

## NUPRC Tasks NNPC, TotalEnergies On FID For Two Offshore Blocks

The Nigerian the execution of the immediate Upstream Petroleum Production Sharing commencement of Regulatory Contract (PSC) with exploration activities Commission (NUPRC) NNPC Limited and the leading to Final on Monday held the TotalEnergies-Sapetr Investment closing ceremony for o Consortium, urging Decisions (FIDs).

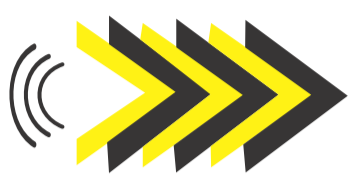
CONTINUES ON P3

## Ogun, FRSC Sensitise Transport Workers On Road Safety In Rainy Season

The Ogun State Emergency Management Agency (OGSEMA), in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety

Corps (FRSC), workshop on traffic yesterday engaged rules aimed at members of the preventing road National Union of Road -crashes during the Transport Workers rainy season. The Commissioner

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# GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

# TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global\_GTE Tues, September 2nd 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

## Abuja-Kaduna Rail Tracks Will Be Restored In Ten Days - Transport Minister

The Minister of Transportation, Sen. Said Ahmed Alkali, has assured that the damaged portions of the Abuja-Kaduna tracks will be restored in the

next ten days. Some portions of the rail tracks and coaches were damaged last

week, Tuesday, after a Kaduna-bound train derailed at Asham station.

618 persons were on board, comprising 583 passengers, 15 NRC crew members, one

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## LASTMA Blames Reckless Driving For Fatal Lekki-Epe E'way Crash

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## Petrol Consumption Down 28%, Pump Hands Idle at Stations

P7

## Otti Inaugurates ASCETA, Abia Transport Board

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Minister of Transportation, Alhaji Saidu Alkali

## FAAN's Temporary Terminal Plan Delays N712bn Airport Refurbishment

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due to the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria's decision to build a makeshift terminal. It was gathered that

FAAN announced to the Airline Operators of Nigeria that a temporary terminal would be built to accommodate

airline front desk officers, airport workers, and passengers while the old terminal is being refurbished. A source privy to the meeting

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## FG Urged To Ramp Up Oil, Gas Production

P5

# How LASTMA General Manager Is Using Lagos Schools' Traffic Advocacy Programme To Promote Culture Of Road Safety - Adebayo Taofiq

In the unrelenting symphony of Lagos—the colossal megacity whose ceaseless rhythm reverberates across its gridlocked highways, teeming marketplaces, and frenetic boulevards—mobility stands at once as a lifeline and an omnipresent peril. With a population surpassing twenty-two million and vehicular density exceeding one million, the city is a daily theatre where the fragile threshold between human life and mechanical force is relentlessly tested. Within such precarious circumstances, the guardianship of life requires more than the rigidity of enforcement; it calls for foresight, pedagogy, and the moral architecture of civic education.

It is in this crucible that the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has revitalised one of its most visionary interventions: the School Traffic Safety Advocacy Programme (STS-AP)—a flagship initiative designed to inculcate traffic discipline, civic consciousness, and life-preserving ethos within the youngest generation of Lagosians. Under the sagacious stewardship of Mr. Olalekan Bakare-Oki, General Manager of LASTMA, the programme has been elevated from a marginal sensitization exercise into a transformative educational crusade—one shaping the emergent custodians of the city's road safety culture.

## **Children as Sentinels of the Future**

The genius of the School Traffic Safety Advocacy Programme lies in its profound recognition that the destiny of Lagos' traffic culture is not etched upon its asphalt but inscribed in the consciousness of its children. Mr. Bakare-Oki's administration has therefore advanced a bold paradigm—embedding traffic enlightenment into the quotidian lives of school pupils.

Through orchestrated school engagements, interactive workshops, dramatized role-plays, and experiential road-safety simulations, children are not only introduced to traffic codes but to the inviolable sanctity of human life upon the roadways. Pedestrian discipline, interpretation of signage, the sacred duty of using pedestrian bridges, the universality of seatbelt culture, and safety in cycling and motorcycling are conveyed not as sterile regulations but as habits to be embodied.

In classrooms and assembly halls across the metropolis, LASTMA officials now



Bakare-Oki

appear not as stern enforcers but as empathetic tutors—transfiguring road safety from a punitive structure into a formative pedagogy. The child who halts at a zebra crossing, the student who insists on ascending the pedestrian bridge, becomes the seed of generational transformation.

## **Embedding Safety Within the Educational Ecosystem**

Under the forward-thinking stewardship of Bakare-Oki, the programme has expanded beyond episodic interventions into an institutionalised partnership with the Lagos State Ministry of Education. Safety advocacy is no longer a perfunctory afterthought but is increasingly interwoven into school timetables, extracurricular pursuits, and civic clubs.

Many schools have birthed Traffic Safety Clubs—peer-led fraternities where pupils, guided by LASTMA mentors, emerge as ambassadors of safety within their institutions and homes. These young vanguards carry their convictions beyond the gates of their schools, admonishing parents about seatbelt compliance, exhorting motorcyclists to don helmets, and dissuading siblings from reckless jaywalking. Thus, advocacy transcends the classroom, infiltrating households and communities with the wisdom of tender but insistent voices.

## **Innovation in Advocacy and Communication**

This administration has not constrained itself to traditional didactics. Conscious of the fact that contemporary children are

digital natives, the programme has incorporated visual technologies, animated traffic-safety clips, and gamified simulations to enthrall young minds. Pamphlets are disseminated, yet more significantly, interactive media is deployed to engrain learning.

Radio jingles and child-friendly road-safety dramatizations are broadcast in indigenous tongues, ensuring inclusivity across diverse socio-economic landscapes. Social media, too, has become a vehicle for youthful engagement through quizzes, competitions, and campaigns. The result is a hybridised model of advocacy—both analogue and digital—that resonates across generational divides.

## **From Classrooms to Crossroads: The Tangible Impact**

Empirical evidence substantiates the programme's efficacy. Data curated by LASTMA's Research and Statistics Department reveal a discernible decline in pedestrian fatalities among school-aged children, particularly in corridors where advocacy has been most vigorous. Schools once infamous for tragic roadside incidents now record fewer casualties, as disciplined crossing patterns and greater use of pedestrian bridges become habitual among pupils.

The anecdotes are as moving as the numbers. Parents narrate children's stern admonitions to "strap in" before starting a car. Commercial bus drivers recount pupils who resolutely refuse to disembark at unsafe points. Such testimonies reveal

an unassailable truth: that authentic advocacy multiplies its effects far beyond statistical measure.

## **Recasting the Public Image of LASTMA**

Long perceived as an agency defined solely by punitive enforcement, LASTMA under Bakare-Oki has undertaken a deliberate recalibration of its identity. The School Traffic Safety Advocacy Programme epitomises this renaissance, humanising the agency by portraying its officers as nurturers of safety, guardians of discipline, and stewards of innocence.

By investing in the consciousness of children, LASTMA accrues not only compliance but trust. Citizens increasingly behold the agency not as a punitive hammer but as a social partner in the preservation of life. This shift in perception is itself a profound achievement, for without public cooperation, sustainable traffic management is an impossibility.

## **A Template for Foresighted Urban Governance**

The elevation of the School Traffic Safety Advocacy Programme transcends administrative reform; it represents a moral investment in the metropolis' posterity. It affirms that a city cannot be permanently coerced into order—it must be educated into discipline. By cultivating traffic consciousness at formative stages, LASTMA is sowing seeds of a civic culture destined to outlive present administrations.

Global observers take note. Road-safety experts affirm that the most enduring cultures of discipline in advanced nations were not forged through draconian penalties alone, but through sustained child-focused advocacy. By situating Lagos upon this trajectory, Bakare-Oki's administration has inscribed the megacity into the pantheon of forward-looking metropolises.

A Covenant with the Future

**Local Transport News****NAAPE Raises Alarm Over Poaching Of Pilots, Engineers****Culled**

The National Association of Aircraft Pilots and Engineers has sounded the alarm over the future of Nigeria's aviation sector, warning that the pilot and engineering professions are facing an existential crisis.

President of NAAPE, Abednego Galadima, speaking at a recent press conference, said the crisis is due to local airlines' consistent refusal to invest in training young professionals, particularly pilots. Galadima lamented that instead of training pilots and engineers, local airlines prefer to poach experienced hands from existing companies, a practice he described as "migrating and recycling of professionals."

This trend, he said, may stunt or kill the dreams of many fresh talents. "We are having difficulty establishing very robust MROs that will absorb our members massively. Also, most of the airlines, because they don't want to train, would rather prefer to be poaching from one company to another, and thereby

leaving these young maintenance engineers at the mercy of what they call startups," Galadima stated.

The NAAPE president highlighted that even after investing heavily in their training, young pilots return to a hostile industry with limited job opportunities due to the lean carrying capacity of the sector.

This lack of opportunity pushes many to exit the country to seek greener pastures elsewhere. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Galadinma

**Ogun, FRSC Sensitise T'port Workers On Road Safety In Rainy Season****Culled**

The Ogun State Emergency Management Ag(OGSEMA), in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), yesterday engaged members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in a one-day workshop on traffic rules aimed at preventing road crashes during the rainy season.

The Commissioner for Special Duties and Inter-Governmental Affairs, Mrs Olufunmilayo Efuwape, speaking at the workshop themed "Public Sensitisation on Road Accidents", emphasised that most road crashes during the season were caused by drivers failing to obey traffic rules.

Efuwape explained that the state government decided to engage members of the NURTW through the workshop in order to prevent untimely deaths from road accidents, especially during the rainy period.

Represented by the Acting Director of OGSEMA, Mr Soji Durojaiye, she urged

motorists to take precautionary measures by obeying safe driving rules and avoiding behaviours that could endanger lives.

She added that the state government remained committed to safety, as shown by the number of roads rehabilitated and reconstructed across the state, warning that such efforts would be wasted if drivers failed to adhere to traffic rules.

"It is only a cautious driver who commences his journey from a particular location and gets to his final destination safely that can best be described as a driver, and one sure way of achieving this is obeying traffic rules, particularly those on speed limits at all times," the Commissioner said.

The FRSC Sector Commander, Akinwumi Fasakin, represented by the Corps' Head of Operations, Dr Adelaja Ogungbemi, noted that many road crashes occur during the rainy season mainly due to drivers' carelessness.

"It will not be out of place for drivers to always park by the roadside when they

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

**FAAN's Temporary Terminal Plan Delays N712bn Airport Transformation****Culled**

The planned refurbishment of Murtala Muhammed Airport Terminal 1, valued at N712bn, may be delayed by another three months due to the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria's decision to build a makeshift terminal.

It was gathered that FAAN announced to the Airline Operators of Nigeria that a temporary terminal would be built to accommodate airline front desk officers, airport workers, and passengers while the old terminal is being refurbished.

A source privy to the meeting between FAAN and AON, who pleaded anonymity, due to the lack of authorisation to speak on the matter, said, "What was agreed was that they are going to build a temporary structure somewhere around the new terminal, and airlines will not stop working from the old terminal until the temporary structure is ready and then they will now be moved to the makeshift structure.

"It is then that the tearing down or



MMIA

pulling down of the old terminal can begin." The source added that the building of the temporary structure would take three months.

The spokesperson of FAAN, Orah Obiageli, confirmed to our correspondent that arrangements were being put in place to provide a temporary station for airport users. In a text message, she said, "We are

putting arrangements in place to ensure we provide a temporary station for all airport users.

Work commences once all plans are in place."

The N712bn approved for the renovation of the E and D wings of the Old Murtala Muhammed Airport terminal in Lagos had generated controversy, with many Nigerians

expressing outrage over the amount earmarked for the project.

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, had defended the project, saying it was driven by the urgent need to replace decaying infrastructure, expand capacity, and bring the nation's busiest airport in line with modern global standards.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

**Local Transport News****LASTMA Blames Reckless Driving For Fatal Lekki-Epe Expressway Crash****Culled**

Six people were confirmed dead and nine others injured following a road traffic accident that occurred on Sunday at Ibeju Bus Stop along the Lekki-Epe Expressway.

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) disclosed that the crash involved a blue Volvo FL6 truck transporting wooden planks and a white commercial bus with registration number AKD 336 YD.

According to a statement issued by Adebayo Taofiq, Director of Public Affairs and Enlightenment at LASTMA, the deceased included two adult males, three adult females, and one minor.

The injured—three males and six females—were rescued by LASTMA personnel in coordination with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), the Nigeria Police Force, and the Lagos Neighbourhood Safety Corps. They were transported to the Federal Medical Centre in Epe and Hammond Hospital for treatment. Four other

individuals were reported to have escaped the crash without injury.

Preliminary findings from the scene indicated that excessive speed and reckless driving were contributing factors.

The General Manager of LASTMA, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, expressed condolences to the families of the deceased and stressed the dangers of unsafe driving practices.

“Speed thrills, but ultimately kills,” Bakare-Oki said. “Excessive speed not

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Bakare-Oki

**Otti Inaugurates ASCETA, Abia Transport Board****Culled**

Governor Alex Otti of Abia State has inaugurated the newly constituted Governing Boards of the Abia State College of Education Technical Arochukwu (ASECTA), and the Abia State Transport Corporation.

Speaking during the inauguration held after an enlarged Exco Meeting at Nvosi Isialangwa South LGA, Governor Otti charged them to demonstrate full commitment in the discharge of their duties.

The Governor reminded them that they had gone through a rigorous selection process before being chosen from among many other qualified individuals and thanked them for accepting to serve the State.

“I would like to thank you for your sacrifice and for accepting to serve your state. I want to also remind you that the job requires full commitment. Of course, we went through a process before you were selected from amongst many other qualified people from the state.

“I want to thank you for making this sacrifice to be here this morning. I want to also remind you that the job requires full commitment. Of course, we went through a process before you were selected from amongst many other qualified people from the state”, he noted.

The Governor expressed confidence that the members would see their appointment as an opportunity to give their best and contribute their quota to the development of Abia State.

“I do know that you consider this a privilege to serve our people and I have no doubt that all of you will give your best to this State”, Governor Otti said.

Dr Joe Emeson was inaugurated as Chairman of the ASCETA Board, while Dr. Mrs. Idowu O. Eluwa was inaugurated as Provost Abia State College of Education Technical Arochukwu ASCETA.

In the transport sector Mr Emmanuel Ufomba serves as Chairman of the Abia State Transport Corporation while

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

**NUPRC Tasks NNPC, TotalEnergies On FID For Two Offshore Blocks****Culled**

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) on Monday held the closing ceremony for the execution of the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with NNPC Limited and the TotalEnergies-Sapetro Consortium, urging immediate commencement of exploration activities leading to Final Investment Decisions (FIDs).

Commission Chief Executive, Gbenga Komolafe, stressed the need for “swift and technically sound exploration” that would accelerate FIDs and boost Nigeria's oil output to about three million barrels per day.

He also charged the consortium to deepen local content, create quality jobs, empower Nigerian businesses, and sustain development and production.

The PSC covers Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPLs) 2000 and 2001, awarded to TotalEnergies and South Atlantic Petroleum (Sapetro) during the 2024 Licensing Round.

Komolafe commended President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for his political will in implementing the Petroleum Industry Act



NUPRC

(PIA), warning that unexplored assets risk revocation.

He said, “Let me begin by paying glowing tributes to His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, for the bold initiatives and reforms in the industry as well as his steer that undeveloped assets must return to the basket for rebidding and award to competent bidders in line with provisions of the PIA.”

Komolafe said TotalEnergies has 60

years of operations in Nigeria and holds 80% contractor interest, as well as Sapetro with 30 years of operations and holding 20% contractor interest.

He recalled that the Licensing Round was based on a fair, transparent and competitive bidding process in line with Section 73 of the PIA.

According to him, the award of these two offshore blocks, spanning about 2,000 square kilometres in the prolific Niger

Delta Basin, is a direct product of the transparent, competitive, and reform-driven framework introduced.

On the 3mb/d output, the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited, Chief Executive Officer (GCEO), Engr. Bashir Bayo Ojulari also said, “The PSC is a major milestone that speaks to the regulator's commitment to implementing the provision of the PIA and will no doubt bring NNPC Limited closer to achieving the target of 3 million barrels per day and an additional investment of 60 million dollars by 2030.”

Meanwhile, Komolafe said in the consortium, He urged the consortium to target 3,000 meters of the basin.

He said the PSC and PPL 2000 and 2001 are amongst NNPC's key focus areas as the passion of the aquaculture nation.

Ojulari said the PSC has robust fiscal terms, listing them as “One, a signature bonus of \$10 million, production bonus of 2 million barrels and 4 million or cash equivalent on attainment of 35 million barrels and 100 million barrels production risk.”

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# #SafetywithMOT



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**#SafetywithMOT**  
**#SafetyFirst**  
**#Staysafe**

## Local Transport News

# 30 Injured In Multiple Crashes On Abuja-Lokoja Road

### Culled

Thirty people sustained injuries in two separate accidents that occurred at Awawa village, along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

A witness said the first accident happened around 5.47am and involved an 18-seater commuter Hiace bus with registration number DKP 43 LG. Abuja Metro learnt that the bus was conveying 18 travellers who had attended a Holiness Revival World Wide event in Kwali and were on their way back to Edo State.

According to the witness, the bus crashed into a heap of sand at Awawa village.

He said the driver, who was unaware of the obstacle, skidded off the road, resulting in injuries to all the 18 travellers. An official of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), who was part of the rescue team, confirmed the incident, stating that the 18 injured passengers were taken to the hospital for treatment.

The official added that a second

accident, which involved two vehicles, left 12 people injured after they collided. He said a Golf car with registration number ASH 34 AA, coming from the Gwagwalada end, collided with a Vento car with registration number RBC 925 CN, which was coming from the Lokoja axis and driving against traffic because of the ongoing road repairs on the highway. He said the injured victims were rescued and taken to the hospital by officials of the Civil Defence Corps before the FRSC rescue team arrived. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



the accident

### Culled

The Chief Executive Officer of Heirs Energies, Mr. Osa Igiehon, has called for renewed urgency in ramping up Nigeria's oil and gas production amidst global energy transition pressure.

Speaking at a media parley with energy journalists in Lagos, Igiehon pointed out that the country must maximise its hydrocarbon resources before the global energy transition reduces their value.

Weighing in on the debate around reserves versus production, the CEO warned that Nigeria risks underutilizing its vast resources if it fails to accelerate output in the face of the global transition to renewable energy.

He said, "Reserves are important, but production is what creates value. If you calculate Nigeria's reserves-to-production ratio, it shows we still have decades of supply. The real question is: are we producing enough to monetise these resources before they lose value?"

He pointed out that the country's economic future is closely tied to oil and gas, adding that Nigeria must make increased production an urgent national

# FG Urged To Ramp Up Oil, Gas Production

priority.

"The imperative for Nigeria (short-term and long-term) is to grow production. Every dollar should go into unlocking and producing more, because that is where both immediate revenues and long-term sustainability lie," Igiehon said

The Heir Energies CEO lauded the recent government reforms, including improved pipeline security and presidential directives, saying they've transformed the industry's operating environment.

According to him, Nigeria is currently experiencing its most favourable period for oil and gas operations, crediting today's improved climate to the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) and security interventions that have restored confidence in the sector. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# Deplorable Federal Road Turns Delta Com'ity Into Kidnap Hotspot

The abducted woman and her husband had been working on their farm when the herdsmen struck. While the man managed to escape, his wife was not so lucky.

Last year, the community wrote a Save Our Soul letter to the governor, titled, "Abavo community faces existential threats arising from incessant kidnappings, killings and destruction of farmlands in the kingdom." The community in the letter signed by Mr Frank Jeghefume and Mr Jude Amamosa, who are President and Secretary General of Awu Elites club, called on Governor Sheriff Oborevwori to "rescue them from their enemies."

The letter lamented that incidents of kidnapping for ransom had escalated to dangerous dimensions, whereby some of the victims had lost their lives. "The criminals release few of their victims only after huge sums of money, sometimes running into millions of naira, have been paid; some of the victims are being raped and farmlands are being destroyed," the letter read.

The residents identified hotspots of the attacks as the Abavo farmlands close to the Warri-Itakpe railway line running through Abavo, Azuowa Quarters, as well as the road linking Owa kingdom in Ika North East Local Council to Abavo.

Abavo is one of the kingdoms in the Ika South Local Council of Delta State. It is largely an agrarian community and home to the famous Oyoko Market, regarded as one of the biggest food markets in Delta State. Every four days, buyers from within and outside the state troop there to purchase foodstuffs.

However, the spate of insecurity has forced many farmers to abandon their farmlands. The market is no longer booming, while the once-busy Agbor-Amukpe Road is now deserted, with only motorcycles and bicycles plying it. When our correspondent visited the Agbor-Amukpe road, they observed that vehicles had deserted the road not only because of the deplorable state of the road but also due to the fear of the unknown. People were seen plying the road largely using motorcycles and bicycles.

While awaiting the government's attention, the community have taken steps, including assisting the security agencies, setting up local vigilantes, among others. But the siege by criminals on farmlands and farmers has never ceased sustainably. But residents lament that the vigilante has been overwhelmed by the ferocity of the attacks.

Abavo also lies along the long stretch of the Uromi-Amukpe Highway, constructed over 50 years ago. Community leaders believe the deplorable state of the Agbor-Amukpe section of the road has made them vulnerable to attacks.

Paramount ruler of the community, His Royal Majesty, Uche Irenuma, led the call on the Federal Government to fix the abandoned Agbor-Amukpe road to not only ameliorate the sufferings of the community but also address its security challenges. Taking the bull by the horns, the monarch, on August 22, led the community dwellers on a march on the poor road to register their grievances. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Agbor-Amukpe road

For the past four years, residents of the Abavo community in Ika South Local Government Area of Delta State have continued to look to the heavens, asking where their help would come from as killings and kidnappings persist.

In the past two years alone, an estimated 86 persons have been kidnapped, with about 30 never returning home alive.

The most recent incident involved suspected herdsmen who abducted a female farmer and shot three members of the local vigilante group. The victims were part of a vigilante outfit established to protect farmers in the Oyoko area of Abavo after repeated attacks by herdsmen.



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- Wear a respirator or paint mask
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20 LITERS

# Abuja-Kaduna Rail Tracks Will Be Restored In Ten Days - Transport Minister

## Culled

The Minister of Transportation, Sen. Said Ahmed Alkali, has assured that the damaged portions of the Abuja-Kaduna tracks will be restored in the next ten days. Some portions of the rail tracks and coaches were damaged last week, Tuesday, after a Kaduna-bound train derailed at Asham station.

618 persons were on board, comprising 583 passengers, 15 NRC crew members, one medical personnel, eight cleaners and 11 catering staff.

Seven passengers sustained varying degrees of injury in the accident.

The Minister, on Monday, after an inspection of the accident scene, commended security personnel and other stakeholders for their efforts in ensuring the safety of passengers, workers and rail infrastructures in the ongoing operations to restore the damaged tracks and coaches.

He stated that the staff of the Nigerian Railway Corporation have been working



Alhaji Alkali

day and night to ensure incident happened. He the Managing Director of that the clearing and has given us support to repairing of the ensure that we move the damaged tracks are locomotive and the as you can see, day and done at the earliest coaches and fix the rail night, trying to restore possible time. line so that we will be normalcy after the

He said, "I thank back into operation. incident that occurred. President Bola Tinubu "From what I have seen, I "Actually, the incident for his support since the also want to commend occurred at a point where

we have two rail lines. Normally, we are running around two trains at a time. So there are points where the two trains will interchange. So normally, we have a point there. That is where the accident occurred. However, I am not in a position now to preempt the investigation, to say why the incident happened.

"I am here with the team from the Ministry of Transportation, the Director of Railway and all his engineers, and even the committee doing the investigation. The CCECC are here, Civil Society Organization, and we are here to ensure we do justice to the investigation.

"I also want to commend the MD of CCECC and his team. He has been very supportive of our ministry and of the NRC since the incident occurred.

"At the time the accident occurred, the locomotive was carrying eight coaches. We have successfully moved four out of the place, and we are trying to fix the infrastructure so that we have a bigger crane, so that we can move the coaches and all the locomotives that are on the site.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

## Petrol Consumption Down 28%, Pump Hands Idle At Stations



NNPC

Petrol consumption nationwide has fallen by 28 per cent over the past two years, as pump attendants across filling stations are left with scanty vehicular calls.

Latest figures from the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) show that the daily volume of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), popularly known as petrol, dropped from 68.353 million litres in June 2023, when fuel subsidy was removed, to 49.277 million litres in June 2025.

President Bola Tinubu had, in his May 29, 2023 inauguration address, declared "subsidy is gone," ending decades of subsidy payments

that had cost the government tens of trillions of naira.

Following the announcement, NNPC Limited raised the pump price from N195 per litre to N448 in Lagos and from N197 to N557 in Abuja. Less than a month later, prices rose again to N617 per litre.

Since then and with the coming on stream of the Dangote Refinery, marketers have reviewed prices a multiple times, in some cases weekly.

Checks by Financial Vanguard last weekend showed that fuel stations across major cities in Nigeria have just effected another round of adjustment.

However, despite conspicuous display of the prices, a large number of consumers no longer bother with the price as they make purchase decisions before getting to the fuel station and their decisions are always based on availability of money and considerations for competing needs in their lives.

This, according to attendants in many fuel stations, may have caused low patronage and dwindling vehicle presence at the fuel stations, causing rise in idle time at the stations.

Station Manager at RYBL Services Limited in Karshi, Abuja, Ibrahim Gambo, told Vanguard that it now takes about two months to sell a single 30,000-litre tanker due to poor patronage.

"The market is not moving well. We used to have three pump attendants, but now we keep only one. We cannot pay salaries for three because sales are too low.

"Before, people came with jerry cans, but now you hardly see that. Many only buy when they have important and compelling need to drive. Also, people are now using generators at home sparingly," he lamented.

In filling stations visited in some parts of Lagos, including Amuwo-Odofin, Apapa, Ajegunle and Orile, independent marketers lamented that sales have dropped significantly.

An attendant at Techno Oil at Alaba Oro, told Vanguard that "within the last two weeks, the price of petrol increased by N50 and dropped N20 few days ago. But one cannot say the business is all that lucrative at the moment.

"This is because, prior to deregulation, we had a lot of demand from customers to fill up when cars come to purchase fuel, but the reverse is the case now. Most times, our turnover is very low compared to what was obtainable in the past."

The situation, however, appeared to be different at retail outlets such as MRS and Fatgbems at Amuwo, Oshodi/Apapa expressway, and Mile 2 road, respectively which had long queues of cars trying to buy petrol.

MRS is one the retail partners to the Dangote Refinery and sells petrol at about the lowest price in the country. Checks showed that pump price at MRS has dropped to N865 per litre, compared to N870 to N890 at other stations.

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# South Sudan, Ethiopian Airlines Renew Strategic Partnership Talks

*Culled*  
Plans for Ethiopian Airlines (ET, Addis Ababa International) to play a key role in expanding South Sudan's aviation services have been revived under new economic cooperation talks between the two countries.

South Sudanese President Salva Kiir met with Ethiopian Finance Minister and Special Envoy Ahmed Shide Mohammed in Juba on August 27, during which Ethiopian Airlines was proposed as a strategic partner to strengthen South Sudan's aviation sector and boost regional connectivity, according to a statement from Kiir's office.

"Air transport was also on the agenda, with Ethiopian Airlines proposed as a strategic partner in enhancing South Sudan's aviation services," the statement said without providing further details.



Talks also covered the development of a trade and transport corridor linking South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Djibouti, alongside joint infrastructure projects in

roads, electricity, telecommunications, and banking.

Shide conveyed a message from Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, underscoring

Addis Ababa's commitment to deepen ties with Juba.

Last year, Ethiopian Airlines and South Sudan Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, underscoring

Understanding (MoU) to establish and manage a new national carrier.

According to this, Ethiopian would be responsible for providing technical support,

training, and management, including oversight of South Sudan's transitioning airspace. Talks on a joint venture with Ethiopian Airlines date back to 2014, when then-CEO Tewolde Gebremariam said the carrier planned to take a 49% stake, with the South Sudanese government holding 51%. In 2019, Juba earmarked SSP100 million South Sudanese pounds (USD768,000 at the time) for feasibility studies on the project, then called South Sudan Airways (Juba).

The move would revive years of stalled efforts by South Sudan to launch a flag carrier and would also further strengthen Ethiopian's strategy of building joint-venture airlines across Africa. Ethiopian Airlines serves Juba at least twice daily from Addis Ababa International with a B737-700.

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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 And KOICA Train 438 Civil Servants For Digital Transformation

**Culled:**  
The one-day programme, held in Abuja in partnership with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), was designed to enhance leadership, improve service delivery, and promote citizen-focused digital systems within the public sector.

The Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy has completed the training of 438 civil servants drawn from various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) as part of efforts to strengthen Nigeria's digital transformation agenda.

The one-day programme, held in Abuja in partnership with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), was designed to enhance leadership, improve service delivery, and promote citizen-focused digital systems within the public sector. The training falls under the broader vision of building a digitally empowered government capable of delivering secure, efficient, and innovative services.

Participants were introduced to modern strategies for deploying Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in government operations. The sessions emphasized the importance of



KOICA

bridging digital skills gaps, adopting emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and cloud computing, and prioritizing cybersecurity to safeguard public sector operations. The programme also highlighted the need for continuous upskilling and the adoption of flexible training methods, including microlearning, online platforms, and hybrid models, to keep pace with evolving digital demands.

KOICA representatives shared insights from South Korea's experience in building citizen-centric digital platforms, underscoring how collaboration between government, enterprises, and citizens can generate new value and innovation. Beneficiaries of the training welcomed the initiative, noting its timeliness in addressing the challenges facing Nigeria's digital transformation drive. They acknowledged the ministry's

commitment to equipping civil servants with practical skills that will support the country's long-term digital economy goals. By strengthening digital competencies across government agencies, the Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy aims to enhance efficiency, improve citizen experience, and ensure Nigeria keeps pace with global trends in governance and technology.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigeria Reaffirms Ties With Trinidad And Tobago

**Culled:**  
The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yusuf Maitama Tuggar, has reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to strengthening the bonds of friendship and partnership with Trinidad and Tobago.

Tuggar made this statement in a press release issued on Sunday by Kimiebi Ebiefa, spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the occasion of the Independence Anniversary of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The statement accompanied Tuggar's congratulatory message to his counterpart, Sean Sobers, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago, in celebration of the country's independence.

According to the minister, the anniversary represents the enduring spirit, unity, and determination of the people of Trinidad and Tobago in their pursuit of sovereignty, democracy, and national progress.

"Nigeria joins in celebrating this historic occasion, which reflects our shared values of freedom, resilience, and the quest for sustainable development," Tuggar said.

He emphasised that Nigeria and Trinidad and Tobago enjoyed warm and cordial relations, rooted in shared membership of the Commonwealth and strengthened through cooperation in culture, education, trade, and multilateral diplomacy.

"Both nations also collaborate within the United Nations, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), and other international fora to promote peace, global security, and equitable growth.

"On this auspicious occasion, Nigeria reaffirms its commitment to deepening the bonds of friendship and exploring new avenues for collaboration for the mutual benefit of both countries.

"Once again, Nigeria extends heartfelt felicitations to the Government and people of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, with best wishes for continued peace, prosperity, and national advancement," he added.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigeria Seeks Sustainable Path For Health Financing



Health Financing

**Culled:**  
Stakeholders in Nigeria's health sector have opened discussions on new strategies to secure sustainable financing for healthcare, as the National Health Financing Dialogue commenced in Abuja with the theme "Reimagining

the Future of Health Financing in Nigeria". The four-day forum brought together government officials, civil society, development partners, and the private sector to explore innovative ways of funding health services and protecting vulnerable

populations. Addressing participants, the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Professor Ali Pate, stressed that Nigeria must increase domestic investment in health, warning that the country cannot continue to rely on foreign aid to strengthen its healthcare system. He lamented that the country spends only about \$30 per person in public health financing, with more than two-thirds of health costs borne directly by citizens. "We cannot pretend to ride a Rolls Royce on the budget of a bicycle," he said.

Prof. Pate outlined the government's health reform priorities, including strengthened governance, expanded population health outcomes, unlocking the

health value chain, and improving resilience through health security, while urging civil society to play its role in ensuring accountability and advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Giving his remarks, the Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Iziq Salako, said President Bola Tinubu has directed the ministry to prioritise sustainable health financing through increased domestic resources and effective implementation of policies that advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

He noted that the government has sustained funding for the Basic Healthcare Provision Fund, launched special initiatives like the Hope Health Project, and

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Nigeria-Colombia

# Nigeria, Colombia Sign Historic MoU To Deepen Political, Economic Ties

**Culled:**  
 In a landmark step to strengthen relations between Africa and South America, Nigeria and Colombia on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on political consultations, opening what leaders of both nations described as a new era of cooperation.

The agreement was signed at the Nigeria-Colombia Bilateral Meeting and Business Forum held at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

Nigeria's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Yusuf Tuggar, and Colombia's Deputy Minister of Multilateral Affairs, Mauricio Jaramillo

Jassir, appended their signatures on behalf of their respective countries.

According to a statement issued by Senior Special Assistant to the President on Media and Communications, Office of the Vice President, Stanley Nkwocha, Jassir explained that the MoU would pave the way for frequent political dialogue and ease visa approvals for Colombian diplomats visiting Nigeria.

Speaking at the plenary session of the Nigeria-Colombia Business Forum, the Vice President of Nigeria, Senator Kashim Shettima, implored both Nigeria and Colombia to take advantage of their abundant potential

and turn it into palpable and substantial economic gains.

This, he said, should be driven by the private sectors of the two nations, exploring new opportunities, deepening partnerships, and addressing common challenges.

"We cannot achieve that unless we compare our differences and similarities, as well as our resources and potential. This is a practical way to propel trade and investment, improve agriculture, foster culture, and exchange ideas that will mutually benefit our countries.

"The private sectors of our two nations are therefore urged to take advantage

of the abundant potential of our countries and transform them into tangible economic gains," the Nigerian VP said.

Senator Shettima also noted that while the skepticism about the global economy, and its unpredictable politics that routinely underbids is redefining trade patterns, Nigeria had since deemed it necessary to diversify and expand its exports beyond crude oil, with agriculture, minerals, and manufactured products as some of the new areas of concentration.

He said, "The tariffs that confront our exports in other parts of the world are a reminder of the danger of

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

## Nigeria, South Africa Push For Deeper Trade Ties

Nigeria and South Africa, Africa's two largest economies, have renewed commitments to deepen bilateral trade, expand investment opportunities and strengthen integration under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), at the 2025 Outward Selling Trade Mission to Nigeria.

The mission, organised by the South African Consulate General Lagos and the Department of Trade, Industry and

Competition (the DTIC), brought together policymakers, business leaders and stakeholders to chart fresh pathways for cooperation across key sectors including manufacturing, mining, engineering, agriculture and agro-processing.

Declaring the forum open, Acting High Commissioner and Consul General of South Africa in Nigeria, Professor Bobby J. Moroe, said both countries must assume leadership in driving

Africa's industrialisation and intra-African trade.

"South Africa and Nigeria must lead the charge in industrialisation and intra-African trade. When we work together, we rise together," Moroe said, stressing that stronger integration would unlock infrastructure growth, jobs and sustainable development across the continent.

Also speaking, Chairman of the

Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC), Dr. Ije Jidenma, described the bilateral relationship as both historic and strategic, urging public and private stakeholders to safeguard the partnership against political and economic pressures.

The mission featured a Business-to-Business (B2B) matchmaking session facilitated by McKire Africa, where six South African companies were linked with Nigerian counterparts.  
[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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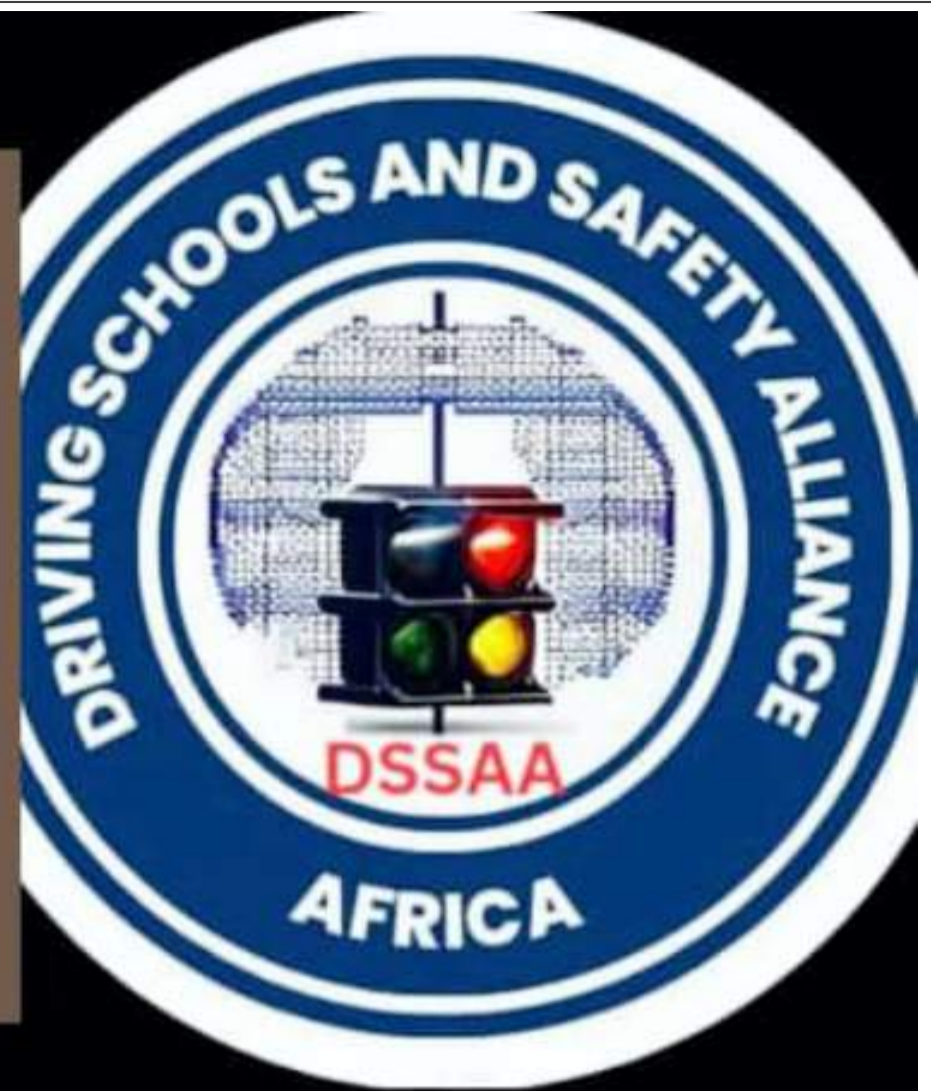


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