, take them to Ughelli where they disassemble and sell them in parts.

The Delta State Police Command Spokesperson DSP Bright Edefe who made the disclosure in a release on Sunday listed the recovered vehicles to include one Toyota Corolla with reg. no. AJ 638 EFR, Toyota carina with reg. no. WW 748

SL, Toyota Corolla with reg. no. DU 60 LSR, Toyota corolla with reg. no. WWR 799 AE, Toyota Corolla with reg. no. KSF 758 DC and one unregistered Nissan car.

He added that the suspects are in police custody, while investigation is ongoing. It reads, "In line with this directive, the DPO Ughelli Division closely supervised by the Area commander Ughelli ACP Adebayo Ademola, on 15/6/2023 while acting on intelligence gathered arrested the duo of Phillip Ekugbe 'm' and Onome Erikefe 'm' both of Ekpan community Effurun who specializes in snatching vehicles from Warri and environs, take them to Ughelli where they disassemble and sell the vehicles in parts.

" Seventy-four (74) vehicle tyres, sixteen (16) vehicle engines, eight (8) gear boxes, fifteen (15) motor batteries, two (2) motorcycle engines and seven (7) suspected stolen vehicles have so far been recovered.

"The vehicles include one Toyota Corolla with reg. no. AJ 638 EFR, Toyota carina with reg. no. WW 748 SL, Toyota Corolla with reg. no. DU 60 LSR, Toyota corolla with reg. no. WWR 799 AE, Toyota Corolla with reg. no. KSF 758 DC and one unregistered Nissan car. Suspects are in custody, and investigation is ongoing."

## ABU Vice-Chancellor bags African Forum Scotland Fellowship Award

\*For contributions to knowledge, good governance



From right, Dr. Festus Ogunmola, Professor Kabir Bala, Professor Musa Mahadi, Dr Usman Ibrahim and Dr Emmanuel. Opola during the award of Fellow of African Forum Scotland to Professor Kabiru Bala on the 16th June 2023 at Glasgow

By; **SANIALIYU, Zaria**

The African Forum Scotland Centre for Policy Research and Development has conferred a fellowship award on the Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabiru Bala, for his contributions to knowledge, good governance, and outstanding performance.

This was contained in a statement signed by the Public Affairs Directorate, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, dated Monday June 19, 2023.

It said that the award was conferred on the Vice-Chancellor when he visited the Centre for Policy Research and Development in Glasgow, the United Kingdom

where he initiated investment project facilitated by the centre. Some of the investment opportunities discussed during the visit included the China-Nigeria-ABU agriculture project and investment in student hostels.

In his remarks during the investiture of the Vice-Chancellor as Fellow of African Scotland Centre

for Policy Research and Development, the Director of the Centre, Dr. Festus Ogunmola, extolled Prof. Bala's virtues.

Dr. Ogunmola explained that commitment, dedication, perseverance, and resilience guided the Vice-Chancellor's nomination for the award.



Suspects and exhibits recovered

