

FG Terminates Kogi Road Project After Just 1% Completion Since 2022

The Federal Government has ordered the termination of the rehabilitation work on the Lokoja-Shintaku-1.04 per cent

CONTINUES ON P7

Oyo Disburses N600m Compensation For Circular Road Project

The Oyo State Government has disbursed the total sum of N600 million as compensation to property owners

affected by the ongoing Circular Road project in Ibadan. In a statement signed by the Oyo State Commissioner for

Information, Prince Dotun Oyelade, the fourth batch of N200m was released on Thursday at the office of the

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GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION

REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

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Lagos Ports' \$1m Reconstruction Projects Begin Next Quarter

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) said the \$1 million reconstruction project of Lagos ports would commence in the next quarter,

which may break the multi-decade neglect of the critical infrastructure.

The Managing Director of the NPA, Dr Abubakar Dantsoho, said since the construction of Tin

Can Island Port 48 years ago and Apapa port 103 years ago, there have been no

major attempts to repair, upgrade, or rehabilitate both ports.

CONTINUES ON P3

Road Tax Scheme Stalls after Delivering N2.6trn Projects

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Motorists, Traders Lament Deplorable Lagos Market Roads

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Fuel Sells Highest In Jigawa, Lagos, Sokoto - NBS

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Dr. Abubakar Dantsoho, Managing Director NPA

Abuja Rail Mass Transit Moves 4m Passengers In 15 Months

Abuja Rail Mass Transit (ARMT) project has recorded over four million passengers in the last 15 months.

Besides, the country

received the first batch of students trained in China and also officially launched its local training programme in Abuja in

what was described as another significant milestone in the Nigeria's rail system, supported by the Chinese

government.

At a symbolic ceremony held on Tuesday in Abuja, attended by senior officials of the Federal Capital Territory

CONTINUES ON P2

FG Committed To Building Modern Maritime Sector

P5

Local Transport News

Road Tax Scheme Stalls After Delivering N2.6trn Projects

Culled
Seven years into Nigeria's Road Tax Credit Scheme, the programme may be grappling with survival crises, with many projects valued at N3 trillion, according to the latest data from the Minister of Works, stalled by multiple crises.

First, there is a face-off between federal and state governments, with the latter alleging that the scheme is skewed to their detriment, with federal roads being executed with the federation's resources.

Community-related crisis, sharp rise in the cost of construction and sundry challenges also add to the challenge, triggering abandoned projects across the country.

The Federal Government said it is auditing ongoing projects under the scheme even as President Bola Tinubu has directed the Minister of Works, David Umahi, to explore alternative funding options, including public-private partnership (PPP), to

deliver the abandoned roads. Already, N2.6 trillion has been spent under the 10-year scheme, which was described as a game-changer in bridging Nigeria's infrastructure gap, estimated at \$3 trillion yearly spending.

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC), Dangote Group, BUA and NLNG are among the companies participating in the programme. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Highway

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At a symbolic ceremony held on Tuesday in Abuja, attended by senior officials of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) and representatives of China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), stakeholders celebrated what they described as a turning point in the transfer of technical expertise and sustainable management of the nation's capital's rail transport system.

Deputy General Manager of CCECC, Rail Operations Department, Zhuang Yanhui, who addressed the gathering, commended the Nigerian operations

team for their commitment during the intensive training in China.

The programme covered critical aspects of urban rail operations, including dispatching and control, station management, maintenance protocols, and safety procedures.

Yanhui said, "This ceremony is not just about celebrating training. It represents the beginning of knowledge transfer, local empowerment, and sustainable operations for the ARMT."

He explained that the local training phase in Abuja would allow Nigerian trainees to adapt their international learning to the realities of the local environment, with support from both Nigerian and Chinese instructors.

While providing an update on the rail operations, Yanhui revealed that since the Abuja Rail System commenced commercial services in May 2024 with its Diesel Multiple Units (DMUs), the system had maintained over 450 days of stable and reliable operations, transporting more than four million passengers. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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In a statement signed by the Oyo State Commissioner for Information, Prince Dotun Oyelade, the fourth batch of N200m was released on Thursday at the office of the commissioner for lands housing and Urban development, Hon. Williams Akin Funmilayo, who promised that the payment of the total sum of N1 billion compensation will be completed soon.

"With this exercise, we are gradually approaching the N1 billion mark. Today, beneficiaries will receive between N3 million and N5 million each, with payments to be credited immediately", Akin Fumilayo said.

He explained that the Circular Road corridor was first acquired in 2006 and expanded in 2018 before Governor Seyi Makinde assumed office and had witnessed all forms of encroachments



Governor Seyi

ever since. However, the governor directed that even though the corridor expansion did not take place under his watch, owners of both the legal and illegal structures should be compensated.

The commissioner cautioned beneficiaries against falling victims to fraudsters, stressing that they should report any government official who ask

them for kickbacks. Speaking at the event, Prince Oyelade, described the project as one "ordained by God," noting that its concept dated back to 2005

"If you look at it very well, it would appear that this is a project the Lord had ordained because the concept started 20 years ago by former Governor, Chief Rashidi Ladoja who incidentally is being

coronated as the Olubadan of Ibadanland 20 years after and after which the Circular road has been named after him," Oyelade said.

Representatives of the beneficiaries, Alawiye Adebayo and Iyafin Abigeal Opeloluwa, commended Governor Makinde for keeping to his promises and demonstrating compassion in governance. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News

FRSC Corps Marshal Rewards Personnel For Rejecting Bribe Offers

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, has recognised Assistant Route Commander Babatunde J. Owoeye of the Osun State Sector Command for his exemplary conduct in rejecting bribes from traffic offenders.

The notice of the recognition was contained in a statement issued by the FRSC Osun Sector Commander, Leye Adegboyega in Osogbo on Wednesday. The statement revealed that the Corps Marshal, Sheu Mohammed, awarded Owoeye a cash gift of N250,000 and a Management Commendation Letter.

The reward followed Owoeye's outstanding record of 104 "Attempt To Corrupt Marshal On Duty" (ACS) contraventions in July 2025, the first of its kind in the history of the Command.

The statement revealed that the "recognition was part of a monthly performance assessment and reward initiative by the Osun State Sector Command, which evaluates officers on integrity operations and enforcement of

critical offences responsible for road crashes."

Owoeye's July record was said to be the peak of his earlier performances, "where he recorded 18 ACS contraventions in May and 38 in June. His consistency led the Osun State Command to notify the FRSC National Headquarters in Abuja."

Presenting the award on behalf of the Corps Marshal, Zonal Commanding Officer RS11, Assistant Corps Marshal Ibrahim Abubakar, commended Owoeye for his integrity and urged him to remain a

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Shehu

US Seeks Nigeria's Partnership To Promote Eco-Friendly Ports

Culled

The United States has expressed its interest in partnering with Nigeria to promote environmental sustainability in port operations.

During a tour of the APM Terminals Apapa by members of the U.S. Delegation on Trade Facilitation yesterday, California's Secretary of Transportation, Toks Omishakin, highlighted U.S. initiatives, such as onshore and offshore power systems that allow ships to plug in while docked, reducing idling emissions.

The terminal's visit, organised by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), the Bay Area Council, and the University of California, formed part of a 10-day trade mission to Nigeria and Kenya. The visit focused on climate, infrastructure, trade and technology.

Omishakin, while commending APM Terminals for its significant investments and maintaining high standards of port operations in Nigeria, stressed that the visit was designed to strengthen

partnerships between California and Nigeria across key sectors.

He noted that a key component of global trade lies in port efficiency, pointing out the striking similarities between Nigerian port systems and those in the U.S.

"The operations here are very impressive and progressive. From a staffing standpoint as well, I can see that they are very high-calibre people capable of working effectively with our counterparts back in California," Omishakin said.

Omishakin said many do not know that ports in Nigeria have the same level of capability as those on the West Coast.

The Vice President of Global Programmes at the Bay Area Council, Alex Ford, also commended the APM Terminal facilities, describing them as a hub that meets international standards.

With California home to the busiest ports in the Western Hemisphere – the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach, which together handle more than 20 million TEUs yearly, the delegation,

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Lagos Ports' \$1m Reconstruction Projects Begin Next Quarter

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The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) said the \$1 million reconstruction project of Lagos ports would commence in the next quarter, which may break the multi-decade neglect of the critical infrastructure.

The Managing Director of the NPA, Dr Abubakar Dantsoho, said since the construction of Tin Can Island Port 48 years ago and Apapa port 103 years ago, there have been no major attempts to repair, upgrade, or rehabilitate both ports.

Speaking during a panel at a breakfast meeting organised by the Nigerian Chamber of Shipping (NCS) in collaboration with Lekki Port held in Lagos, Dantsoho, lamented that the decades of ports infrastructural neglect has left it trailing smaller countries such as Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, whose seaports have become preferred destinations for shippers, larger vessels and transshipment traffic in West and Central Africa. He said that due to the infrastructure



Dantsoho

deficit, Nigeria's ports currently handle about two million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) yearly, far below those of smaller regional competitors, despite its advantage in trade and population.

"Our competitors in Lome, Cotonou, Abidjan and Tema are only enjoying an advantage because we have not fixed our ports. By every global indicator, Nigeria is the largest economy and the most populous country in Africa, yet

today, Abidjan and Lome handle higher volumes than Lagos. This is the gap we must urgently close," Dantsoho stated.

The NPA boss said once infrastructure, equipment, technology, human capacity and sustainability processes are aligned, cargo volumes would naturally gravitate to Nigeria.

He also lamented inadequate port equipment for vessels, revealing that NPA is investing in modern cargo-

handling equipment, including larger cranes and tugboats capable of serving bigger vessels, with deliveries scheduled for the first half of 2026.

He said this issue with equipment affected the Dangote Refinery at Lekki when it started operations, saying: "The equipment that NPA required to pull these tankers is not there. So, it was a struggle. Locally, for us, we had this concept of a one-stop shop, which also reduced the stress that comes around streamlining the processes."

Dantsoho highlighted that the Federal Government's establishment of a one-stop shop for Dangote Refinery operations, which collocates 16 government agencies within the NPA, has already generated over N25 billion in revenue from October 2024 to date.

The NPA boss added that the government is fully committed to supporting reforms, which are expected to restore investor confidence and reverse decades of vessel and cargo diversion from Nigerian ports.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Local Transport News

Youths Commend NEDC, Welcome E-Transport Scheme In Northeast

Culled

The North East Youth Council has thrown its weight behind the North East Development Commission (NEDC) for its swift disaster response and its bold step to modernise transportation through a new electric mobility initiative. The council also commended the commission for its decisive and timely interventions during last year's devastating floods in northern Bauchi, where thousands of residents were displaced and several communities faced severe losses.

The council's publicity secretary, Ahmed Isa Azare, in a statement on Thursday, noted that the commission's rapid deployment of relief materials, medical assistance, and rehabilitation support helped avert a major humanitarian crisis and restored hope to the affected areas. Azare said the NEDC, under the leadership of Managing Director Mohammed Goni Alkali, has consistently demonstrated the capacity to tackle emergencies and rebuild war-

torn communities since its establishment by the National Assembly in 2017, driving resettlement, reconstruction, and recovery in the wake of the Boko Haram insurgency.

He said: "Since its inception, the commission has spearheaded multiple initiatives, from constructing housing units for displaced persons and rehabilitating schools and health centres, to distributing agricultural inputs and offering ICT training for youth.

Find Full Story In The Link



Alkali

Culled

THE price of a litre of petrol, also known as fuel, was highest in Jigawa, Lagos and Sokoto states in July, according to the latest report by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The report, 'Premium Motor Spirit (Petrol) Price Watch,' released on Thursday, August 21, showed fuel price averaged N1,024.99/litre in July from N1,037.66 in June.

It sold the highest in Jigawa state at an average retail price of N1107.52 per litre in July.

In Lagos, it sold at N1100.29, despite the state warehousing most of the oil depots in the country, the major seaport and the Dangote Refinery.

Analysts believe a litre of fuel would have been cheaper in Lagos since logistics costs would have reduced; however, the NBS report proved the contrary.

In Sokoto state, far northwest of the country, fuel averaged N1100.00 per litre in the review month.

On the flip side, Zamfara, Yobe, and Kogi states had the lowest average retail prices for fuel per litre at N884.63,

Fuel Sells Highest In Jigawa, Lagos, Sokoto - NBS

N950.60, and N986.67, respectively.

This demonstrates the continued volatility in fuel prices across the country, despite recent efforts to stabilise the downstream petroleum sector, NBS stated.

On a year-on-year basis, the average price of fuel per litre rose sharply from N770.54 in July 2024 to N1024.99 in July 2025, representing a N254.45 increase.

The report added that the North-West zone had the highest average retail price of N1035.85, while the North East zone had the lowest price of N1017.65.

The ICIR can report that the average price of a litre of fuel surged from N770.54 in July 2024 to N1024.99 in July 2025 despite the decline in the average price of crude in the international market

Find Full Story In The Link

FG Committed To Building Modern Maritime Sector - Oyetola



Oyetola

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has stated that the President Bola Tinubu-led federal administration is committed to building a modern, safe, and globally competitive maritime sector.

This is even as Oyetola announced plans to replicate the success of the Lekki Deep Seaport across Nigeria's maritime sector, which he described as a model for transformative growth and development.

In a statement on Tuesday by his media aide, Dr Bolaji Akinola, Oyetola stated this during a breakfast meeting organised by the Nigerian Chamber of Shipping, themed, 'Unlocking

Opportunities: The Lekki Deep Seaport Playbook for Trade and Shipping in Nigeria'.

Oyetola explained that a central component of the current administration's strategy is the nationwide application of the public-private partnership model and logistical efficiency demonstrated at the Lekki Deep Seaport.

According to him, the maritime industry stands at the heart of the nation's economic aspirations, not merely as a conduit for trade, but as a catalyst for industrial growth, job creation, and regional integration.

"Our vision is clear: to build a modern, safe, efficient, and globally competitive maritime sector that fully unlocks Nigeria's economic potential. Achieving this vision would require more than sound policies; it demands sustained investment in infrastructure, targeted capacity building, accelerated digital transformation, and strong, enduring partnerships with the private sector," Oyetola said.

Oyetola highlighted Lekki Deep Seaport's capacity to handle 1.2 million twenty-foot equivalent units and accommodate large vessels, noting that it has already generated thousands of direct and indirect jobs.

He also commended the completion of critical access roads, stating that for the first time in decades, they have freed major Nigerian ports from logistical bottlenecks.

"Cargo now moves out faster, investors move in with confidence, and trade flows without unnecessary delay," the Minister stated.

The former Governor added that the port, which currently operates at only 20 per cent capacity, presents vast, untapped opportunities for investors.

Oyetola emphasised that the Lekki playbook is founded on five key pillars, namely, a strategic location, a robust public-private partnership framework, integrated transport links by road, rail, and inland waterways, supportive policies, and technology-driven operations.

To replicate this model nationwide,

Oyetola confirmed that the Ministry is actively modernising Apapa and Tincan Island Ports and also upgrading the Eastern Ports in Onne, Calabar, and Rivers.

"Under the leadership of President Tinubu, this administration is committed to taking the lessons of Lekki and applying them nationwide to transform our entire port system into a network of modern, efficient, and competitive gateways. To this end, we are modernising the Western Ports in Apapa, upgrading the Eastern Ports in Onne, Calabar, and Rivers to stimulate balanced regional growth, and finalising the Port Community System, integrated with the National Single Window to create a paperless, transparent, and secure digital environment for all maritime stakeholders," he stressed.

He emphasised that a strong national shipping fleet is essential to building local capacity and asserting Nigeria's presence on global trade lanes, with the ultimate goal of establishing a National Flag Carrier.

Find Full Story In The Link



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FG Terminates Kogi Road Project After Just 1% Completion Since 2022

Culled

The Federal Government has ordered the termination of the rehabilitation work on the Lokoja-Shintaku-Dekina-Anyigba road awarded to TEC Engineering Company Nigeria Limited in 2022, but recorded 1.04 per cent completion despite receiving N1 billion as an advance payment.

The government equally said it will rejig the contract for the construction of the Okene-Ajaokuta-Itope dual carriage in Kogi State, which was also awarded in 2022 to CCECC Nigeria Limited, meant to be completed in 2024, but has yet to be completed.

Minister of Works, Engineer Dave Umahi, in a statement issued by his Special Adviser on Media, Barrister Orji Uchenna Orji, said the decisions were part of the efforts of the current administration to build an effective roadmap to the funding and delivery of ongoing projects inherited from previous administrations.

According to the statement: "His Excellency reached a mutual agreement with the contractors handling the



Senator David Umahi

rehabilitation of Lokoja-Shintaku-Dekina-Anyigba road and the reconstruction of Okene-Ajaokuta-Itope dual carriageway in Kogi State on the way forward towards rejigging project delivery roadmap with respect to the projects which were awarded in 2022 to CCECC Nig Ltd and TEC Engineering Company Nig Ltd and which were meant to have been completed in 2024." He said the decision was taken during a meeting

resources made available by the Federal Government. He emphasised that the Renewed Hope administration of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, is committed to road infrastructure revolution anchored on the core values of quality, speed, and value for money in project delivery. Newspaper subscription bundles

"On the contract for the rehabilitation of Okene-Ajaokuta-Itope carriageway in Kogi State handled by CCECC Nig Ltd, he noted that the project was awarded in 2022 with a length of 52.27km, but the contractor has only achieved 1.97% completion (binder) on one alignment despite receiving ₦2.5 billion advance payment.

He therefore directed the Director, Highway North Central, to issue a warning letter to the contractor to, within 30 days, resume work on the site to achieve a milestone that is commensurate with the money they received, after which the balance of the job yet to be done would be mutually terminated to enable the Ministry to procure the remaining section of the project for enhanced funding and execution.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Motorists, Traders Lament Deplorable Lagos Market Road



Deplorable Market Road

Motorists and business owners on the Osolo Way in the Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area of Lagos State have expressed their displeasure over the dilapidated condition of the road, which they say has become a major challenge, especially during the rainy season.

When our correspondents visited the area on Tuesday, the road was heavily flooded, with dirt spilling from blocked gutters onto the carriageway, further worsening the movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

Road users, in separate interviews, lamented to our correspondents that the road, a major route to Aswani market and vital for both commuters and businesses in the area, was left in such a

state of decay by the government.

A motorist identified simply as Shina lamented that the deplorable road frequently damages his tricycle, forcing him to spend heavily on repairs.

He also attributed the bad road to the poor drainage system, urging the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, to put in place a better system before construction began.

"The road is really bad, and it affects our vehicles such that they break down every time. I have had to repair my tricycle countless times.

"The contractor constructing the road is not doing a good job because I haven't seen a road being constructed in such a manner.

"There is no direct channel to the gutter, and the water flowing from the Ilesa area is flowing through this place.

"The rehabilitation should be given to someone more proficient and skilled at road construction, because trailers do ply this road all the time, as it is a

major road in this area," Shina stated.

A business owner, who identified herself as Uzoamaka, told our correspondent that the poor state of the road had persisted for years, causing daily traffic congestion.

"The road has been damaged for a very long time, although it is now under construction. But the bad state still causes traffic congestion all the time, and it makes it very difficult and exhausting to navigate," she said.

While appealing to the state government for urgent intervention, another trader, who pleaded anonymity because he didn't want to appear in print, explained that the condition of the road worsens during the rainy season.

"During the rainy season, the water doesn't flow properly because of the bad drainage. It puts people at risk. All we can do is plead with the government to help us repair this road," she said.

As of the time of filing this report, efforts to reach the Chairman of the

Local Council Development Area, Adebayo Olasoju, proved unsuccessful.

However, a council official who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed in an interview with our correspondent that work was ongoing on the road.

"The chairman is not around at the moment, but all I know is that the construction of the road is ongoing. However, the contractor wants to split the road," he said.

Seyi further explained that the contractor's proposal was still awaiting state government's approval.

"A lot of people have been working on that road, and the solution provided by the contractor is to split it. But we need approval from the Lagos State Government before that can be done. The contractor has been working on the road," he added.

When eventually contacted on Wednesday, the LG chairman, Adebayo, simply sent a terse statement via SMS, "The construction of the road is ongoing."
[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Dozens Of Aghan Deportees From Iran Killed In Bus Crash

Culled

A traffic accident in western Afghanistan has killed 79 people, including 17 children, most of whom were on a bus carrying Afghan migrants deported from Iran, a Taliban interior ministry spokesperson confirmed to the BBC.

The bus, en route to Kabul, caught fire on Tuesday night after colliding with a truck and motorcycle in Herat province.

Everyone aboard the bus was killed, as well as two people from the other vehicles, Ahmadullah Mottaqi, the Taliban's director of information and culture in Herat, told BBC Pashto earlier.

In recent months Iran has stepped up its deportations of undocumented Afghan migrants who have fled conflict in their homeland.

"All the passengers were migrants who had boarded the vehicle in Islam Qala,"



provincial governor spokesman Mohammad Yousuf Saeedi told AFP, referring to a town near the Afghanistan-Iran border.

Herat police said the

accident happened because of the bus driver's "excessive speed and negligence", AFP reported.

Traffic accidents are common in Afghanistan,

where roads have been damaged by decades of conflict and driving regulations are not strongly enforced.

Since the 1970s, millions of Afghans have fled to

Iran and Pakistan, with major waves during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and following the Taliban's return to power in 2021.

This has contributed to

growing anti-Afghan sentiment in Iran, with refugees facing systemic discrimination.

Iran had previously given a July deadline for undocumented Afghans to depart voluntarily.

But since a brief war with Israel in June, Iranian authorities have forcibly returned hundreds of thousands of Afghans, alleging national security concerns - though critics say Tehran may simply be looking for scapegoats for its security failures against Israeli attacks.

More than 1.5 million Afghans have left Iran since January, according to the UN Refugee Agency. Some had been in Iran for generations.

Experts warn Afghanistan lacks the capacity to absorb the growing number of nationals forcibly returned to a country under Taliban government.

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Culled

Despite ongoing reforms and efforts to construct new ports and rehabilitate existing ones, world powers, including the United States and Russia, are actively seeking to secure access to the Port of Lomé in Togo which has emerged as a key maritime hub in West Africa.

The increase in volume of trade between Asia and West Africa has seen Lomé port transform into a key regional container port.

Major ocean carriers, specifically MSC, have responded by redeploying ultra-large container vessels

US, Russia Ditch Nigerian Ports, Seeks Access To Togo Ports

(ULCVs) to the route.

This has come as a major boost for liner connectivity of West African ports including Lomé.

In view of these trade advantages, the U.S has pledged to expand its African market access through Lomé port.

Last week, the U.S Embassy in Lomé, led by the Chargé d'Affaires, Richard C. Michaels, conducted a tour of the port facility.

The delegation also held a meeting with the management of Lomé Container Terminal, LCT, to explore commercial opportunities for U.S businesses.

"With advanced deep-water capabilities, cutting-edge equipment, and an annual throughput exceeding 30 million tons, Lomé offers U.S businesses unmatched access to African markets.

"Ongoing infrastructure expansion, including a dry-port and industrial zone, further enhances the port's role as a growing gateway," commented U.S Embassy in Togo.

The port tour followed shortly after U.S President, Donald Trump, met five African

leaders in Washington.

The African leaders were largely from countries in West Africa, including Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania and Senegal.

The meeting with Trump concentrated on trade opportunities for both sides, at a time the U.S government is cutting aid in Africa and other regions.

Meanwhile, Russia has ratified its military cooperation agreement with Togo, which was initially signed early this year.

As per the agreement, Russia and Togo will jointly hold military exercises, training exchanges and weapons and military equipment support.

Notably, the agreement also covers support in hydrography, navigation and combating piracy.

According to some observers, the agreement will give Russia unfettered access to Togo's strategic seaport of Lomé. Visit by Russian military ships to ports in Togo is covered by the cooperation.

"Togo is considered the most organised and equipped in Tropical Africa. For example, the busiest seaport in West Africa is located on its territory," said Vladimir Gruzdev, a member of the Russian Government Commission on Legislative Activity, which drafted the ratification law of the defence.

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General News

Nigeria's Minimum Wage Insufficient To Lift Citizens Out Of Poverty

Culled:

The government of the United States has said that currency devaluation in Nigeria has reduced the value of the N70,000 minimum wage, making it lower in value and insufficient to lift citizens out of poverty.

According to the 2024 country reports on human rights practice, the new minimum wage at N70,000 is equivalent to \$47.90 per month, and rarely effectively enforced by the Nigerian government.

Also, some states, according to the report are declining to implement the minimum wage law, citing financial constraints, adding that the number of labor inspectors was insufficient to enforce compliance.

In its Country Reports on the U.S. department of state website dated August 12 on Human Rights Practices for 2024, released by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labour, the report noted that the new wage, pegged at about \$47.90 per month, had lost its value due to the naira trading at over N1,500 to the dollar. It added that firms with fewer than 25 workers did not benefit from the wage increase.

According to the report, between 70 and 80 per cent of Nigeria's working



Minimum Wage

population operates in the informal economy, where authorities fail to enforce wage, hour, and Occupational Safety and Health laws.

Meanwhile, the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) has unveiled NGF Investopedia — an investment platform aimed at unlocking capital flows into bankable projects across all 36 states. NGF said the investment platform was created in an effort to

address Nigeria's annual infrastructure financing deficit estimated at \$100 billion.

The launch event, held in Abuja on Tuesday, brought together governors, development partners, and global investors committed to transforming Nigeria's infrastructure financing landscape.

Speaking at the launch, Abdulrahman AbdulRazaq, NGF chairman and governor of Kwara state, highlighted

the pressing challenges and untapped opportunities within Nigeria's subnational economies.

“Here is Africa's largest economy, endowed with abundant human and natural resources,” he said.

According to the 2024 country reports on human rights practice, the new minimum wage at N70,000 is equivalent to \$47.90 per month, and rarely effectively enforced by the Nigerian government.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Lagos Agog With Drum Queens Festival

Culled:

The highly anticipated Drum Queens Festival was held on Sunday at the Breath of Life Ministry located in Obanikoro, Lagos.

This remarkable festival was spearheaded by Odebiyi Temitope, affectionately known as Topsticks, who holds the distinction of being the first female drummer in Africa.

Her unwavering passion lies in inspiring female drummers and empowering young individuals to evolve into the best versions of themselves.

The festival's mission is to create a supportive environment that nurtures talent and promotes gender equality in the drumming community.

The event was graced by Bishop Jedefe, the esteemed pastor of The Breath of Life Ministry, who advocates for transformation through mindset change. His dedication to uplifting young talents aligns harmoniously with Topsticks' vision for the Drum Queens Festival.

In attendance was be several prominent figures from the music and business sectors like Mr. Gbóyèga Adélàjà, the 73-year-old virtuoso pianist known for his exceptional musical expertise.

Drum Queens Festival is more than just an annual event; it is a vibrant platform that celebrates the talents of young women, from ages as young as 7 to those ready to embark on professional music careers.

The festival aims to foster mentorship, training, and exposure in a predominantly male-dominated field, ensuring that female drummers receive the recognition and guidance they deserve.

Currently, the initiative boasts nearly 200 women on its platform and remains open to partnerships and sponsorships that will expand its reach, aspiring to impact thousands of young women across Nigeria and throughout Africa.

The Drum Queens Festival remain a beacon of empowerment, celebration, and opportunity for all who participate.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria Governors Launch New Investment Platform



Governor AbdulRazaq

Culled:

The Nigeria Governors' Forum, NGF, has launched Investopedia, a new investment platform aimed at positioning

Nigeria's 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, as a credible investment

destinations

The investment platform is designed to unlock capital, generate and boost economic growth across the country.

Speaking at the launch in Abuja, Nigeria's capital, the NGF Chairman and Kwara State Governor,

AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, emphasised the need for Nigeria

to harness both global and African capital financing opportunities.

According to Governor AbdulRazaq, the platform was specifically designed to position Nigeria as an attractive destination for investors and promote inclusive growth.

He said: “Over the last decade, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows have averaged only \$2 billion annually, less than 0.5% of GDP, and concentrated in a few sectors.

“Yet, Nigeria faces a \$100 billion annual infrastructure financing gap. Public projects alone cannot bridge this.

“The NGF Investopedia is a one-stop entry point that shows investors not only where to invest,

but how to invest with confidence.”

The Governor said the NGF Investopedia, a biennial publication, will feature major projects across sectors, provide market insights, and highlight incentives.

He added: “It will be published in print and digital formats and showcased at international platforms, including the UN General Assembly, Intra-African Trade Fair, and Africa Investment Forum.”

Governor AbdulRazaq further stated that investments in agro-processing, renewable energy, ICT and finance would deliver benefits beyond financial returns, including job creation and sustainable development in the country.

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Social Media Messaging Chatbox

Nigeria Removes 59m Harmful Posts, Shuts 13.5m Social Media Accounts

Culled: Nigerian authorities have taken down nearly 59 million pieces of harmful online content and shut down more than 13.5 million social media accounts for violating the country's internet regulations, according to a new compliance report.

The data is contained in the 2024 Code of Practice Compliance Report, jointly issued by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), and the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC). The report tracks how global tech

platforms are addressing online harms within Nigeria.

According to the report, a total of 58,909,112 pieces of content were removed from platforms including TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), Google, and Microsoft. In addition, 13,597,057 user accounts were shut down for violating platform guidelines and the Nigerian Code of Practice for online platforms.

The government also recorded 754,629 user complaints, while 420,439 contents initially removed were later restored after user appeals, the report said.

Speaking in Abuja, Hadiza Umar, Director of Corporate Communications at NITDA, commended tech companies for adhering to the 2024 Code of Practice, which mandates that large platforms register locally, comply with tax regulations, and follow Nigerian laws.

"These reports mark a significant step towards building a safer and more responsible digital environment for Nigerians," Umar said in a statement. "They demonstrate a shared commitment to protecting users and promoting a trustworthy online space."

Umar added that while current efforts are commendable, sustaining digital safety in Nigeria requires ongoing collaboration among regulators, tech firms, and civil society.

"We remain committed to working with all stakeholders to enhance digital literacy, enforce safety standards, and strengthen trust in Nigeria's digital ecosystem," she said.

The 2024 Code of Practice is part of the government's broader push to curb misinformation, harmful content, and online abuse across digital platforms operating within the country.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Atiku Mocks Nigeria's Empty Booth At TICAD9

Former Nigerian vice president Atiku Abubakar has mocked the government of President Bola Tinubu after a video showing Nigeria's empty booth at the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9) went viral, sparking embarrassment and criticism of the country's delegation.

The biennial summit, taking place in Yokohama, Japan, is one of the most significant global platforms for Africa's

development, bringing together heads of state, Japanese officials, investors and international organisations. Participating countries are expected to showcase their economic potential at dedicated stands, highlighting opportunities in trade, energy, agriculture and technology.

But on Tuesday, social entrepreneur Idris Ayodeji Bello posted a video on social media showing Nigeria's booth unmanned while delegations from

other African nations, including Senegal and Togo, actively engaged visitors. "It is sad that Nigeria is the only unmanned booth at TICAD9," he wrote, adding that he had temporarily taken it upon himself to answer questions from curious Japanese attendees.

The video quickly circulated online, triggering outrage at home. Atiku Abubakar, Tinubu's main opponent in the disputed 2023 presidential

election, seized on the incident to criticise the government's performance.

"Just like the ongoing show of shame at the empty Nigerian booth in faraway Japan, two years into this administration we are probably waiting for an official inauguration or preferably an 'unveiling' of Renewed Hope before Nigerians can experience good governance," Atiku posted on X.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

There are available grants from National Governments, multinational corporations and NGOS.

The leadership of DSSAA is committed to pursuing these grants at the African Union Secretariat, Ecowas NGO Roundtable and other multilateral Initiatives and making them available to Members only.

CAPACITY DEV.

Membership gives you access to our robust learning portal where you get latest Road Safety Research, scholarship opportunities and internships. Admission to ADPRIP is at a discounted rate. Our interfaces with Government authorities gives you Industry advantages.

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Your participation in our community platforms opens up new business relationship opportunities with operators, Regulators, Vendors, Researchers and Investors across the globe as membership is open worldwide.

GOOD BUSINESS

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You are entitled to use DSSAA Member logo on your website, office branding, Letterhead and Business Cards.

Our community development projects such as the Safe School Volunteer Project as well as our Road Safety advocacy activities creates a positive brand footprint for all our Members and Affiliates. Membership of DSSAA elevates your Corporate ethical persona.

OTHER BENEFITS

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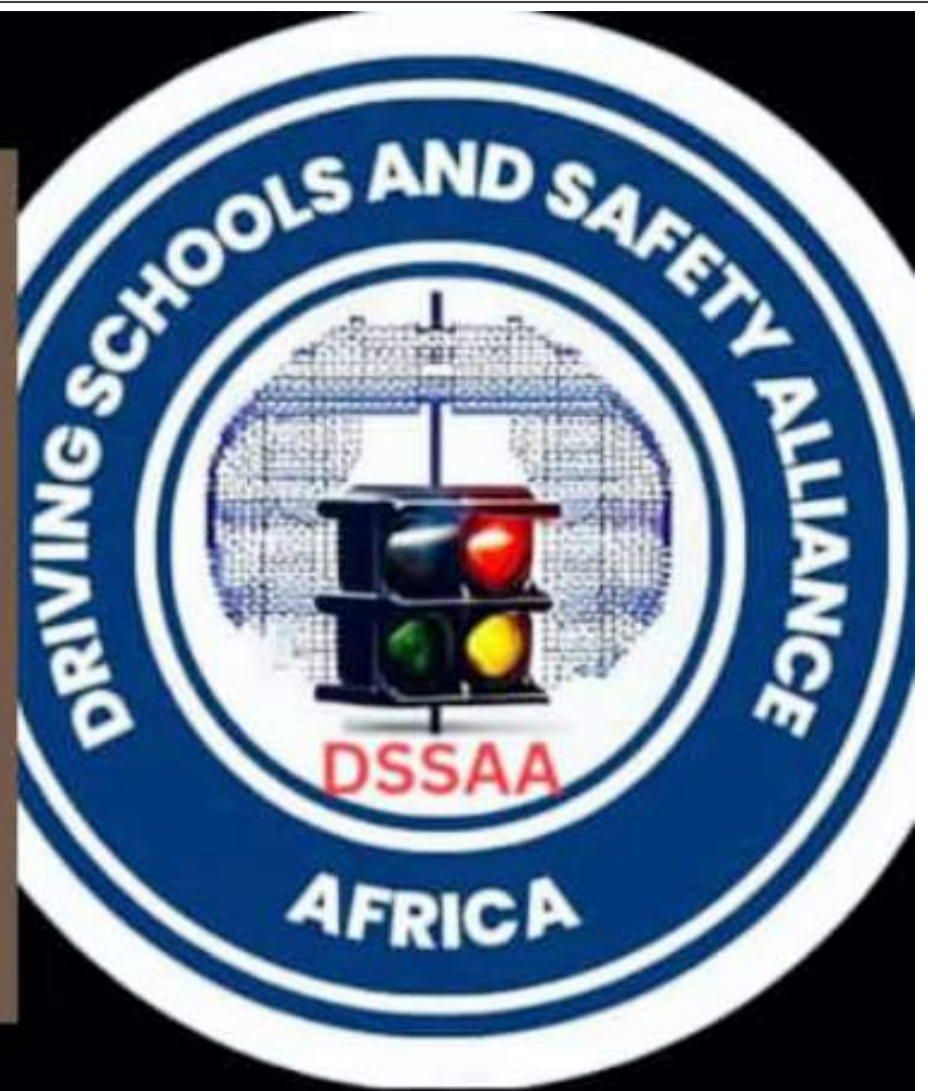


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