

Ekiti Residents Condemn N7.3bn Road Project, Says Worse Roads Remain Abandoned

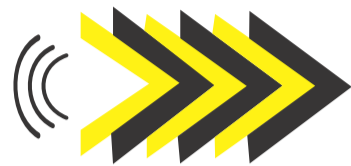
The Ikogosi-Efon Road was among the 10 major roads inaugurated by former Governor Kayode Fayemi in 2012 during his second anniversary celebrations. Governor Biodun Oyejide's administration for the rehabilitation of the 20kmlkogosi-Ipole-Efon Alaaye Road, has raised an alarm over the approval of N7.3 billion by

CONTINUES ON P2

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GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Tues, September 16th 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

Dangote Deploys 1,000 Fuel Distribution Trucks, IPMAN Rallies Marketers

The Dangote Petroleum Refinery will today (Monday) roll out over 1,000 Compressed Natural Gas-powered trucks to begin the first

phase of its direct fuel distribution scheme. Consequently, the Independent Petroleum

Marketers Association of Nigeria has said it is ready to receive Dangote trucks at its

various stations. Officials at the Dangote refinery told The PUNCH that the direct

distribution would begin as part of activities marking one year since

CONTINUES ON P7

Wike To Flag Off 12 New Projects, Commission Roads In Abuja

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Katsina-Sabuwa Road Project Stalled By Insecurity, Says Governor

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FRSC Confirms 17 Killed In Zamfara Auto Crash

P2



Alhaji Aliko Dangote, Chairman/CEO Dangote Group

NCAA Can't Stop Airlines From Charging Excess Luggage Fees - Achimugu

The Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority, Michael Achimugu, has told air travellers to stop

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He stressed that the NCAA cannot compel airlines to carry

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Achimugu, in a post on his X handle on Sunday, explained that airlines reserve

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He wrote, "Guys, if your

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Passenger Refunds Increase To N257m - NCAA

P5

Local Transport News

FRSC Confirms 17 Killed In Zamfara Auto Crash

Culled

Federal Roads Safety Corps (FRSC), Zamfara Command, says 17 persons died when a commercial bus rammed into a collapsed bridge in Gwalli area of the state.

This is contained in a statement by the Public Education Officer of the command, Isah Aliyu, in Gusau on Monday.

According to him, the 17 persons, mostly women, died when the 18-seater bus hit the collapsed bridge at high speed.

Aliyu said that the bridge collapsed within the week and the residents had been using sandbags for motorists to cross the bridge, until the bus driver unknowingly drove into the remains of the bridge, resulting in casualties.

He quoted the Sector Commander, Aliyu Ma'aji, as expressing deep sorrow and sadness due to the loss of lives.

Ma'aji condoled the family, the government and people of Zamfara over the incident.

He advised motoring public against late travelling and overloading, adding that motorists should seek information on roadworthiness before embarking on long journeys.

The sector commander thanked stakeholders who rallied round to rescue some of the survivors.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



The accident scene

Katsina-Sabuwa Road Project Stalled By Insecurity, Says Governor

Culled

Governor Dikko Umaru Radda has said that insecurity has delayed the commencement of the ₦18.9 billion Katsina-Sabuwa road project.

The 27-kilometre road is designed to link Sabuwa town with Tashar Bawa Station and connect 13 rural communities.

Radda told community leaders in Sabuwa that the state government had already released ₦7.5 billion — about 40 percent of the project cost — to mobilise contractors, but security challenges in the area had prevented work from beginning.

According to the governor, ongoing dialogue with armed groups could help restore stability and allow the project to move forward.

"Once stability is restored, the contractor will confidently mobilise to site to ensure smooth execution and timely delivery," he said.

During the meeting, Engineer Tasiu Abubakar commended the government for appointing indigenes into public

service and approving development projects in Sabuwa. He also called for the revival of a federal agricultural park in the area to boost food production and job creation.

Hon. Danjuma Ibrahim, member representing Sabuwa in the State Assembly, said some groups had indicated interest in peace talks with residents. He noted that the Ministry for Internal Security was working on a framework to support the process.

Sabuwa local government chairman, Sagir Tanimu, said funds released by the state had already enabled small-scale projects that revived economic activities and created jobs.

The Sabuwa delegation pledged its cooperation towards peace and development in the area.

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Ekiti Residents Condemn N7.3bn Road Project, Says Worse Roads Remain Abandoned

Culled

The Ikogosi-Efon Road was among the 10 major roads inaugurated by former Governor Kayode Fayemi in 2012 during his second anniversary celebrations.

A resident of Ekiti State has raised an alarm over the approval of N7.3 billion by Governor Biodun Oyejemi's administration for the rehabilitation of the 20km Ikogosi-Ipole-Efon Alaaye Road, describing the project as fraudulent and unnecessary.

The resident, who recently travelled on the road, told SaharaReporters that the highway was largely motorable and had only two potholes, unlike other roads in the state that are completely impassable.

"I am on the newly approved N7.3 billion, 20km Ikogosi-Ipole-Efon Alaaye Road. I can categorically tell you that the highway is largely motorable and has only two potholes, unlike other roads in the state that are completely impassable.

"This project is fraudulent and unnecessary. Where are we heading in



Governor Oyejemi

Ekiti with this high level of monumental fraud going on?

"How can our governor be planning to spend N7.3 billion on a 20km road with just two potholes, while the real roads that people are crying about remain abandoned?" the resident lamented.

The contract, announced after a virtual State Executive Council meeting on September 4, 2025, was awarded to

Wals and Funs Nigeria Limited, a company linked to one Wale Olatunji.

Some residents have expressed doubts about the firm's competence, noting that it lacks a verifiable track record in handling road projects of such magnitude.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Information, Taiwo Olatunbosun, defended the project, stating that the

scope would include clearing, earthworks, concrete drains, pavement construction, and asphalt laying, with completion expected in 24 months.

He explained that the road upgrade was in line with Governor Oyejemi's infrastructure agenda and aimed at easing residents' hardship, boosting socio-economic activities, and improving security in the area.

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Local Transport News

FRSC Zone 12 Cracks Down On Overloading, Arrest 226 Offenders

Culled

FRSC to launch app for licence, plate number verification September, FRSC confirms 12 dead in Yobe road accident, number plates used for crimes

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Zone 12, covering Bauchi, Borno, and Yobe states and headquartered in Bauchi, has launched a major operation to tackle the rampant cases of overloading in the North-Eastern region of Nigeria.

Codenamed "Operation Shed Weights", the ongoing intervention patrol, which began in August 2025, has led to the arrest of 226 overloaded vehicles from August through the second week of September 2025.

Overloading—which includes carrying excess goods, passengers, or animals beyond a vehicle's capacity—is a significant contributor to road traffic crashes and fatalities.

The operation is a direct response to the endemic nature of this offence in

the subregion, as the apprehended vehicles were found to be in violation of Sections 188 (1) & (2) of the National Road Traffic Regulation (NRTR) 2022 (as amended), posing serious risks to all road users.

The Zonal Commander, ACM Yakubu Mohammad, is urging the public, particularly passengers, to take an active role in ensuring their safety.

The Zonal Command emphasised that passengers have the right to refuse to travel in an overloaded vehicle.

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FRSC

NUPRC's Oritsemeyin Rig Licence Revocation Warning To Oil Firms

Culled

An Oil and Gas Industry Consultant, Dr Maurice Ibe, says the revocation of the operating licence of Oritsemeyin Rig serves as a warning to upstream operators to strictly comply with guidelines.

Ibe, who is the Group Executive Chairman of the Benham Group, made this known in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria, Abuja, on Sunday.

NAN reports that the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission revoked the operating licence granted to Selective Marine Services Limited for Oritsemeyin Rig, and directed it to cease all operations until the completion of its current well operations.

The notice is contained in a letter dated September 11, 2025, addressed to Selective Marine Services Limited and signed by the Commission Chief Executive, Mr Gbenga Komolafe.

The NUPRC said the decision followed a thorough review of the circumstances surrounding the drilling of UDIBE-2 wellbore, during which a kick was

recorded, resulting in several Non-Productive Time with consequential cost and a forced well sidetrack.

The upstream regulator also disqualified the Oritsemeyin Rig from all renewal protocols in strict compliance with the applicable provisions of the law forthwith.

Reacting to the development, Ibe said that the revocation was a warning to other upstream operators to strictly conform to the standards set in the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA 2021).

He said the NUPRC's action was in line with the PIA 2021, which mandated compliance with good oilfield practices, operational safety, and technical excellence.

"Oritsemeyin apparently did not adhere to standard operating procedures and protocols.

"The action of NUPRC is an indication of the importance and seriousness of the regulatory body to sanction erring operators and warn other upstream operators to strictly conform with the standards set in PIA 2021.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Umahi Rallies Southeast Behind Tinubu, Inspects Enugu-Benue Highway

Culled

David Umahi, Minister of Works, has urged the Southeast to rally behind President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, insisting the President has shown rare commitment to the region through massive investments in infrastructure.

Umahi, who spoke to journalists on Sunday evening at Ninth Mile Corner, Enugu State, during his inspection of the dualisation of the Enugu-Benue highway, declared that the Tinubu administration has "remembered the Southeast" and deserves overwhelming support.

"I want our people to embrace Mr. President with two hands," Umahi said.

"This section alone, if you multiply by two, is close to 200 kilometers of road. We have every reason to thank him, to support him, and to be wise. We cannot engage with sentiments; we must engage based on realities."

The Minister insisted that Tinubu has given the region a fair share of projects, adding, "President Bola Tinubu has remembered the Southeast very well. I am your son, I am the Minister of Works,



Senator David Umahi inspecting the Enugu-Benue Highway

and I am working. Glory be to God Almighty."

Umahi, who began the inspection in Benue State, said he was impressed with the quality of work by China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC), the contractors handling the 528-kilometre road, but urged them to accelerate work on the Enugu axis.

"Two of the sections fall in Enugu State, about 90 kilometers. We have seen the

progress, and comparing it with the Benue section, China Harbour only needs to speed up more, to put more effort. But the quality of work is the same, and very commendable," he said.

Umahi disclosed that the highway project, which stretches across five sections, is estimated at \$1 billion (₦1.5 trillion). Sections one to three fall within Benue, while sections four and five lie in Enugu. He noted that Section 3 leads in

terms of progress, followed by Section 1, while Sections 2, 4, and 5 need to catch up.

"I came ready to quarrel but found nothing to complain about," he told reporters. "What I saw today has convinced me China Harbour is delivering quality work. The MD has really improved the company's performance, and we are happy with the results."

At Abakpa Junction, Enugu, Umahi revealed that President Tinubu had approved the completion of the outstanding 72 kilometres of the highway on rigid concrete pavement, awarded to SKCC Construction for ₦150 billion.

"By tomorrow, the concrete laying begins 8 inches thick with strong reinforcement. This is Asiwaju standard," Umahi declared. "We want a road that will last 100 years, a legacy for generations to come."

The Minister also directed consultants and supervisors to remain on site to ensure proper monitoring of materials,

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Local Transport News

NCAA Can't Stop Airlines From Charging Excess Luggage Fees

Culled

The Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority, Michael Achimugu, has told air travellers to stop contacting the agency over excess luggage charges.

He stressed that the NCAA cannot compel airlines to carry overweight baggage for free.

Achimugu, in a post on his X handle on Sunday, explained that airlines reserve the right to enforce their baggage weight limits and charge passengers accordingly.

He wrote, "Guys, if your luggage is above the weight limit allowed by the airline per passenger, you will pay for the excess luggage. Stop making calls to the NCAA over this. The NCAA cannot force any airline to carry you/your luggage for free. You either ensure to pack the allowable kilograms or pay up."

Excess baggage charges have been a frequent source of complaints among Nigerian travellers, especially on

international routes where airlines strictly enforce weight restrictions.

Achimugu's clarification underscores the NCAA's role as a regulator rather than an enforcer of passenger waivers.

In recent weeks, the NCAA has had to address other aviation controversies, including the clearance of an Air Peace co-pilot after a runway excursion incident in Port Harcourt.

While the Nigeria Safety Investigation Bureau had indicted the crew over alleged drug and alcohol use, Achimugu



Achimugu

Culled

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) said it has recorded a rise in passenger refunds between January and August 2025 amounted to N257.2 million.

The surge was a significant leap from N108.3 million recorded in the same period of 2024 and N32.8 million in 2023.

Latest data released by the Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Michael Achimugu, followed the regulator's prolonged interface with airlines and embarked on a sensitisation campaign with air travellers.

Hotel accommodation refunds under the provisions of Part 19 of the NCAA Regulations also climbed to N6.08 million by July 2025, supported by verified reports from hotels in Abuja, Asaba, and Lagos.

He attributed the growth to greater adherence by airlines to the NCAA's consumer protection framework, despite the operational challenges in the industry.

Achimugu described the development

Passenger Refunds Increase To N257m - NCAA

as one of the Authority's proudest achievements in its 25-year history, noting that more passengers are being protected now than ever before.

He pledged that the Authority would continue to safeguard the rights of passengers.

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Find Full Story In The Link

Linking Nigeria Cities Through Railways, Roads A Must - Shettima



Shettima

THE Vice President, Senator Kashim Shettima on Monday restated the firm resolve of President Bola Tinubu's administration to link all cities in Nigeria through railways and roads to enhance industrialization.

Senator Shettima also said that the only way Nigeria can maintain its lead as the logistics hub of Africa is to revive and revitalize the nation's railway services.

The Vice President, who stated this in Abuja when he declared open the 2nd International Railway Conference, called for strong networking, partnerships, and collaboration among stakeholders, insisting that the task of taking full advantage of the numerous

opportunities in the railway sector is not one to be taken lightly.

He assured that it was such a rebirth that inspired railway projects and modernization under the administration of President Bola Tinubu.

"Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the challenge ahead of us is to lead this race as the logistics hub of Africa by reviving and revitalizing our railway services. We must be conscious of our place as the anchor of West Africa's economy and home to the continent's largest population as we prepare for the adoption of modern railway infrastructure.

"This awakening inspired projects such as the Kano-Maradi railway modernization, which opens new gateways for trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area," he said.

VP Shettima drew attention to the administration's Renewed Hope Agenda, which he said "is also shaped by the urgent need to reduce the burden on roads and highways across the country," just as he decried

decades of over-reliance on road transportation, leading "to congestion, rapid deterioration of infrastructure, and higher accident rates.

"Railways offer safer, cheaper, and more environmentally friendly alternatives, reducing carbon emissions and reinforcing our commitment to sustainable development," he added.

Senator Shettima, however, did not guarantee an easy path to harnessing the potential in the railway sector, just as he demanded strong collaboration, networking and alliance among stakeholders.

His words: "But the task of maximising the immense opportunities in the railway sector is not one we consider easy. It requires networks, partnerships, and robust collaboration with stakeholders.

"This is why our ongoing modernisation projects—Lagos to Kano, Kano to Maradi, and Port Harcourt to Maiduguri—are designed with open doors for private sector participation. We must ensure not only timely

completion, but also sustainability and efficient utilisation of these projects."

The Vice President restated the firm resolve of the Tinubu administration to link all cities in Nigeria through railways and roads to enhance industrialization. He continued: "His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, has demonstrated, time and again, our national determination to connect our cities through roads and railways.

"Our aspiration is for a nation where industries can convey their products to the market, and where raw materials can move seamlessly from primary producers to industries without hindrance."

Declaring the 2nd International Railway Conference open, VP Shettima described the confab as an invaluable platform to discuss the most practical strategies to achieve these objectives.

He implored participants "to take full advantage of this unique opportunity to engage the resource team and to collectively sharpen the outcomes of" the conference.

The VP applauded the Federal Ministry

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Dangote Deploys 1,000 Fuel Distribution Trucks, IPMAN Rallies Marketers

Culled

The Dangote Petroleum Refinery will today (Monday) roll out over 1,000 Compressed Natural Gas-powered trucks to begin the first phase of its direct fuel distribution scheme. Consequently, the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria has said it is ready to receive Dangote trucks at its various stations.

Officials at the Dangote refinery told The PUNCH that the direct distribution would begin as part of activities marking one year since the refinery started petrol production. Initially scheduled to commence on August 15, the scheme was delayed due to logistics problems in China.

4,000 CNG trucks were ordered from China to be delivered in Lagos for Dangote's direct fuel distribution. However, the plan could not materialise because there were not enough ships to bring the trucks to Nigeria from China.

A senior official of the Dangote Group



Dangote

told our correspondent in confidence, due to the this Monday to that over 1,000 trucks lack of authorisation to significantly reduce fuel were received before speak on the matter, prices across Nigeria. the end of August, and said. From today, the initiative others were coming in With the available will see the gantry price hundreds weekly. "The trucks, the company of petrol reduced to trucks are arriving in said it would roll out the N820 per litre, with hundreds every week," logistics-free corresponding lower the official, who spoke distribution programme pump prices in several

key states.

Lagos and other South-Western states will see fuel retailing at N841 per litre, while Abuja, Rivers, Delta, Edo, and Kwara states will sell at N851 per litre. "The first phase of the deployment will cover the Federal Capital Territory, Lagos, Kwara, Delta, Edo, Rivers, and South-West states, with nationwide expansion planned as additional trucks are delivered," the Dangote Group said in a statement.

It added that the transition to CNG-powered transportation is expected to save the Nigerian economy over N1.8tn annually, saying the move is designed to cut fuel distribution costs, reduce pump prices, and ease inflationary pressures.

Meanwhile, members of IPMAN have said they are ready to receive Dangote trucks in their filling stations.

The IPMAN National President, Abubakar Shettima, confirmed to our correspondent on Sunday that many independent marketers had applied for Dangote's direct fuel delivery to their retail outlets.

Find Full Story In The Link

Wike To Flag Off 12 New Projects, Commission Roads In Abuja



Wike

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nyesom Wike, will on Thursday begin a new phase of infrastructure development in Abuja with the commissioning of completed road projects and the launch of 12 new road and solar-powered lighting projects across the city.

According to a statement issued by his Senior Special Assistant on Public Communications and Social Media, Lere Olayinka, the programme will run from Thursday, September 18, to Thursday, October 16, 2025, covering 14 major projects.

Among the projects slated for commissioning are the access roads in Sector Centre B by

Dakibiyu District, as well as the newly constructed ILS 11 (Esther Bali Street) and MAR 24 (Kez Udezue Street) in Mabushi District, Abuja.

The minister will also launch the Light-Up Abuja Programme for the procurement and installation of integrated (hybrid) solar streetlights across the city.

The scheme will be carried out in two lots: Lot I covering Maitama, Asokoro, Wuse, the Central Business District (CBD), and the Airport Expressway, while Lot II will include Katampe, Garki I & II, Mabushi, Gudu, Jabi, and Katampe Extension.

Other major projects to be initiated include the comprehensive development of Arterial Road N1 from Wuye District to Ring Road II; construction of the Northern Parkway from Ring Road II to Ring Road III; and the provision of access roads to key sites such as the Mabushi Bus Terminal, Renewed

Hope Cities and Estates project in Karsana West, and the second runway for Abuja Airport.

Furthermore, the minister will inaugurate the construction of an access road and erosion control works in Kaura District, featuring three-span bridges; establish a transit route (2) connecting the Central Area with Wuse District through two bridges; oversee the design and construction of Mohammed Isa Road Extension in Asokoro District; supervise the rehabilitation of the 15km Old Keffi Road from Kado Village to Dei-Dei Junction; and facilitate the provision of engineering infrastructure in the outstanding layouts of Guzape District (Lots I and II).

Additionally, the project list includes the construction of Collector Road CN2 (Emmanuel I. Ogala Street) from Arterial N16 (Yemi Osinbajo Way) to N20 (Wole Soyinka Way), as well as Road ILS 5 in Katampe District.

It also covers the design and construction of official residences for the heads of the nation's courts—President of the Court of Appeal, Chief Judge of the Federal High Court, Chief Judge of the FCT High Court, and President of the National Industrial Court.

The statement noted that in recent weeks, Wike has undertaken a series of flagship projects in the FCT, including expanding water supply schemes to satellite towns in Bwari and Karu, constructing a multi-purpose sports centre in Kafe District, developing a new Magistrate Court complex in Jabi, and urgently reconstructing Karu Road with expanded rehabilitation works covering adjoining routes in the area.

With this latest initiative, the FCT Administration stated that the Wike-led leadership is building on its promise to speed up infrastructure delivery to support Abuja's growth as a modern capital city.

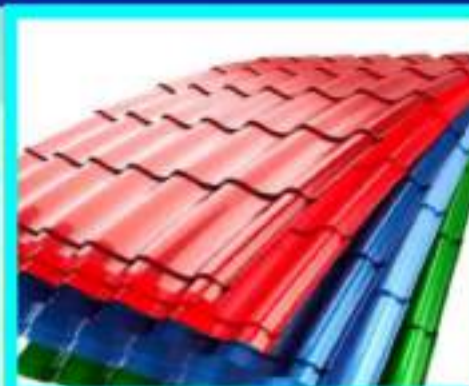
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South Africa Finally Regulates Uber And Bolt Under A New Transport Law



Culled
When Uber and Bolt entered South Africa, they weren't brand-new concepts. Both had already proven themselves in other markets. But locally, they first appeared as niche apps for a small group of early adopters willing to try private car rides. But their popularity quickly surged, growing beyond expectations and sparking pushback from traditional taxi associations. Critics, particularly from the minibus taxi industry, began tagging the services as "illegal," arguing that they operated outside the country's transport framework.

In response, South African lawmakers moved to clarify the situation. On September 12, 2025, the government gazetted amendments to the National Land Transport Act, meaning e-hailing services like Uber and Bolt are formally recognised as a regulated type of public

transport. It's not a completely new law, but rather updates and clarifications to place e-hailing on a firm legal footing — and yes, that means new obligations

for drivers, app platforms, and commuters alike. For drivers, the biggest shift is the need for an operating licence, granted only after

compliance checks by Provincial Regulatory Entity offices. Vehicles themselves must be roadworthy and must have a designated area of jurisdiction, where the

driver can pick up passengers. They may still drop someone off beyond that area, but may not legally pick up outside their licensed zone.

In terms of safety, every e-hailing vehicle must be branded or carry a sign so the company name is visible. On the inside of the car, panic buttons should be installed and maintained by the vehicle owner. The point of the button is to assist with crime detection and enable rapid responses when needed. Even though all of these are being put in place, riders are still advised to verify that vehicle and driver details match what appears in the app.

On the app/company side: developers and companies must register and comply with South Africa's trade, industry, and revenue laws (Trade, Industry & Competition dept; SARS). If an app permits users (drivers) to use its platform without the proper licence, there can be serious penalties, up to R100,000 (~\$5800) in fines or two years in jail.
Find Full Story In The Link

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.
Find Full Story In The Link

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General News

Genesis Global Brings Prophetic Invasion 2.0 To Abeokuta

Culled: Prophet Israel Oladele Ogundipe, a distinguished global cleric and founder of Genesis Global, will host 'Abeokuta Prophetic Invasion Season 2.0', a significant spiritual gathering, from Wednesday, 1 to Friday, 3 of October 2025, in the evenings, culminating in a vigil at Oba Adeleye Park, Shokori Ori Omi, Abeokuta, Ogun State, building on the remarkable success of the previous edition in 2024, which saw over 10,000 worshippers in attendance from Ogun State and its surroundings



Prophet Oladele

The highly anticipated 2025 Abeokuta Prophetic Invasion 2.0 promises to be a transformative experience, seamlessly integrating prophetic ministry, music, inspirational talks, fervent prayers, and personal development programs. This powerful event is intentionally designed to foster profound spiritual growth, faith, and maturity in individuals and attendees while offering holistic enrichment through the prophetic ministry of Prophet Israel Oladele Ogundipe, also known as Genesis Global. This year's Genesis open-air crusade, 'Abeokuta Prophetic Invasion 2025', is poised to unleash a

transformative experience, empowering Christian faithful and all attendees to break through limitations and unlock their full divine potential in every sphere of life through passionate prayer. This year's season two has been revitalized with inspiring spiritual energy, embracing a diverse range of perspectives that resonate deeply with the younger generation of Christians. As a highly revered prophetic

voice, Prophet Israel Genesis has cultivated a vibrant ministry marked by its transformative impact and enlightening prophetic guidance, inspiring countless individuals to seek hope, healing, and spiritual renewal in alignment with the redemptive mission of Lord Jesus. In the same context, Genesis Global Abeokuta Prophetic Invasion 2025 is poised to unite a diverse gathering of worshippers and attendees

from Ogun State, Lagos, Nigeria, and beyond, all seeking a life-changing experience, liberation, and empowerment to break free from limitations and unlock their full potential.

Speaking through his media aide, Oluwaseun Fabiyi, the visionary leader offered a message of hope, declaring that "This divine appointment has the potential to be a transformative experience, unlocking the path to success in all aspects of life." He

Find Full Story In The Link

Africa Must Own Its Democracy, Says Tuggar

Culled: The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yusuf Tuggar, has called for a redefinition of the country's foreign policy to match new global realities, advocating a model of "strategic autonomy" grounded in national interest and pragmatic diplomacy.

Tuggar, who spoke at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs in Lagos on Friday, stressed the importance of aligning foreign policy with the rapidly shifting geopolitical and technological landscape.

Since taking office under President Bola Tinubu, Tuggar has emphasised a shift in Nigeria's foreign policy towards what he calls strategic autonomy.

This doctrine is built on pursuing foreign policy decisions based on Nigeria's national interest rather than aligning fully with any major power bloc or rigid ideological lines.

The guest lecture, titled "Navigating Realities: Aligning Nigeria's Foreign Policy Practice with Emerging Global Dynamics," drew attention to the evolving nature of global power and the need for Nigeria to assert its position with clarity and purpose.

The minister, in a statement signed by the spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kimiebi Ebienua, on Sunday, noted that the role of the NIIA is not merely symbolic but essential to the strategic direction of the country's foreign policy.

"The Institute's role is not ornamental—it is foundational. Its research, policy analysis, and convening power have shaped how Nigeria positions itself on the world stage," he added.

Tuggar painted a picture of a world in transition, where climate change, artificial intelligence, rising inequality, and global migration are reshaping international relations and the very concept of security.

"Climate change is redrawing the geography of security. Desertification in the Sahel is fueling conflict and migration."

Find Full Story In The Link

Police Officers Now More Civil To Nigerians - AIG



Police

Culled: The Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Zone 17, comprising Ondo and Ekiti States, Mr Ajani Omolabi, says the police are now civil in their relationship with people to ensure proficiency in modern policing.

Omolabi, in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria on Sunday in Akure, said the policy had endeared people to the police, which was useful in getting information to fight crime in the zone. "The police have become civil rather than being bossy. We are now civil to the

people we are working with. We come to their level, engage them, and we understand one another. "It also helps us to get information easily from them. And also, the robust way of bringing ourselves to the community level, the open-door policy, has helped us," he said.

The AIG said there had been a series of seminars and lectures with police officers and men in the two commands on the need to operate with a policy of openness, transparency, and professionalism.

"I have held seminars and lectures with them. And this is always what I advocate, that we should be closer to the community in our workplace and on the issue of giving information to the police. "I have also had meetings with

many communities, telling them that they should go directly to the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) or even come to the Commissioner of Police or AIG, go and give your information.

"We are not far away from the people we are working with and whoever is giving us information, we make sure we protect such person," he said.

Omolabi reiterated the need for the public to accept police as their friend and partners in fighting crimes, adding that police were servants to the people.

The AIG said his office was accessible to members of the public for any complaint or grievance.

"I operate an open-door policy. Since I came, the civilians have

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Canada Flag

Canada Rejects 1,596 Nigerian Asylum Claims, Approves 65% In 2025

Culled:

Canada has turned down 1,596 asylum applications from Nigerian nationals, and has approved nearly two-thirds of the total claims filed so far in 2025.

Data from the country's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) show that out of 3,548 applications lodged by Nigerians between January and August, 2,292 were accepted, putting the approval rate at 65 per cent, higher than in previous years.

When more than 13,000 applications from Nigerians were rejected cumulatively.

An analysis by Maple Crest Law, a Canadian immigration practice,

estimated that Nigeria ranked among the top sources of asylum seekers in early 2025 alongside Mexico, India, Haiti, and Colombia, with 3,455 claims already filed.

The firm linked the trend to the combined impact of Boko Haram violence and economic instability at home.

“Ontario and Alberta currently host the largest numbers of asylum seekers from Nigeria.

Under Canadian law, the Refugee Protection Division (RPD) grants refugee status if an applicant meets the United Nations definition of a convention refugee or is deemed a

person in need of protection.

“The 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees defines a refugee as someone with a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, nationality, religion, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

“In Canada, social groups recognized under this definition include sexual orientation, gender identity, women, and persons living with HIV/AIDS”, the report said.

It also noted that to qualify, claimants must also demonstrate that returning to their country would expose them to risks such as torture, threats to life, or

cruel and unusual treatment.

Protection claims are typically initiated when immigrants alert the Canada Border Services Agency at ports of entry or report directly to an immigration officer. If found eligible, the claim is referred to the IRB for adjudication.

The data highlights a sharp contrast with recent years. In 2024, 811 Nigerian claims were rejected, while 2,230 were approved.

“Between 2013 and 2024, the RPD denied 13,171 applications from Nigerians but accepted 10,580, placing Nigeria consistently among the top five countries for asylum claim denials.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

IPI Raises Alarm Over Media Repression In Nigeria

The International Press Institute (IPI), a global organisation committed to defending press freedom, has expressed concern over what it described as the growing wave of repression against the Nigerian media.

Musililu Mojeed, President of IPI Nigeria and Editor-in-Chief of Premium Times, raised the alarm in Abuja during a dinner organised to honour Hadiza Hussaina Sani,

retired Director of Digital Media at the Voice of Nigeria (VON).

Mojeed cited “disturbing” cases of clampdowns on journalists, including the banning of live political programmes in Kano, the harassment of reporters in Ekiti and Niger, the eviction of Channels TV crew from the Akwa Ibom Government House, and the detention of journalists in Kebbi. He described the trend as a daily assault

on press freedom and urged stronger advocacy to protect the rights of media professionals.

The ceremony was attended by media leaders and stakeholders, including VON's Director-General Jibrin Ndace, former presidential spokesman Garba Shehu, and ex-NUJ president Abdulwaheed Odusile, all of whom commended Sani's professional legacy and contributions to journalism.

In her remarks, Sani reflected on her 34-year career, pledging to remain active in the media through research, writing, and mentoring despite her retirement from public service.

Musililu Mojeed, President of IPI Nigeria and Editor-in-Chief of Premium Times, raised the alarm in Abuja during a dinner organised to honour Hadiza Hussaina Sani, retired Director of Digital Media at the Voice of Nigeria (VON).
[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



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

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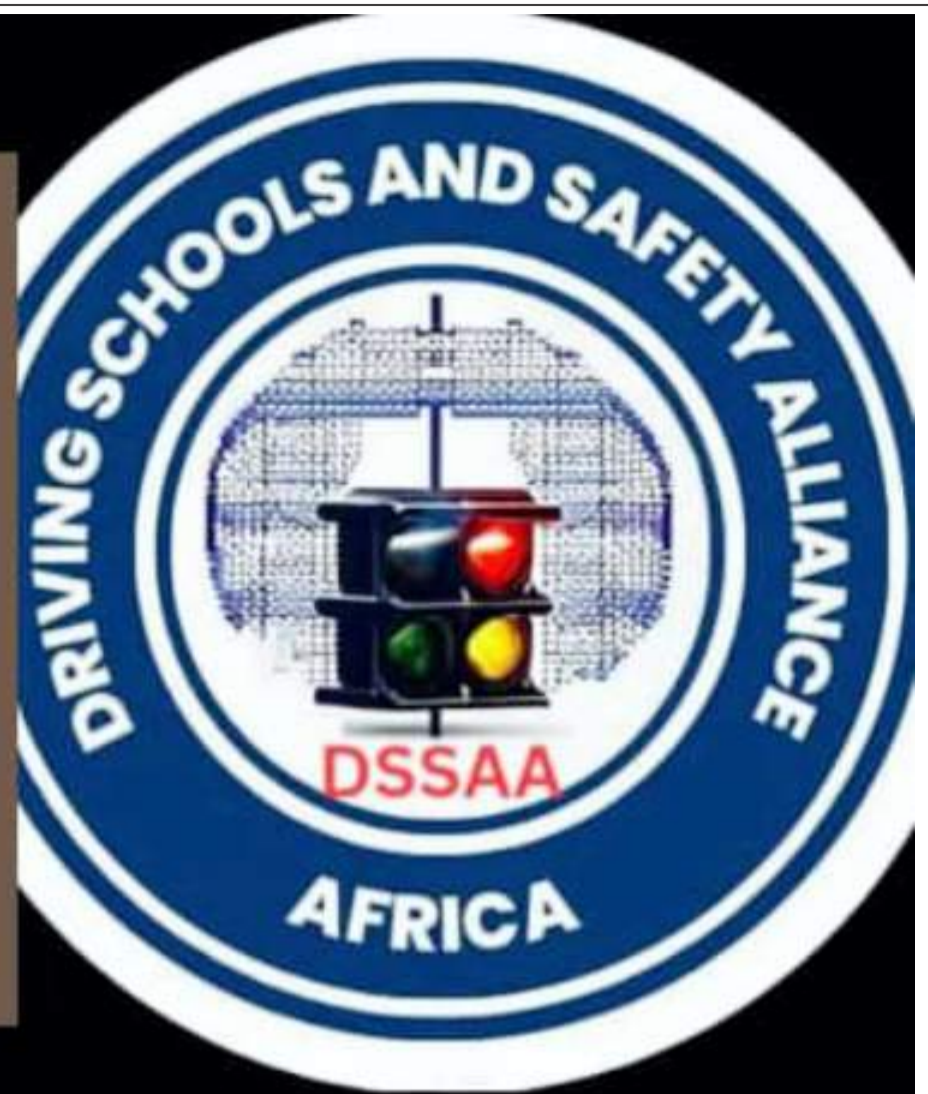


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