

Delta Govt Moves To Ease Traffic Gridlock On Effurun-Sapele Highway

The Delta State Government has introduced urgent measures to alleviate the heavy traffic congestion currently plaguing the Effurun-Sapele section of the Warri-Sapele-Benin Highway. This development follows growing complaints from motorists and residents over long delays caused by the ongoing reconstruction of the highway.

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FG Urges Transparency, Accountability In Aviation Financial Practices

The Federal Government has urged aviation industry operators to be transparent and responsible in their financial practices as part of their obligations under the implementation of the Cape Town Convention in Africa.

Speaking on Tuesday in Abuja at the Cape Town Convention African event, the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace

is expected to discuss the implementation of the Cape Town Convention in Africa.

CONTINUES ON P5



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TRANSPORTATION

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E - NEWSPAPER

NRC Plans Electric Shift, Aims To Double Rail Capacity By 2034

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) stated plans to transition to electric traction and double the national rail capacity within five

years and ten years respectively.

Kayode Opeifa, managing director/chief

executive officer of NRC, disclosed this while speaking on the Corporation's

development projection framework, referred to as Vision 2-5-10-20, during the Seventh

National Transport Conference of the Chartered Institute of

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Nigeria Seeks Cooperation Among African Ports To Grow Blue Economy

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Nigerian Railway Cooperation (NRC)

NUPRC Announces 2025 Oil Licensing Round To Begin December 1

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) has announced that the 2025 Oil Licensing Round will officially

commence on December 1, 2025. The Chief Executive of the Commission, Engr. Gbenga Komolafe, made the announcement at the Project 1 M M B O P D Additional Production Investment Forum held in

London on Tuesday. In a post shared on X (formerly Twitter), the NUPRC quoted Komolafe as saying: "We are announcing that we

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FAAN Orders Removal Of Vehicles From Airport Road

P5

Local Transport News

Kebbi Govt Releases Over N5bn For Road Dualisation

Culled

Kebbi State Governor, Nasir Idris, has approved the release of ₦5.14 billion for the dualization of Abdulsalami Road in Jega town, Jega Local Government Area.

The governor announced this while flagging off the road project, describing it as part of his administration's efforts to transform the state's infrastructure.

Valued at ₦5.14 billion, the project demonstrates Governor Idris' commitment to fulfilling his campaign promises and delivering tangible dividends of democracy to the people of Kebbi State.

According to the governor, the project will be executed by an indigenous contractor and completed within 12 months.

It involves redesigning and upgrading the old single carriageway into a dual carriageway with proper drainage and solar streetlights.

The total cost includes ₦3.58 billion for main works, ₦72 million for water pipe

relocation, and ₦1.48 billion as compensation for affected structures.

Governor Idris assured that only qualified and experienced contractors were engaged to guarantee quality and timely completion.

He emphasized that funds for the project have been fully provided and awarded to a competent firm, noting that his administration never awards contracts without the means to complete them.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Governor Nasir Idris

NRC Plans Electric Shift, Aims To Double Rail Capacity By 2034

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The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) stated plans to transition to electric traction and double the national rail capacity within five years and ten years respectively.

Kayode Opeifa, managing director/chief executive officer of NRC, disclosed this while speaking on the Corporation's development projection framework, referred to as Vision 2-5-10-20, during the Seventh National Transport Conference of the Chartered Institute of Transport Administration (CIOTA)

Opeifa stated that the NRC plans to optimise national rail assets within the first two years, and achieve 60,000 kilometers of rail network nationwide within 20 years.

"The NRC plans to optimise national rail assets within the first two years, transition to electric traction by the fifth year, double national rail capacity within ten years, and achieve not less than 60,000 kilometers of rail network nationwide within 20 years," he said.

Opeifa also noted that the federal

government will soon unveil a comprehensive National Railway Development Roadmap that will ensure rail connectivity across all 36 states of the federation and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), in line with the Renewed Hope agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

He explained that the roadmap is designed to enable all states to access and utilise the national rail corridors at no extra cost, following recent legislative amendments that placed railway development on the concurrent legislative list.

According to him, Lagos and Plateau States are already taking advantage of this policy, while several others are encouraged to key into the initiative.

"We are saying where there is a national rail asset, states should make use of it. The line is available from Lagos to Kano. If your state is along this corridor, you can run services on the line. Lagos and Plateau are already doing this and we are open to working with others," Opeifa said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Delta Govt Moves To Ease Traffic Gridlock On Effurun-Sapele Highway

Culled

The Delta State Government has introduced urgent measures to alleviate the heavy traffic congestion currently plaguing the Effurun-Sapele section of the Warri-Sapele-Benin Highway.

This development follows growing complaints from motorists and residents over long delays caused by the ongoing reconstruction work on the busy route.

Commissioner for Works (Highways and Urban Roads), Comrade Reuben Izeze, led an inspection tour of the affected stretch—from Effurun Roundabout to Ohore Junction—on Monday. During the visit, he met with contractors to discuss temporary solutions aimed at improving the flow of traffic pending completion of the project. Izeze said the intervention was in line with Governor Sheriff Oborewori's directive to minimize the hardship faced by commuters, describing it as part of the administration's proactive commitment to infrastructural improvement.



Effurun-Sapele Highway

"This administration, under Governor Oborewori, is determined to address the pains of our people promptly. Even as we work toward a permanent fix, we're taking immediate steps to make the road motorable again," he stated.

The Commissioner noted that the project, which aligns with the governor's MORE Agenda and the Renewed Hope vision, spans 10

kilometres—five kilometres on each lane—with an 8.8-metre-wide carriageway, an upgrade from the standard 7.3 metres.

He added that the reconstruction, expected to be completed within 12 months, would significantly improve mobility, reduce travel time, and enhance economic activities in the area once finished.

Governor Oborewori had flagged off the reconstruction on October 14, 2025, following years of complaints by residents over the deplorable condition of the road.

The Commissioner's visit and the government's immediate response have brought relief to motorists, who had decried the gridlock that often stretched for several kilometres.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News**39km Completed On Abuja-Kaduna-Kano Highway - FG****Culled**

The federal government says 39 kilometres of work have been completed on different sections of the Abuja-Kaduna-Kano highway.

The completed portions include 26 kilometres of reinforced concrete pavement on Section 1, which covers a total of 81 kilometres, and an additional 13 kilometres extending to the Aminu Kano International Airport, with another 15 kilometres completed up to the binder course level.

Speaking during an inspection tour of the project, the Minister of State for Works, Barr. Bello Goronyo, said the government was closely monitoring the contractor, Infioquest International Limited, to ensure the first section is completed before the April 2026 deadline.

He said eight construction sites had been opened along the highway to speed up work, adding that the project's quality would guarantee durability of over 50 years.

"President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration is not just constructing roads but building them to last. His vision is that no successor will need to return to rebuild these roads again," Goronyo said.

The minister commended the president for releasing sufficient funds for the project, saying the gesture reflected his concern for the people of the North and his commitment to easing their hardship. He, however, decried the activities of vandals and scavengers along the

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Barr. Goronyo

Marketers To Halt Petrol Imports As Dangote Reduces Price**Culled**

Petroleum marketers may be on the verge of shelving petrol importation in the near term following a fresh cut in the ex-depot price of the product by the Dangote Petroleum Refinery, which slashed its gantry price by 49 per litre last Friday.

The likelihood of this move became clearer on Monday as major and retail marketers, in separate interviews with the PUNCH, admitted that the latest price adjustment has significantly altered the dynamics of fuel supply and competition in the downstream market.

The latest price cut also comes amid the Federal Government's 15 per cent import tariff on refined fuel, a policy that is expected to further widen the price gap between imported petrol and locally refined products, in favour of the latter.

The industry operators told The PUNCH that the move could make petrol imports increasingly unviable, as marketers would struggle to match Dangote's lower prices and remain profitable.

However, some marketers cautioned that importation remains a vital part of Nigeria's fuel supply chain, warning that any attempt to halt imports could trigger product shortages across the country.

Last week, the latest price data from Petroleumprice.ng showed that Dangote Refinery reduced its gantry price of Premium Motor Spirit (petrol) by N49 per litre.

The refinery now sells petrol at N828 per litre, down from N877, representing a 5.6 per cent decrease, marking the refinery's second major adjustment in three months as it responds to market realities and efforts to stabilise domestic supply.

Reacting to this, the Executive Secretary of the Major Oil Marketers Association of Nigeria, Clement Isong, said the latest pricing by Dangote Petroleum Refinery could make fuel imports unviable in the short term.

"It would stop imports now, definitely, since imports are higher than Dangote's price. That is the logical thing, isn't it?" Isong told the PUNCH.

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NUPRC Announces 2025 Oil Licensing Round To Begin December 1**Culled**

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) has announced that the 2025 Oil Licensing Round will officially commence on December 1, 2025.

The Chief Executive of the Commission, Engr. Gbenga Komolafe, made the announcement at the Project 1MMBOPD Additional Production Investment Forum held in London on Tuesday.

In a post shared on X (formerly Twitter), the NUPRC quoted Komolafe as saying:

"We are announcing that we are ready under the approval of the Minister of Petroleum Resources in line with the PIA commence the 2025 licensing round beginning from December 1, 2025."

According to the Commission, the new licensing round is designed to unlock Nigeria's undeveloped and fallow oil and gas fields, with particular emphasis on gas-rich assets that can support the nation's energy transition goals.

According to Komolafe, the initiative seeks to accelerate upstream production and bring previously



Engr Komolafe

discovered but unexploited fields into commercial operation.

In December 2024, the Federal Government successfully concluded its first licensing round under the PIA 2021, with several indigenous oil and gas firms awarded Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPLs), granting them rights to explore and produce hydrocarbons from onshore and offshore blocks.

Licensing rounds have long been a

cornerstone of Nigeria's oil and gas investment strategy. Major rounds were held in 2000, 2005, and 2007, while more targeted exercises for marginal fields and deepwater blocks took place in subsequent years. However, many of the awarded blocks have faced challenges, including technical bottlenecks, funding gaps, and regulatory delays.

In June, the regulator dismissed allegations of irregularities in the 2024 oil

block licensing round, asserting that the process strictly adhered to the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021 and its licensing guidelines.

The agency stated that the bidding process was transparent, competitive, and driven by technology.

It emphasized that the commercial bidding phase was conducted digitally with encrypted systems to ensure data integrity, and results were announced live, witnessed by NEITI and key government stakeholders.

The 2025 round, coming amid renewed efforts to achieve the government's target of 1 million barrels per day (1MMBOPD) incremental production, is expected to feature improved regulatory clarity and investor-friendly terms under the PIA framework.

The NUPRC is set to publish comprehensive guidelines ahead of the exercise, detailing the available blocks, pre-qualification criteria, application procedures, and submission timelines to ensure transparency and global investor confidence.

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Local Transport News

Nigeria Seeks Cooperation Among African Ports To Grow Blue Economy

Culled

Abubakar Dantsoho, managing director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), has asked African ports to work more closely together to grow the continent's blue economy and boost regional trade.

Dantsoho, at the council meeting of the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) in Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo, said Africa's shared waters and maritime resources should unite countries towards common development goals.

He said the association is focusing on key areas such as climate action, digitalisation, and infrastructure resilience to make ports across the region more efficient and sustainable.

The NPA boss noted that African port leaders had earlier agreed at the World Port Conference in Japan to promote growth through stronger policies, better cooperation, and

easier trade processes.

"The waters that connect our countries remind us of our duty to work together for the good of all," he said, reminding that secure and transparent port operations are key to Africa's competitiveness in global trade.

"Competition has shown to be useful up to a certain point and no further, but cooperation begins where competition leaves off," Dantsoho said, quoting Franklin D. Roosevelt.



Dantsoho

Culled

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) has ordered the immediate removal of petrol tankers, limousine cabs and other vehicles parked along the Murtala Muhammed Airport (MMA) Road, describing their unauthorised presence as a security and safety threat around the critical air transport infrastructure.

FAAN said it was constrained to issue the notice after a series of communications to the owners of such vehicles, which appear not to yield the desired results.

Its Managing Director / Chief Executive, Mrs Olubunmi Kuku who disclosed at a briefing on Monday to herald activities marking: FAAN Safety Week, said the authority will continue to engage stakeholders on possible causes of conflict and its attendant consequences for the air travel ecosystem.

She said the sight of such vehicles along the Airport Road does not reflect good optics for the country, warning that failure by their owners to remove them will trigger forceful action by the airport authority.

FAAN Orders Removal Of Vehicles From Airport Road

Explaining the essence of the Safety Week, Mrs Kuku said it will serve as a forum to drive enhanced communication and collaboration among passengers, airlines, and airport security agencies to mitigate escalating concerns.

Kuku spoke on the complexities arising from divergent airport and airline protocols, highlighting the need for harmonization and strict adherence to established guidelines for the handling and packaging of dangerous goods.

She said that FAAN has been proactive in addressing these concerns, conducting refresher training sessions for aviation security personnel on the identification and management of prohibited items and hazardous materials.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

FG Urges Transparency, Account'ility In Aviation Financial Practices



Keyamo

The Federal Government has urged aviation industry operators to be transparent and responsible in their financial practices as part of their obligations under the implementation of the Cape Town Convention in Africa.

Speaking on Tuesday in Abuja at the Cape Town Convention African event, the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, stated that for the government to maximize the benefits of the Convention, there must be consistent enforcement and stakeholder education.

He said, "This gathering is not just another meeting on the aviation calendar; it is a strategic convergence of minds and

institutions committed to deepening Africa's participation in, and benefits from, the global aviation financing framework established under the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Protocol.

Since its entry into force over two decades ago, the Cape Town Convention (CTC) has transformed the landscape of aircraft financing and leasing by creating a predictable, transparent, and enforceable legal regime that reduces credit risk and enhances access to capital.

For Africa, where the cost of capital remains one of the most significant barriers to fleet expansion and maintenance, the CTC presents a beacon of opportunity that signals to investors and financiers that our legal systems are reliable, our markets are stable, and our governments are committed to best practices in aviation asset management and protection."

Represented by Dr. Anastasia Gbem, Keyamo noted that today, "28 African countries have ratified the Convention,

reflecting a continental recognition that the CTC is not just a legal instrument; it is a catalyst for aviation growth, economic transformation, and connectivity across Africa.

Nigeria's aviation sector continues to evolve with an unshakable resolve to align with international standards. I am happy to share that Nigeria's Cape Town Convention compliance score has risen from 70.5% to 75.5%, following the signing and operationalization of the Irrevocable Deregistration and Export Request Authorization (IDERA) procedure and Practice Direction.

This improvement reflects our government's unwavering commitment to implementing the Convention in both substance and practice. With this milestone, Nigeria strengthens its position as a regional leader in aviation law reform and financing, signaling to lessors, financiers, and investors that Nigeria is open for business on globally accepted terms," he stated.

The Minister further noted that the full

potential of the Cape Town Convention can only be realized when African states collectively embrace its principles, harmonize implementation, and ensure that national legal systems support its efficient operation. "This is why this event is so critical.

Over the next two days, you will engage with experts who will share insights drawn from global best practices on declarations, national law alignment, the roles of courts and civil aviation authorities, and the importance of consistency in interpretation and enforcement.

These discussions will not only strengthen individual national systems but also enhance continental coherence, allowing Africa to speak with one strong voice in the global aviation financing ecosystem."

In his welcome address, the Director-General of the NCAA, Capt. Cris Najomo, explained that the Authority will continue to uphold the highest safety and security standards in its organizational oversight responsibilities.

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

FAAN Boss Advocates Deepened Collaboration To Boost Safety

Culled

The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Olubunmi Kuku, has called for stronger communication, trust and teamwork within the aviation industry as key drivers of safety and conflict management.

She made the call yesterday in Lagos during a press briefing to flag off the Aviation Safety Week 2025, themed "Navigating Conflicts for a Safer Industry in Nigeria."

Mrs. Kuku said the initiative aims to equip aviation professionals with the right tools for conflict resolution, emotional intelligence, and communication, stressing that human factors often determine how safe the skies and terminals remain.

"Safety is not just about technology or systems; it's about how we talk to one another, how we handle stress, and how we manage conflict," she said.

The FAAN boss acknowledged recent incidents at some airport terminals, noting



Mrs Kuku

that they underscore the need for staff to be better trained in de-escalating tensions and maintaining composure under pressure.

According to her, FAAN is already collaborating closely with security agencies, airlines, and other stakeholders to strengthen safety and security protocols across Nigerian airports.

"We are aligning with global best practices while building a workforce that understands both the

misunderstanding or miscommunication can easily escalate conflicts and compromise safety.

The Managing Director also expressed appreciation to the media for their role in spreading safety awareness, urging continued partnership to promote a culture of safety across the sector.

As part of the week-long activities, FAAN has lined up a series of events to engage both staff and stakeholders.

These include a road work and town hall meeting which will hold on Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

There would also be an executive forum and stakeholder safety sessions on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, featuring interactive discussions on safety management systems.

There would be community engagement and continuous collaboration with local communities to reduce wildlife activities around airports and curb encroachments near restricted zones, in partnership with the Lagos State Government and federal security agencies.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Gridlock Grounds Travelers On Lagos-Ibadan Expressway



Gridlock grounds travelers on Lagos-Ibadan expressway

A major traffic gridlock on Tuesday left thousands of motorists and commuters stranded along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, following ongoing reconstruction work at the Sagamu Interchange section of the highway.

Tribune Online gathered that the congestion, which extended for several kilometres, had persisted for over four hours as of the time of filing this report, forcing many road users to abandon their vehicles while others resorted to alternative routes through Ogun State.

Travellers heading toward Abeokuta, Sagamu, and Ijebu-Ode were compelled to divert through the Siun-Ogere-Iperu axis to

reconnect with the expressway in a bid to escape the standstill. The situation caused widespread frustration among commuters and commercial drivers, many of whom lamented the poor management of traffic around the construction zones. Some travellers, unable to bear the long delays, resorted to trekking for several kilometres, while others hired commercial motorcycles to continue their journeys.

Confirming the situation, the Public Relations Officer of the Ogun State Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Agency (TRACE), Babatunde Akinbiyi, urged motorists to exercise patience and make use of approved alternative routes.

According to him, officials of TRACE, in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the Nigeria Police Force, have been deployed to the area to manage the traffic situation and maintain order.

"Travellers are advised to take alternative routes, especially those

approaching the affected axis. For those already caught in the gridlock, we urge patience and caution," Akinbiyi stated.

"TRACE, the police, and FRSC operatives are on the ground to prevent route violations and reckless driving. Construction engineers have also been contacted to open some closed sections of the road to ease movement and reduce the traffic backlog," he added.

He further apologised for the inconvenience caused by the reconstruction exercise, assuring that efforts were ongoing to restore normal traffic flow as soon as possible.

However, some travellers have expressed displeasure over what they described as poor coordination and communication between the construction company and traffic agencies.

One of the affected commuters, Mrs. Amoke Ogunjobi, said the road managers could have prevented the

chaos by partially opening closed sections or providing clear signage for diversion points.

"I have been stuck here for hours without movement. It's frustrating. They should have planned this better. The government should ensure that contractors create temporary lanes to ease movement," she lamented.

The Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, one of Nigeria's busiest highways, has been under rehabilitation for several years, with frequent reports of gridlock and delays during construction phases. The road serves as a major link between Lagos, Ogun, and Oyo States and remains vital to interstate travel and economic activities across the southwest region.

Despite repeated assurances by the Federal Government that the reconstruction would soon be completed, travellers continue to face disruptions, particularly around key interchanges such as Mowe, Ibafo, and Sagamu.

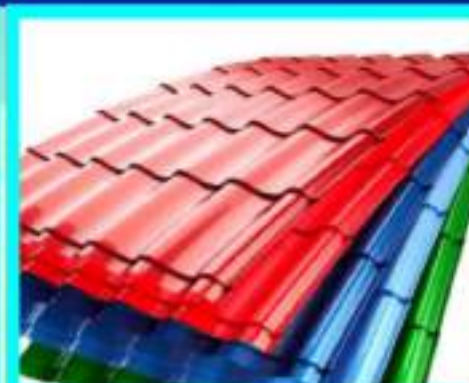
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Singapore Airlines' New SilverKris Lounge Sets The Bar For Airport Luxury

Culled

Singapore Airlines has unveiled a new, larger First-Class Lounge at Changi Airport's Terminal 2, measuring 1,050 sq m, 11 percent bigger than the previous SilverKris Lounge. Located on Level Three near Departure Gate E, the lounge can accommodate around 130 travellers and features dedicated zones for dining, work, and relaxation, along with upgraded restrooms and shower facilities.

Singapore Airlines' First Class SilverKris Lounge is a part of its SGD 45 million renewal project for lounges and marks the completion of the first phase.

Access to Singapore Airlines' First Class SilverKris Lounge is available to First Class customers, Solitaire PPS Club members, and First-Class customers travelling on Star Alliance member airlines.

Beyond packing signature



elements like wingback chairs, productivity pods, and immaculate furniture, the lounge also harbours inclusive elements like seamless step-free access, Braille signage,

and hearing loop systems. The lounge will feature its time-honoured culinary favourites like SilverKris Signature Laksa and Chwee Kueh. There's also the option of

delicacies such as Stir-Fried XO Carrot Cake with Bean Sprouts, and Hawaiian Chicken Burger with Crinkle Cut Fries, prepared à la minute by in-house chefs, that'll be

served directly at the table. The buffet menu will feature international flavours such as Herb-roasted Chicken Cacciatore, healthy

options like the Mediterranean Quinoa Salad, and Lion City staples like the Ondeh Ondeh Cake.

Batik installation at the entrance: Spanning 20 m in length and 3 m in height, there's a dazzling batik installation (an ode to SIA's batik print), made using 97 laser-cut plexiglass batik flowers with gold-powder-coated aluminium accents. A multi-sensory experience is promised with the floral fragrance of the airline's signature Batik Flora, which greets guests as they enter the foyer area.

The Signature Bar: With a capacity to seat 12 travellers, this bar delights with freshly-brewed coffee, signature cocktails, a new bar bites menu, as well as a selection of premium wines and spirits to pick from.

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.

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General News

Nigeria, UK Foreign Ministers Meet To Deepen Bilateral Relations

Culled: Nigeria and the United Kingdom are poised to strengthen cooperation across a broad range of areas.

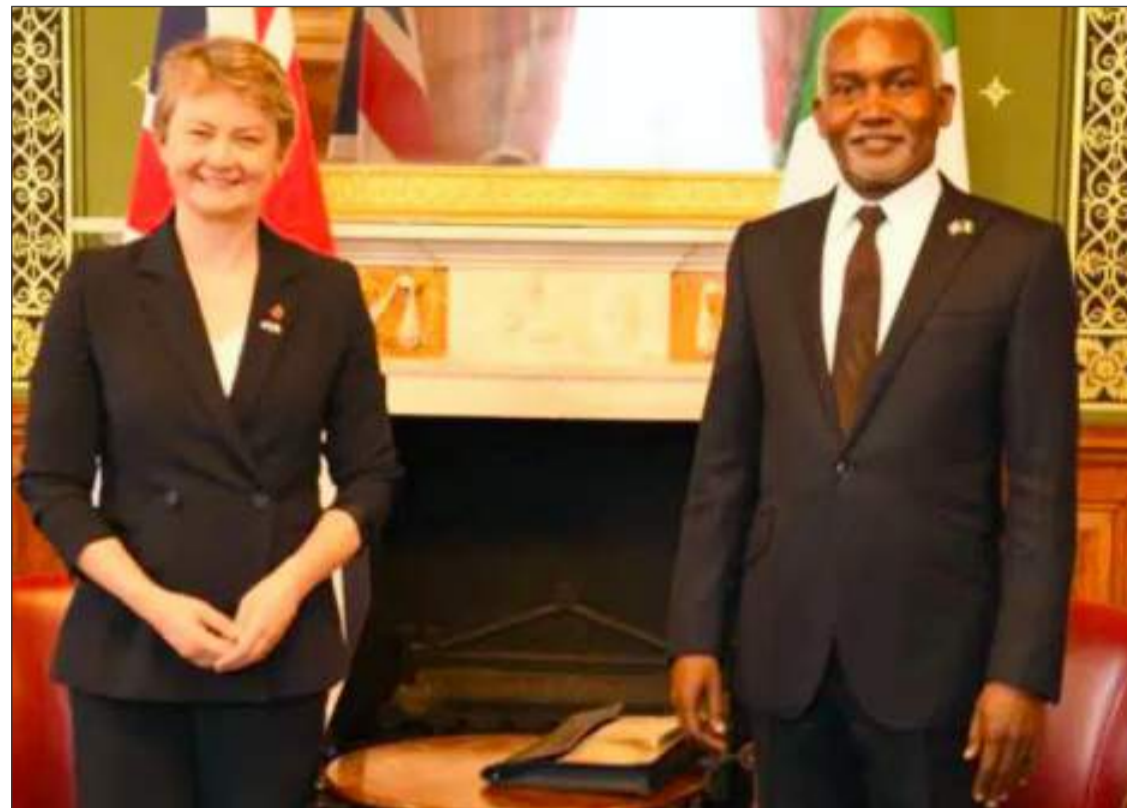
This was contained in a statement by the media aide the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alkasim Abdulkadir after a meeting of top officials from both countries in London.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yusuf Tuggar, according to the statement met with the British Foreign Secretary in London.

The meeting, according to Abdulkadir, focused on shared priorities including trade, investment, security, education, migration, and climate action.

The statement further reads: "Ambassador Tuggar described the engagement as "constructive and forward-looking," noting that it reflected the long-standing friendship and shared democratic values that continue to guide Nigeria-UK relations. He said both sides reaffirmed their commitment to deepening collaboration that delivers tangible benefits to their citizens.

"During the talks, the two ministers exchanged views on global and regional developments, explored new areas of economic partnership,



UK, Nigeria meet to deepen bilateral relations

and discussed ongoing cooperation in defence and governance. They also acknowledged the vital role of people-to-people ties and the contributions of the Nigerian diaspora to strengthening the relationship.

"The meeting concluded with both sides pledging to maintain regular dialogue and follow up on agreed areas of cooperation."

It further added: "Ambassador Tuggar's visit

forms part of Nigeria's wider diplomatic outreach aimed at advancing mutual interests, promoting development, and reinforcing its longstanding partnerships on the global stage."

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Nigeria To Host Africa Vovinam Vietvodao Championships

Culled: The Nigeria Vovinam Vietvodao Federation (NVVF) has announced that it has been officially granted the hosting rights for the 6th Africa Vovinam Vietvodao Championships and Technical Courses, as sanctioned by the World Vovinam Vietvodao Federation (WVVF).

The prestigious continental event is scheduled to take place in 2026, with the exact date to be announced soon. This hosting right marks another significant milestone for Nigeria in promoting and advancing the growth of Vovinam Vietvodao across Africa.

Speaking on the development, Grandmaster Adelusi Ojo Oluwadare, President of the NVVF, described the opportunity as a great honour and a testament to Nigeria's commitment and contribution to the martial art's development on the continent.

He stated: "This is a proud moment for Nigeria and for all lovers of Vovinam Vietvodao. The success of the upcoming championship and technical courses will be a collective effort, and we call on all stakeholders, practitioners, and partners to join hands to ensure a memorable and impactful event. More exciting opportunities are on the way as we prepare for 2026."

The NVVF assures that preparations will begin in earnest to deliver a world-class championship and technical course that will uphold the high standards of the WVVF while showcasing Nigeria's hospitality and organizational excellence.

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Nigeria's Health Sector Recording Real Progress - FG



Prof. Pate

Culled: The federal government has stated that Nigeria is beginning to see signs of real progress in the health sector, adding that primary healthcare utilisation has risen sharply from 10 million visits in the first quarter of

2024 to 45 million in the second quarter of 2025.

The Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Professor Muhammad Ali Pate, who disclosed this at a press briefing on the 2025 Joint Annual Review meeting scheduled for Wednesday in Abuja, stated that Nigeria's

health sector is making measurable progress in key performance indicators as part of the ongoing Health Sector Renewal Investment Initiative launched in 2023 by President Bola Tinubu.

He stated that 37 out of 41 national health Key Performance Indicators have been achieved, while 35 out of 36 states, including the FCT, have conducted their own performance dialogues with citizen participation.

Pate noted that data collected across the country indicate a steady rise in key maternal and reproductive health indicators, including antenatal care, skilled birth attendance, family planning uptake, and facility deliveries.

The minister observed that there has been a significant increase in

access to care under the "MAMI" initiative aimed at crashing maternal mortality, with over 4,000 caesarean sections carried out in NHIA-accredited facilities across the country.

Pate stated that patient confidence in the health system has grown, adding that a perception survey revealed improved satisfaction and trust in government health interventions.

He said, "Seventy-seven per cent of Nigerians now feel positive about the health system and acknowledge that meaningful reforms are underway."

The minister, however, noted some persistent challenges, including affordability and

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Federal Government

Young Nigerians Driving National Transformation Under Tinubu - FG

Culled:
 The Federal Government said President Bola Tinubu has shown uncommon trust in the youths by giving them real responsibilities and opportunities to lead.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Alhaji Mohammed Idris, stated this at the APC North West Youth Pally in Dutse, Jigawa state.

A statement on the minister's speech at the event was issued by his Special Assistant on Media, Malam Rabiuh Ibrahim and made available to newsmen on Monday in Abuja.

According to the statement, the

minister reaffirmed federal government's commitment to empowering young Nigerians through transformative programmes that promote education, job creation, and innovation.

"From cabinet appointments to digital innovation and education reforms, young Nigerians are not just part of the story, they are the drivers of it.

"Some of the major youth-focused achievements of the administration, include the Nigerian Education Loan Fund (NELFUND), which has so far disbursed ₦116 billion to over 620,000 students.

"There is also the 3MTT Programme,

which has attracted nearly two million applicants in the drive to create three million digital and technical jobs nationwide.

"Similarly, there is the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) initiative, which has certified one million Nigerians in 25 different trades, with a quarter of them already placed in training centres.

"These are not planning, they are results already being felt in schools, workshops, and communities across the country," Idris said.

The Minister added that the Rural Electrification Agency's Energising Education Programme is lighting up

federal universities and teaching hospitals, such as Bayero University Kano and Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto, giving students uninterrupted power for study and research.

On economic reforms, Idris explained that the new Nigeria Tax Act, which takes effect in January 2026, would exempt small businesses earning ₦100 million or less from company income and capital gains taxes.

He noted that the move would help thousands of young entrepreneurs reinvest in their dreams and grow their businesses.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria, IMF Strengthen Collaboration On Growth Plan

A high-level delegation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the weekend met with the Federal Government's team on budget and economic planning to discuss the country's five-year growth plan.

The discussions focused on Nigeria's ongoing reforms, medium-term outlook, and preparations for the 2026-2030 National Development Plan.

Assistant Director, African Department, International Monetary

Fund (IMF), Mr Axel Schimmelpfennig, met with Minister of Budget and Economic Planning, Senator Abubakar Bagudu as part of IMF's consultative mission to review Nigeria's fiscal priorities, macroeconomic framework, and reform trajectory ahead of the IMF's subsequent country report.

The meeting underscored Nigeria's continuing relevance as a prominent advocate for evidence-based

policymaking and inclusive economic transformation.

Schimmelpfennig commended Nigeria's reform momentum and mentioned the IMF's interest in understanding how the country's medium-term strategy aligns with its broader development agenda.

He said: "We would like to hear your thoughts on current developments — your outlook for the next year and the medium term," he said. "We

understand that you are preparing the medium-term framework, the National Development Plan, and the 2026 budget. Having your overall vision at this stage will be extremely helpful".

He observed that while pre-election years often bring uncertainty, Nigeria's consistent policy coherence highlights its institutional maturity.

He said: "Every country manages pre-election periods differently," Schimmelpfennig noted, stating, "But [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

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

About DSSAA

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

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

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

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

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

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



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

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

CAPACITY DEV.

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

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

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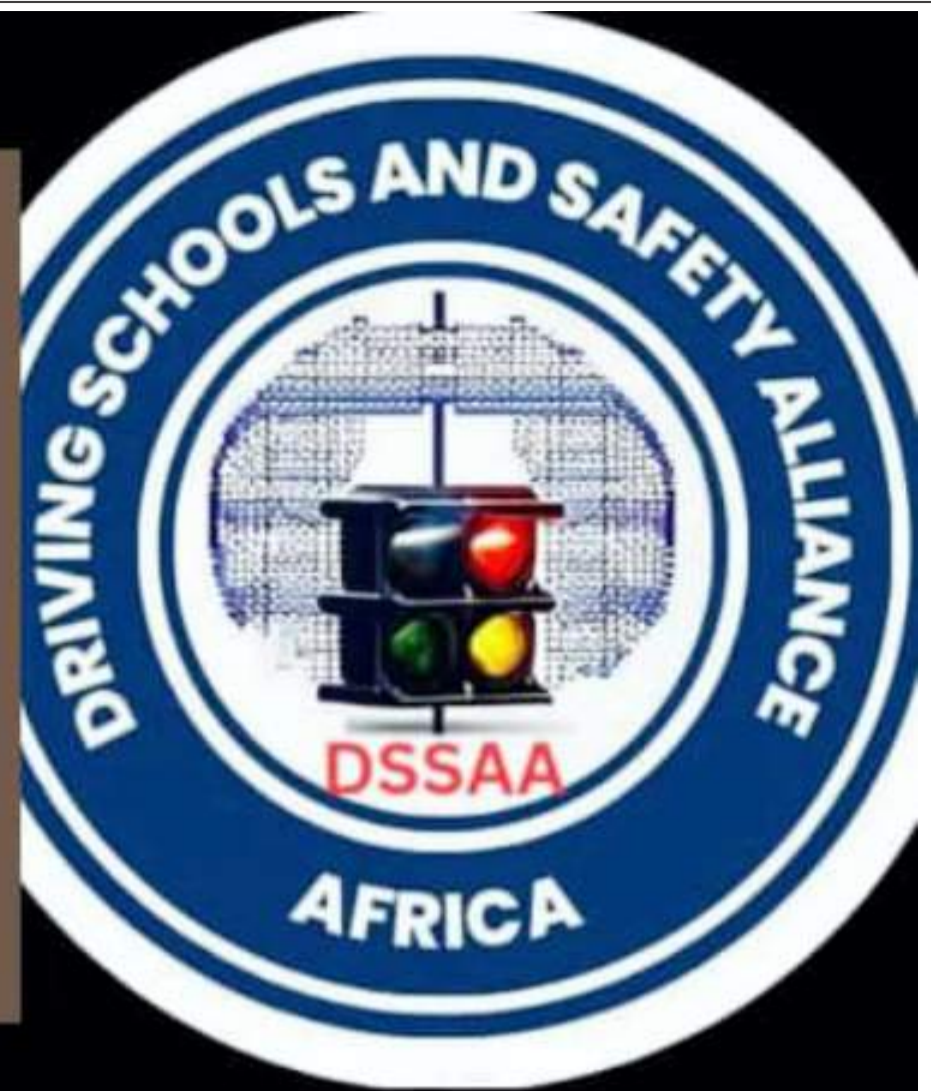


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