

LASDRI Rounds-Off Road Safety Advocacy Campaign With Visits To M'Parks, H'way Junctions

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CONTINUES ON P2

FRSC Launches Operation Zero Special Patrol To Ensure Safer Yuletide In Rivers

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Rivers State Command, has launched a special patrol operation, dubbed "Operation Chief Route Zero Special Patrol", to ensure safe and seamless Yuletide celebrations for residents of the state. Commander Doris Ebor, Sector Public Education Officer (speo) of the State, announced in a

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GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION

REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Fri, December 19th 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

All Roads Lead To Genesis Global 2025 Annual Harvest, Empow'ment Of 5,000 Widows, Widowers

BY OLORUNDARE ENIMOLA, LAGOS
Thousands are set to attend Genesis Global Church's 2025 Annual Harvest programme tagged;

Harvest of New Dimension, where no elderly persons will be empowered with items for their founder, Prophet Israel OladeleOgundipe—popularly known as various gifts, cash and The three-day event, led by the church's various consolatory upliftment.

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IPMAN Assures Nigerians Of Sufficient Fuel Supply For Festive Season

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Lagos Govt To Close Island Roads For Autofest 2025

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Genesis Global 2025 Annual Harvest

NIWA Pledges Tougher Safety Rules, Zero Tolerance For Waterway Accidents

The Chairman of the Board of the National Inland Waterways Authority, Alhaji Muktar Shagari, has pledged to strengthen the enforcement of safety regulations and improve monitoring systems to curb the loss of lives on Nigeria's inland waterways. Shagari made the pledge on Thursday while addressing the management and staff of the Authority as he formally resumed office at NIWA's headquarters in Lokoja. He said the mandate of the Board aligns with President

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NIMASA, Tanzania Align On Strategic Maritime Surveillance

P5

Local Transport News

IPMAN Assures Nigerians Of Sufficient Fuel Supply For Festive Season

Culled

The Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) has assured Nigerians that it has sufficient petroleum products to last through the festive season, aiming to prevent fuel queues.

Speaking at a press briefing at its national headquarters in Abuja, IPMAN National President, Abubakar Shettima, emphasized the need for urgent action from the new leadership of the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) and the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA).

IPMAN National President, Abubakar Shettima at a press briefing in Abuja on Thursday, December 18, 2025.

He specifically called on the agencies to ensure the immediate payment of long-outstanding bridging claims owed to IPMAN members, which total over ₦190 billion.

Shettima stressed that the NMDPRA's new leadership should prioritize settling

this debt, warning that delays could hamper the smooth supply of petroleum products in the near future.

In addition, IPMAN expressed its support for efforts to ramp up local production, not only by the Dangote Group but also by other refinery operators.

According to the association, increased local production will reduce the need for members to source foreign exchange, while also enabling Nigerians to benefit

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Fuel Pump

ACCI Urges FG To Expand CNG, EV Conversion Centres, Introduce Subsidies

Culled

The Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) has called on the federal government to intensify efforts in establishing and expanding Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and electric vehicle (EV) conversion centres across Nigeria, while introducing targeted subsidies to make vehicle conversion more affordable.

ACCI President, Emeka Obegolu, made the appeal during the 2025 End-of-Year media parley in Abuja, stressing that such measures would encourage widespread adoption of CNG, particularly among public transport operators, taxis, buses, and ride-hailing fleets.

"The expansion will ensure that the benefits of cleaner and cheaper energy alternatives reach the commuting public. With strategic partnerships between government and the private sector, Nigeria can reduce operational costs, build technical capacity, and accelerate nationwide adoption of CNG and electric mobility," Obegolu said.

He added that the transition would not only lower transportation and production costs but also help stabilize the macroeconomic environment, contributing to the government's goal of achieving single-digit inflation.

Looking ahead to 2026, ACCI has outlined a robust programme to strengthen the business ecosystem and accelerate economic growth within a secure and stable environment.

Key initiatives include the ACCI-NACCIMA Livestock Summit 2026, aimed at transforming Nigeria's livestock sector, and a national campaign promoting green technology and energy efficiency.

The 2026 agenda also features the National Livestock Conference and Exhibition, Renewable Energy Conference and Exhibition, Circular Economy Conference, and International Railway Conference and Exhibition, among other strategic programmes to drive sustainable development and innovation across sectors.

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LASDRI Rounds-Off Road Safety Advocacy Campaign With Visits To M'Parks, H'way Junctions

Culled

The Lagos State Drivers' Institute (LASDRI) has rounded off its 2025 Ember Months road safety advocacy campaign with extensive sensitisation visits to major motor parks and highway junctions across the state, urging drivers to adopt safe driving practices during and beyond the festive season.

The campaign, which commenced in September, was aimed at reducing road traffic crashes by educating commercial and private drivers on responsible driving habits, particularly during the high-traffic Ember Months period. LASDRI officials said the initiative focused on promoting a culture of safety, discipline and compliance with traffic regulations.

Speaking during the exercise at the Seven-Up old tollgate area, Mrs. Afusat Tiamiyu, General Manager, LASDRI, explained that December marks the final phase of the campaign, noting that the institute's core mandate is driver education and training.

According to her, "the agency considers



LASDRI officials campaigning on road safety

it necessary to reach out to drivers coming into Lagos from the northern, eastern and southern parts of the country, reminding them to respect traffic rules and the orderly driving culture in the state."

She stressed that reckless driving, speeding, drunk driving and driving under fatigue are major contributors to road crashes, warning motorists

against such behaviours. Drivers in the moving traffic were advised to ensure they are mentally and physically fit before getting behind the wheel, as driving requires total alertness and coordination.

Adding that the advocacy was carried out in collaboration with sister agencies, including the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Lagos State Traffic

Management Agency, LASTMA, Vehicle Inspection Service, VIS, Lagos State Driving School Association and Guinness Nigeria Limited.

The team visited several locations, including Motor garages, Oworoshoki area, the Toll Gate axis and other major highways where drivers and commuters were engaged through direct talks and the distribution of safety flyers.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News

NCAA Okays Return Of Commercial Flights At Ibadan Airport

Culled

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has approved the commencement of scheduled flight operations at the Samuel Ladoke Akintola Airport, Ibadan.

This was disclosed in a statement issued in Ibadan on Wednesday by the Special Adviser on Media to Gov Seyi Makinde, Suleimon Olanrewaju.

According to Olanrewaju, the approval is contained in a letter dated Dec. 16 by the NCAA, and addressed to the Managing Director of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN).

"In the letter, the NCAA approved the issuance of a provisional interim operational permit for the commencement of scheduled flight operations at the airport.

"The NCAA said it approved after reviewing the updated status of safety-critical facilities, operational arrangements and mitigation measures, which followed recent developments at the aerodrome and the additional

information provided by FAAN.

"The approval followed efforts by the Oyo State Government to upgrade the airport to an international standard, with the state government having undertaken several projects, including the extension and widening of the runway and improvement of airfield lighting.

"Other projects carried out at the airport include the construction of a 500,000-litre aviation fuel storage facility and a new Protocol Lounge," Olanrewaju stated.

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Ibadan airport

NIWA Pledges Tougher Safety Rules, Zero Tolerance For Waterway Accidents

Culled

The Chairman of the Board of the National Inland Waterways Authority, Alhaji Muktar Shagari, has pledged to strengthen the enforcement of safety regulations and improve monitoring systems to curb the loss of lives on Nigeria's inland waterways.

Shagari made the pledge on Thursday while addressing the management and staff of the Authority as he formally resumed office at NIWA's headquarters in Lokoja.

He said the mandate of the Board aligns with President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, which challenges federal institutions to raise standards, promote transparency, and deliver measurable outcomes for Nigerians.

"The Renewed Hope Agenda challenges every federal institution to raise its standards, strengthen transparency, and deliver tangible results that improve the lives of Nigerians.

"For NIWA, this agenda aligns perfectly with our mandate to transform Nigeria's

inland waterways into safe, efficient, and economically vibrant corridors of national development," he said.

Shagari outlined three key priorities that would guide the Board's engagement with the Authority.

"Going forward, we will strengthen the enforcement of safety regulations, improve monitoring systems, and promote a culture of professionalism across all NIWA operations," he stated.

He stressed that safety on the nation's waterways would remain non-negotiable under his leadership, noting that preventable accidents must be decisively addressed.

"Every life lost on our waterways is one too many. Under this Board, safety is not negotiable," Shagari added.

Shagari was recently appointed Chairman of the NIWA Board by President Bola Tinubu as part of efforts to reposition the Authority and enhance the regulation and development of inland waterways transport across the country.

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Gridlock At Omi-Adio As NRC Fixes Railway Crossing In Ibadan

Culled

There was a severe gridlock at Omi-Adio on Wednesday as the Nigeria Railway Corporation carried out repairs on the railway crossing in the area.

The repair work became necessary following the derailment of a cargo train at the spot on December 11.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that the traffic congestion caused significant inconvenience to commuters plying the route.

A bus driver, Taofik Alade, told NAN that although the gridlock was frustrating, the repair of the crossing was a welcome development for motorists using the road.

Alade said the crossing had, for a long time, posed a serious danger to motorists.

According to him, drivers often had to grip their steering wheels tightly while crossing to avoid swerving and possible accidents.

"This repair is necessary to prevent accidents at the spot, we are very



Omi-Adio Train Station

happy that it is finally being fixed," he said.

Similarly, a commercial motorcyclist, Adekunle Bankole, described the ongoing repair as a thing of joy for road users.

He urged the NRC to ensure regular maintenance of the railway track rather than waiting until a disaster occurred.

For her part, Khadijat Bello appealed to

the Oyo government and the Ido Local Government Chairman, Sheriff Adejo, to remove market women trading around the Omi-Adio railway crossing and roadside.

She said clearing the area would help ease traffic flow and prevent future disasters.

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#SafetyFirst
#Staysafe

Local Transport News

Lagos Govt To Close Island Roads For Autofest 2025

Culled

Lagos State Government has announced temporary road closures on Lagos Island ahead of the 7th Road Edition of the Lagos Autofest 2025 Race, scheduled to hold on Sunday, December 21.

In a traffic advisory issued by the Commissioner for Transportation, Mr. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, vehicular movement around Inner Marina, Marina Road, and Kakawa Street will be restricted between 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm.

According to the commissioner, the race route will commence at Marina Road (UBA), proceed through Kakawa Street, Balabina Street, Broad Street, and Issah Williams Street, before terminating at Inner Marina.

He noted that all junctions and intersections along the route will be cordoned off with road barriers to ensure the safety of participants and the general public.

Osiyemi appealed to motorists to

exercise patience and cooperate with traffic officials, assuring that adequate personnel from the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), the Nigerian Police Force, the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), and the Lagos State Neighbourhood Corps will be deployed to manage traffic, maintain order, and minimise inconvenience during the event.

In a traffic advisory issued by the Commissioner for Transportation, Mr. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, vehicular



Oluwaseun Osiyemi

Culled

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency has held a high-level bilateral meeting with the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Cooperation aimed at strengthening regional collaboration and supporting the growth of Africa's maritime sector.

According to a statement on Friday by the Deputy Director/Head of Public Relations at NIMASA, Osagie Edward, the meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the International Maritime Organisation General Assembly, also included the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Director-General of NIMASA, Dr Dayo Mobereola, and the Alternate Permanent Representative of Tanzania's Mission to the International Maritime Organisation, Dr Devotha Edward Mandanda.

It explained that the MoU reaffirms the commitment of both nations to "advancing maritime surveillance, developing seafarer capacity, strengthening cabotage administration, and expanding the use of digital information systems. It also outlines continuous knowledge-

NIMASA, Tanzania Align On Strategic Maritime Surveillance

sharing initiatives aimed at boosting operational effectiveness."

"Both sides emphasised that the MoU marks the start of a new phase in regional maritime collaboration. They expressed confidence that the partnership will enhance maritime governance, improve operational capacity, and support the development of strong and resilient maritime institutions that contribute to sustainable growth across Africa," the statement read in part.

It added that the meeting was attended by dignitaries, including the NIMASA Governing Board Chairman, Yusuf Abubakar, Executive Directors, and Nigeria's Alternate Permanent Representative to the IMO, William Bwala.

Find Full Story In The Link

FRSC Launches Operation Zero Special Patrol To Ensure Safer Yuletide In Rivers



FRSC

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Rivers State Command, has launched a special patrol operation, dubbed "Operation Zero Special Patrol", to ensure safe and seamless Yuletide celebrations for residents of the state.

Chief Route Commander Doris Ebor, Sector Public Education Officer (speo) of the State, announced in a statement on Tuesday that the operation, which began on Monday, December 15, 2025, and will run through January 15, 2026, involves the deployment of over 1,019 personnel, 15 patrol vans, one heavy-duty tow truck, and 400 Special Marshals across the state.

According to Ebor, the operation aims to ensure a safe and enjoyable festive period for motorists and pedestrians alike. To achieve this, the FRSC has set up a Situation Room at its State Headquarters to monitor activities across the state in real time, gather and disseminate relevant information to field commands and stakeholders, and facilitate prompt responses and coordination.

She noted that the Traffic control measures will be put in place at various traffic-prone areas to ensure the free flow of traffic on Rivers State highways. She said: "The FRSC has also identified several offences that will be targeted during the operation, including distracted driving, dangerous driving, overspeeding, road obstructions, overloading, and violations of seatbelt and child restraint laws.

"Other offences include lack of a passenger manifest, operation of mechanically unfit vehicles, and non-compliance with safety regulations concerning vehicle latching and twist-

locking systems."

She added: "The various Unit Commanding officers in the state have been instructed to coordinate with key stakeholders, including the military, the Nigeria Police Force, the Department of State Services (DSS), the Nigeria Immigration Service, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), and the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, to secure logistical and security support for effective enforcement.

"Additional partners in the operation include the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), state traffic management agencies, non-governmental organisations, ambulance service providers, the National Network on Emergency Rescue Services (NRES), the Federal Road Maintenance Agency, and the Federal Fire Service."

The FRSC is urging motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution and comply with traffic regulations during the festive period, saying that the safety of road users is their top priority.

In other news, the Adamawa State Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has dismissed a viral social media report alleging that its personnel seized a Police Hilux van within the state.

In a statement issued by the Command's Public Relations Officer, Abdulrahman H. Tukur, on Thursday, the FRSC described the claim as "false, baseless, and entirely misleading."

According to the statement, no Police vehicle, Hilux or otherwise, was seized, impounded or detained by FRSC operatives at any time.

The Command emphasised that it maintains a cordial and professional relationship with the Nigeria Police Force in Adamawa State, noting that both agencies continue to work closely to ensure public safety and national security.

The FRSC further suggested that the viral report appears to be a deliberate attempt to sow discord and disrupt the cooperation between security agencies in the state.

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Nigeria Remains Cheapest Market For Air Travel - United Airlines CEO

Culled

Amid widespread passenger complaints over rising domestic airfares, Obiora Okonkwo, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of United Nigeria Airlines, has said Nigeria remains one of the cheapest markets for air travel globally, even as local airlines struggle to remain financially viable.

Okonkwo made the remarks during an interview on Channels Television on Thursday, where he explained that the current spike in ticket prices is largely driven by seasonal demand associated with the festive period and not deliberate fare inflation by airlines.

According to him, increased passenger traffic during holidays is a global phenomenon, noting that similar situations occur in countries with better infrastructure and security.

He cited the recent Thanksgiving travel rush in the United States, where airports were congested and fares



Obiora Okonkwo

surged despite efficient road and aviation systems. As much as they can highest-priced tickets, with serviceable aircraft which represent only a small fraction of seats and schedules, but pricing becomes a hot topic during this season," Okonkwo said. He explained that what fare classes within the economy cabin alone, often circulates on social media are the with some passengers

as much as they can highest-priced tickets, with serviceable aircraft which represent only a small fraction of seats and schedules, but pricing becomes a hot topic during this season," Okonkwo said. He explained that what fare classes within the economy cabin alone, often circulates on social media are the with some passengers

paying significantly lower fares than those booking late or opting for premium services.

"In an aircraft where someone pays N400,000, there is also someone who pays N100,000. At the end of the day, when we calculate the average yield per seat, it may come down to about N120,000 or N150,000, including vacant seats," he said.

Okonkwo stressed that airlines must meet minimum revenue thresholds to break even, service aircraft, meet obligations, and continue operations, adding that high fares are not in the interest of operators.

"We want full aircraft. We want 90 to 95 per cent load factor. That's when airlines are truly in business," he noted.

Addressing comparisons with domestic airfares in other African countries, Okonkwo argued that Nigerian air travel is still relatively cheap when converted to dollar terms. He explained that even the highest economy fares in Nigeria amount to less than \$200, which is lower than what passengers pay for similar flight durations in many parts of the world.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Travelers Decry Highway Extortion By Fake Council Officials



Travelers waiting to enter a bus

Travellers heading to various parts of the country for the Christmas festivities have raised the alarm over rampant extortion by hoodlums masquerading as local government officials on major highways.

Those plying the eastern axis lamented that the hoodlums have taken over key sections of the Lagos-Onitsha Expressway, stopping motorists to demand radio licences or force them to pay arbitrary fines.

Victims said the activities are most pronounced around Ore in Ondo State, Benin City in Edo State, Asaba in Delta State, and the Onitsha Head Bridge in Anambra State. Families travelling home for the festive season told

Vanguard that the most disturbing aspect is that the extortion is carried out in full view of security operatives, including police officers stationed at checkpoints along the highway.

One of the victims, a Lagos-based nurse travelling with her family to Imo State in a private Sienna bus, recounted her ordeal at a location described as a "customs checkpoint" in Asaba.

She said about seven roughly dressed young men blocked their vehicle and demanded a radio licence from the driver, who told them he knew nothing about such a requirement.

"They yanked open his door, dragged him out and shouted that if he failed to produce a radio licence, they would impound our vehicle. We had children with us and the sun was scorching. Despite our pleas, they deflated our tyres and forced our vehicle off the road," she said.

According to her, several other vehicles were similarly forced off the

busy highway by the hoodlums, who could not produce any form of identification.

"Some of us approached policemen at the nearest checkpoint to complain, but to our shock, they brushed us aside, saying, 'We are doing our work and they are doing their work.' Our pleas, especially those of us with children, fell on deaf ears. Eventually, we were forced to part with money to continue our journey.

"Some paid N45,000, others N35,000 or N20,000, depending on their bargaining power. After payment, they gave us a phone number to call if we were stopped again. We were, in fact, stopped a few kilometres ahead by another group. When we called the number, nobody picked. We had no option but to pay again.

"Any motorist who challenged them had his tyres deflated and vehicle pushed off the highway, leaving passengers stranded for hours," she

added.

Another victim, a Lagos-based businessman, Mazi Ukadike, said both commercial and private vehicles were targeted.

He explained that motorists with fully wound-up windows sometimes managed to escape, while others were not so lucky, as their vehicles were damaged with sticks and cudgels wielded by the hoodlums.

"They force drivers with open windows to stop, drag them out and threaten to impound their vehicles unless they produce radio licences or pay fines. In my case, we were stopped on entering Asaba. Because we were not using the air conditioner, our windows were down.

"They aggressively demanded a radio licence. When we told them we didn't understand what they meant, they pushed my driver out, took over the steering and drove the car onto a rough road off the highway to negotiate money. They demanded N45,000.

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Turkish Airlines Open Its First European Lounge In Edinburgh

Culled

Turkish Airlines has opened its first-ever European lounge at Edinburgh Airport, aside from the world-famous one at its Istanbul hub, bringing another dimension of its world-renowned hospitality to travellers in Scotland.

The new lounge further elevates Edinburgh's premium travel offering while reinforcing airport's growing role as an international gateway.

Türkiye's flag carrier, which flies to more countries than any other, according to a statement, hosted a celebratory event at Edinburgh International Airport on 10 December to mark the opening of its eighth lounge outside of Türkiye. "Turkish Airlines continues to bring scaled down slices of its five-star Lounge in İstanbul to its international gateways to maintain a seamless and



luxurious experience" "Spanning 673m² and accommodating 149 guests, the lounge, the statement offers a premium experience with facilities including

an open buffet featuring a Turkish pied service at lunch and dinner; a luxury relaxation area with TVs and Wi-Fi; and two prayer rooms. The lounge also includes an

accessible restroom for the guests with reduced mobility, a baby care room and flight information screens". Turkish Airlines Chief Operations Officer, M.

Akif Konar said in the statement: "The opening of our new Turkish Airlines Lounge at Edinburgh Airport marks an important milestone for our airline. As our first

abroad lounge in Europe and our eighth outside of Türkiye, this investment demonstrates our deep commitment to our European operations where we already possess a strong presence as the best airline of the continent. Looking ahead, we will continue to build on our presence in the region and bringing our award-winning hospitality closer to travellers here."

Edinburgh International Airport Chief Commercial Officer Stephanie Wear, in the statement said: "The opening of the new Turkish Airlines Lounge marks an exciting chapter for both us and the airline as they launch their first lounge in the Europe abroad at Edinburgh Airport. It demonstrates Turkish Airlines' commitment to the airport and to enhancing the travel experience for passengers.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Culled

Morocco is preparing a major shift in how people move across its cities and regions. The government has committed USD 7.8 B to build a cleaner, more connected public transport system by 2029, marking one of the country's biggest mobility investments to date.

The announcement came during a COP30 side event in Belém, where Abdellatif Maâzouz, president of the Casablanca-Settat regional council, detailed the scale and structure of the national plan.

Officials said the goal is to push public transport to the center of

Morocco Commits USD 7.8bn Plan To Green Its Public Transport By 2029

daily travel and cut reliance on private cars. The strategy puts heavy emphasis on cleaner technologies, modern infrastructure, and stronger coordination between regions.

A large share of the funding, roughly USD 1.1 B, will support the purchase of 3,750 new buses designed to meet modern efficiency and environmental standards. The rest, about USD 6.7 B, will go into long-term infrastructure, including new tram corridors, regional express trains, and expanded rail links that connect fast-growing cities.

The Ministry of Interior and regional councils describe the initiative as a "clean, multimodal system" intended to ease movement across Morocco while cutting transport emissions, one of the country's most persistent environmental challenges.

Casablanca-Settat has stepped in as the main driver of the transition. The region has committed USD 2.5 B, nearly 40% of its updated development plan, to modernizing mobility across both urban centers and rural zones.

Its model relies on a non-polluting train-tramway backbone, expanded with a fully modernized

bus network. A new digital multimodal platform will tie the system together, offering real-time passenger information, smarter traffic management, and simpler transfers between transport modes.

Officials say the platform could become one of the most advanced in Africa, designed to reduce congestion and make public transport more predictable for commuters.

Several parts of the country have already seen early changes. Road expansions in and around major cities have eased traffic pressure, and monitoring stations have recorded better air quality between 2023 and 2025. Local councils attribute these improvements to a steady shift toward shared transport, helped by more reliable services and better regional planning.

Speaking at COP30, Maâzouz stressed that Morocco's ecological transition is being driven by the country's advanced regionalization policy. Regions now design and execute their own mobility strategies while aligning with national climate targets.

He said this regional approach has accelerated the rollout of major projects, improved coordination between institutions, and encouraged innovation in both planning and service delivery.

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General News

All Roads Lead To Genesis Global 2026 Annual Harvest, Empowerment Of 5,000 Widows, Widowers

Culled: Thousands are set to attend Genesis Global Church's 2025 Annual Harvest programme tagged; Harvest of New Dimension, where no fewer than 5,000 widows, widowers, and elderly persons will be empowered with various gifts, cash and various consolatory items for their upliftment.

The three-day event, led by the church's founder, Prophet Israel Oladele Ogundipe—popularly known as Genesis—is scheduled to hold from Friday, December 19 to Sunday, December 21, 2025, at the Genesis Global City, Dalemo, Alakuko, Lagos.

According to a statement issued by the prophet's media aide, Oluwaseun Fabiyi, preparations for this year's harvest have reached an advanced stage, with hotel accommodations across Dalemo, Alakuko, Abule Egba, and Sango-Otta reportedly fully booked by guests arriving from within and outside Nigeria. Delegations are expected from the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Israel, Abuja, Port Harcourt, Ondo, Ekiti, Kano and Kaduna.

Fabiyi disclosed that the 2025 edition would feature expanded



Genesis Global

welfare programmes, noting that empowerment of widows, widowers, elderly men and women will take place on Saturday, December 20, under the auspices of the Genesis Global Foundation.

He said the empowerment initiative aligns with Prophet Ogundipe's long-standing commitment to supporting vulnerable groups, especially those unable to afford basic needs or participate fully in the

Christmas season celebrations.

The festivities will kick off on Friday, December 19, with the popular Hallel Night of Praise, an all-night worship event that has become a highlight of the annual harvest. Last year's edition gained widespread attention after Prophet Ogundipe made a dramatic entrance riding a decorated horse, a moment that captivated the congregation.

This year's Hallel Night is

expected to draw thousands of worshippers and will feature performances from leading gospel artists, including Genesis Global Choir, Elijah Daniels, Oyinkansola, Tobi Akuraku, CCioma, Erniola Olusoga, Minister Olalekan, Dare Oxygen, and Titilayo Euba. The service begins at 8 p.m. and will run until dawn.

The grand finale will hold on Sunday, December 21, beginning at 9 a.m., with thanksgiving, praise, and

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Anambra Vows To Recover Stolen Lands

Culled:

The Anambra State Government intends to form a committee for the recovery of Government lands in the hands of individuals.

The decision was taken at the 25 Anambra State Executive Meeting, which heard reports of people "blatantly intruding on government lands and building on them without permission".

"The council resolved to form a committee to reclaim these government lands in and around Anambra State, according to a statement signed by Dr. Law Mefor, the Commissioner of Information.

The Executive Council also decided to set up a task force on erosion, warning that erosion is an existential issue in Anambra State, and blamed it on the careless actions of communities and regulatory bodies that disregarded environmental regulations.

It said some residents direct stormwater from their homes onto the roads, where it accumulates in different ways and contributes to the erosion crisis currently affecting Anambra State.

An "enforcement to force people to build and manage storm waters from their houses and for communities to follow specific guidelines, like building erosion barriers and excavating sand only in locations that have been allowed" will be inaugurated, it said.

Among other issues, the Exco for the provision of water supply to the Ekwulobia Flyover Bridge Fountain and the ornamental garden; for landscaping the car park for the Trauma Centre at Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University Teaching Hospital (COOUTH), Amaku, Awka; installation of a 3-way traffic light, including pedestrian lights, at the Ifite-Amenyi intersection within Awka metropolis; installation of two 10 kVA inverters with 15 kW lithium batteries at the Anambra State Civil Service Commission Building in Awka, and for the supply and installation of transformer substations at two locations (Nnewi & Umueze-Anam communities.

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Our Youth Empowerment Is For All Nigerians, Not Political



From the Ministry of Information and National Orientation

Culled: opportunities for young Nigerians, rather than partisan political considerations. Idris made the clarification on Tuesday night in Abuja during an interactive session with youths from the APC Youth Wing and tertiary institutions across the

Federal Capital Territory, at The Nest Resource Centre, Abuja. The session, which featured open and candid conversations, was moderated by the APC National Youth Leader, Dr. Dayo Israel. According to the Minister, youth-focused programmes of the Tinubu administration are deliberately designed to be inclusive, accessible, and impactful, regardless of political affiliation.

"NELFUND is for Nigerians; it is not for APC. The 3MTT is for Nigerians; it is not for APC," Idris said. "Everything the President is doing is about restoring prosperity, dignity, and renewing hope, so that young people can fulfil their potential and believe again in their country."

He disclosed that, based on the

latest data, over 788,000 students are currently benefiting from the Nigerian Education Loan Fund (NELFUND), with more than ₦250 billion committed to tuition support and student upkeep across tertiary institutions nationwide.

The Minister also highlighted the Three Million Technical Talent (3MTT) Programme, a flagship digital skills initiative launched by the Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy on behalf of President Tinubu. The programme is targeted at training three million Nigerians in high-demand technical and digital skills to improve employability and competitiveness in the global digital economy.

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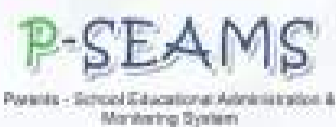
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Nigeria and Iran flags

Nigeria, Iran Move To Deepen Trade, Energy Cooperation

Culled:

The meeting, held on 17 December 2025 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, brought together Dunoma Ahmed, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, and Gholamreza Madhavi Raja, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Nigeria.

According to a statement by Kimiebi Ebiemfa, spokesperson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in Abuja on Thursday, it marked one of the first formal engagements since the Iranian envoy presented his Letters of Credence to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

Raja described Nigeria as a strategic partner in Iran's foreign policy, noting

its pivotal role as a gateway to West Africa and a key entry point for broader engagement with the African continent.

He recalled more than five decades of diplomatic relations between both countries but expressed concern over the recent absence of Nigeria's ambassador in Tehran, which he said had slowed the pace of bilateral interactions.

The Iranian envoy welcomed Nigeria's plans to appoint an ambassador to Iran, stressing that a sustained diplomatic presence was critical to advancing cooperation, particularly in economic diplomacy.

He identified trade and investment as top priorities, explaining that Iran was keen to move beyond conventional trade relations towards joint ventures and direct investments involving Iranian companies and Nigerian partners.

Raja highlighted opportunities for collaboration in sectors such as oil and gas, agriculture, mining, and downstream industries, noting that both countries share membership in several international and regional organisations, including the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Gas

Exporting Countries Forum, and the Developing Eight (D-8). He described these platforms as natural channels for promoting shared interests and policy alignment.

He also disclosed Iran's readiness to convene the 7th Session of the Nigeria–Iran Joint Commission, which is expected to take place in 2026, as part of efforts to provide a structured framework for advancing bilateral cooperation.

On Nigeria's side, Ahmed reaffirmed the country's commitment to strengthening relations with Iran, conveying Nigeria's goodwill and strategic intentions.

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Senate Considers Review Of 2025 Budget To N43.5trn

The National Senate Wednesday passed for second reading 'a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-Enact the 2024/2025 Appropriations Act,' which when enacted, would bring down the spending plan to a total sum of N43.56 trillion.

The proposed expenditure framework, according to the Senate, comprises N1.74 trillion for statutory transfers; N8.27 trillion for debt service; N11.27 trillion for recurrent

(non-debt) expenditure and N22.28 trillion for capital expenditure and development fund contribution, as provided in the bill.

Consequently, the upper chamber disclosed that it had directed the Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Mr. Olawale Edun; Minister of Budget and National Planning, Senator Atiku Bagudu and Chairman, Federal Inland Revenue Service, Dr. Zacch Adedeji, among

others, to appear before the Senate Committee on Appropriations today to provide further clarification on the proposed expenditure plan.

Leading the debate on the amendment on Wednesday, Leader of the Senate, Senator Opeyemi Bamidele, explained the essence of this proposal, which according to him, was not merely procedural; it is structural and reform-driven.

He, further, argued that the bill sought

“to repeal and re-enact the existing appropriation framework in order to bring an end to the unhealthy practice of running multiple budget cycles concurrently.”

He pointed out diverse explanations, which established that such a practice had historically undermined budget clarity, weakened fiscal discipline, and blurred accountability across ministries, departments and agencies.

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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.

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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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PROFILE/LEVERAGE

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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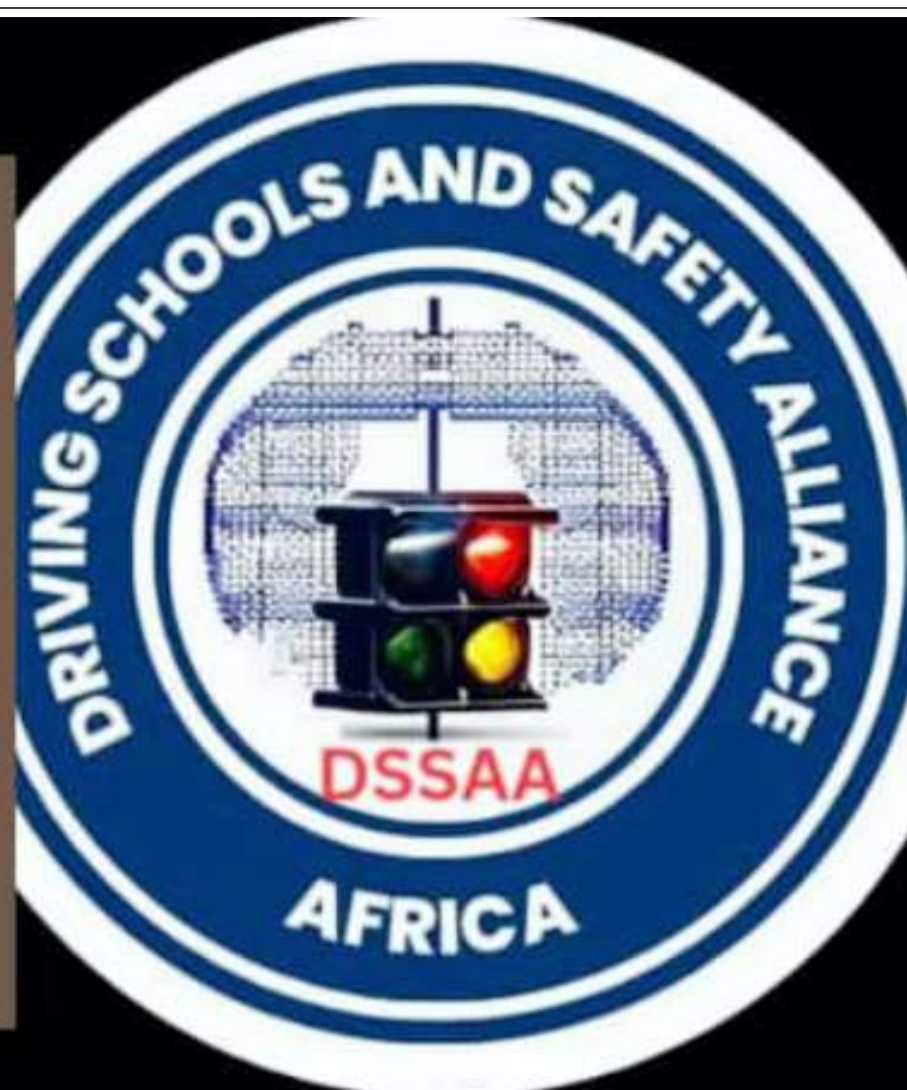


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