

FRSC Vows Action Against Reckless Motorists After Loosing Five Personnels

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In a statement released by the corps spokesperson, Oluisegun Ogungbemide, on Tuesday, Corps

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A'ibom Govt Procures 50 Units Of CNG Buses To Boost Transportation

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construction of ultra-modern terminals and bus stations across the state.

Umanah, disclosed this on Tuesday during a joint press briefing with the Commissioner for Information, Aniekan Health, Dr. Ekem

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Wed, October 1st 2025

E - NEWSPAPER

LASWA Announces Temporary Closure Of Five Cowries Creek

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Five Cowries Creek corridor will be partially/fully closed to traffic from Thursday,

2nd October 2025 till Sunday, 5th October 2025.

According to a

statement by the LASWA management, the closure does not affect road commuters

as it strictly affects only waterway users.

The temporary closure

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Abuja-Kaduna Train Platform Opens For Ticket Payment - NRC

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Oil Workers' Strike Sparks Fuel Shortage Fears In Nigeria

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Customs Pledges Synergy With SSS, FRSC In Oyo

P2



LASWA Managing Director, Mr Emmanuel Oluwadamilola

Lagos Reopens Ogudu/Ifako Bridge After Months Of Repairs

The Lagos State Government on Tuesday reopened the Ogudu-Ifako Bridge following the completion of repair works on 400 metres of

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The News Agency of Nigeria reports that a section of the bridge was closed to

vehicular traffic on June 28 to enable construction.

The Ogudu/Ifako Bridge inbound Alapere was

originally expected to be ready in 100 days, but the repair works were completed in just 73 days.

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LASTMA Inducts Journalists As Media Mayors

P5

Local Transport News

Customs Pledge Synergy With SSS, FRSC In Oyo

Culled

The Oyo/Osun customs area command has pledged continuous synergy with the State Security Service and the Federal Road Safety Corps in Oyo.

Akintola Abdulmalik, the command's spokesman, in a statement on Tuesday, said Gambo Aliyu, the area comptroller, said this in Ibadan during a courtesy visit to SSS and FRSC offices. Mr Aliyu reaffirmed his commitment to deepening existing collaboration among the agencies.

Speaking at the SSS office, the comptroller, who was accompanied by his management team, commended the SSS for its unwavering dedication to protecting lives and property.

He stated that the service's tireless efforts had continued to make a significant contribution to the country's peace, stability, and socio-economic growth.

The comptroller also restated the role of the Nigeria Customs Service in

revenue generation, trade facilitation, and anti-smuggling operations.

He highlighted the service's role in curbing the smuggling of illicit drugs and substandard goods, adding that such crimes often fuel insecurity in the form of banditry, kidnapping, and terrorism.

At the FRSC's office, Mr Aliyu lauded the agency's efforts in safeguarding lives through road safety enforcement and public enlightenment campaigns.

Find Full Story In The Link



Custom Officers

FRSC Vows Action Against Reckless Motorists After Loosing Five Personnels

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps has confirmed the tragic deaths of five of its personnel in the month of September 2025, following multiple incidents in which officers were knocked down by reckless drivers while on official duty.

In a statement released by the corps spokesperson, Olusegun Ogungbemide, on Tuesday, Corps Marshal Shehu Mohammed expressed deep sorrow over the loss and ordered the immediate prosecution of all motorists involved in the fatal incidents.

"These knockdowns are not just statistics. They represent human lives — dedicated fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and breadwinners, cut short in the line of duty while safeguarding Nigerian roads," the statement read.

The fatal incidents occurred across several FRSC formations: on September 6 in Ekiti Sector Command, September 8 in Ogun Sector Command, September 15 in Taraba Sector Command, September 19 at Jos By-Pass Unit Command, and September

24 in Obollo Afor Unit Command.

Grieving the loss, Mohammed described the increasing dangers faced by operatives as unacceptable.

"Beyond being exposed to speeding vehicles, our personnel now also contend with kidnapping, violent attacks, and targeted assaults.

"The FRSC will no longer tolerate acts of recklessness that endanger its staff. Offenders will be made to face the full weight of the law," he lamented.

The corps marshal also urged operatives nationwide to remain vigilant and prioritise their safety while carrying out their duties.

"They need to be safe and alive to save others," he said.

As part of ongoing measures to protect its workforce, the FRSC says it is intensifying collaboration with relevant authorities to safeguard its personnel and installations.

"This measure is not intended for aggression but as a safeguard to deter assaults and ensure that officers can perform their duties without fear of attack," Mohammed stated.

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Largest LNG-Powered Container Vessel With 7,800 TEUs Berths In Apapa Port

Culled

Gold Star Line's liquefied natural gas (LNG)-powered container vessel, MV Sapphire, with a capacity of 7,800 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), has berthed at APM Terminals in Apapa Port.

The Singapore-flagged vessel, built in 2024, features an advanced LNG propulsion system, and its size and technology align with Nigeria's drive for sustainable, green shipping operations in line with the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) target of achieving zero carbon emissions in the maritime sector by 2030.

Speaking at the berthing of the ship on Monday, the Managing Director of Lagos and Niger Shipping Agency Limited (LANSAL), Todd Rives, which represents Gold Star Line in Nigeria, described the berthing as a historic milestone.

He recalled that the shipping line, incorporated in 1958, remains one of the oldest shipping agencies operating in Nigeria, with a longstanding



Stakeholders at the APM Terminals

commitment to customer service.

He stressed that the arrival of the MV Sapphire was more than just a routine docking, but rather a symbol of progress and partnership, designed to reduce voyage costs, promote operational efficiency, and reinforce environmental sustainability.

According to him, the vessel is the beginning of a new era in Nigerian

maritime trade, and he expressed optimism that her sister ships would also call at the port in the near future.

Commercial Manager of APM Terminals Apapa, Kayode Daniel, described the moment as a significant achievement for the port and underlined the shared commitment to sustainable maritime practices.

He explained that shipping lines globally

are working together to reduce emissions in line with international sustainability targets.

He praised LANSAL for deploying LNG-powered vessels in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, reaffirming that it was aligned with the global APM Terminals ESG goals to move to cleaner sources of energy, thereby reducing carbon emissions.

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20TH SEPTEMBER, 2025



FUTD SPECIAL BULLETIN

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POST UTME AND DIRECT ENTRY ONLINE SCREENING EXERCISE FOR THE 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION

The Management of Federal University of Transportation, Daura wishes to inform all candidates who applied for admission into the University through the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) and scored 150 points and above with the relevant Five O'Level credits, and Direct Entry (DE) candidates that Online Screening Exercise for the **2025/2026 Academic Session** is scheduled to commence from **Friday, 19th September, 2025**.

To register for the Post UTME Screening, candidates are required to log onto: <https://futd.edu.ng> to initiate the process using their UTME registration number as their **Username** and State of origin as their **Password**. Applicants are required to generate a Remita Retrieval Reference (RRR) Number and proceed to any Bank for payment or use their Debit Cards to pay the non-refundable screening fee of **Two Thousand Naira (N2,000.00)**.

Steps to Follow:

- Access the portal via <https://futd.edu.ng>
- Make payment of N2,000.00 through Bank or REMITA
- Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the Screening Form
- Upload all required documents as specified and submit
- Print the acknowledgement slip and retain as evidence of successful registration

For inquiries or technical support, please contact the University ICT Directorate using the contact details provided on the portal or call **08032848658**.

Signed:
Mal. Umar Faruk Bayu
Registrar

Local Transport News

Abuja-Kaduna Train Platform Opens For Ticket Payment - NRC

Culled

The Nigerian Railway Corporation says the online ticketing platform for the Abuja-Kaduna Train Service is now open for payment.

The Chief Public Relations Officer, NRC, Mr Callistus Unyimadu, said this in a statement on Tuesday in Lagos.

Unyimadu said that passengers were therefore encouraged to book their tickets online ahead of resumption on Oct. 1 via <https://nrc.tps.ng> or visit any of the designated stations to purchase their tickets.

According to him, in preparation for the resumption of services, the journey time has been reduced following a review of the Temporary Speed Restriction (TSR) to enhance operations.

The new schedule is as follows Abuja – Kaduna – Idu: 8:45 a.m., Kubwa, 9:10 a.m., Rigasa (Arrive), 11:47 a.m., Kaduna – Abuja: Rigasa, 2:30 p.m., Kubwa, 5:12 p.m., and Idu (Arrive), 5:32 p.m.”

He added that the management of NRC

appreciated the patience and understanding of its esteemed passengers during the suspension period.

He assured the public that safety, comfort, and customer satisfaction remained top priorities.

The sale of tickets follows a temporary pause after a passenger train travelling from Abuja to Kaduna derailed on August 26, a Tuesday morning, leaving several carriages overturned and triggering panic among those on board.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Dr. Opeifa

LASWA Announces Temporary Closure Of Five Cowries Creek

Culled

The Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) have informed boat operators, ferry passengers, and other waterway users that the Five Cowries Creek corridor will be partially/fully closed to traffic from Thursday, 2nd October 2025 till Sunday, 5th October 2025.

According to a statement by the LASWA management, the closure does not affect road commuters as it strictly affects only waterway users.

The temporary closure is expected to allow for planned activities of the upcoming E1 Championship — the world's first all-electric powerboat racing tournament.

The statement further explained that boat movement through the Five Cowries Creek corridor will be restricted from the waterside from 8 am to 6 pm during this period.

The statement reads: “The Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) wishes to inform all boat operators, ferry passengers, and other waterway users

that the Five Cowries Creek corridor will be partially/fully closed to traffic from: Thursday, 2nd October 2025 – Sunday, 5th October 2025.

“This closure does not affect road commuters. It is strictly for waterway users only. This temporary closure is to allow for planned activities of the E1 Lagos Grand Prix (E1 Lagos GP) within the corridor and to ensure the safety of all waterway users.

“What This Means for You: Boat movement through the Five Cowries Creek corridor will be restricted from the waterside from 8 am to 6 pm during this period (See the previous marine notice for more details)

“Operators are advised to use alternative routes. Only vessels with special clearance from LASWA will be allowed to pass.

“We kindly request that all waterway users comply with this notice for the safety of all parties involved. Normal operations will resume immediately after the stated dates.”

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

A'ibom Govt Procures 50 Units Of CNG Buses To Boost Transportation

Culled

The Akwa Ibom State Government has procured 50 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses and commenced the construction of ultra-modern terminals and bus stations across the state.

Commissioner for Information, Aniekan Umanah, disclosed this on Tuesday during a joint press briefing with the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John, and the Chief Press Secretary, Ekerete Udoh.

Umanah also revealed that about 771km of roads are currently at various stages of construction, while 31 completed bridges are set for commissioning.

He noted that the achievements reflect the progress made under Governor Umo Eno's administration in just two years, across sectors guided by the ARISE Agenda, as Akwa Ibom marks its 38th anniversary.

In the aviation sector, the commissioner said, “The aviation sector continues to soar with the acquisition of four new aircraft for Ibom Air, construction of the Aviation Village, and completion of the new Terminal Building and Maintenance,



CNG Buses

Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the Victor Attah International Airport.

On security, he said, “In security, the establishment of the Ministry of Internal Security and Waterways, recruitment of 4,500 community watch personnel, provision of gunboats and patrol vehicles, and creation of a Security and Command Centre have strengthened the State's safety architecture”.

Speaking on tourism, the commissioner

said, “ecological remediation of 70 hectares of gullies and construction of the ARISE Resort are underway, alongside works at the 5,000-capacity Ibom International Convention Centre and Hotel and the ARISE Shopping City.

“In training and empowerment, more than 10,000 youths and SMEs have benefited, and the administration is constructing a 2,000-capacity Amphitheatre to host the Annual Christmas

Unplugged Event.

“In addition, the newly established ₦100 million Creative Industry Fund is being deployed to strengthen talent development, drive capacity building, and expand opportunities for the entertainment and film sector, thereby positioning Akwa Ibom as a creative hub in Nigeria.

“In roads and bridges, over 771 kilometres of roads are at various stages of construction, and 31 bridges have been completed.

Umanah disclosed that, “In agriculture, the State has established the Ibom Model Farm, rolled out the Arise Home Farms Scheme and the Back-to-Farm Initiative, while distributing inputs to farmers.

“In healthcare, there are now functional health centres across all LGAs, a State Health Insurance Scheme, a 350-bed International Hospital under development, an Emergency Ambulance Service, a Medical Oxygen Production Plant, and an expanded workforce of medical personnel”.

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#SafetywithMOT
#SafetyFirst
#Staysafe

Local Transport News

OPEC Plans Another Oil Output Hike In November

Culled

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies known as (OPEC+) will likely approve another oil production increase of at least 137,000 barrels per day at its meeting next Sunday, a Reuters report has said.

OPEC+ has reversed its strategy of output cuts from April and has already raised quotas by more than 2.5 million barrels per day, representing about 2.4 per cent of world demand, to boost the market.

Eight OPEC+ countries, including Nigeria, will hold an online meeting on October 5 to decide on November output. OPEC+ pumps about half of the world's oil and includes Russia and other allies.

Oil prices have fallen from over \$80 per barrel at the start of the year but have mostly traded in a narrow range of \$60-\$70 per barrel since OPEC began production increases in April. On Friday, prices rose to their highest since August 1, hitting levels above \$70 per barrel, supported by Ukrainian drone attacks on

Russia's energy infrastructure which disrupted refining and shipments from one of the world's biggest oil exporters.

The group's total output reductions amounted at their peak to 5.85 million bpd, made up of three different elements – voluntary cuts of 2.2 million bpd, plus 1.65 million bpd by eight members, and another 2.0 million bpd by the whole group.

The eight producers plan to fully unwind one element of those cuts – 2.2 million bpd – by the end of September.

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OPEC

Culled

LASTMA boss, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, flanked by inducted journalists inducts journalists as 'media mayors'

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has inducted journalists as media mayors to promote safety on Lagos roads. The Special Traffic Mayor Corp was created in 2008 to assist the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) officers in the management of traffic within the state.

Speaking at the induction in Lagos, General Manager, LASTMA, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, said the occasion transcends the bounds of a mere ceremonial gathering, explaining that it heralds the inception of a strategic alliance designed to consolidate and elevate the synergy between the LASTMA and the media fraternity, with the ultimate objective of cultivating a more regulated, secure and efficient traffic ecosystem.

Bakare-Oki said the press, as the fourth estate of the realm, remains an indomitable instrument for the

LASTMA Inducts Journalists As Media Mayors

propagation of public enlightenment, shaping of societal perception and sustenance of democratic principles.

According to him, within the ambit of traffic management and urban mobility, the media's influence assumes even greater significance through meticulous reportage, incisive investigative narratives and judicious critique.

He said journalists possess the singular capacity to educate motorists, inform commuters and hold all stakeholders accountable in the relentless pursuit of a functional and orderly traffic framework.

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Oil Workers' Strike Sparks Fuel Shortage Fears In Nigeria



Oil Workers

workers from India.

The refinery called the allegations a "complete falsehood" and said that it had fired a small number of staff over "acts of sabotage", though it did not disclose the exact figure.

PENGASSAN called a strike and also said it would stop crude oil and gas from being delivered to the refinery — the latter of which Dangote has contested in court.

Local media reported Monday that striking PENGASSAN members also blocked the offices of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation — the state-owned oil firm — as well as the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission and the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority.

A Dangote spokesman confirmed to AFP that government-mediated talks were ongoing as of Tuesday.

Before last year's opening of the privately-run Dangote refinery, with a capacity of 650,000 barrels per day, Nigeria had to import almost all its

petrol despite being a major oil producer.

Critics pointed to years of neglect and mismanagement of government-owned refineries.

The Dangote refinery has driven down prices of petrol for consumers while also shaking up Nigeria's oil sector.

It has also sparked monopoly fears as it becomes a powerful player itself, backed by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote.

Its recent moves to bring its own, natural gas-powered trucks to distribute its gasoline in the country sparked a strike by a fuel tanker drivers' union earlier in September, which accused the company of hiring new drivers on the condition they didn't join a union. The refinery denied the allegations.

The second strike in a month comes as the Dangote refinery, Africa's largest, has shaken up the corruption-marred petrostate's long-entrenched players — while at the same time sparking allegations it has used anti-labour tactics.

The dispute kicked off last Friday when Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) accused the refinery of firing 800 local workers for unionising and replacing them with 2,000 workers from India.

The refinery called the allegations a "complete falsehood" and said that it had fired a small number of staff over "acts of sabotage", though it did not disclose the exact figure.

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- Rub down old gloss painted surfaces with abrasive paper.
- Stir content very well
- Add little quantity of thinner if necessary
- Apply with brush or roller
- Close firmly when not in use.

DIRECTION FOR USE:

- Mix paints in well-ventilated areas
- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
- Wear a respirator or paint mask
- Avoid electrocution!



20 LITERS

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

Lagos Reopens Ogudu/Ifako Bridge After Months Of Repairs

Culled

The Lagos State Government on Tuesday reopened the Ogudu-Ifako Bridge following the completion of repair works on 400 metres of its four expansion joints.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that a section of the bridge was closed to vehicular traffic on June 28 to enable construction.

The Ogudu/Ifako Bridge inbound Alapere was originally expected to be ready in 100 days, but the repair works were completed in just 73 days.

NAN recalls that the first four phases of the project, covering the Ogudu/Ifako inbound Alapere stretch, were completed between June 28 and August 16.

The fifth to eighth phases, which covered the Ogudu/Ifako inbound Oworoshoki axis, commenced in August and have also been successfully completed and reopened to traffic.

Special Adviser on Infrastructure, Mr Olufemi Daramola, and Commissioner for Transportation, Mr Seun Osiyemi, led a



Osiyemi

team to inspect the project and certify the works.

Daramola stated that the project, initially scheduled for 101 days, was finished in 78 days due to cooperation from stakeholders and commitment from the contractors. He explained that defects on the expansion joints, if left unattended, could have compromised agencies, and the motorists' safety and further weakened the busy bridge.

According to him, the early completion was possible through combined efforts of contractors, security agencies, and the patience of Lagos residents throughout the repair period.

"We undertook this repair to guarantee safety. Thankfully, with the cooperation of the people, we have been able to deliver ahead of schedule," Daramola said.

He commended residents for their endurance during the partial closure, stressing that the bridge is now fully opened to vehicular movement without restrictions.

The special adviser revealed that the next point of attention for government engineers would be the Maza-Maza area, where similar maintenance works are planned.

Also speaking, Osiyemi expressed gratitude to Lagos residents for their understanding, promising that the state government would continue its infrastructure renewal drive.

"This success belongs to everyone. Lagosians endured the inconveniences and supported the process. We sincerely appreciate your perseverance and patience," the commissioner said.

He urged the people to protect the facilities, stressing that they are funded with taxpayers' money and designed to provide long-term benefits.

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NOA Says 5% Fuel Tax Will Cut Travel Costs, Boost Road Funding



Petrol Pump

The National Orientation Agency (NOA) says the reintroduction of a 5 percent fuel surcharge on petroleum products will go a long way to benefit Nigerians.

A surcharge is an additional charge, fee, or tax added to the cost of a product or service beyond the initially quoted price.

Petroleum products include petrol, diesel, and compressed natural gas (CNG).

In a post on X on Tuesday, NOA said the introduction of a 5 percent fuel surcharge aligns with a global trend already in place in over 150 countries.

According to the agency, charges ranging from 20 percent to 80 percent are imposed on

fuel products to create a pool of funds for continuous investment in road infrastructure.

"Under Nigeria's Tax Administration Act, 2025, signed by President Bola Tinubu, the surcharge is designed to deliver the following benefits," NOA said.

"Dedicated funding for road infrastructure and maintenance. It provides a reliable and predictable stream of revenue to maintain and repair Nigeria's roads, ensuring they are not perpetually underfunded.

"Reduced travel costs. Better roads reduce delays, vehicle wear, and logistics expenses.

"Safer roads cut down accidents and improve rural access.

"Fiscal sustainability, boosts non-oil revenue, making infrastructure funding more sustainable.

"Harmonises tax laws, eliminating overlaps and loopholes.

"Energy protection, it exempts kerosene, LPG, CNG, and renewables to shield households

and support energy transition goals."

On July 25, TheCable reported that the new tax law has imposed a 5 percent surcharge on chargeable petroleum products.

According to the Tax Act, a fossil fuel product becomes chargeable upon the earliest occurrence of supply, sale, or payment.

The tax levy has, however, raised concerns that the provision could trigger further hardship on Nigerians.

However, Wale Edun, minister of finance and coordinating minister of the economy, said the federal government has no immediate plans to implement the 5 percent fuel surcharge anytime soon.

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Emirates Announces Flight Cancellations From DXB This Week

Culled

The world's largest international airline has announced several flight cancellations this week from Dubai International Airport and the Seychelles.

In a travel update on the Emirates website, issued on Monday September 29, the airline revealed that flights to Madagascar will be cancelled on Tuesday September 30 and Wednesday October 1.

The cancellations come as a result of ongoing civil unrest in the African island nation.

Emirates has cancelled its routes from DXB to Antananarivo and from Antananarivo to DXB on Tuesday September 30 and Wednesday October 1.

The flight cancellations also affect the airline's routes to and from Seychelles to Antananarivo on the same dates.

Any Emirates passenger connecting through Dubai



with a final destination of Antananarivo will not be accepted for travel at their point of origin until further notice.

All Emirates flights to Madagascar are linked

via Mahé's Seychelles International Airport, and are normally scheduled from Tuesday to Sunday every week. As things stand, the airline's routes from Thursday to Sunday

are still scheduled for travel.

The airline has asked any customer affected by the cancellation of flights to and from the Madagascar capital to contact their

travel agency for rebooking or to get in touch with Emirates if they booked directly with the DXB-based airline.

Passengers who were due to travel have been

asked to ensure that their contact details are correct by visiting the Manage Your Booking section of the airline's website to receive updates.

Emirates has also apologised for any inconvenience and will continue to monitor the situation closely.

The world's largest international airline has announced several flight cancellations this week from Dubai International Airport and the Seychelles.

The cancellations come as a result of ongoing civil unrest in the African island nation.

Emirates has cancelled its routes from DXB to Antananarivo and from Antananarivo to DXB on Tuesday September 30 and Wednesday October 1.

The flight cancellations also affect the airline's routes to and from Seychelles to Antananarivo on the same dates. [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

Saudi Arabi Donates 68 Metric Tonnes Dates To Nigeria

Culled:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on Monday, donated 69 metric tonnes of dates to vulnerable populations in Nigeria through the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

During the handover of the dates in Abuja, the Country Director, WFP, Mr David Stevenson, commended the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the generous donation.

Stevenson said that the inclusion of dates in the WFP's food assistance package enhanced both the quality and cultural relevance of the support. "These dates will directly benefit vulnerable communities in the Northeast, where food insecurity remains a pressing challenge.

"The 68 metric tonnes of dates are planned to reach not less than 34,000 households (approximately 170,000 people), with each household receiving two kilograms of dates.

"Distribution will take place in Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps across Borno State, tentatively earmarked for Damasak, Mafa, Dikwa and Damboa.

"We aim to align the distribution with in-kind food assistance cycles in these locations, tentatively scheduled for October, November, and December," he said.



Timubu

He said that the WFP would also conduct beneficiary sensitisation and state-level engagement to ensure the dates are well received and appropriately utilised.

The country director stated that the event served as a symbolic testament to shared humanitarian values and the power of collaboration.

He stated that the WFP was proud to collaborate with the Nigerian government and international partners to deliver life-saving

assistance.

"This year, we will have reached close to 1.5 million of the most vulnerable populations in Northern Nigeria, helping them address their most urgent food and nutrition needs.

"As we celebrate this meaningful partnership, we also call on other donors and partners to join us in scaling up support for communities in need," said.

The Chargé D'Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to

Nigeria, Mr Saad Fahad Almarri, said that the dates were donated through the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre to the WFP.

Almarri stated that it was also part of the country's humanitarian assistance.

"Today's handover represents our shared commitment to provide necessary assistance, relief and food security all over the world, especially in the North East of Nigeria.

Find Full Story In The Link

Gunmen Kill 12 Forest Guards In Kwara

Culled:

Gunmen in central Nigeria have killed at least a dozen guards who protect forests and flush out criminal gangs and jihadists, police said.

The attack occurred on Sunday when the attackers raided Oke-Ode, a small town around 70 kilometres (45 miles) from the Kwara state capital, Ilorin.

Police said the armed men "invaded" the area, "shooting sporadically".

Police and forest security services responded and "discovered 12 lifeless bodies" of the guards. Four others were wounded.

It was not immediately clear who the gunmen were.

But gangs known locally as bandits and jihadists operate out of bases hidden in forests across the northern and central states.

The criminal gangs loot and burn down villages as well as carry out kidnapping for ransom.

The state has witnessed a series of deadly attacks in recent months, with locals blaming the Mahmuda group, a gang loyal to Mahmud al-Nigeri, a senior leader of the Ansaru terror group.

Ansaru grew out of a 2021 split within the Boko Haram group and the group then allied itself with Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

Nigeria's national security adviser Nuhu Ribadu said last month that Ansaru has "urban sleeper cells" and "remote forest bases" in Niger and Kwara states in central Nigeria.

In mid-August, Nigerian authorities announced the capture of al-Nigeri along with fellow Ansaru figure Mahmud Muhammad Usman.

Kwara state governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq called for "increased security deployments" to help "roll back the activities of criminals."

Police said the armed men "invaded" the area, "shooting sporadically".

Police and forest security services responded and "discovered 12 lifeless bodies" of the guards. Four others were wounded.

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria @ 65: FG Declares Wednesday Public Holiday



Dr. Tunji-Ojo

Culled: The Federal Government has declared Wednesday as a public holiday to commemorate Nigeria's 65th Independence Anniversary.

The Minister of Interior, Dr Olubunmi Tunji-Ojo, made the announcement on

Monday in Abuja, on behalf of the Federal Government.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Nigeria celebrates its independence annually on Oct.1.

Tunji-Ojo, while congratulating Nigerians on the historic celebration, enjoined citizens to continue

to uphold the patriotic spirit, unity and resilience that has sustained the nation since its independence in 1960.

He urged Nigerians to further keep faith in the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Tinubu, which was anchored on national rebirth, economic transformation and collective prosperity.

The Minister expressed confidence that, with the cooperation of all Nigerians, the country will continue to grow stronger in peace, progress, and development.

He wished Nigerians a happy and memorable 2025 Independence Day celebration.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris, said the Federal Government is planning a low-key celebration.

Idris made this known at the Pre-Independence World Press Conference on Monday in Abuja.

"The theme of the celebration is 'All Hands-on Deck' Activities will be low-key.

"We started with the Jummat Prayers on Friday and the Thanksgiving Service on Sunday.

"The National Value Charter, as championed by the National Orientation Agency, will also be unveiled.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that the National Value Charter, championed by NOA, is a framework for cultivating national pride and fostering responsible citizenship by outlining both the government's commitment and citizens' obligations.

Find Full Story In The Link



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Barth Nnaji

Nnaji Calls For Integration Of AI Into Nigeria's Education System

Culled:

Barth Nnaji, a professor and chairman of Geometric Power Aba Limited (GPAL), has called for the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into Nigeria's education system.

Nnaji, a renowned engineer and former minister of Power, made the call at the 2025 Annual Fafunwa Foundation Lecture, held at the Muson Centre in Lagos.

The annual event is instituted to honour the legacy of Babatunde Aliyu Fafunwa, a professor and former Minister of Education and Pan-Nigerian icon.

Nnaji emphasised the urgent need for

Nigeria to embrace the Fourth Industrial Revolution through culturally rooted, AI-enhanced pedagogy.

"Nigeria and the rest of Africa lost the last three Revolutions. We can't afford to lose the 4th Industrial Revolution", Nnaji declared, underscoring the stakes for the nation's future.

Nnaji paid tribute to Fafunwa's transformative contributions to Nigerian education, noting his role as acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, in the 1960s.

He celebrated Sheri Fafunwa-Ndibe, a professor and Fafunwa's daughter,

for continuing her father's academic legacy, having flown from the United States to attend the lecture.

"Thanks, Sheri, for taking such pains to honour the memory of a wonderful dad and a true Nigerian," Nnaji said.

The lecture's theme, Reinventing Teacher Education for Culturally Rooted and AI-Enhanced Pedagogy in Nigeria, resonated deeply with Nnaji's vision for an education system equipped to navigate the global AI revolution.

The rise of generative AI, sparked by innovations like ChatGPT4, has reshaped global industries, and Nnaji warned that Africa risks being left

behind without proactive measures.

Drawing from his own expertise in automation and robotics, honed at MIT in the 1980s, he stressed the need for teacher training in AI, Big Data Analytics, Machine Learning, and Cybersecurity.

"Our teachers can't teach our children AI and related topics... if they are not trained in them," he asserted.

However, Nnaji also cautioned against risks like privacy threats and cultural erosion, advocating for a balanced approach inspired by China's model of safeguarding national values while embracing technological advancement.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria Gains Global Recognition For Tax-ID

Nigeria has secured a major milestone in its digital trade transformation with the global registration of its Tax Identification Number (Tax-ID) and the approval of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) as the country's Peppol Authority.

The achievement, made possible with the support of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), registers Nigeria's Tax-ID under the ISO/IEC 6523 International Coding

System, giving Nigerian individuals and businesses international recognition in cross-border transactions.

Peppol, an internationally accepted framework for the secure and standardised exchange of electronic documents, is already in use across Europe, Asia, and Australia. With FIRS as Nigeria's Peppol Authority, Nigerian businesses can now integrate seamlessly into this network, allowing

faster payments, reduced administrative costs, and improved global competitiveness.

According to FIRS, the move simplifies compliance for taxpayers and boosts confidence in Nigeria as an investment hub. "This milestone simplifies compliance for taxpayers, enables smoother cross-border transactions, and strengthens confidence in Nigeria as a global trade and investment hub," the agency said

in a statement.

Under the new framework, Tax-IDs generated using the National Identification Number (NIN) for individuals and Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) numbers for businesses will now be internationally referenceable.

The initiative also reduces duplication, administrative errors, and compliance burdens by unifying Tax-IDs across federal and state levels.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

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

About DSSAA

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

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

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

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

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

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

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

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

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

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

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

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OTHER BENEFITS

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