

Oyetola Partners ICTSI, Others To Position Nigeria As A Maritime Hub In Africa

The Minister of Marine International Container blue economy and Blue Economy, Terminal Services potential and Adegboyega Oyetola, (ICTSI) Inc. and position the country has pledged to engage other credible as a leading strengthen collabora- private investors to maritime hub in tion with the unlock Nigeria's vast Africa.

CONTINUES ON P3

NPA Boss Shifts Rehabilitation Of Apapa, Tin Can Ports To Q1 2026

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CONTINUES ON P2



GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Mon, October 13th 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

Traffic Congestion: Lagos To Begin Paid Parking System In 2026

The Lagos State Government has announced that it will commence a regulated parking system across the state in 2026.

This is said to be part of efforts to improve traffic flow and restore order on major roads.

The rates, which will be implemented through the Lagos State Parking Authority, aim to tackle

the growing challenge of indiscriminate parking that often contributes to gridlock in

busy areas. The General Manager of LASPA, Adebisi

CONTINUES ON P3

FRSC Warns Motorists Of Gully Erosion On Onitsha-Owerri Road

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Nigeria Pledges Stronger Maritime Safety, Regional Cooperation

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NUPRC Blames PENGASSAN For 3% Drop In Oil Production

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Mr Oluwaseun Osiyemi, Mr Wale Musa, Mrs Adelabu Adebisi, Mr Deen Sanwoola at the LASPA Retreat

Nigeria Withdraws Abuja-Keffi Road Project From Foreign Contractor

The Nigerian government has withdrawn the Abuja-bound carriageway of the ongoing Mararaba-Keffi Road reconstruction project from China

Harbour Engineering Company Limited. The Minister of Works, David Umahi announced the withdrawal during an

inspection of the 43.65-kilometre dual carriageway. He said; "the decision was due to poor performance

and the uncooperative attitude of the company." Mr Umahi accused the Company of not following the Ministry's directives and failing

CONTINUES ON P7

Sokoto Residents Lament Fuel Scarcity

P5

Local Transport News

NPA Boss Shifts Rehabilitation Of Apapa, Tin Can Ports To Q1 2026

Culled

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Dr Abubakar Dantsoho, has disclosed that massive rehabilitation of the premier port, Apapa and Tin Can Island seaport, will begin in the first quarter of 2026. He had earlier said that the rehabilitation will commence in the last quarter of 2025. Dantsoho, who disclosed the new commencement date at the World Ports Conference of the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), in Kobe, Japan, said the project is expected to be completed in 48 months.

The NPA boss, who is the Vice President of IAPH, Africa, said extensive engineering, environmental and design studies have been carried out while rehabilitation works have been planned to commence in the first quarter of 2026. According to him, the Federal Government is determined to improve ports infrastructure as part of efforts to reposition the maritime sector for global

competitiveness and attract international investors.

Dantsoho added that the nation's economy is ready for massive investment, stating that investors have commended President Bola Tinubu for the reform initiatives.

Dantsoho said: "Construction of this massive nature takes a lot of time to prepare. There are engineering studies, there are environmental studies, and there is design, among others.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Dr. Dantsoho

NRC Condemns Rise In Rail Eq'ment Vandalism, Arrests Two In Kaduna

Culled

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has decried the increasing cases of vandalism of its electrical and signalling installations across the country, describing the trend as a major threat to safe and efficient train operations.

The Corporation confirmed that two suspects were recently arrested in Kaduna for vandalising its equipment at the Rigasa Train Station area.

The suspects — Ibrahim Abdullahi (22 years old) of Hayi, Rigasa, and Sani Ibrahim (24 years old) of Layi Turaki, Rigasa — were apprehended by operatives of the Nigeria Police, Railway Command attached to the Abuja-Kaduna Train Service (AKTS). The arrest followed the discovery on Friday, 10 October 2025, at about 12:30 p.m., that a cable wire had been cut and removed from one of NRC's cranes stationed within the Rigasa facility. Acting swiftly on intelligence, the patrol team led by ASP Abdullahi Bwajin, Administrative Officer at Rigasa, traced and arrested the suspects.

This information was confirmed by the Chief Public Relations Officer, NRC, Callistus Unyimadu, for the management. During interrogation, the duo confessed to committing the crime and disclosed that they sold the stolen cable to one Musa, popularly known as "Musa Major," for ₦90,000. Each suspect reportedly received ₦30,000 as his share, while another member of their syndicate, Abdulwahab Yakubu of Rigasa, is currently at large.

Efforts are ongoing by the Nigeria Police, Railway Command (AKTS), to apprehend the remaining suspect and recover the stolen materials. The NRC commends the Command for its professionalism and swift action, assuring that all culprits involved in acts of vandalism will face the full weight of the law.

Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, NRC, Dr Kayode Opeifa, expressed deep concern over the increasing attacks on railway electrical and signalling infrastructure, describing them as Critical National Assets.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Ogun Hands Over 130 Hectares To FG For Construction Of Ijebu-Ode Inland Dry Port

Culled

The federal government's effort to expand trade infrastructure and decongest the nation's seaports has received a boost as the Ogun state government officially handed over 130 hectares of land to the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy for the construction of the Ijebu-Ode Inland Dry Port.

The handover marks a major milestone in the Federal Government's trade facilitation agenda and paves the way for developing a logistics and cargo hub in Ijebu-Ode to boost intermodal transport connectivity and ease pressure on Lagos ports.

Speaking during the signing of the Transfer of Rights, Control, and Possession on behalf of the Federal Government, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Olufemi Oloruntola, reaffirmed the government's commitment to completing the project within a short period.

"The federal government remains committed to completing the Ijebu-Ode



Ijebu-Ode Inland Dry Port

Inland Dry Port swiftly. This development is part of our broader efforts to enhance port efficiency, strengthen regional trade logistics, and promote seamless cargo movement across the country," he said.

Representing Governor Dapo Abiodun at the ceremony, the Ogun State Commissioner for Transportation, Engr. Gbenga Dairo said the land transfer demonstrates the state's readiness to

partner with the Federal Government to advance Nigeria's trade infrastructure and diversify its transport system.

"The state has provided land to the Federal Government to facilitate the construction of the inland port terminal within the Ijebu-Ode economic cluster area. This initiative will significantly improve intermodal transportation in the state and help decongest the Western

Ports," he said.

The ceremony was attended by key maritime stakeholders, including the Director of Maritime Services, Dr. Mercy Ilori; the Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Shippers' Council, Pius Akutah; and officials of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), who all expressed optimism about the project's potential impact.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



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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)**.

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- 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

FRSC Warns Motorists Of Gully Erosion On Onitsha-Owerri Road

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps has alerted motorists plying the Onitsha-Owerri Road to be wary of a gully erosion that has eaten up the entire lane of the Ozubulu end, Ekwusigo LGA of Anambra State, axis of the ever-busy road.

It was gathered that the erosion, which started near the Sea Horse section of the road some months ago, has totally collapsed one lane of the road following the heavy rainfall recorded in the area on Tuesday, thereby posing danger to motorists.

A video circulating on social media showed the road totally taken over by the gully erosion, with the voice-over in the video calling the attention of motorists to be careful while driving on the road, especially at night.

However, reacting to the development in a press statement released on Saturday, the Sector Public Education Officer, FRSC Anambra State Command, Margaret Onabe, urged the

motoring public to drive cautiously on the road.

Onabe said the road alert became necessary to ensure the safety of road users and prevent crashes while emphasising FRSC's commitment to safety on the road.

According to her, the FRSC team, including the federal controller, the chairman of Ekwusigo LGA and a construction company, had visited the site to ensure safety and smooth flow of traffic.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Onitsha-Owerri Road

Traffic Congestion: Lagos To Begin Paid Parking System In 2026

Culled

The Lagos State Government has announced that it will commence a regulated parking system across the state in 2026.

This is said to be part of efforts to improve traffic flow and restore order on major roads.

The rates, which will be implemented through the Lagos State Parking Authority, aim to tackle the growing challenge of indiscriminate parking that often contributes to gridlock in busy areas.

The General Manager of LASPA, Adebisi Adelabu, while speaking at the agency's 2025 retreat on Friday, said the move would introduce structured and well-managed parking zones designed to ensure discipline, accessibility, and safety for motorists and other road users. Adelabu explained that the move would also enhance revenue generation, promote ease of movement, and complement other traffic management reforms already being executed by the

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu-led administration.

"This is definitely going to be a game-changer. We want to start ensuring that people park responsibly, that they are organised when they do so, and that they think of parking before they leave their homes. They should think of their options, and on-street parking is definitely the quickest way to ensure that. "So, coming up in about a month or two across Lagos, you will begin to see the rates you are supposed to pay in different areas of the city. Lagos is very intentional. We are not going to start across the state at once. We are starting from Ikoyi, parts of Ikeja, parts of Victoria Island, parts of Lekki—and you can already see the signage in those areas," she said.

Adelabu said the initiative would be technology-driven, with digital systems designed to streamline payment, enforcement, and data management.

The LASPA GM said, "The future of parking is pay-by-plate."

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Oyetola Partners ICTSI, Others To Position Nigeria As A Maritime Hub In Africa

Culled

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has pledged to strengthen collaboration with the International Container Terminal Services (ICTSI) Inc. and engage other credible private investors to unlock Nigeria's vast blue economy potential and position the country as a leading maritime hub in Africa.

Oyetola said the partnership with ICTSI is rooted in the company's significant investments and contributions to Nigeria's maritime development, as well as the need to sustain a business-friendly environment that fosters private sector participation and innovation across the industry.

The Minister made this commitment when a high-level delegation from ICTSI paid a courtesy visit to his office in Abuja. The visit formed part of ongoing efforts to deepen collaboration between the Federal Government and private investors in advancing Nigeria's maritime and blue economy agenda.

The ICTSI delegation, led by Farouk Adamu Aliyu, Chairman of ICTSI



Oyetola

Nigeria, included Hans Ole Madsen, Vice President of ICTSI; Nicolo Scannavini, Managing Director of Onne Multipurpose Terminal (OMT); and Chidi Nzerem, a Director of the company.

Discussions during the meeting focused on current operations at OMT and explored strategies for future expansion, operational efficiency, and alignment with the Federal Government's vision for a dynamic and sustainable blue

economy.

Oyetola commended ICTSI for its investments and contributions to Nigeria's maritime growth, emphasising the Ministry's readiness to sustain a business-friendly environment that encourages private sector participation and innovation across the sector.

"Our goal is to make Nigeria's ports globally competitive by ensuring efficiency, transparency, and

sustainability," the Minister said.

His offices, Oyetola added, "will continue to work with credible private investors like ICTSI to unlock the immense potential of our blue economy and position Nigeria as a major maritime hub in Africa."

Since commencing operations in 2021, ICTSI's Onne Multipurpose Terminal has played a transformative role in boosting cargo throughput and reducing vessel turnaround time at the Onne Port Complex in Rivers State.

The terminal, designed to handle a diverse range of cargo — including containers, break bulk, project and heavy-lift, and roll-on/roll-off cargo — features a 1,000-metre heavy-lift quay, 45 hectares of yard area, modern warehousing, and four new Gottwald mobile harbour cranes, among other state-of-the-art equipment.

In June 2025, OMT made history when it received the Kota Oasis, a Singaporean-flagged, LNG-powered container ship the first of its kind to berth in West Africa.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Local Transport News

NUPRC Blames PENGASSAN For 3% Drop In Oil Production

Culled

Nigeria's crude oil production fell by three percent in September 2025 to 1.58 million barrels per day (bpd), down from 1.63 million bpd recorded in August, according to data released by the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission, NUPRC, on Saturday.

The Commission attributed the decline to the three-day strike action embarked upon by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) towards the end of September.

NUPRC's report showed that average daily crude oil output (excluding condensates) dropped to 1.39 million bpd in September, below both the 1.5 million bpd quota allocated to Nigeria by the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the 1.43 million bpd achieved in August.

The Commission in a statement by its Head, Media and Strategic Communication, Eniola Akinkuotu, said: "the 1.581 million barrels per day average

production in September comprises 1.39 million bopd of crude oil and 191,373 bopd of condensate".

The NUPRC attributed the development to the three-day industrial action by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN), which resulted in the shutdown of some production and export facilities.

The Commission also noted that two strategic facilities had scheduled turnaround maintenance which led to a reduction in overall production.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



NUPRC Chairman

Culled

Despite the suspension of the strike action by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, fuel scarcity continues to paralyse activities in Sokoto, leaving motorists stranded and transport fares skyrocketing across the metropolis.

A visit by our correspondent to several filling stations within the state capital on Friday revealed that most stations remained under lock and key, while the few dispensing fuel sold at exorbitant prices ranging between N960 and N970 per litre.

At the black market, a litre now goes for as high as N1,250, while a four-litre gallon sells for N6,000, forcing many motorists to abandon their vehicles and resort to commercial tricycles and motorcycles.

Expressing frustration over the situation, a motorist, Mallam Abba Umar, described the attitude of some petrol marketers as "wicked and exploitative," accusing them of hoarding fuel to create artificial scarcity.

"Most petrol marketers in Sokoto are very devilish and wicked. They have fuel but refuse to sell it during the day. They only open at night to sell at higher prices

Sokoto Residents Lament Fuel Scarcity

between N960 and N970 per litre. This is unfair. The state government should intervene to save us from this hardship," Umar lamented.

Our correspondent observed that even some NNPC retail stations — numbering about seven across the metropolis — were not dispensing fuel as of the time of filing this report.

The scarcity has resulted in deserted roads, long queues at the few operational filling stations, and increased hardship for commuters as transportation costs surged across the state.

Residents have called on the Sokoto State Government and the Department of Petroleum Resources to take immediate steps to address the crisis and compel marketers to resume normal operations.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria Pledges Stronger Maritime Safety, Regional Cooperation

statement signed by Bolaji Akinola, special adviser to the Minister on Media and Communications.

Reaffirming Nigeria's unwavering support for the objectives of the Abuja MoU, Oyetola highlighted concrete steps being taken by the federal government to improve maritime administration, including stricter enforcement of port state control and the removal of substandard vessels from Nigerian waters.

He highlighted the recent approval of Nigeria's National Policy on Marine and Blue Economy by the Federal Executive Council. The policy, he said, provides a comprehensive framework for safer, cleaner, and more sustainable maritime operations, aligning with global best practices and the ideals of the Abuja MoU.

According to Oyetola, the policy underscores Nigeria's determination to build a thriving blue economy that promotes economic growth, protects ocean health, creates jobs, and enhances maritime safety.

He urged member states of the Abuja MoU to strengthen enforcement mechanisms within their jurisdictions and to support the institutional resilience of the Secretariat.

He also cautioned against allowing the region to become a dumping ground for substandard vessels, warning that poor compliance could result in accidents with far-reaching national, regional, and global consequences.

The minister emphasised that effective port state control remains fundamental to unlocking the full potential of the blue economy, particularly in a region where most vessels calling at ports are foreign-flagged rather than locally owned.

Oyetola explained that the Bureau of Ministers would review and endorse the records of the 15th Port State Control Committee Meeting to ensure that officers are well empowered to fulfil their statutory duties. He stressed that the Abuja MoU must continue to serve as a catalyst for safer shipping practices, stronger compliance, and deeper technical cooperation among

member states.

He assured that Nigeria remains ready to share its expertise and collaborate on initiatives aimed at improving the effectiveness of port state control in West and Central Africa.

The minister also underscored the importance of strengthening the Abuja MoU Secretariat, urging member states to meet their financial obligations and support the Secretariat's programmes. These contributions, he noted, are vital to sustaining the Secretariat's efficiency and coordinating regional efforts effectively.

As part of Nigeria's broader maritime diplomacy, Oyetola used the occasion to seek the support of fellow African ministers for Nigeria's candidature in the forthcoming International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council elections under Category C. He stated that Nigeria's inclusion on the IMO Council would help advance the objectives of the Abuja MoU and amplify Africa's collective voice in global maritime governance.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Oyetola

Adegboyega Oyetola, minister of marine and blue economy, has reaffirmed Nigeria's strong commitment to strengthening maritime safety, environmental protection, and regional cooperation within the framework of the Abuja Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Abuja MoU).

Speaking at the 3rd Bureau of Ministers Meeting of the Abuja MoU held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, Oyetola said Nigeria remains determined to align its maritime governance with international standards while advancing the collective interests of West and Central Africa in global shipping.

The Minister's remarks were contained in a



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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

Nigeria Withdraws Abuja-Keffi Road Project From Foreign Contractor

Culled

The Nigerian government has withdrawn the Abuja-bound carriageway of the ongoing Mararaba-Keffi Road reconstruction project from China Harbour Engineering Company Limited.

The Minister of Works, David Umahi announced the withdrawal during an inspection of the 43.65-kilometre dual carriageway.

He said; "the decision was due to poor performance and the uncooperative attitude of the company."

Mr Umahi accused the Company of not following the Ministry's directives and failing to maintain sections of the road not under active construction, saying "local contractors would now handle the section to ensure speed and quality delivery."

"It took several interventions to get China Harbour to maintain the other carriageway they were not working on. This level of indiscipline and disregard for public interest will no longer be tolerated.



Senator David Umahi with stakeholders at the Abuja-Keffi road

"From tomorrow, local contractors will be mobilised to handle both the inner and outer shoulders using reinforced concrete. Even if there are only two contractors—one will handle the inner shoulder and the other that payment certificates would not be issued for works that fail to meet the required standards. He warned that any ministry official who fails to escalate project challenges within 24 hours will be recalled.

"I take responsibility for not acting sooner. But going forward, every controller and zonal director must report problems directly to me," the Minister said.

He further cautioned contractors against lobbying or political interference to avoid accountability, saying President Bola Tinubu has given him full support to enforce reforms.

"When we correct contractors, they sometimes run to stakeholders to misrepresent the ministry. But let me be clear — if anyone in the ministry asks you for money, report it publicly. We will protect this country's interest," Umahi stated.

The Minister revealed that the redesigned construction method for the road includes stabilising the base with 3.5 percent cement, constructing 20-centimetre-thick concrete shoulders, and milling existing asphalt before applying binder and wearing courses, a process he said would ensure a lifespan of at least 40 years.

The Mararaba-Keffi Road, one of the busiest routes linking the Federal Capital Territory to Nasarawa and other North-Central states,

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Lagos Demolishes 17 Houses For Enroaching On Waterways



Wahab

At least 17 houses have been demolished by the Lagos State Government for encroaching on the right-of-way (RoW) of the Ikota River alignment.

The Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Tokunbo Wahab, led a monitoring and enforcement team, accompanied by journalists, to the site on Saturday.

Wahab cautioned residents against actions that threaten the environment, warning that nature inevitably retaliates against human negligence and unlawful reclamation of wetlands.

He disclosed that the ministry had received

reports months earlier about illegal reclamation activities aimed at narrowing the river's natural path.

"We stopped them then, but we were alerted again recently that the encroachment had resumed aggressively, with attempts to sell land to unsuspecting buyers," Wahab said.

The commissioner said the government had now taken decisive action to halt the encroachment and clear all illegal structures along the alignment.

He added that those behind the unlawful activity would be identified and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Speaking on the perennial challenge of flooding, Wahab noted that while it is impossible to completely prevent flooding in a coastal state like Lagos, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, lagoons, and rivers, the government continues to invest in infrastructure to mitigate its impact.

"What we can do is reduce its effects

through resilient infrastructure, which Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has consistently provided and maintained," he said.

Despite ongoing efforts to desilt and maintain drainage systems daily, Wahab lamented that some individuals persist in obstructing waterways for personal gain.

He cited property number 156 as an example, saying it blocked the coastal road alignment and disrupted the natural flow of water.

"That property will be cleared to allow the Ikota channel to discharge freely into the Lagos Lagoon," he added.

Wahab stressed that demolition was not always the state's first option, as the government often explored corrective measures.

"Sometimes we ask developers to produce practical designs for stormwater discharge, but they must bear the cost, not taxpayers," he said, describing it as irresponsible for the government to fix problems created by private developers who profit from

violating environmental regulations.

During an inspection tour of the Lekki-Epe corridor, Wahab also decried the massive encroachment on wetlands originally designed to retain excess rainwater.

He said drone surveillance had exposed extensive damage to the wetland corridor, including the destruction of coconut trees planted for soil stability.

According to him, violators were issued demolition notices on 26 September, ahead of planned transport infrastructure works on the same route.

He explained that the inspection was intended to align environmental preservation with the Ministry of Transport's Green Line Rail project.

Additionally, the Commissioner for Transport, Oluwaseun Osiyemi, stated that the Green Line Rail project, which will run from Marina to Epe, is anticipated to commence in December following stakeholder consultations and feasibility studies.

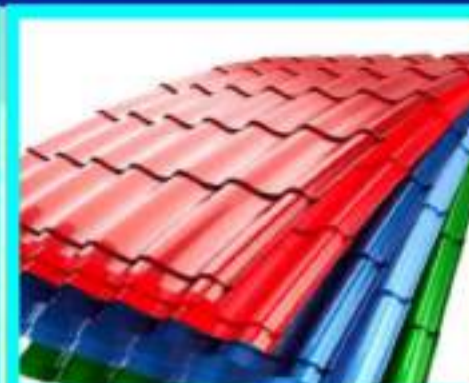
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Emirates Loses Appeal Over Hidden Seat Charges On New York-Bound Flight



annual interest from October 5, 2017, in addition to ₹5,000 for mental agony and ₹3,000 as litigation costs.

The SCDRC observed that while airlines may charge extra for certain premium seats, they have a legal and ethical obligation to clearly disclose which seats are free and which require payment.

Emirates' website, however, did not indicate the availability of free seats even after ticket confirmation, thereby misleading passengers.

The bench held that Emirates' lack of transparency amounted to a violation of consumer rights, noting that passengers were kept "in the dark" about their true seating options.

This omission effectively forced them to make a payment that was unnecessary, amounting to a deficiency in service under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Culled

The Maharashtra State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDRC) has upheld a 2020 order against Emirates (EK), ruling it guilty of unfair trade practice and deficiency in service for compelling passengers to pay for seat pre-booking despite the availability of free seats.

The case involved a Navi Mumbai couple who booked a flight from Mumbai (BOM) to New York (JFK) via Dubai (DXB). Despite several free seats being available, they were charged for adjacent seat pre-booking, prompting a legal complaint that led to this landmark ruling.

A bench comprising Justice S.P. Tavade (President) and Member Vijay C. Premchandani dismissed Emirates' appeal and upheld the earlier order issued by the South Mumbai District Consumer Commission.

The complaint, filed by Dr.

Keshab Nandy and Mrs. Meenu Pandey, residents of Kharghar, Navi Mumbai, accused the airline of misleading them into paying ₹7,200 for pre-booked adjacent seats.

According to Free Press Journal, the couple had booked their tickets in August 2017. Dr. Nandy, a diabetic and hypertension patient, needed to sit next to his wife for medical

assistance during the journey.

However, upon boarding, they noticed that other passengers were allotted free adjacent seats — seats that had been

shown as unavailable on the airline's website during booking.

The District Commission's 2020 order directed Emirates to refund ₹7,200 with 6%

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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Olorundare Animola

ADMIN ACCOUNT HEAD
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General News

Nigeria's First Lady Explores Education Partnership In Doha

Culled:

The Nigerian First Lady, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, says Nigeria will draw inspiration from Qatar's National Library in developing a modern and world-class National Library.

Speaking during a tour of the Qatar National Library in Doha, Mrs. Tinubu said that when completed, the National Library of Nigeria would serve as a source of national pride, a digitised and fully equipped facility designed to promote knowledge, research, and cultural preservation. She said that "the library would become a vital hub for learning and innovation, meeting the educational and historical needs of Nigerians across all generations."

Mrs Tinubu noted that Nigeria is blessed with a robust and rich cultural heritage which must be properly documented for posterity.

The First Lady emphasised that the youth must have a referral point to know more about the nation.

Mrs Tinubu noted that the motto of the Qatar National Library, "Free Access to Knowledge" is worthy of note.

"With its two million books and 500,000 e- books, Qatar National Library, situated in Education City,



Mrs Tinubu at Doha

Doha, is one of the prides of Qatar and a monument," she said.

The visit to the Qatar National Library is the first engagement by First Lady of Nigeria during her trip to Doha.

It is a prelude to her engagement with the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, where she hopes to secure the needed partnership that will address the challenges of out of

school children and Almajiri Education in Nigeria.

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UNICEF Advocates Girl Child Protection

Culled:

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called for the protection of girls in Nigeria and an end to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), a practice that infringes on the rights of girls and interferes with their reproductive wellbeing.

Chief of UNICEF Lagos Field Office, Celine Lafoucriere, made the call at a two day Media Dialogue in support of advocacy to end FGM in Nigeria.

The dialogue was organised by Oyo State Ministry of Information and Orientation in collaboration with UNICEF.

According to Lafoucriere, "over 20 million women and girls in Nigeria are affected by Female Genital Mutilation, most of whom were cut when they had no voice or opinion."

She noted that, "Most of them were cut before their fifth birthday, when they couldn't consent, resist or even understand what was happening."

Lafoucriere stated that FGM is a human rights challenge and a violation of the rights of girls, which must be speedily brought to an end in Nigeria.

She explained that available statistics rank Nigeria among the most FGM endemic countries globally, a situation which calls for urgent stakeholders' intervention.

"This is a huge number that we cannot be blind or deaf to," Lafoucriere said.

The UNICEF Chief emphasised that in spite of legislations banning the practice and stipulating penalties for offenders, FGM still persists in communities across the country.

Lafoucriere noted that the practice is fueled by myths and traditions that must be recognised as harmful, adding that no culture or custom should ever come at the expense of girls' health, rights or future.

She called for collaborative action to double down on the myths fuelling FGM and end it once and for all.

"The good news is that change can happen through collaboration like the movement and initiative led by the federal government in collaboration

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Cardoso Leads Nigerian Delegation To W'Bank - IMF



Cardoso

Culled:

The Central Bank Governor, Mr Olayemi Cardoso, will lead Nigeria's delegation to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Annual Meeting in Washington DC, which opens on Monday, Sunday.

October 13.

Cardoso will replace the Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Mr Wale Edun, a statement signed by the President's Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, read Sunday.

The statement is titled 'Cardoso leads Nigeria's delegation to the World Bank-IMF meeting in Washington DC.'

"Cardoso, as the alternate Governor, replaces the Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Mr Wale Edun, who is indisposed," Onanuga stated.

He said the Nigerian team will also comprise the Minister of State for Finance, Doris Uzoka-Anete.

Quoting the World Bank, the statement said key elements of the Annual Meetings include the Development Committee Plenary session on October 16 and the International Monetary and Financial Committee meetings on October 17.

Other featured events include

regional briefings, press conferences, and fora focused on international development, the global economy, and financial markets.

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Dikko

Nigeria To Launch First International Intermediate Games In Lagos

Culled: Nigeria's sports sector is set for an action-packed 2026, with the National Sports Commission (NSC) announcing Lagos State as the host of the inaugural National Intermediate Games.

Next year, Enugu will host the National Sports Festival, while Delta State is set to stage the National Youth Games.

Additionally, Nigeria is scheduled to compete in the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, and if the Super Eagles qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the year will mark a historic

high in the nation's sporting calendar.

The Intermediate Games are part of the NSC's RHINSE initiatives, designed to identify, monitor, and develop sporting talents between the ages of 16 and 19.

Chairman of the NSC, Shehu Dikko, emphasised the need for a structured grassroots system to nurture emerging athletes.

He said, "We are determined to have a sustainable podium success at International competitions, but it will only come with having the right structure that can aid elite success, and the

intermediary games will strengthen our goals. The bedrock of every sustained sports development is an effective grassroots system, and this is what we are aggressively pursuing with the mandate given to us by Mr President."

NSC Director General Bukola Olopade described the Intermediate Games as a strategic step to address age-related challenges in grassroots sports.

He stated, "With the National Youth Games and the National Sports Festival fully established, the Intermediate Games will help bridge the gap and will give better

clarity to our grassroots development drive and will help our young athletes to have better preparations before they move to the elite level. And we are very excited that Lagos State has graciously agreed to host the first edition, which will go down as a major milestone in the illustrious sporting history of our country."

The launch of the National Intermediate Games underscores the NSC's commitment to building a robust sports ecosystem, ensuring young talents have a clear pathway from grassroots participation to elite international competition.

Find Full Story In The Link

Insecurity, Terrorism In Nigeria Not Religion-Driven - Senate

The Senate has clarified that the insecurity and terrorism confronting Nigeria are not driven by religion, but by geography, circumstance, and socio-economic factors.

This position emerged on Thursday during deliberations on a motion titled, "Urgent Need to Correct Misconceptions Regarding the Purported 'Christian Genocide' Narrative in Nigeria and in the International Community."

The motion, sponsored by Senator Ali Ndume (APC, Borno South) and co-sponsored by 20 others, sought to engage the U.S. Congress and international organizations to correct what lawmakers described as a growing misrepresentation of Nigeria's security situation.

After extensive debate, the Senate resolved to hold an executive session to further deliberate on the sensitive issue and stepped down the motion to

the next legislative day.

Senate President Godswill Akpabio emphasized that terrorism in Nigeria affects all regions and religious groups indiscriminately.

"If terrorism occurs in a Christian-dominated area, Christians will be the victims; if it happens in a Muslim-dominated area, Muslims will be the victims," Akpabio said.

He cautioned that misinformation abroad could lead to damaging

international sanctions, worsening poverty and insecurity across the country. "We should have a small team to visit our colleagues in the U.S., because some people must have gone there to give a one-sided story," he added.

Senate Leader Opeyemi Bamidele (APC, Ekiti Central) also affirmed the chamber's position, saying: "It is our conviction that the insecurity challenge is not religion-driven."
Find Full Story In The Link

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

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

About DSSAA

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

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

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

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

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

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

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

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

CAPACITY DEV.

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

NETWORKING

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

GOOD BUSINESS

PROFILE/LEVERAGE

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

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

OTHER BENEFITS

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DSSAA will promote your business from time to time on our growing social media handles.

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Your Road Safety organization or Driving School qualifies as a Job Fair Agent. You earn money from this.

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You earn money from time to time facilitating Road Safety Courses and Seminars online and physically in different Countries.

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Advisory



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