

Akwa Ibom Needs
N1bn To Fix 29
Water Stations
- Engr Etuk

Story on Page 11

Provide Uniforms For Security
Personnel Twice Annually, NNPP
Chieftain Tasks Tinubu

*Says it will enhance effectiveness,
smarter service delivery

Story on Page 6



Police Academy, Kano Loses Cadet

Story on Page 6

Integrated Mobile Truck Services Will Reduce Maternal, Under 5 Mortality In Kaduna -UNICEF



The mobile trucks launched by Governor Uba Sani yesterday.

By ; A L E X
UANGBAOJE, Kaduna
United Nations
Children's Fund
(UNICEF),
yesterday, expressed
confidence that the mobile
trucks for integrated
service delivery
inaugurated by the Kaduna
State Government will
help to reduce maternal
mortality in the state.
Kaduna State Governor,
Senator Uba Sani,
yesterday, officially
flagged off the
operationalization of the
state medical mobile
trucks for integrated
service delivery for hard to
reach communities in the
state.

Speaking on the sidelines
of the flag off, Gerida
Birukila, UNICEF Chief of
Kaduna Field Office, said
the beauty of having the
trucks is people are able
to have access to healthcare
facility without traveling
far.

"The beauty of the trucks is
that they are able to go to
people who are not able to
get to the health facility
because is too far from
them. So for now we are
prioritizing communities
that are five kilometers
from the PHCs.

"You can imagine a
pregnant woman traveling
10 to 15 kilometers, which
is not possible, this is one
of the major reason for

Continued on Page 4

Story on Page 6

Katsina Police Arrests 3
Notorious Kidnappers,
Others, Recovers Arms
Ammunition, Fake
Naira Notes

Story on Page 11

Meet Up With
Labour Unions
Demands To
Avert Strike,
FWF Tells FG

Story on Page 11

NDLEA Busts Transnational
Drug Cartel, Uncover Strange
Illicit Drug Concealed In
Semovita, Dry Pepper Packs

Northern Governors' Forum Greet Vice President Shettima At 57

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Chairman of Northern Governors' Forum and Governor of Gombe State, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON has felicitated with the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Senator Kashim Shettima GCON on the occasion of his 57th Birthday on Saturday.

According to a statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, made available on Saturday, Governor Inuwa described Shettima as a patriot and dependable ally with outstanding pedigree and exceptional competence.

"Your illustrious career and political journey which saw you serve meritoriously as Senator of the Federal Republic, Governor of Borno State, and also assuming the highly influential position of Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum, afforded you the opportunity to make significant contributions towards the development and progress of not only your home state but the entire northern region and Nigeria at large.

"Since assuming the role of Vice President of our great nation,

you have continued to demonstrate uncommon commitment to your duties. Your dedication to the wellbeing and prosperity of the Nigerian people is truly commendable, and your work ethic serves as an inspiration to many", the NSGF Chairman stated.

Governor Inuwa noted that Sen. Kashim Shettima's loyalty and unwavering patriotism have

endeared him to the hearts of Nigerians from all walks of life, adding that his ability to unite people, regardless of their differences, and work towards common goals has made him a



shining example of leadership in Nigeria.

"On this auspicious occasion of your 57th Birthday, we in Gombe State are happy to join your family, associates and well-wishers in celebrating your

exemplary leadership, uncommon commitment, exceptional intellectual prowess and outstanding competence. Indeed you are a rare gem, a source of inspiration to upcoming leaders", Inuwa

Yahaya said.

The governor prayed Almighty Allah to continue to bless the Vice President with more wisdom, good health and long life to keep serving the nation and humanity.

Lawyer Advises Journalists To Consider Public Safety while Reporting

By: MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

Journalists have been urged to consider the legal and security implications to themselves and to the general public in their reportage of sensitive issues.

A lawyer, Eze Chinagorom Ndubuaku made the call in Abakaliki capital of Ebonyi State.

He spoke during a one-day training for journalists in the state, organized by Ikenga Media & Cultural Awareness Initiative (IMCAI) publishers of Ikengaonline Newspaper.

The workshop was organised with the support of the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism and John MacArthur Foundation.

Mr Chinagorom, an Assistant Superintendent of Police working in the Legal Department of the Police on Ebonyi State,

noted that the decision to disclose information and accept the risk of news coverage should be carefully considered, weighing the benefits against the potential risk and red flags associated with the information.

He advised against reports that may lead to breakdown of law and order or worsen existing crisis.

He urged Journalists to evaluate whether the dissemination of the information could cause harm to innocent individuals or negatively impact their lives.

According to him, "If it puts others at risk, it may not be worth the risk of news coverage.

"If the information puts individuals or their loved ones at risk of physical harm or jeopardize their personal safety, it may not be worth the risk of news coverage.

"Also, Journalists should consider whether the

information is of significant public interest or importance. If it is trivial or irrelevant, it may not be worth the potential risks associated with news coverage", he said.

He further urged journalists to be mindful of the source of the information and the motive for presenting them with the information.

He warned against relying on information from politicians and politically exposed individuals who may have ulterior motives.

He said, "If the information comes from unreliable or unverified sources, it should be treated with caution. Journalists should verify the credibility and accuracy of their sources before relying on them for reporting.

"If the information is based on unverified or unreliable source, it may not be worth the risk of news coverage, as it could damage one's reputation or

credibility", he said.

The lawyer also warned Journalists to be wary of legal implications in order not to run foul of the law.

He said, "If the information is illegal; or involves illegal activities, it is important to carefully weigh the potential; consequences of news coverage including potential legal actions or repercussions.

"For instance, Section 12 (1) (a) and (b) of Ebonyi State Internal Security Enforcement and Related Matters Law 2009 criminalizes Causing Extreme Fear and Threat to Life by use of letters, phone calls and other electronic methods.

"Section 14 of the same law criminalizes false information. The Cyber Crime (Prohibition Prevention etc) Act, 2015 criminalized Cyberstalking, Cybersquatting and Cyber Terrorism. The Evidence Act

2011 alongside some consequential amendments now allows electronically generated evidence during proceedings", he said.

Mr Chinagorom further advised journalists to also consider whether the information violates any ethical guidelines or principles.

"If it involves invasion of privacy, breach of confidentiality, or harm to vulnerable individuals, it may not be worth the risk.

"Overall, playing it safe during news coverage is essential for journalists to protect themselves, their sources and the public interest while maintaining their credibility and adhering to legal and ethical standards", he added.

The workshop had in attendance journalists from various national and local media houses in the state.

APC To Gov Makinde: Account For FG N5bn, Other Palliative Items Donated To Oyo State

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The All Progressives Congress (APC) in Oyo State on Tuesday, demanded details of funds and food items donated to the state by the federal government as palliatives to cushion the effects of hardship on the people of the state.

APC expressed this in a statement by its Publicity Secretary, Comrade Olawale Sadare, made available to newsmen in Ibadan.

The party in the statement lashed out at the PDP administration in Oyo state for deliberately withholding information relating to the receipt, distribution and management of funds and food items delivered to

Oyo state government as the share of the good people of the state

Oyo APC stressed that "virtually all the states of the federation have declared the receipt of, at least, two billion naira out of the five billion which federal government has earmarked as funds to be paid to the poorest of the poor through the states".

"Last week, neighbouring Osun and Kwara states acknowledged the payment of the sum of two billion naira to their purse but Gov. Makinde kept this away from the public knowledge", it said.

APC added, "For about six weeks now, the whereabouts of the three thousand bags of rice which Gov. Makinde got

from Abuja remains unknown to the people of the state and there are indications that these have been allegedly diverted the same way they did with Covid-19 relief materials presented by federal government, corporate organizations and individual philanthropists".

"We also put it to Gov. Makinde to explain the reason behind his order on local government council Chairmen to allegedly transfer (to the state government account) the two tranches of N56 million paid to their council accounts between August 16 and 18 this year by the federal government as the shares of the third tier of government"

The party alleged further that "The 33 local government councils in the state got a total of N3.696b but they could not utilize a dime from the funds for the purpose which the money was meant to serve."

"It is evident that the orchestrated Palliative Committee set up by Gov. Makinde about four weeks ago was just to fool the public as the committee would not have anything to do in the long run.

We won't be surprised though if the state government released would be a few bags of rice and noodles to the Committee in the coming days and ask them to distribute same to few PDP members just to create an impression that the target population of poor people in the society have benefitted."



53-yr Old Prince Oyebola Emerges 30th Aseyin

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Kingmakers in Iseyin town in Oyo State on Tuesday, selected a 53-year old Prince, Olawale Semiu Oyebola as the 30th Aseyin of Iseyin. Prince Oyebola emerged after the selection process of the new Aseyin of Iseyin at the Aseyin palace in Iseyin carried out by the 10 kingmakers in the town.

It was learnt that the kingmakers arrived the palace at around 10 in the morning with security men cordoning off the place to forestall breakdown of law and order

The voting for the

selection process was said to have commenced early as planned by the officials of the Iseyin local government and security agents.

At the end of the voting process, sources said Prince Olawale Semiu Oyebola emerged as the preferred candidate of the kingmakers with majority of the kingmakers voted in favor of the 53-year old Prince as the new Aseyin of Iseyin.

New Nigerian recalls that the Aseyin stool became vacant following the demise of the immediate past Aseyin of Iseyin Oba Salawudeen Abdulganiny Adekunle who joined his ancestors on July 24, 2022.

LASTMA Disclaims Towing Van Driver Nabbed Stealing Vehicle With LASTMA Logo

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The authority of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has distanced itself from a towing van operator that allegedly stole a car, using a towing van with LASTMA logo.

It described the suspect named Adejumo Fatai as an impersonator that uses fake LASTMA identity card and fake towing franchisee's sticker.

The Agency in a statement by the Director, Public Affairs and Enlightenment Department Mr. Adebayo Taofiq disclosed that the said driver of the towing vehicle was not an official of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority LASTMA.

It reads, "The attention of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority LASTMA has been drawn to a video circulating on social media alleging the use of LASTMA Towing van to steal a vehicle as early as 6am at Somolu area of Lagos.

"It is important to inform



The suspected fake LASTMA official

the general public particularly motoring public that the driver (Adejumo Fatai) has been apprehended and currently at Pedro Police Station for further investigation.

"Investigations revealed that the arrested towing van driver (Adejumo

Fatai) impersonated as one of the LASTMA Towing Van Operators with FAKE identity card and FAKE LASTMA Towing Franchisee's Sticker.

"The General Manager of LASTMA Mr Bolaji Oreagba however implores members of the

public to be wary of these unscrupulous elements trying to dent the image of the Agency.

"In case of any complaint, comment and observation you can reach Lastma via hotlines 08100565860, 08129928503, 08129928597".

Subsidy Removal: Gombe Govt Approves N10,000 Increment in Workers' Salary

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Gombe State Government has announced an increment in workers' salary by N10,000 across board to cushion the effect of fuel subsidy removal.

Briefing newsmen in Gombe, the Deputy Governor, Dr. Manassah Daniel Jatau said it was part of the measures taken by Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya to reduce the economic impact of the subsidy removal on workers.

He said that Gov. Inuwa Yahaya is concerned about the welfare of civil servants and residents of the state through various interventions since the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said since the fuel subsidy removal, the state government had taken measures towards cushioning its effects on citizens of the state by distributing palliatives to 30,000 beneficiaries with the target of reaching out to 420,000 across the state.

According to him, the N10,000 is for both the state and the local government workers in the state, and it will take effect from August, 2023.

"We have also noted with sympathy the difficulties

workers are passing through as a result of the economic meltdown and therefore decided to bring interventions by way of payment of N10,000 each on a monthly basis, effective from the month of August, 2023.

"This shall include all workers in the state and Local Government payrolls," he said.

When asked how long the increment would last, he said the "N10,000 does not have a time limit for now".

The deputy governor commended the contributions of the workers in the state, describing it as the engine room of the administration and implementation of government policies.

Jatau urged the workers to reciprocate this gesture by being law-abiding and supporting policies and programmes of the government while urging other residents who were yet to benefit from the palliatives to be patient.

"I call on all residents of the state especially those who are yet to benefit from the palliatives to be patient as we shall continue to consider bringing more interventions in the nearest future within available resources," he said.

Integrated Mobile Truck Services Will Reduce Maternal, Under 5 Mortality In Kaduna -UNICEF

high maternal mortality and also under 5 mortality. This is because the services are too far from the people not that they don't want the services.

"So the government has done well to bring the services close to the community and we hope to be able to reach more people in the days to come." She added.

The UNICEF Chief, explained that the idea of doing integration using the trucks procured by the state government to reach communities in difficult terrains was born by UNICEF.

According to her, "because we have worked in integration, we gave the government technical support and also gave financial support to enable this to take off.

"The government is providing over 90% of the cost because the workers and drugs mobilization are all by the government but they provided a conducive environment where we were able to also share our



The mobile trucks launched by Governor Uba Sani yesterday.

expertise in integration outreaches.

"We have added screening for malnutrition, HIV screening, and other several things that can be done at the primary health centre level and we have seen that within two months, we have been able to reach 25% of the zero dose children. Kaduna has around 94,000 zero dose children and we have reached 25% of that number because of the trucks."

Earlier, Governor Uba, who was represented by his Deputy, Hadiza Balarabe, said apart from the mobile trucks being able to boost healthcare services and enhance the

wellbeing and survival of Kaduna citizens in hard to reach communities, they will also serve as a vital tools for the ongoing disease surveillance while strengthening basic clinical services, referrals and linkages.

He added that trucks will offer a range of services, from maternal, newborn and child health interventions, radiology services and all laboratory diagnosis of ailments such as malaria, HIV, hepatitis B and C, tuberculosis and many more.

"Our administration is committed to taking all necessary steps to make significant progress towards achieving

universal health coverage. Our vision is to build and strengthen enhanced health system that is adequately equipped, well staffed with comprehensive, accessible and affordable services and that is oriented to deliver distanced standard of care.

"To this end, we undertook an innovative approach to better our state's healthcare system. Among the initiatives we took, we have procured state of the art mobile diagnostic units which will facilitate the provision of quality diagnostics services to our far to reach, hard to reach and other underserved communities" the Governor said.



Gov Inuwa Yahaya

Governor Inuwa Mourns Akko LG APC Chairman, Waziri Jabbo

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON has received with deep sorrow, the news of the demise of the Chairman of All Progressives Congress (APC), Akko Local Government Area, Alhaji Usman Waziri Jabbo who died on Friday after a brief illness.

According to a statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, the Governor described the late APC

chieftain as a respected leader, courageous politician and grassroots mobilizer who served his community and the state diligently.

He said the demise of the Akko APC Chairman is a great loss, not only to his immediate family and party supporters, but Gombe State in general.

"Alhaji Jabbo's dedication and service to the party, his local community and state will be remembered and cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His contributions to the APC and the present administration have left an

indelible mark, and his absence will be greatly felt", Governor Inuwa stated.

The Governor, on behalf of the Government and people of Gombe state, conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the deceased's family, members of the APC family, as well as the entire people of Akko local government area, praying Almighty Allah to grant him



Alhaji Usman Waziri Jabbo

Aljannat Firdaus and give those he left behind the fortitude to bear the great loss

Kaduna Govt Ready To Partner Associations To Promote Citizens Welfare - Dep Gov

By ; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

The Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe on Tuesday, expressed the state government's readiness to partner with associations and organizations like Rotary International and Rotary Club Kaduna Queens to promote the welfare of citizens of Kaduna State.

Her Excellency, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, expressed this when she received on courtesy visit, the Governor of Kano

Rotary District 9125, Rotarian Ahmed Sagan, in her office at the Government House in Kaduna.

During the visit, she thanked Rotary Club for their work in primary healthcare, peace, education, sanitation, and other areas.

Earlier, the District Governor of Rotary Club, Arch. Sagan Sani appealed to Kaduna State Government to continue to partner with

Rotary in its activities, stating that it has been very active in polio vaccination in the country.



Provide Uniforms For Security Personnel Twice Annually, NNPP Chieftain Tasks Tinubu

**Says it will enhance effectiveness, smarter service delivery*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

A Chieftain of the New Nigeria People's Party (NNPP), Ambassador Olufemi Ajadi Oguntoyinbo on Saturday, urged President Bola Tinubu to ensure timely provision of uniforms to security personnel in the country.

Ambassador Ajadi said in ensuring this, President Tinubu should direct the consenting authority in security sector to provide uniform dress to security personnel twice in a year.

The NNPP Chieftain in response to claim that most of the security personnel in the country are not adequately equipped with uniforms leading to many of them buying uniform dress on their own from their stores said providing the uniform dress twice a year will boost the personnel's morale, making them looking more corporate and smart

delivery and general efficiency in the discharge of their duty to their fatherland.

"The additional uniform yearly will go a long way in encouraging, strengthening and promoting professionalism in the security services," he said

Ambassador Ajadi added, "Providing uniform twice a year, no doubt will stand them out in any gathering and it is meant to further boost the morale and professionalism, pride and commitment as well as effectiveness of the security personnel.

"It will also reflects the civility and character, the peaceful nature of the security personnel, depicting commitment in defending the defenseless in the country"

He stressed that there may not be respect for any security personnel, who looks haggard and tattered, hence, the need for the Federal government under the leadership of President Bola Tinubu to make our security personnel look more smarter, sharper and decent in the discharge of their duties.



Composite photo of Tinubu (left) with Ajadi.

Katsina Police Arrests 3 Notorious Kidnappers, Others, Recovers Arms Ammunition, Fake Naira Notes

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Police Command has arrested 14 suspected criminals who specialize in committing various crimes ranging from kidnapping, defrauding and banditry in the state.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the Command, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), Abubakar Sadiq Aliyu paraded the suspects before journalists on behalf of the State Commissioner of Police, CP Aliyu Abubakar Musa at the Command headquarters in Katsina.

On the arrest of three suspected notorious kidnappers and the recovery of three rounds of 7.62 MM ammunition, ASP, Sadiq Aliyu said on different dates and times in the month of April 2023, the command succeeded in arresting the following:- a 30 years old Haruna Mohammed; Yahaya Alhassan, 28 years old; Idris Isah, 30 years old all of Jigawa state and Zuhairu Umar, 25 years old of Turaki village, Baure local government area of Katsina State.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Sadiq Aliyu said the suspects were all members of a suspected notorious kidnap for ransom syndicate.

He explained that, on "1st of October, 2022, the suspects conspired with

three other suspects, namely, (1) Rago, (2) Garba Margododo, and (3) Idris, all of Ringim in Jigawa state, now at large, to attack the residence of one Alhaji Sidi Usman, m, of Unguwar Rai village, via Baure LGA, and kidnap his wife along with her three (3) month old baby."

He said upon received of the report, Police detectives promptly swung into action and succeeded in tracking and arresting the aforementioned suspects. adding that, in the course of the investigation, suspects confessed to the commission of the offense, as three rounds of 7.62mm live ammunition were recovered in their possession.

On the arrest of the suspected notorious arm bandit, ASP Aliyu said it was on August 28, 2023, at about 1730 hours, the command succeeded in arresting a 30 years old Lawal Alhaji Idris of Shuwaki village in Faskari Local Government Area who terrorized the area and

confessed to the commission of the offense and mentioned the following as his cohorts, Tsoho Danfulani, Miyalla Danfulani, Zaharaddini Danyaro all of the same address now at large.

He said the suspect, Lawal Alhaji Idris in his revelation to the Police confessed to being the mastermind behind the

kidnapping of one Alhaji Hussaini of Shuwaki village, Faskari local government area in the process of which one person was shot and killed and also attempted to kidnap one Alhaji Musa of Gidan Dan Gwamna village and stole beans.

The Spokesman of the Katsina State Police Command reiterated that, effort is on with a view to arresting other fleeing members of the syndicate. However, on the arrest of ten suspected fraudsters and the recovery of one hundred and forty - four (144) pieces of suspected counterfeit Naira notes.

ASP Abubakar Sadiq Aliyu disclosed that, on August 28, 2023, at about 0800 hours based on credible information, the command succeeded in arresting Alhaji Ali Yau, aged 67 years old, Alhaji Alhassan Suleiman, aged 35 years old, of Kwarbai Quarters, Zaria Local Government Area, Kaduna State, Bello Abubakar, aged 58 years old, of Dogon Rimi, Kamba Local Government Area of Kebbi State and Aliyu Usman, aged 35 years, of Bakin Kasuwa quarters, Kankia Local Government Area of Katsina State.

ASP Sadiq Aliyu mentioned other suspected fraudsters as, Uzaifa Ishaq, age 48, of Dorayi, Kano State, Kabir Ibrahim, age 40, of Bakin Kasuwa Quarters, Kankia local government area,

Babangida Abdullahi, aged 40, of the same address, Nasiru Mani, aged 48 years, of Malamawa village, Matazu local government area, Mansur Abubakar, age 55, of the same address, and Ukashat Sulaiman, aged 25 years old, of Mai Hausawa quarters, Kamba local government area Kebbi state.

Assistant Superintendent of Police, Abubakar Sadiq Aliyu emphasized that, the suspected notorious fraudsters specialize in defrauding unsuspecting members of the public using counterfeit currencies. stressing that, nemesis caught up with the suspects when credible information about their activities in a house situated at Bakin Kasuwa quarters, Kankia local government area was received.

He said promptly, detectives swung into action and succeeded in arresting the aforementioned suspects..saying that, during a search conducted in the house, a bottle containing liquid suspected to be mercury and one hundred and forty-four (144) pieces of suspected counterfeit Naira of one thousand denomination were recovered in the suspects possession as they confessed to the commission of the offense.

Police Academy, Kano Loses Cadet

By; IBRAHIM ADAMU, Kaduna

Police Academy, Kano has announced the death of cadet Sulaiman Jika after a brief illness.

A statement from the police officers' training institution signed by the Pubic Relations Officer ((PRO) of the academy, ASP Hussain Suleiman, a copy of which was made available to our correspondent on Sunday September 3, explained that the young cadet, studying computer science

complained of ailment before he was rushed to the academy's medical facility.

The statement added that cadet Jika, a native of Adamawa State was discharged from the clinic after he was certified fit by medical doctors on call.

"On 29th August, 2023, the young cadet sought medical attention at the Academy Clinic due to an ailment.

"Following a diligent course of treatment and his gradual recovery, he was certified fit and discharged

by the Medical Doctor on call the next day, and tasked to return at regular intervals for checks which he adhered to.

"However, fate took an unforeseen turn. On 2nd September 2023, he was once again admitted to the clinic for further examination and care following a complaint of restlessness.

"Though his vitals were normal upon examination and all necessary medical steps were taken, we regrettably report his

untimely passing.

"The Commandant of the Nigeria Police Academy, AIG Sadiq Idris Abubakar, extends his deepest condolences to the grieving family, friends, and loved ones of Cadet Sulaiman Jika.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this period of profound sorrow. May God Almighty grant them the strength and resilience to bear this heavy loss," the statement added.

Kwara Begins Distribution Of 250,000 Bags Of Rice Palliatives In First Phase

**It's a token of empathy for our people, says Gov *Committee says working with various stakeholders, communities to ensure fairness*

By **BILIQIS ONAOLAPO OLAJUMOKE, Ilorin**

Kwara State Government on Wednesday, flagged off the distribution of rice palliatives to the most vulnerable persons in the state, with the committee saying it would share at least 250,000 10kg bags in the first phase.

In what was an attempt to ensure non partisanship, fairness and equity, Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq on August 22, inaugurated the 12-person committee to coordinate the distribution of the palliatives purchased with the N2bn so far received from the Federal Government.

At the flag off of the distribution in Ilorin, the state capital, the Governor said the palliatives are only a show of empathy with the people as more sustainable initiatives are being implemented in phases.

He was represented by the Speaker Kwara State House of Assembly Engr Yakubu Danladi Salihu.

The Governor said: "This is only a fraction of what we have done to identify with the people at this very critical moment of our national life. Palliatives are a stop-gap measure to cushion the effect of the removal of fuel subsidy on the most vulnerable among us.

"Over the last few weeks, our government has rolled out different palliative measures to support the people in the formal and informal sectors. Also, we had earlier distributed the five trucks of rice we received from the Federal Government. We acknowledge the limits of this distribution in terms of the reach.

"Today, we are flagging off the distribution of the first consignments of rice we purchased with the N2bn so far received from the Federal Government. We are distributing at least 250,000 10kg bags of rice in this phase.

"Beneficiaries will be identified on a nonpartisan basis by the committee of eminent Kwarans. This committee has continued to consult with different blocs of our communities as well as evidence-based registers of vulnerable people domiciled with key agencies of government such as the health insurance, primary healthcare agencies, as well as the World Bank. Distribution will be done in accordance with the timetable and logistics of the committee.

"For me, the most important aspect of today's event is not the quantity or the sheer reach of the grains to be distributed. The most significant thing is the spirit of empathy that is behind what we are doing. The government at all levels empathises with the people across all social strata of our society. We are committed to taking every step possible to help the people cope with the inconveniences of this time.

"Huge investments are being made to boost the manufacturing sector, strengthen local production of food through commercial agriculture, local production of CNG and electric vehicles, and mass

employment for young people in different aspects of the economy.

"We are a resilient people. I have no doubt that we will emerge from this tough situation much better and stronger as a nation.

"On that note, I have the honour to flag off the distribution of these palliative. I urge our people to trust the committee to do justice to the assignment, bearing in mind that the whole essence of this modest effort is to show concern to the plight of the people, especially the most vulnerable among us."

The event was attended by members of palliative committee and beneficiaries of the first batch, including representatives of Persons living with disabilities; WOWICAN; Marketmen and women group; Hausa community; Igbo Community; South-south community; Youth Council; NANS; Youth CAN; Orphanage; NUT; NUJ; TUC; FOMWAN; Non-indigene community; NURTW; NLC and Artisans groups.

The committee chairperson CP Ebuluwatimi Adelesi said the flag off marked the beginning of the exercise, which would see the palliatives being taken to all the 16 local government after agreeing the modalities with all the stakeholders and interest groups.

"The committee has the mandate to distribute approximately 250,000 bags of 10kg rice and advise the government on effective deployment of the N1bn worth of maize from the Maize Reserve (SMR) through the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) for Livestock Farmers across the state," she said.

The committee has since started its assignment by directing Director of Personnel Management (DPM) of the local government area to collaboratively work with Primary Healthcare Development Agency in a bid to generate a list of potential beneficiaries and vulnerable indigenes across the nooks and crannies of the state, she added.

CP Adelesi explained that the exercise targets as many vulnerable persons as possible, promising to deploy multidimensional and all-encompassing leadership acumen in making sure that the palliative items get to the targeted vulnerable across the three senatorial districts of the state.

In their separate responses, representative of Persons with disabilities Alfred Oluwole; representative of FOMWAN Hajia Bilqees Oladimeji; representative of WOWICAN Mrs Kehinde Awe; and the President, Kwara State Artisans Congress Alhaji Jimoh Adeshina applauded AbdulRazaq for this initiative aimed at cushion the effects of fuel subsidy.

"We know the cost of a bag of rice in the market today. So, we thank the Federal and the state government for this initiative. We really appreciate our able and unique Governor for his passion in improving the welfare of the citizenry," Adeshina said.

"We are grateful to the state government for following the step of the federal government for this bold initiative. We're very grateful."



Some beneficiaries took turns to commend the government for the palliatives.

Insurgency: COAS Pledges To Address Army Operational Challenges In North East

**Tours sectors of JTF North East OPHK Theater Command*

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Lieutenant General Taoreed Aliyu Lagbaja has arrived Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State on an operational tour to assess the security situation and reinvigorate ongoing counter terrorism, counter insurgency operations being conducted by troops of Joint Task Force Operation HADIN KAI in the North East Theatre of Operation. The Army Chief arrived the theatre Thursday night and held closed meeting with the theater commander, sectors commanders of the theater command and other troops and senior military officers of the

theater command Friday at the Headquarters Joint Task Force North East Operation Hadin Kai Maimalari cantonment maiduguri.

Immediately after the COAS operational closed door meeting, he told journalists that he has been briefed by the Theatre Commander, Maj Gen Golden Chibuisi on the current security situation of the North East, ongoing operational activities to clear terrorists from their enclaves in the Lake Chad region and the Mandara mountains as well as the challenges of the outfit.

The COAS however, lauded the troops for the operational successes so far achieved while observing that new trends have

been noticed in the activities of the terrorists but efforts are being made to tackle their attacks on civilians and motorists in the region.

According to him, the terrorists are now reverting to abduction for ransom, pillaging for logistics and attacking civilians with Improvised Explosive Device (IED), assuring that, combat enablers will be provided to support ongoing operations to further ensure more pronounced stability in the region.

Gen. Lagbaja further said that despite the successes recorded, there are a number of challenges being confronted by the troops, which he plans to visit all the three sectors of the theater

command in Monguno, Damaturu and Maiduguri commands to hear from the troops directly what their problems are, with a view to addressing them.

He also noted that all efforts are being made to improve the security situation of the region and country at large, stressing that, welfare of the troops remains his cardinal priority to motivate all the officers and soldiers to discharge their duties diligently and professionally

The COAS also commissioned a 30-family Corporal Below Quarters at Maimalari cantonment among other 7 different capital projects billed for his commissioning within the theater command headquarters

Maiduguri.

Earlier, the Theater Commander, Headquarters Joint Task Force North East Operation Hadin Kai Theater Command Maiduguri, Major Gen. Gold Chibuisi presented a souvenir to the COAS, Lt. Gen. Aliyu. T. Lagbaja.

The Brigade Commander of 47 Brigade Command, Brig. Gen. K.O. Ukado earlier, briefed the COAS on the number and nature of the different construction works executed and ready for commissioning at the Headquarters theater command. Highlights of the event include, security briefing, commissioning of projects, presentation of souvenir and group photographs among others.



IGP, Others Hail ACP Braide Over Exceptional Performance, Infrastructural Initiatives

By ; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Kayode Egbetokun, and other stakeholders in security sector have commended the giant strides of the Commander of the Mobile Police Force, 22 Squadron, Ikeja, Lagos, ACP Ibiye Braide, for making the force proud through his innovative police work and relayed infrastructural initiatives.

Among the stakeholders, were Deputy Inspector-General of Police (DIG) Christopher Alabi, Assistant Inspector-General in charge of Zone 2 Police Command, Onikan, Lagos, Mr. Ari Mohammed Ali, Oniru of Iru, Oba Abdulwasii Omogbolahan Lawal, and some captains of industry who joined the IGP at the official inauguration of projects executed by ACP Braide, in Lagos, recently.

In an unprecedented show of acknowledgement for Braide, Egbetokun, who personally launched the projects, including the remodelled and furnished administrative building, new Police Clinic, equipped with up-to-date facilities, ICT centre, tailoring workshop, 14-bed transit camp, trauma and distress centre, pharmacy, and a communication and quick intervention office, described Braide as a pride to the police force and Nigeria as whole.

Other projects erected by the

ACP were 10 solar light units installed in the police formation, new gatehouse and security post, and a 304-square metres concrete parking space and parade ground.

The IGP said, after learning about the developments that Braide instituted, he decided he would personally inaugurate the projects, "I am not disappointed with what I am seeing. I am proud of him for all he has done and I challenge other officers to emulate ACP Braide to bring pride to the force."

On his part, Oba Abdulwasii Omogbolahan Lawal was impressed with what he saw in the police formation that looked like Scotland Yard police building in the United Kingdom. He prayed that God would protect Braide in all his endeavours.

However, the best accolades for Braide came from men of the MOPOL 22 Squadron, who spoke glowingly of their commander, with some of them saying that he was preparing them for life after service.

One of the officers, an ASP who pleaded anonymity, said, "Oga Braide has really changed my perception about many things. He is a man who always wants the best in everything. I have learnt a lot from oga in the policing job and life outside policing. He is already preparing all of us for the future. He has opened our eyes to life after retirement."

In the same vein, another officer,



L-R: AIG Zone 2 Mohammed Ali, DIG Abiodun Alabi, HRM Oba Omogbolahan Lawal, Oni of Iru kingdom, IGP Kayode Egbetokun, ACP Braide, CP Idowu Owohunwa and ACP Odubona during the commissioning of the project

a DSP, who also did not want to be named, said, "We are always motivated by our commander to serve the Nigerian people. He has added dignity to police work. "There is a place he just built for us where we can rest after duty. The place is very conducive for the mind and even better than our homes. That alone is a very big encouragement for us.

"In the past, we used to hang around the office whenever we came back from our duty posts, but now we can sleep and rest before going home or returning to our duty posts the next day.

"Now we have doctors, psychologists and even well-

equipped tailors within our facility. When we are sick, we have doctors that can attend to us. Sometimes when some of us return from operation, especially during crisis, they face on trauma or the other and the patient will be rushed to the hospital where they may not be space to admit the patient, but today, we have trauma room in the premises, where any patient will be treated. The place is well equipped. There is a doctor available, to offer treatment. These achievements are unprecedented. I have worked under many officers but Oga

Braide is different."

A senior officer at MOPOL 22 (names withheld) said, "What Oga usually tells us is that he is doing everything for humanity and posterity. He acquired many laptops and other information technology equipment to train our officers. We have started computer training. It is the commander's belief that every policeman should be computer-literate and when a police officer retires, he or she should be able to get jobs as CSO in private companies. He is very innovative, kind and sincere."

Anthrax: Oyo Govt. Seals Pharmacy Operating Illegal Vet Services

By; BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Government on Monday, sealed a pharmacy supermarket and bakery in Ibadan for allegedly operating an illegal veterinary pharmacy and engaging in veterinary clinical services.

The state Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, Barrister Olasunkanmi Olaleye while sealing the premises, said the owner violated the Oyo State Veterinary Practising Premises Registration Regulation 2018, Oyo State Private Veterinary Premises and Veterinary Establishment law, 2017 and Animal Diseases Control Act, 2022.

According to the Commissioner, the Pharmacy, was operating an

illegal veterinary pharmacy and engaging in Veterinary Clinical Services and that this can put the health of members of the public in danger.

Speaking through the Deputy Director, (Monitoring), Dr. AbdulRazzaq Lawal, the Barrister Olaleye said the move was in line with the Oyo State

Government efforts to curtail and prevent the outbreak of diseases, adding that government would not relent in its effort to ensure safety of lives and properties.

The Commissioner pointed out that sealing of the premises the move was not to witch-hunt anybody but to ensure sanity in the veterinary service delivery in the state.

"We discovered through our surveillance that the owner of the premises is operating an illegal veterinary pharmacy and engaging in Veterinary clinical services without registration with the Veterinary Council of Nigeria and Oyo State Ministry of Agriculture and

Rural Development which is against the law, using of unapproved location for sale of Veterinary products as well as treatment of sick animals that can put post health risk to humans, as their customers can contract zoonotic diseases from the location", he said.

Barrister Olaleye stressed that Oyo State Government would not allow any person or group of persons' selfish interests put the entire state in danger of contrasting diseases from animals.

He then Barrister enjoined the public to support the government's effort in preventing outbreak of diseases. He also advised all unregistered veterinary premises to register according to the law.



The sealed pharmacy



COMMUNITY FOCUS

World Int'l Hausa Day 2023: Kaduna Gov't Assures Total Support For Advancement Of Cultures

By: USMAN NASIDI, Kaduna.

The World International Hausa Day is a recognised day, set aside to celebrate the culture and language of the Hausa people, which is widely spoken in Africa, especially in the West African sub-region and are blessed with rich and attractive culture.

Hausa Day is usually observed on August 26 annually, celebrating the Chadic language spoken by over 50 million people in Nigeria. The day is also observed to highlight the contributions of the ethnic group to the global peace and development.

However, Hausa language is also the lingua franca in parts of West Africa, while it has gained popularity among academics, the diaspora, and Social Media users.

During this year's event organized by the Kaduna State Centre For Development Of Hausa Literature at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium on Saturday, a lot of cultural and traditional activities have been displayed to showcase the history and achievement of the Hausa language.

Speaking at the event, the Kaduna State Commissioner of Human Services and Social Development, Hajiya Rabi Salisu explained that the International Day of Hausa is a festivity that is being celebrated around the world because it is not celebrated only in Kaduna or Nigeria, but across the globe anywhere that people speak Hausa language.

She added that, It is historic and they've rich culture through the traditional institutions and traditional heritage, while as the government, they are the custodians of culture and tradition, so they were there to celebrate with their youth and people that speaks Hausa language across the world.

She said, "today, we have witnessed a lot of things ranging from the Hausa traditional clothing, the foods that are being taken, all the instruments for farming, because we have rich farming history in Kaduna State, as well as major producers of food in the country.

"We have seen the display of the blacksmith that if you are not from them, you cannot exercise the blacksmith work, just as the display of fire which the blacksmith touches with his bare hands. So if you are not from the family, you can not practice it because it is a Hausa tradition that one can see it as magic, but it's not.

"From the things we have seen like the traditional food produced, a lot of the youth are not aware of it because most of our women cannot prepare it, while it is a rich culture that we have read in the past through the history of the Northern novels of Hausa extraction like Ruwan Bagaja, Magana Jarice and all the story telling from our elderly people that have been

telling us, and now we came here to see it as a reality show.

"This is a very fantastic event that is historical and kaduna state government will always support such advancement culture, whereas anywhere we see any advancement culture, we will partake in it. We also have creational programmes that has to do with culture and traditions in the state which will happen very soon." Haj Rabi noted

According to her, Hausa Day can only be improved by showcasing talents such as the projects that the various group of people have exhibited at the event and the media will publicize the activities which most of our nowadays kids will be seeing on televisions or on social media but coming down to see it in reality is very interestingly and will make them to partake because they wouldn't like to be left behind without bringing culture hence culture is the way of life of people.

"It is compulsory for them to know their culture and to identify with it, so we should be proud of our culture because Hausa is a very diverse culture which is being separated across African Nations. I don't think if there's any language that is being spoken across the globe like Hausa because even in Nigeria, there are more than 50m people speaking Hausa because it is a very easy language to speak while it has every dialect and figures," the commissioner said.

While responding to journalists at the event, Dr. Nuhu Umar, Director General, Centre For Development Hausa Literature, and organizers of this year's Hausa Day Celebration in Kaduna State, disclosed that they deemed it fit to encourage people to know their culture, tradition, history, trade and leadership which is why they organized the event.

He added that people will now, see and hear the Hausa tradition and Hausa places such as the famous Hausa Bulu riding and trade, such as the blacksmith work, the normal traditional Barbing (Wanzanci) that has no equivalent in English language to be quoted, and also showcases of food, farm implements and other things.

Dr. Nuhu said, "the most important thing is celebrating days like this brings all stakeholders together so that they will sit down together to analyze and review challenges and proffer viable solutions to the challenges such as the insecurity in the Hausa land.

"When you talk of Hausa, you talk of Hausa land, you talk of the Hausa's and the language, while all this are facing one or more very threatening challenges, and by the grace of God by coming together here, we believe everyone is happy because this is our first event of this nature and next year by the grace of God, we will see how we are going to improve in this aspect," he submitted.



NDLEA Busts Transnational Drug Cartel, Uncovers Strange Illicit Drug Concealed In Semovita, Dry Pepper Packs

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Various quantities of illicit drugs including nitrous oxide, popularly known as laughing gas have been intercepted by operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, MMIM, Ikeja, Lagos.

The intercepted drugs, which include ephedrine, and skunk were said to have been concealed in semovita packs and dry pepper being shipped to South Africa and Kenya through the airport, by members of Transnational Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO).

This was contained in a statement made available to journalists yesterday by the Director Media and Advocacy of the agency, Femi Babafemi.

He disclosed that some members of the syndicate were promptly arrested, with their mansions raided and their luxury vehicles seized.

According to the statement, "Through credible intelligence, NDLEA operatives on Friday 25th August intercepted a notorious drug trafficker, Suleiman Babatunde Oba who is a member of a cartel distributing Cocaine, Heroin, Methamphetamine and Ephedrine between Nigeria, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Mozambique, and Europe.

" He was arrested while attempting to board a Rwanda Air flight to South Africa with two boxes loaded with ephedrine sealed in semovita packs.

"The recovered substance is a precursor chemical and active ingredient in the production of methamphetamine".

In his statement, Suleiman who holds a South African passport, married to a South African lady and has lived there for over 20 years, identified Hakeem Babatunde Salami who equally lives in Lagos and South Africa as the head of the drug ring.

A follow up raid in the house of Salami located at 75 Wosilatu Dawodu Street, Ijesha, Aguda area of Surulere, Lagos on Monday 28th August revealed that he had fled the country on the same day Suleiman was arrested.

The synthetic substance was discovered concealed in a bag hidden in a Ford Edge SUV, which was part of three units of used vehicles and motor parts in the container.

In related development, Ibyn Sokoto, operatives on Tuesday 29th August arrested two male suspects: Nafiu Arzika, 30, and Jamilu Aminu, 35, with 330kg skunk, while another suspect, Ismaila Razak, 38, was nabbed with 34.5kg of same substance and 9.5 grams of methamphetamine on Saturday 2nd September at



One of the mansions raided by NDLEA

Olodo area of Ibadan, the Oyo state capital.

Across the states and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, NDLEA Commands intensified the Agency's War Against Drug Abuse, WADA, advocacy campaigns to schools, worship places, palaces and local communities among others.

For instance, the sensitization lectures were conducted at Holy Trinity Gospel Church, Ogbomoso, and for Muslim faithful at Jammatul Nasirul Islam mosque, Ilorin; members of the Association of Hair Stylists in Ado Ekiti; leaders of road transport

union in Abeokuta; traders at Kwata market, Awka; pregnant women at primary health care centre, Bonny; Dekara district palace, Babana community in Borgu LGA and at Noorul Huda Islamiyya School, Kafin Maiyaki.

While commending the officers and men of the Agency across the Commands for their efforts in drug supply reduction and drug demand reduction activities, Chairman/Chief Executive of NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Retd) charged them to remain steadfast.

Meet Up With Labour Unions Demands To Avert Strike, FWF Tells FG

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Federal Workers Forum (FWF) yesterday urged the federal government to meet up with the demands of the labour unions in the country to avert this week's planned two days warning strike

FWF in a statement made available to newsmen in Ibadan by its National Coordinator, Comrade Andrew Emelieze also expressed the forum's full support for the two days national warning strike from Tuesday 5th to 6th September, 2023, over issues of government alleged insensitivity to the plight of workers and the citizenry at large.

The forum demanded that government should pay up all outstanding arrears of salaries, promotions, duty tour allowances (DTA) owed the federal workers and particular attention to the arrears of salaries of federal university workers in Nigeria.

The Forum stressed, "Henceforth, federal workers will no longer tolerate any oppression of federal workers anywhere and we shall not hesitate to join any workers group in solidarity strike when oppression is noticed; our attention here is drawn to the plight of our colleagues in the federal universities".

" We at the Federal Workers Forum are in full support of the call by the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) for a two days national warning strike from Tuesday 5th to 6th September, 2023 over issues of government insensitivity to the plight of workers and the citizenry at large".

It then cautioned the Federal government against frustrating the two days warning strike, saying, " we call on the federal workers to ensure that all federal government secretariats across the federation is shut down during the strike period. Workers are to also ensure that every other government offices, departments and agencies

has been nauseating and hunger is now a way of life among the federal workers. As a matter of fact, federal workers have been financially embarrassed as against the provisions of the general order of the federal civil service rules and regulations. Federal government workers are no slaves, we therefore query this pathetic situation and call on all federal workers to ensure that the two days warning strike is successful".

" We urge the federal government to meet up with the demands of labour. We demand also that government pay up all outstanding arrears of salaries, promotions, duty tour allowances (DTA) owed the federal workers and particular attention to the arrears of salaries of federal university workers in Nigeria".

According to the forum, " as federal workers, we are also badly affected by the economic crisis visited on Nigerians as a result of the hike in the pump price of petrol, all in the name of subsidy removal", adding, "we had earlier written to the federal government to adjust our wages automatically inline with the existing economic realities but that has fallen on deaf ears".

" It is over three months now that fuel subsidy had been removed and fuel has equally been increased twice by over 300%, with a price shift from ₦187 to over ₦620 but salaries have remained the same. Federal workers within this period have gone through excruciatingly tough times. It has been stories of mass suffering and life has been made almost meaningless to the federal workers", it said.

FWF added, " Everything

Akwa Ibom Needs N1bn To Fix 29 Water Stations - Engr Etuk

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

The General Manager, Akwa Ibom State Water Company, Engr Edo Etuk said the sum one billion Naira is required by the company to reactivate 29 water stations across the state and address the problems of potable water supply to the public.

Etuk hinted this when he received in audience, members of Akwa Ibom Water Sanitation and Hygiene (IbomWASH) Media Committee in his office in Uyo on Friday.

He also disclosed that already, the state government has approved

funds for the reactivation of five out of the 29 stations, adding that once that is done, those stations would be put in good shape for better delivery.

The GM expressed optimism that the remaining 24 stations would be fixed in due cause with the creation of the Ministry of Water and Sanitation by current Governor Umo Eno's led administration.

"I believe very strongly that we cannot leave a 15 billion naira investment or should I say assets and allow it to rot. We need to revive those stations. One billion is required to put them in good shape. He said.

According to him, the decision by government to reactivate the five stations was part of the measures to strengthen water infrastructure in the state thereby improve upon service delivery in the sector.

He assured the people of improved service with the reactivation of the five water stations and sued for their continual patronage.

Etuk, who said, "We have a high level of prospect on the water industry", opined that with the water law in place and the creation of the new Ministry, the water sector will receive a boost.

Earlier the Akwa Ibom

Water Sanitation and Hygiene (IbomWASH) Media Committee Chairman, Mr. Harris Okon had told the the Company General Manager that the committee decision to visit the place was to foster cooperation on the state WASH sector and address associated dangers to public health.

He commended the state governor, Pastor Umo Eno for setting up a stand alone Ministry for Water and Sanitation sector of the state and his vision to launch Akwa Ibom into a new era of prosperity and sustainable peace through his ARISE Agenda.

Biden's Invite To Tinubu Inappropriate, Condemnable, Says Timi Frank

**Says Tinubu govt lacks legitimacy*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Timi Frank, on Wednesday, described the purported request of the President of the United States of America, Joe Biden, to meet President Bola Tinubu as inappropriate and condemnable. Frank said the meeting billed to take place on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September is suspicious in view of the fact that Tinubu currently lacks legitimacy as the result of the 2023 Presidential Election is being contested in court.

He said Biden's request conveyed by a US Presidential envoy and Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Ambassador Molly Phee, defeats the stance of the American Government on democracy and sanctity of the ballot.

"President Joe Biden is asking to meet with you on the sidelines of UNGA and you are the only African leader he has requested to meet. It is a mark of his high regard for your leadership," Ambassador Phee said during his meeting with Tinubu recently.

Frank said: "This move by Biden is certainly anti-American stance on rule of law and a bad example in collaborations in view of the

pendency of suits challenging the declaration of Tinubu as President and multiple investigations ongoing concerning his integrity, true identity and academic records both in Nigeria and USA.

"It's an insult to say that Tinubu is the only African president that Biden has chosen to meet on the sidelines of UNGA when they know his legitimacy deficit and the fraudulent election that brought him as president.

"For me, even if they want to discuss Africa affairs, they can discuss with any other legitimate African leader within the continent.

"However, it is clear the only reason they are seeking this meeting is to protect their selfish interests and it is for this type of unbecoming action that the US is now trying former President Donald Trump.

Frank who is the Ambassador of the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), to the East Africa and Middle East, added:

"It is disheartening to note that at a time when everyone is eagerly waiting on the outcome of the Presidential Election Tribunal, the US will seek to play to the gallery by inviting Tinubu as the sole African leader Biden wishes to meet at UNGA.

He urged Biden to rescind his invitation to Tinubu pending the

ruling of the Presidential Election Petition Tribunal on the suits challenging the legitimacy of the President.

He said: "The USA should know that any other African President can collaborate with them for mutual benefit provided they legitimately hold power in trust for the people.

"Why is President Biden in a hurry to meet Tinubu at UNGA other than to protect US interest in the West African sub-region, especially in view of recent military coup in Niger Republic and the reports of a putsch in Gabon.

"We are curious as to the true intent of the proposed meeting save for divide-and-rule-system employed

by developed countries in their relations with African countries, otherwise there is no need for this hurry to meet Tinubu until the courts have decided the true winner of the Nigerian Presidential election.

"The US must allow the Nigerian judicial system to determine the legitimacy or otherwise of President Tinubu before it seeks to discuss sensitive issues with him concerning the West African sub-region.

"This is very crucial and necessary as anything otherwise will seek to legitimize an illegality at a time when Nigerians are eager to see to a final closure on this matter.



Timi Frank

"Again, need we say that this kind of bestowal of recognition on illegitimate administrations by America and other western powers is responsible for new incidences of coups in the African subregion?"

"We must state categorically that some of us as allies and friends of USA have nothing against American pursuing its interests in Nigeria or Africa but they must not do it to the detriment of people of Nigeria or Africa.

"Rather, diplomatic and business relations and collaborations

between the two sovereign nations should be done in a manner befitting both nations considering the views and interest of the Nigerian people. We believe in them but they must try and also do things that will benefit Nigeria.

"As true friends, we will call them out when they go wrong and applaud them when they're right as regards issues concerning Africa in general and Nigeria in particular."

Power Sector: I'll Succeed In Mandate Given Me By President Tinubu - Chief Adelabu

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Minister of Power, Chief Adebayo Adelabu on Tuesday, said that he is determined to succeed in the mandate he had been saddled with by President Bola Tinubu.

Chief Adelabu who stated this in a message he tweeted on his page, also declared that he will not disappoint Nigerians, as well as President Tinubu.

The minister maintained in the message that in the coming days and weeks, Nigerians will start to see the result of our efforts in the Power Ministry.

"As Minister of Power, I am determined to succeed in the

onerous task of nation building. We will not disappoint Nigerians, we will not disappoint Mr President in this task", he said.

Chief Adelabu added, "We are not saying it would be easy, but we are determined to succeed with the Almighty God on our side".

"In the coming days and weeks, Nigerians will start to see the result of our efforts in the Power Ministry. It is a promise from me to all Nigerians".

The Minister in the Tweet stressed that on Monday, he briefed President Tinubu on how Nigeria can achieve uninterrupted power supply

during the inaugural Federal Executive Council (FEC) meeting presided over by the President

In a tweet by the Minister, Chief Adelabu said he joined other Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the inaugural Federal Executive Council meeting (FEC) on Monday, describing the FEC meeting as, "spirit-lifting experience with the evident urge and determination to lift Nigeria to a higher pedestal by all the FEC members".

The Minister said he gave a synopsis of the activity plans of the ministry with regards to

"turning around its reputation in line with achieving its mandate of driving community and economic growth by driving policies and programs to ensure reliable and affordable electricity to Nigerians", at the meeting adding that so many investments have gone into all segments of the power sector value chain without commensurate results in terms of output to end consumers.

"Each of the segments from generation, transmission to distribution has its unique and peculiar issues, the solution of which have to be prioritised for households and businesses to

have a quick relief after years of deprivation", he said.

Chief Adelabu added further, "we are currently analysing the issues, meeting the various stakeholders, and visiting sites to have a proper and unhindered understanding and unbiased diagnosis of the issues and proffer workable solutions, adding that in the next few weeks, the master plan for turning around the power sector with deliverables bucketed into short, medium, and long term would be unfolded. This will be done in an elaborate press conference together with all industry stakeholders".

Emir Bamalli Appoints New Dan Madamin Zazzau, Elevates 2 Title Holders

By: SANIALIYU, Zaria

The Emir of Zazzau, His Highness Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, has approved the elevation of Sa'in Zazzau, Alhaji Idris Ibrahim Idris to the title of Dan Madamin Zazzau, following the death of his brother, late Dan Madamin Zazzau, Alh. Kabiru Ibrahim Idris.

A statement issued by the Media and Publicity Officer of the Emirate, Abdullahi Aliyu Kwarbai said that the emir has equally approved the elevation of Alhaji Adamu Umar Idris Baraden Zazzau to the title of Sa'in Zazzau.

Also, Emir Bamalli approved the appointment of Alhaji Mu'azu Nuhu Bamalli, a Deputy Director with Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) as the new Baraden Zazzau.

All the elevations and appointments are with immediate effect, while date of the turbaning would be announced later.



States Of Adamawa, Taraba, Yobe To Benefit From Janna Foundation Project On TB

By; TOMGARBA, Yola
Since 2011, Janna Foundation and partners have been working in the North Eastern part of Nigeria to improve the health quality of people, especially nomad communities in the area of tuberculosis (TB) and leprosy.

Having achieved significant results, the foundation is working on a project geared towards addressing the challenges of tuberculosis in three states of Adamawa, Taraba and Yobe.

Stakeholders from the aforementioned states have met and charted a way forward for TB and Leprosy project that will last for six months.

The meeting is also aimed at sensitising stakeholders on community engagement for support and ensuring project sustainability in target states.

Representatives from the various states on

tuberculosis and leprosy control units, said that Janna Health Foundation has contributed a lot in achieving the desired objectives in Taraba, Adamawa and Yobe states. The TB and leprosy control representative from the Federal Ministry of Health, Mrs Stella Eke commended Janna Foundation for achieving set goals and called on governments at all levels and stakeholders to contribute their quota.

The founder, Janna Health Foundation, Dr Stephen John expressed optimism that the commitment demonstrated by stakeholders will go a long way in achieving the desired results.

He noted that such meeting will also guide stakeholders to undergo a survey that will bring out statistics that will ease its work and commended stakeholders for their commitment to the project.

Bold Stand For Equitable Representation, As Egbaoma Peoples Assembly Advocates Fairness In PDP Leadership Roles

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

In what appears to be a display of political activism, the Egbaoma Peoples Assembly, an influential social-political entity operating within the Ukwuani Local Government Area of Delta State, has taken a bold stance on principles of fairness and strategic zoning within the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the upcoming election for the Local Government Chairman.

The assembly firmly asserts that this crucial office should be meticulously allocated to the Egbaoma political block, which encompasses wards 1 through 5.

At an event attended by a diverse assembly of participants, including past and present political leaders, party officials, community representatives, as well as youth and women delegates, the assembly's declaration resounded strongly.

The statement not only emphasised the imperative of designating the chairmanship to the Egbaoma block but also passionately advocated for one of the Local Government Area's representative positions within the state party executive committee to be assigned to the same geographical segment.

The communiqué, with endorsements from prominent figures representing each of the five wards within the Local Government Area, underscores the historical foundations that underpin their appeals. Central to their argument is the necessity of maintaining a delicate equilibrium between the Egbaoma and Akashiede political blocks.

According to the communiqué, since the establishment of the Ukwuani Local Government Area in 1996, the political landscape has been notably shaped by two predominant forces:



the Akashiede block and the Egbaoma block.

These two segments collectively cover five INEC wards, boasting approximately forty-four thousand registered voters each.

The assembly turned its attention to the consistent electoral demarcation under the PDP's banner. Of particular note is the persistent representation of the Egbaoma block in the Delta State House of Assembly, juxtaposed with the traditional occupancy of the Executive Council Chairmanship by the Akashiede block.

This intricate equilibrium, a defining feature of PDP leadership, has stood as the cornerstone of unity and progress within both the party and the government.

Delving into the historical power-sharing dynamics between the two political blocks within the party, the assembly pointed out significant instances. According to the release, Chief Monday Ossai, from the Egbaoma block, effectively served two terms as LGA party

chairman.

Similarly, Chief Patrick Kaime, representing the Akashiede bloc, is poised to complete his own two terms. Considering preserving this equilibrium, the Egbaoma Peoples Assembly earnestly implores the state-level party leadership to nominate the next LGA party chairman from the Egbaoma block.

Drawing attention to a notable instance of collaboration, the assembly highlighted the Egbaoma block's endorsement and successful support for Hon. (Ogbuefi) Chukwu Dafe's representation in the Delta State House of Assembly, originating from the Akashiede bloc.

This interplay serves as a model of power rotation and shifts, prompting the Egbaoma Peoples Assembly to seek reciprocal cooperation from their counterparts in the Akashiede block.

Their current demand underscores parity, advocating for the rotation and zoning of the next council chairman position

in favour of the Egbaoma group, aligning with the provisions outlined in the PDP constitution.

Furthermore, the assembly voiced concerns about the dominance of Akashiede block members within the LGA representatives at the state executive committee, with only two exceptions stemming from the Egbaoma block.

With a steadfast commitment to upholding equilibrium, the assembly fervently advocates for one of the state executive committee positions designated for the Ukwuani LGA to be entrusted to the Egbaoma block.

As the political landscape continues to evolve, the Egbaoma Peoples Assembly's fervent advocacy underscores the intricate balance required to maintain unity and progress within the PDP, as well as the broader government structure.

Their principled stand for equitable representation stands as a testament to their dedication to a just and balanced democratic process.

“This intricate equilibrium, a defining feature of PDP leadership, has stood as the cornerstone of unity and progress within both the party and the government.”

Tinubu Backtracks, Replaces Ondo NDDC's Nominee, Akinjo

By; ADEBOYE ADO, Akure

President Bola Tinubu has approved the immediate replacement of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)'s Ondo State representative nominee, Mr. Victor Akinjo, with a new Ondo State Representative nominee, Hon. Otito Atikase.

Pockets of protests had erupted in Ondo State over the choice of Akinjo who is a member of the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP). New Nigerian had reported that some youth in the state had wielded placard with various inscriptions to express their displeasure over the nomination of Akinjo.

On Friday, the Special Adviser to the President on Media & Publicity, Ajuri Ngelale, announced the replacement of the embattled former House of Representatives Member. The statement reads, “The President has equally approved the immediate replacement of the NDDC's Cross River State Representative nominee, Mr. Asi Oku Okang, with a new Cross River State Representative, Rt. Hon. Orok Otuk Duke.”

“Furthermore, the immediate past Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the NDDC, Dr. Samuel Ogbuku, is reappointed for a second term and will remain in acting capacity, pending the Senate's confirmation of his reappointment.”

My Visits To Media Stations Exciting, Says Jegede

By: ADEBOYE ADO, Akure

The Pioneer Governor of District 404A-4, Nigeria, Dr. Kofoworola Jegede, PMJF, NLCF, LCIP has described as heartwarming the gains of her just concluded visits to some media stations in Ondo State.

Speaking at the end of the 3-Day advocacy visits to the media stations, the District Governor said several commitments were gotten from the chief executive of the media outfits that will further populate the Lions Club with quality membership.

"It took us ten years to get District 404A-1 Nigeria bifurcated into District 404A-3 and District 404A-4, by the time the outcomes of our media advocacies and other networking strategies we are currently deploying begin to manifest, we will be on the fast lane of sustainable growth and another District might just be a matter of time", she said.

Dr Kofoworola Jegede accompanied by Lion leaders and Cabinet Officers during

the tour visited the Chairman of Hope Newspapers Chairman / Editor-in-Chief, Sir Ademola Adetula; Head of Station, Crest FM, Mr Godday Ighoteguono; General Manager of Breeze FM, Mr Sunday Ajongbolo ; General Manager of ADABA FM, Sir Martins Ayoola and General Manager NTA, Akure, Mrs Olubunmi Oke with their respective management staff.

The media executives promised to collaborate with the Lions Club to showcase its ideals that are geared towards promotion of selfless services, national growth and responsible citizenship.



The visits were part of activities to herald the inauguration of District 404A-4, Nigeria and the Public Presentation of Dr Kofoworola Jegede as Pioneer District

Governor to hold on Saturday 2nd, September 2023 in Akure the Ondo State capital.

Delta Police Harvests Firearms, Recovers AK-47, Fabricated Pistol, Pump Action, Cut-To-Zize Guns

By ; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Criminals in Delta State have yet suffered another defeat, losing no fewer than seven firearms and seven live ammunition to police operatives in the state.

Four out of the firearms, which include one AK-47 rifle, a pump action gun, two locally made cut-to-zize guns and seven rounds of 7.62mm ammunition were recovered from suspected hoodlums, while the others were from suspected cultists.

The Delta State Police Command Spokesperson DSP Bright Edefe, who made the disclosure in a statement on Monday, said the weapons were recovered from three different operations in the state.

While giving the breakdown, he said, "On Wednesday, August 16th, 2023, at about 4.00pm, based on credible intelligence gathered over the activities of some criminal elements operating within Warri, Udu, Koko and proximate environs, the DPO Ekpan Division, CSP Aliyu Shaba, led the Surveillance Team and trailed the hoodlums to their hideout located at Aladja Grammar

School in Aladja Town Udu Local Government.

" However, upon sighting the police, the hoodlums took to their heels; a search was conducted immediately around the uncompleted building and a sack bag was found. Upon searching the sack bag, the following items were recovered: one AK47 Rifle, one magazine loaded with seven (7) rounds of 7.62mm Ammunitions, one English pump action gun with three (3) live cartridges, and two cut-to-size Double Barrel Gun. Efforts are on top gear to identify and arrest the said hoodlums.

" In a similar occurrence, on the 20th of August, 2023 at approximately 3: 09pm. the DPO Ekpan received a phone call from one Alhaji (name withheld) of Warri Sapele Road. It was revealed that some group of persons were sighted suspiciously within the yard.

" However, the civilian

security/operatives in the yard flashed their torchlight on the suspected criminals who immediately fled and abandoned a sack. Upon close look into the sack, two locally made single barrel guns, all detachable with 18 live cartridges. The DPO detailed the men of the division

to the scene, where firearms and ammunition were recovered and registered as exhibits. Efforts are on to trace and identify the hoodlums who are still at large.

" On 26/8/2023, at about 6: 00am, a police patrol team attached to 'C' division Asaba in a combined effort with vigilantes while on patrol around second Niger bridge sighted a young man carrying a sack bag, the suspect on noticing the police took to flight leaving behind the sack bag. When the bag was searched, one AK-47 rifle was recovered and effort to arrest the fleeing suspect is ongoing.

" In an earlier development, on 20/8/2023, operatives of the Command De-coy squad acting on credible intelligence gathered on the activities of one Godfrey Tietie, a notorious cultist who has been terrorizing Oghara and environs, the operatives stormed his premises in a covert operation and arrested the said Godfrey Tietie

a.k.a "Don Baby" of Oghara Town in Ethiopie West LGA Delta State. The 40-year-old male suspect was arrested at Ogorode Road by Texaco in Sapele and upon search, a locally made revolver pistol was recovered from him.

" Investigation revealed that the suspect is a member of Aiye confraternity and is also suspected to be a gun runner who supplies guns to cultists in Sapele, Oghara, and environs. Investigation is ongoing.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police Delta State, CP Wale Abass has urged members of the public particularly parents and guardians to pay close attention to their wards and discourage them from engaging in cultism and other vices.

Stressing that crime does not pay Abass vowed that the command will do all it takes to ensure that crime does not thrive in the State.

The Commissioner of Police also appealed to members of the public to help the police with any useful, timely, and credible information that will help the command eradicate crime in the state.



The recovered firearms

Accolades As KADSEMA Staff, Stakeholders Bid ES Farewell

**Describes him as the shining light of the Agency*

By ; A L E X
UANGBAOJE, Kaduna

With mixed emotions, staff and stakeholders recently bid the Executive Secretary of Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (KADSEMA), Muhammed Mu'azu Mukaddas, farewell as he exits the agency.

Some of the staff who could not hold their tears during a valedictory meeting organized in his honour, recount the fatherly role he played in their lives during the 21 months they worked with him.

They described him as a teacher, a team player and a rare professional whose unique style of leadership took the agency from near zero level to a professional and productive disaster management organization that brought Kaduna State to second top in Nigeria as adjudged by disaster management experts.

According to them, he was so open that he related with everyone more like colleague and friends than mere subordinates. They therefore, promised to emulate his style of leadership and wished him a more successful carrier as he assumes his new responsibility at the Community and Social Development Agency (CSDA).

The administration of former Governor el-Rufai appointed Mukaddas as Executive Secretary KADSEMA in November 2021 to transform the agency into a professional emergency management organization; To correct anomalies and strengthen the system.

He has been re-appointed by His Excellency Governor Uba Sani, as the General Manager of Kaduna State Community and Social Development Agency, a Government / World Bank Programm of Cooperation.

Mukaddas, who became emotional while responding to the commendations, expressed gratitude to all the staff and stakeholders for their co-operation and support in his sojourn. He advised them to strive to further improve themselves so as to remain competitive at all times. He asked for their forgiveness as he may have stepped on toes in his bid to entrench good governance. He added that it was in the

best interest and progress of the agency. He urged them to support the incoming ES as they supported him.

Mukaddas appreciated former Governor Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai for the confidence reposed in him and entrusting him with leadership of the agency. He equally thanked Governor Uba Sani, for appointing him to lead Kaduna State Community and Social Development Agency. He pledged to extend same level of commitment to achieve results for Kaduna State.

He, appreciated donor agencies and other stakeholders for their technical and funding support to KADSEMA.

"Gratitude to stakeholders, donors and KADSEMA colleagues for their unending commitments and zeal to ensuring safer and resilient communities in Kaduna. Together, we achieved so much within Emergency Management Cycle; Strengthened the agency's system; Gained trust / expanded partnerships with International Development Partners and Donors; Developed Capacities across MDAs et al, within these past 21 months". He said

Under his leadership, aside the disaster management tasks, KADSEMA, practically became a capacity development ground for Ministries,

Departments and Agencies. Mukaddas personally built capacities of 1,366 personnel across the state MDAs, Kashim Ibrahim Fellowships (KIFs), Department of State Services (DSS), Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), KADVIS and the Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMCs) on Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR), in 2022 and 2023.

The agency also established collaborative relationships with donor organizations such as United Nations Children Funds (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Health Organization (WHO), Victims Support Fund (VSF), Plan International, Care Nigeria and Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), and regained trust of old relationships with Christian Aid and Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI).

KADSEMA, became more proactive in preventing and mitigating disaster rather than responding to emergencies with the review of the Risk Analysis Map and Multi-Sectoral Contingency Plan.

On 28th March 2022, Mukaddas led humanitarian actors on a search, rescue and evacuation operation post attack of the Abuja – Kaduna AK9 train when 9

passengers were killed; 26 severely injured; 68 abducted. The incident was described as a national disaster.

One of his first achievements in office was the creation of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMCs) in all 23 LGAs of the state, which now serves as first responders in communities.

The agency also established an Emergency Operation and Coordination Center (EOC/ECC) with memberships from SEMA, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Red Cross, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC), relevant MDAs and CSOs to periodically review goings-on and emerging threats. The committee met bi-weekly under his leadership.

A tactical team comprising SEMA, NEMA, Fire Service, Red Cross, Security agencies, LEMCs and divers, was also set up. The team is responsible for search, rescue and evacuation actions and it is coordinated by the State Fire Service.

A Multi-Agency Coordination with composition drawn from senior Directors of relevant MDAs to handle strategic decision making was also established and led by the ES Mukaddas.



Need To Repeal The Act Setting/establishing Medical And Dental Council Of Nigeria

By; BASHIR ADAMU DAURA

The last five years have been quite horrific for foreign trained medical students who completed their studies and returned to Nigeria to practice.

In particular, some sections of the country that are making efforts to bridge the wide gap between their health needs and human resource availability, have been hard hit by the "massive failure" in the so called "assessment examination" being conducted by the Medical And Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN).

It is a controversy generating issue that an examination slated to confirm that a candidate has undergone a training of many years to graduate as a doctor, has been turned into sessions of traumatic affliction by the MDCN, saddled with the responsibility typical of most things Nigerian.

It is disheartening to learn that the fees for sitting for the examination has been hiked by over 80 per cent within the last couple of years and the centralisation of conducting the examination has no regards for logistics and security burden/risk on the participants.

It is evident to state that the recent untoward development in the conduct of that assessment examination is undoubtedly, hampering the availability of medical doctors in states using their meagre resources to send their young people outside our shores for medical training and qualification.

Unfortunately and typical of our political leadership in the North, nobody seems to be paying attention to the deliberate efforts to frustrate that noble gesture of some states and parents sacrificing their fortunes to train their wards.

Therefore, in the interest of fairness, promoting transparency, erasing intervention of sentiments and other considerations that are inimical to the unique steps being taken by some states to produce enough



manpower in the medical fields and in order to create a balanced platform devoid of prejudice, the needful has to be considered. The act establishing MDCN should be repealed with immediate effect.

Members of the National Assembly from the affected states should remember that

they were elected to serve, protect and advance the interests of their constituents and they should take a leading role in this matter.

Repealing of MDCN Act should be the first assignment of the 10th Assembly and in its place, the following recommendations are proffered:

1) Zonal 'Medical and Dental Agencies' be created in each of the 6 geopolitical zones of the federation to among other things conduct assessment examination of foreign trained doctors from each particular zone. It should have representation from:

a) All Hospital Services Management Boards of the

states in the zones and the officers to serve should not be below the rank of Assistant Director.

b) Representatives from two (2) oldest Teaching Hospitals situated in the Zone;

c) a representative of NMA in the zone;

d) representative from Federal Ministry of Health on Observer status;

e) any other relevant individual/group or corporate body from the zone.

2) For administrative purposes, the secretariat of the proposed agency is to rotate within the affected states after every two (2) years.

3) In terms of funding, the agency should be funded from the proceeds of fees paid by the participants, since sitting is on need basis.

4) It is also recommended that the current council be compelled to produce detailed results of the last examination conducted at Ibadan on 12th and 13th of July, 2023 and the results be made public with

participants' performance in all the subjects they sat. A Court case is being instituted in this regard.

5) This issue should be pursued by our Representatives in the National Assembly with the urgency needed and the Council be placed on suspension until satisfactory outcome is received on the outcome of last assessment examination.

Our states are being deliberately denied progress in producing medical doctors arising from plans by some office holders who are bent on converting every opportunity to serve into an opportunity to wreck. Therefore it is poignant at this time on this matter to say "to thy tent oh Israel!"

Bashir is a retired Civil Servant and Lives at No.20, Shagari Close, Kaduna.

“Members of the National Assembly from the affected states should remember that they were elected to serve, protect and advance the interests of their constituents and they should take a leading role in this matter.”

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

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1.	All adverts are expected to be prepaid in cash or bank draft in favour of New Nigerian Newspaper's Limited.
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7.	Adverts may not be published if the visuals given are considered too poor as to affect the reproduction.
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9.	Colour guides are to accompany coloured adverts.
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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

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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

Resurgence Of Coups In Africa And The Panacea

By: HASSAN GIMBA

In the past three years, at least eight African countries have witnessed military coup d'états. This is coming when it was thought that Africa's democracy had come of age when we were beginning to think that coups had gone for good, consigned to an era in the past when African governments were led by the military.

Coincidentally, all but one of the eight countries were colonised by France. Some of the countries are Mali, Chad, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Niger and now Gabon.

The first coup in Mali was in August 2020, when President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita was overthrown by a gang of Malian colonels commanded by Assimi Goita. The coup came on the heels of anti-government demonstrations about worsening security, contentious elections for the legislature, and accusations of corruption.

After some pressure, resulting in fruitful negotiations, the junta agreed to hand over power to an interim administration run by civilians to oversee an 18-month transition to elections in February 2022.

However, a clash ensued between the coup leader and the interim president, retired Colonel Bah Ndaw, prompting the junta to stage a second coup in May 2021. Goita, who had been acting vice president, became president.

In Chad, the army seized control of the country in April 2021 when the country's "soldier-king" president, Idriss Deby, was killed in combat while visiting forces engaged in fighting rebels in the north of the country.

However, instead of the speaker of the parliament taking over as stipulated by the country's constitution, General Mahamat Idriss Deby, the president's son, was named interim president. This sparked riots in N'Djamena, the country's capital, but the military quelled it easily.

In 2020, President Alpha Conde changed Guinea's constitution to run for a third term. This caused severe unrest that emboldened the country's Special Forces led by Colonel Mamady Doumbouya to overthrow him in September 2021.

The failure to tame bandits and terrorists, especially Islamist militants, led Lieutenant Colonel Paul-Henri Damiba to oust President Roch Kabore in January 2022. But barely eight months later, Captain Ibrahima Traoré seized power from Damiba to become the country's new leader on September 30, 2022.

On July 26, 2023, members of Niger's presidential guard led by General Abdourahmane Tchiani, an officer once involved in peacekeeping efforts in war-ravaged countries, seized power from President Mohamed Bazoum to address the "deteriorating security situation and bad governance."

Last week, on August 30, top military commanders in Gabon forcefully abridged President Ali Bongo's third term and annulled the controversial results of the recent election he was declared the

winner of.

When we look at these countries, what we see as a common thread is a long stay in office, fuelled by greed and self-centeredness. Because the sit-tight bug has bitten the leaders, they employ all means foul to remain in office, like constitution amendment, election rigging, imprisonment of opposition members, weakening of opposition parties and suppression of individual freedoms and the press.

They riddled their reign with government corruption, which they employed to weaken all democratic and state institutions and turn those with oversight functions, like the parliament, into rubber stamps.

It is unfortunate, but true, that many African leaders have a warped way of thinking. They assume that they were created to be served; that God created them specially and that without them, their country cannot get anywhere.

We can see such an inordinate desire to hang on to power in Cameroon, where Paul Biya has been at the helm since 6th November 1982. For 41 years, he has held his country by its jugular despite spending most of his time seeking medical care in Switzerland. Uganda is one other country where its leader, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, has been in power since 26 January 1986.

Congo's Denis Sassou Nguesso has been his country's leader since February 8, 1979, and Equatorial Guinea's Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo since August 3, 1979, while Eritrea's leader, Isaias Afwerki has been on the saddle since May 24, 1993.

Perhaps this trend will continue as long as those whom God has elevated to such positions continue to see themselves as extraordinary mortals whose death would

"A look at all the countries in Africa where coups have taken place of late will reveal that not only is the judiciary in bed with all the deposed leaders but also the followers do not seem to matter in the scheme of things."



Hassan Gimba
Monday
Column

cause time to stop in its tracks. They must know that the world would not pause and look back when they drop dead.

Then, the judiciary. Yes, the judiciary could be the panacea. This arm of government is the bedrock of sanity in a nation. Once it is corrupt and, therefore, unreliable, making it no longer a last sanctuary of hope for the traduced, then a nation is doomed. If it was upright, then a nation would get it right because there would be justice for all, which would translate into safety and prosperity for everyone. "A kingdom (nation) can endure with unbelief, but it cannot endure with injustice", said Sheikh Usman Dan Fodio in his book, Bayan wujub Al-Hijrah alal ibad.

In April last year, I wrote here: "Once a nation-state finds itself in such a situation, only a few options are left for it to continue. Sheikh Usman Dan Fodio's ethos for a nation's survival should become a national creed. Its leaders must urgently embrace justice and fairness and the laws of the land must equally apply to king and serf. Then the leaders must truly see leadership as service to the fatherland and not a means for them and their families to aim at owning the land. In his book, Bayan Wujub Al-Hijra, the revered scholar, revolutionary and founder of the

Sokoto Caliphate, said: 'A kingdom can endure with unbelief, but it cannot endure with injustice.'

It is also time that African leaders began to see their people as humans who deserve the best in life. All that the average African wants is to feel he counts and that his feelings are respected. He wants an organized society and so he wants his nation's institutions to work. He is also law-abiding, and he understands and respects the law if it covers everyone – high and low.

A look at all the countries in Africa where coups have taken place of late will reveal that not only is the judiciary in bed with all the deposed leaders but also the followers do not seem to matter in the scheme of things.

Again, in April last year, I concluded a writeup with this: "The easiest way to serve the people is to empower them to easily access basic needs. The little money in their pockets should be valuable enough to guarantee that. Once the people can afford basic needs because of leaders' efforts, the crime rate and discontent will take flight. What way is better to empower than to provide work for the majority?" majority?"

Hassan Gimba is the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Neptune Prime.

The Dawn Of African Spring: Lessons From Gabon's Coup And A Warning For President Tinubu.

By: Amb ALIYU BINABBAS.

In recent days, the African continent has been gripped by a monumental political upheaval that has reverberated across the world. The announcement of a coup in Gabon, resulting in the ousting of President Ali Bongo, serves as a stark reminder of the potential for rapid and unexpected change.

This event underscores how sentiments, grievances, and aspirations can coalesce to fuel mass movements, unsettling even the most established political structures.

Gabon, a nation known for its abundant resources and cultural diversity, has been thrust onto the global stage as its military seized control in response to contested election results. Allegations of irregularities and a lack of transparency surrounding President Ali Bongo's election victory had created an undercurrent of public frustration.

This simmering discontentment eventually erupted into a full-scale coup, reshaping the nation's political landscape.

While the world watches this unfolding scenario, the implications extend far beyond Gabon's borders, prompting reflection on other nations, including Nigeria. The coup's ripple effect serves as a poignant warning for leaders, most notably President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, a prominent figure in Nigerian politics.

Nigeria, often considered a regional powerhouse, is no stranger to political fervor and societal unrest. The country's citizens are increasingly vocal about their demands for transparency, accountability, and a responsive government that genuinely addresses their needs. In an era marked by connectivity and the rapid dissemination of information, leaders would be wise not to underestimate the influence of the masses, especially when sentiment becomes impassioned.

At this pivotal juncture, President Tinubu should glean insights from the lessons of Gabon's coup. The power of the people is a force that demands recognition. Global history underscores this, as mass movements have reshaped societies and policies. In Nigeria, as discontentment amplifies and calls for change grow more resounding, leaders must navigate this dynamic landscape with a sharp understanding of the national pulse.

Additionally, it's paramount for leaders to assess the geopolitical context. President Tinubu's purported alliance with France, a historical colonial power on the African



Ambassador Aliyu Bin Abbas

"Allegations of irregularities and a lack of transparency surrounding President Ali Bongo's election victory had created an undercurrent of public frustration."

continent, warrants introspection.

The rising tide of African nations reevaluating their relationships with former colonial powers, and increasingly leaning towards Eastern superpowers, should not be overlooked. While Africans are voicing their dissatisfaction with historical ties to countries like France, President Tinubu's association could cast a shadow over his leadership.

The African Spring, emblematic of change and renewal, has arrived. Its impact transcends borders and ideologies, and its essence lies in the potency of collective action driven by the aspirations of citizens yearning for a brighter future. As leaders like President Tinubu navigate the intricate landscape of governance, they must remain attentive to the murmurs of the people, engage in meaningful dialogue, and take substantial steps towards addressing their concerns.

The Gabon coup is a timely call to action, a vivid illustration that history's pendulum swings swiftly, and leaders who fail to adapt may find themselves on the wrong side of transformation. As we witness the inception of what might be an African Spring, leaders must tread cautiously, listen intently, and lead with a profound dedication to advancing their nations and improving the lives of their citizens.

In essence, the coup in Gabon serves as a stark and urgent reminder that leadership is a privilege and a responsibility. In a time when Africa is at the crossroads of change and renewal, leaders like President Tinubu have a choice: to genuinely heed the calls of their people and embrace their desires for a more just and equitable future or to risk being left behind by the surging tide of history.

ALIYU BIN ABBAS is the President of National Youth Alliance (NYA)

Kaduna State: A Security Sector On Auto-Drive

By; YUSUF ISHAKU GOJE

The number one pillar in the seven-point SUSTAIN blueprint of The Governor of Kaduna State Senator Uba Sani is Safety and Security. It is therefore disturbing that the State Ministry of Internal Security & Home Affairs till now does not have a Commissioner. Equally, the nominee for this very strategic office was not screened at the Kaduna State House of Assembly and was conspicuously not sworn-in at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House.

Furthermore, it is worrisome that getting into the second month after the 60-day deadline for submission of nominees for Commissioner to the Kaduna State House of Assembly, as stipulated in the signed Fifth Alteration (No.23) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) and swearing-in of Commissioners by the Governor, we are yet to have someone at the helm of affairs in this critical Ministry. The former Commissioner, Samuel Aruwan, now the Administrator of Kaduna Capital Territory Authority, is said to be the overseer multitasking to fill-in the vacuum.

Recently, activities in the security sub-sector have been held with the conspicuous absence of a Commissioner. This was evident at the recent State Security Council meeting and the delegation sent to Ikara Local Government, over the recently reported bandit attack. Other activities under the sub-sector without a Commissioner to drive the process: was the flagging-off of the commencement of the training for 7,000 recruits of Kaduna Vigilance Service (KADVS); and the one-day reflection on Kaduna Direction on Peace-building organized by the Kaduna Peace Commission.

The current security



challenges confronting the State requires someone with the requisite knowledge, capacity, character, experience, exposure and reputation to effectively coordinate and deliver the Governor's vision, as captured in his blueprint, of "a secure, peaceful and united Kaduna. More so, someone that will earn the respect and cooperation of the Federal security agencies in the State. As well as create the enabling

environment for the parastatal under it to effectively function.

As currently, the poor welfare of the KADVS staff/volunteers should give everyone sleepless night due to the nature of their mandate - with some of them armed and hungry. The volunteers that are working under KADFAMA are said to be owed for about 8 months. While it is public knowledge that the other volunteers,

except those assigned to public schools, have also not been paid allowances for years now. The KADVS Law, Part IV, Section 24, particularly, sub-section 3,b, stipulates that - "the funds (of the Service) shall be applied for: payment of allowances to members of the Committee and Staff as determined by the Government."

Interestingly, the Ministry of Internal Security & Home Affairs, according to the 2023

Approved Budget, has an allocation of N8.5 billion. As at the second quarter (half-year), the State Budget Performance Report shows about N4.0 billion has been released already, a 47.3% performance. With the highest release of N3.9 billion going to the main Ministry and the lowest release of N8.7 million to KADVS.

Evidently, activities under the sub-sector are ongoing; nonetheless, the absence of a Commissioner remains a challenge. It is our utmost expectations that in the absence of a Commissioner, the recent recruitment of KADVS volunteers was largely on merit and not political patronage - with their background thoroughly checked to ensure people with questionable character are not licenced to cause more harm than good to the society. More importantly, that the government has the fiscal space to ensure both the old and new volunteers are paid as at when due.

Therefore, we appeal to the Governor to accelerate the process of appointing a competent substantive Commissioner for the Ministry of Internal Security & Home Affairs to reposition the sector in fulfillment of section 14, sub-section 2b, of the Constitution. As anything short of this will call to question the commitment of the Governor to the social contract (SUSTAIN blueprint) entered with the people. Best wishes to the Governor in his effort towards securing the residents (as well as investors and visitors) and bringing durable peace to Kaduna State.

Lets engage, ask the right questions and hold the government accountable.

Yusuf Ishaku Goje is an Active Citizen

"As currently, the poor welfare of the KADVS staff/volunteers should give everyone sleepless night due to the nature of their mandate - with some of them armed and hungry. The volunteers that are working under KADFAMA are said to be owed for about 8 months."

Palliative: You're For All Adamawa Not PDP Governor, APC Man Reminds Fintiri

*Calls on President Tinubu to intervene *Alleges FG palliative rebranded for political purpose

By: TOM GARBA, Yola

A loyal member of the All Progressives Congress (APC), in Adamawa State, Mr Hussaini Gambo (Nakura) has accused the Governor of Adamawa State, Rt Hon Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri of selective treatment in distributing the Federal Government palliatives sent for the people of the state.

Hussaini who also is known as an advocate of the masses, chairman of the Adamawa Concerned Citizens Association, said Governor Fintiri's rebranding of the foodstuff with his photo and assigning to local government councilors to distribute has violated the principles of equity and inclusion.

According to him, the APC House of Assembly members as major stakeholders in their respective constituencies, were not part of the committee and the action of the governor will prevent many from benefiting from the federal government's

gesture.

He expressed worries that the deliberate action to sideline the APC lawmakers is a clear indication that the palliatives are only going to be shared among the members of the ruling PDP in the state.

Hussaini reminded the governor that his administration is not only for PDP members, saying that he is aware of how thousands of APC members voted for his second term bid during the last governorship election.

Hussaini called on President Ahmed Bola Tinubu to intervene in the Adamawa palliatives provided by the Federal Government because Governor Fintiri is out to sideline APC members.

Hussaini in an interview with our Yola correspondent, said the governor is also out for vendetta and only wants a particular class of people to enrich themselves over the palliatives that are meant for everyone.

"Sir intervene on the palliatives you gave for everyone in

Adamawa, else APC loyalists will never get anything as Governor Fintiri is clearly showing out his colour to give only his political pundits.

"All the committees formed in charge of the distribution there is no APC stakeholder included, even our elective office holders like the state house of assembly lawmakers have been excluded from being the committee.

"How can there be equal distribution? The so-called councillors in charge of the distribution at ward levels are all PDP elected, no none of them is from the APC or any political party. Something urgent has to be done," Hussaini said.

All efforts to reach the Chief press Secretary, Mr Humawashi Wonosikou to comment, proved abortive as his phone number was not being picked while called.

Our reporter visited his office in Government House, but was told by his secretary that was not on seat.



FRIN Staff Blast Group, Says Institution Well Managed By DG Buba Yaduma

By: TOM GARBA, Yola

In a significant development at the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN), the appointment of Professor Zacharia Buba Yaduma as the Director General, has brought renewed hope and optimism among the institute's dedicated staff.

This rejoinder addressed recent publications containing false claims and serves as a clarion call for support and understanding.

The staff's collective support and optimism were encapsulated in a comprehensive statement issued and jointly signed by Adetona Olubunmi, Chairperson of the

Joint Action Congress at FRIN, and And.

"Once again, we have a cause nrew A. Umaru, the Secretary of Joint Action Congress at FRIN. ot to dignify the pseudonymity of Kelvin Onaolapo and Wasiu Olaniregun, but to correct the false assertions of the cowards behind some publications which can only attempt to disrupt the growing assurance and confidence the entirety of Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN) have enjoyed since the appointment of Professor, Zacharia Buba Yaduma as the Director General of FRIN by former President Muhammadu Buhari.

"Besides his status as a man highly qualified for the job, he is the first alumnus in the history of FRIN since its establishment as the Federal Department of Forestry Research in 1954 under the Institute's Decree 35 of 1973 and order establishing Research

Institute of 1977 which changed the status of the Department to an institute to lead the institute and he is doing it not just with passion but consideration and heed for many who were pushed into the cesspool of slavery and intimidation by past leaderships of the institute.

"The new Director General has decided to work the talk by releasing conversions for staff across colleges who were qualified by acquiring higher qualifications but were denied conversion for reasons best known to those who stagnated them in the system, Departments have for the first time in the history of the institute prepared and submitted budgets to their respective provosts for onward consideration with a keen interest to understanding and improving peculiar needs of staff in accordance to the NBTE regulatory documents, this is to mention a few.

"The presidency, the 10th Assembly, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Related Offences Commission, the Department of State Services and the Media must disregard any call by these sons of perdition to sack the DG as this will be tantamount to sabotaging the ideology of sanitizing institutions and making them work effectively which His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu is championing. Mr. President must ignore this call to reverse the appointment of the DG as there is no timely

intervention better than this appointment which has forefend the quiet but visible attempt to plant in a candidate through a kangaroo process that would have sustained a dynasty of oppression and intimidation, Illegal transfers without benefits and parading a research institute with lecturers that have to toil and train themselves without allowances and are hit with promotion conditions which are not in tandem with the NBTE regulatory documents. We will be ready to furnish you with more reasons and documents as to why the appointment of the new DG is a bold step toward liberation for the staff of the institute.

"It is also imperative to mention that the man in question has graduated many undergraduate and postgraduate students on both MSc and Ph.D. level one of the staff in FRIN inclusive, which make him a better research professor (Scientist) than any professor believed to have been raised by those who want professor Zacharia B. Yaduma removed and to also unequivocally mention that his appointment did not negate fairness and meritocracy as his 30years carrier in the field of academia and the impact he has made cannot be question at any level. Any attempt to blackmail the man, only reasonable questions the authority of the presidency to appoint a qualified candidate nominated by the then

honorable minister of environment for the position as stated clearly in "Section 6 " of the 2018 Act, Establishing FRIN and little wonder why all unions in the colleges came together under the umbrella of Joint Action Congress on the 20th of May, 2023 to throw their weight behind the appointment and appreciate the leadership of President Muhammadu Buhari calling this appointment "The best gift of the Muhammadu Buhari administration to FRIN"

"Without a doubt, those sponsoring this petition are those who felt the ideology of assuming the status of God in FRIN has been discontinued and the evil ideology synonymous with Williams Lynch's 1712 vicious "Making of a Slave" has been averted.

"There is no better time than now to join hands with the DG and deliver better welfare and human capital development for all as well as reward for hard work void of victimization and suppression which was the drill in FRIN before now, This appointment was substantiated by former president Muhammadu Buhari's administration but to us this is our first taste of RENEWED HOPE ushered in by His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu which we support and will work collectively with the DG and the president to move FRIN to new grounds which will be unmatched." The statement read



Professor Zacharia Buba Yaduma

Nigerian Athletes Have Everything To Make Country Top Sport Nation - Olukoya

**Says Sports University's aim is to make Nigerian athletes rule the world of sports*

By; BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan
Acting Director, High Performance Center, Sports University of Nigeria, (SUN), Dr Bob Olukoya on Tuesday said Nigerian athletes have everything needed to make the country top sport nation if given the necessary support.

Dr Olukoya made this known in Ibadan at the Students/Athletes trial organized by the founder of Sports University of Nigeria, Delta State, Senator Ned Nwoko for the South West region, held at Ilaji Hotels and Resorts. He stressed that as a result of this, the vision of the 2023 Scholarship Students /Athletes Trials is to make Nigerian athletes rule the world of sports in the nearest future.

Dr Olukoya maintained that many benefits such as self development, opportunity to travel round the world, acquisition of vocational skills, employment opportunities and opportunity to participate in competitions such as the NUGA game and international meets are associated with the scholarship apart from studying at the University.

The athletes Assessor for the project Mr Gboyega Makinde

while speaking disclosed that the programme was meant for selection of athletes for trials for scholarships being offered by the Sports University of Nigeria.

Emphasizing that successful athletes selected from the South West zone will be among the 100 athletes to be selected across the geo political zones of Nigeria, Mr Makinde tasked the athletes to perform well during the trials in order to be among the successful athletes for the scholarship program.

"The founder of the University Senator Ned Nwaoko has established the university to give support to the selected athletes in a bid to give the beneficiaries a future in the sport education in the Sport University in a bid to develop sports talents in Nigeria", he said.

Senator Ned Nwoko, Chancellor of the University is awarding scholarship to one hundred students/athletes to the tune of 2.5million naira across Nigeria.

A former Olympian and national coach who also doubles as head-coach, Taekwondo, University of Ibadan, Osita John Egwim in his remarks said the support given by the founder of SUN is what they have been soliciting for, adding that with



Dr Olukoya at the trial.

the support given, the Nigerian sports will be ruling the world of sport in a very short time.

One of the athletes who plays Basketball, Joshua Eritobor on his part lauded the organiser for the opportunity given, he said scholarships of such will give opportunity for Nigerian youths

to move farther in what they do. Eritobor stressed that scholarship of such will give beneficiaries to learn and play the sport they love to do while he stated that he prays he is among the successful selected athletes for the scholarship.

Another athlete who plays Soft

Ball, Rokibat AbdulAfee said the scholarship if given to her will give her the opportunity to learn more about the sport adding that she would love to be among the successful selected athletes just as she described the trial as top notched free of sentiments.

Reps Committee On Sports Focused On Tackling Challenges In Sector - Dep Chair

By; BASHIR BELLO, Abuja
The Deputy Chairman House of Representatives Committee on Sports, Honourable Muhammed Buba Jajere has reaffirmed the commitment of his committee to tackling the challenges bedeviling sports development in Nigeria.

Hon Jajere stated this in an interview with newsmen in Abuja.

The lawmaker said that as soon

as the committee commences work after resumption from recess, they will strategize on how best to get sponsorship for the various sports that Nigeria is known to be good at, adding that by so doing, the issue of funding will be addressed.

He pointed out that if individuals and corporate bodies are encouraged to support the sporting sector, the nation may be a force to reckon with.

"Nigeria's soccer league is not functioning like the English

Premier League, Italian and the Spanish leagues.

"We have identified the issues and very soon, we are going to have meetings with all stakeholders so that we can map out ways to sort things out," he said.

The legislator also added that sports such as badminton, volleyball, hockey and others would be looked into by the Sports Committee of the House of Representatives, with a view of reviving holistically the sports



Honourable Jajere

Nigerian Athletes Have Everything To Make Country Top Sport Nation - Olukoya

**Says Sports University's aim is to make Nigerian athletes rule the world of sports*

Story on Page 23

Vice President Shettima Committed To Progress, Development Of Nigeria - Senator Alli

***Congratulate him at 57**

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Senator representing Oyo South Senatorial District, Senator Sharafadeen Alli on Saturday, said that Vice President Kashim Shettima is committed to progress and development of Nigeria, Senator Alli who stated this in his message to congratulate Vice President Shettima on his 57th birthday anniversary, commended his unwavering dedication to serving Nigeria.

The All Progressives Congress (APC) Senator in the statement signed by his Special Adviser on Media, Akeem Abass, expressed profound gratitude to the Vice President for his exemplary leadership qualities and unwavering dedication to serving Nigeria.

While lauding the Vice President's exceptional integrity, wisdom, and compassion which have made significant impacts on the nation, Senator Alli noted Shettima's relentless pursuit for progress and development, commending his remarkable contributions to Nigeria, which has transformed countless lives as well as communities.

"Your unwavering dedication, astute leadership, and tireless efforts to improve the lives of our citizens have made a profoundness impact on our

society. Your compassionate approach to governance, coupled with your deep sense of responsibility, has inspired hope and instilled a sense of confidence in the hearts of the people," he said.

Wishing the vice president continued success and fulfillment in all his endeavours, Senator Alli expressed confident that he would continue to lead them towards a brighter future.

"May this birthday be filled with warmth, joy, and the knowledge that your contributions have shaped our nation for the better".



Senator Sharafadeen Alli with Vice President Shettima.

FG Will Mitigate, Cushion Effects Of 2022 Flood On Poultry Farmers In Nigeria - Dr Kakulu

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Federal Government is ready to mitigate and cushion effects of the 2022 flood that ravaged poultry farmers in the country

This was disclosed on Thursday in Ibadan by the Oyo State Coordinator for Federal Ministry of Agric and Food Security, Dr. Mrs. Kakulu Florence while speaking at the distribution of palliatives to about 200 poultry farmers affected by the 2022 flood disaster.

She stressed that the post disaster palliative was to cushion the effect of 2022 flood that ravaged the poultry farmers in the Oyo State, saying the post disaster palliative was predicated on the government's decision to mitigate the effects of the flood.

"We on behalf of the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Food Security and Oyo State Government commiserate with our poultry farmers who may have lost their properties and chickens as a result of the ravages caused by

the flood", she said.

Dr Mrs Kakulu added, "The distribution of the palliative was part of the government's effort to mitigate and cushion the effect that the ugly incident may have caused on our poultry farmers".

Lauding Oyo state government on its various proactive efforts in enhancing farmer's production and collaboration, Dr. Kakulu said each of the participants would go home with 8 bags of poultry feed, crates and some cash for their logistics.



Poultry farmers at the distribution of the palliatives in Ibadan.

Distributing the palliative to the beneficiaries at the National Cereal Research Institute, Moor Plantation, Ibadan, Oyo state Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, Barrister Olasunkanmi Olaleye said the state government recognizes the impact of farmers and felt the loss caused by flood disaster last year.

The Commissioner declared that the palliative given would not equate the loss, but it serves as a show of recognition of their importance in the state economic

development.

"I wish to commend the Poultry Association of Nigeria, Oyo State chapter for the crucial roles you play in the State and Nigeria at large in improving nutritional, economic growth and livelihood of people in our dear State", he said

Barrister Olaleye added, "This palliative given today is nothing compared to your importance in our economic development, but it is done to show that the government recognizes your impact and to give this as part of efforts of the Federal Government intervention through Oyo State Government under the leadership of Engr. Seyi Makinde".

He stressed that the state government would very soon partner with stakeholders and investors on the need to introduce egg power making factories, saying this would require standard quality egg production, enough quality per day as well as enhancing production of eggs throughout the year.