

Nigeria, UAE Ports Group Sign Landmark MoU On Maritime Development

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FG Bans Mining Activities Within 10km Radius Of Bridges Nationwide

The Minister of Works, David Umahi, yesterday, said that the Federal Government under President Bola Tinubu had banned all forms of mining activities within a 10-kilometre radius of bridges across the country. Umahi disclosed this to journalists during a press briefing in Enugu after the inspection of some projects in the South-East, adding that the ban was a directive, aligned with decisions of the Federal Executive

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Alhaji Ayinla Kamaldeen receiving our 'Front Page Portrait of Honour' Plaque as the Best Performing Managing Director of a Logistics Company

Residents Scoop Petrol As Fuel Tanker Overturns On Lagos Bridge

CNG Adoption Expands As 100,000 Vehicles, 4,600 Tricycles Hit Nigerian Roads

Nigeria has recorded a significant expansion in the use of compressed natural gas as an alternative fuel, with more than 100,000 vehicles and over 4,600 tricycles now running on CNG across the country, according to the Presidential Initiative on Compressed Natural Gas and Electric Vehicles. The Chief Compliance Officer of the initiative, Zayyanu

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Egba Group Urges FG To Complete Link Road

Local Transport News

LASTMA Rescues Commercial Bus Driver Trapped In Multiple Crash

Culled

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has rescued a trapped driver from a multiple crash which occurred at Ojota inbound Ketu, on Ikorodu road.

The Special Adviser (SA) to the Lagos State Governor on Transportation, Sola Giwa, disclosed this in a statement on Sunday.

Mr Giwa also urged motorists to be prudent and safety conscious while on the road.

He said that this underscored the importance of adhering to regulated speed limits, exercising patience and staying vigilant in zones characterised by high pedestrian movements.

He stated, "Preliminary security and incident intelligence disclosed that a Toyota Sienna saloon car (KRD 311 JH), had decelerated, to allow a large crowd of pedestrians to safely traverse the expressway, with a mini truck positioned immediately behind it. Tragically, a Volkswagen commercial

bus speeding, failed to slow down and forcefully rammed into the two stationary vehicles, precipitating a violent collision.

"The ferocity of the impact resulted in the Volkswagen commercial bus driver being severely trapped within the mangled wreckage, necessitating an urgent and well-coordinated emergency intervention. LASTMA rescue operatives swiftly deployed specialised extrication equipment and

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The crash

CNG Adoption Expands As 100,000 Vehicles, 4,600 Tricycles Hit Nigerian Roads

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The Chief Compliance Officer of the initiative, Zayyanu Tambari, disclosed this in Abuja on Sunday, noting that the figures reflect rapid growth in CNG adoption following renewed government support.

CNG, which is primarily methane compressed at high pressure, is widely regarded as a cleaner and more affordable substitute for petrol and diesel for both transportation and industrial use.

Its adoption accelerated after the launch of the National Gas Expansion Programme in 2020 and gained further momentum with the establishment of the Presidential Initiative on CNG in 2023, following the removal of fuel subsidies.

Tambari explained that the scale of

progress marks a sharp contrast from the situation in 2023, when only about 11,000 vehicles had been converted to run on CNG. He said the initiative is working toward an ambitious target of one million CNG-powered vehicles by 2027.

"Currently, there are more than 100,000 cars that are using CNG on the Nigerian roads. Companies in the private sector and operators are refitting their fleets, especially for long-haul transport, to run on CNG," he said.

"There are more than 11,000 Natural Gas Vehicles assembled, including haulage trucks and more than 4,000 Dangote trucks.

"More than 4,600 CNG tricycles and 510 CNG/AGO/PMS buses have been deployed. Our target is to convert one million vehicles by 2027," he added.

Tambari further clarified that the presidential directive goes beyond vehicle conversion alone, explaining that the mandate is to ensure at least one million vehicles are running on CNG by 2027, whether through conversion, factory-fitted

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Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy and Abu Dhabi Ports Group have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening cooperation in ports development, maritime logistics, and digital transformation.

The agreement, signed on the sidelines of the recently concluded Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, marks a major milestone in Nigeria-UAE economic relations and underscores both nations' commitment to advancing mutual trade and investment interests.

Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, led the Nigerian delegation, while the chairman of Abu Dhabi Ports Group, H.E. Mohamed Hassan, represented the Group's management team. The Director General/Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dayo Mobereola, was also in attendance.

According to a statement issued by Osagie Edward, deputy director and



Nigeria, UAE ports group sign landmark MoU

head of Public Relations at NIMASA, the MoU "forms part of broader trade and investment engagements between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates." Following the signing, the Nigerian delegation briefed President Bola Tinubu, on the strategic importance of the partnership, which is expected to catalyse growth in Nigeria's maritime

and blue economy sectors. The agreement, which had been under consideration for more than two decades, is seen as a renewed commitment by both countries to deepen economic ties, enhance port infrastructure, and promote sustainable development within the maritime industry.

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Local Transport News

A'ibom Gov Tasks Airport Committee On April 1 Take-Off Date

Culled

Akwa Ibom State Governor, Umo Eno, has tasked the inter-ministerial committee on the international airport status of the Victor Attah Airport to ensure that all required benchmarks are met ahead of the facility's operational take-off in April this year.

The Federal Government last year upgraded the Victor Attah Airport to international status, clearing the way for the facility to begin processing international passengers this year.

The governor also charged the committee on the Treasury Single Account to ensure the full implementation of the TSA for Internally Generated Revenue in the state.

Governor Eno gave the charge while inaugurating the committees shortly after signing into law the ₦1.585 trillion 2026 budget during an enlarged State Executive Council meeting on Monday.

A statement by the Commissioner for Information, Mr Aniekan Umanah, on

Tuesday said the inauguration of the committees marked another strategic step in the administration's drive to strengthen governance systems while fast-tracking the completion of major development projects across the state.

According to the statement, members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on International Airport Status Implementation include Prince Enobong Uwah, Secretary to the State Government, as chairman; Hon. Emem Bob, Commissioner for Finance and

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Governor Eno

FRSC Confirms 10 Dead, 4 Injured In Kaduna Road Crash

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Kaduna State Sector Command, has confirmed that 10 persons died, while four others sustained injuries in a fatal road crash along Kachia-Jaba Road in the State. Speaking with LEADERSHIP on telephone on Sunday, the Command's Assistant Public Relations Officer, Route Commander Usman Garba, identified tyre burst as the cause of the accident, which occurred during the weekend.

Garba said nine persons died at the scene of the accident and one other person among the initial five injured and rescued by the Corps, later died at Kachia General Hospital, where they were taken to for medical attention.

He further stated that the corpses of the victims were deposited at the Kachia General Hospital mortuary.

"The accident happened yesterday, 10th January, 2026, along Kachia-Jaba Road, that is the route and

precisely at Kwaturu town. That was where the crash happened and it was multiple crash involving two vehicles.

"One is a Tundra Hilux with registration number KWL 212 TS and the other one is AU 688 DAL a Volkswagen Golf, a commercial vehicle. The cause of the accident was tyre burst from our preliminary investigation," he stated.

The FRSC spokesman added, "The accident involved seventeen persons in the crash and we were able to rescue five of them to the hospital and unfortunately, we lost nine people. The people in the two vehicles were seventeen, we lost nine. Five people injured were taken to Kachia General Hospital for medical attention.

"One among the five injured persons we rescued and taken to the hospital for medical attention died in the hospital bringing the number of those who died in the crash to ten. The corpses were deposited at the Kachia General Hospital mortuary."

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FG Bans Mining Activities Within 10km Radius Of Bridges Nationwide

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The Minister of Works, David Umahi, yesterday, said that the Federal Government under President Bola Tinubu had banned all forms of mining activities within a 10-kilometre radius of bridges across the country.

Umahi disclosed this to journalists during a press briefing in Enugu after the inspection of some projects in the South-East, adding that the ban was a directive, aligned with decisions of the Federal Executive Council (FEC), aimed at strengthening the structural integrity of bridges and ensuring road safety nationwide.

Umahi warned the public to abide by this directive, adding that the government will deploy patrol boats to enforce the ban around bridge corridors and will also provide two vehicles to the police for highway monitoring.

The minister praised the ingenuity of the President, regarding the troubling Enugu-Onitsha route, revealing that April 28 has been set for its completion. He said that Tinubu is the Biafra that the



Umahi

people of the South-East are agitating for, considering the numerous projects completed and ongoing in the region.

According to him, it is only the audacity of Tinubu, his determination, and love for the South-East people that have brought every abnormal situation to a halt in the zone.

The minister announced that in the next two weeks, the first 15 kilometres and the carriageway would be completed.

IN another development, in a major boost to national infrastructure security, traffic efficiency, and economic connectivity, Umahi, at the weekend, commissioned the CCTV Monitoring and Viewing Centre for the Second Niger Bridge, marking another milestone in the Federal Government's Renewed Hope Agenda.

The newly commissioned CCTV system covers a stretch of 11.9

kilometres, from the toll station to the Awka Interchange, and is equipped with modern 4K surveillance cameras, solar-powered lighting, and real-time monitoring facilities.

The commissioning ceremony, held along the strategic Asaba-Anambra corridor, showcased the Federal Government's commitment to complementing landmark infrastructure with smart surveillance technology, rapid-response security architecture, and durable road construction designed to last for generations.

Speaking at the event, Umahi recalled that upon assuming office on May 29, 2023, the current administration met the Second Niger Bridge substantially completed by the previous government. However, he noted that critical ancillary works, particularly the access and bypass routes, were either incomplete or not initiated. "While the bridge itself was heartwarming to behold, the peace and pieces left behind were fully and totally completed under the leadership of President Bola Tinubu," Umahi said.

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Local Transport News

Adamawa Police Warn Against Reckless Driving, Illegal Road Racing

Culled

The Adamawa State Police Command, on Sunday, raised an alarm over the rising number of fatal and dangerous road accidents across the state's highways and urban roads.

Investigations by the Command reveal that many of these accidents are linked to reckless driving, overspeeding, dangerous overtaking, and illegal road racing involving both vehicles and power bikes.

In response, the Commissioner of Police, Dankombo Morris, PSC, has issued a warning to all motorists, commercial drivers, motorcycle riders, and road users to strictly obey traffic rules and regulations at all times.

The Police Command has also intensified efforts to enforce a ban on power bike and vehicle racing on all public roads in Adamawa State.

Morris emphasised that anyone caught participating in these illegal activities will face arrest and prosecution under the law.

Officers from the Central Motor Traffic Division (CMTD), divisional police units, and other operational commands have been directed to increase patrols, surveillance, and enforcement, particularly along major highways, urban roads, and identified accident-prone areas.

In a statement signed by the Police Public Relations Officer, Suleiman Yahaya Nguroje, the Command appealed to the public to assist by reporting reckless driving and illegal racing.

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Nigerian Police

Culled

Twelve people were killed and three others injured in a multiple-vehicle crash along the Yangoji–Abaji corridor in the Federal Capital Territory on Sunday, the Federal Road Safety Corps has confirmed.

According to a statement signed by the FRSC FCT Command's Public Education Officer, Helen Ntaji, the incident occurred at approximately 11:45 a.m. at Gada Biyu, with the first emergency call received just two minutes later. The Zebra 6 Yangoji patrol team arrived on the scene within seven minutes.

Preliminary investigations indicated that "four vehicles were involved, including a trailer, a bus, and two commercial cars. The vehicles were identified as a Volkswagen Golf (GWA 162 KZ), a Ford Sharon Bus (AFN 325 YL), another Volkswagen Golf (ABJ 111 NW), and a Volvo trailer (ANC 665 XA).

"Early findings suggest that speed limit violation and loss of control resulted in a chain collision involving multiple vehicles," the FRSC said.

12 Die In Multiple Vehicle Crash On Abuja Road

The FRSC reported that eyewitnesses said the truck, carrying coal and owned by African Natural Resources and Miles Limited from Gujeni, Kagarko Local Government in Kaduna State, lost control and crashed into an illegal roadside motor park.

"A total of 18 people were involved in the crash, including eight adult males, four adult females, two male children, and four female children.

"Casualty figures show that 12 people died, three were injured, and three escaped unhurt," it said.

The injured were immediately transported to Abaji General Hospital, while the deceased were handed over to their families for burial arrangements.

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FG Proposes N102.3bn For Lagos Green Line Rail



Lagos green line rail

The Federal Government has proposed to allocate N102.3 billion as counterpart funding for the Lagos Green Line rail project in the 2026 budget.

This is according to data from the 2026 Appropriation Bill under the Ministry of Transportation.

The Green Line is a 68-kilometre rail network running from the Lekki Free Zone to Marina and will connect major parts of Lagos, including Victoria Island (VI), Lekki, and Ajah.

The project was allocated N146.14 billion as counterpart funding in the 2025 budget proposal as well.

Details in the 2026 Appropriation Bill show

that the N102.3 billion allocation is earmarked for Phase One of the Lagos Green Line Metro Rail project.

The funds are to be transferred to the Ministry of Finance Incorporated (MOFI), which manages Federal Government equity participation, counterpart funding, and structured financing for major infrastructure projects.

This funding structure suggests continued reliance on structured financing arrangements, likely involving the Lagos State Government and other financiers.

In addition, the Federal Government plans to spend N68.5 billion under project code ERGP13247529 on consultancy services for the Lekki–Ijebu Ode–Ore–Kajola railway and the coastal railway corridor linking Badagry, Apapa, and Tin Can.

The 2026 budget proposal also provides N29.04 billion under project code ERGP13177707 for ongoing and planned railway modernisation projects.

The allocation covers the completion of the Abuja–Kaduna railway, additional works on the Lagos–Ibadan rail line, and the rehabilitation of the Itakpe–Ajaokuta rail corridor. It also includes the construction of 12 station buildings and track-laying works at ancillary rail facilities in Agbor.

The same budget line provides for the design, manufacture, and installation of rolling stock, as well as the supply of spare parts and maintenance equipment.

It further includes funding for signalling and telecommunications systems on the Itakpe–Ajaokuta–Warri rail line and the deployment of acoustic sensing security surveillance systems on the Abuja–Kaduna corridor.

In addition, the budget makes provision for feasibility studies for new standard-gauge rail lines and the engagement of transaction advisers for the concession of the Abuja–Baro–Itakpe, Aladja–Warri Port, and Kano–Maradi rail projects.

The Lagos Green Line rail is a proposed \$3 billion, 70-kilometre

network stretching from Marina to the Lekki Free Trade Zone, with 17 stations along a mix of elevated and at-grade tracks.

It is planned to connect key areas, including Victoria Island, Ajah, Sangotedo, and the Lekki Free Zone, with modern station facilities, pedestrian bridges, elevators, escalators, and a depot near Sangotedo.

Construction was initially scheduled to begin in December 2025 after extensive feasibility studies and stakeholder consultations along the Lekki-Epe corridor. As of January 11, 2026, work has not yet started, though plans are underway.

Trains are expected to operate in eight-car B-type sets, reaching 100 km/h, with a minimum headway of three minutes and a projected capacity of 35,000 passengers per hour per direction. The first phase will cover the stretch from Lekki First Tollgate to Epe, while the second phase from Marina will include an on-water segment.

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Otti Assures Early Delivery Of Abia Ultra-Modern Bus Terminal

Culled

Governor of Abia State, Dr Alex Otti, has expressed his hopes that the ongoing construction of the Umuahia Central Bus terminal would be delivered at a record time.

Speaking to journalists at the end of the inspection of the ongoing work at the bus terminal, Otti explained the reason behind his decision to embark on the mega project, saying that it was better to centralise transport terminals, instead of having motor parks scattered across different parts of the state.

The governor, who disclosed that his administration was simply replicating what was obtainable in most civilised countries, said, "It is nothing new; it has been done elsewhere. When you go to the UK, Paddington Terminal ensures convergence of the railway and other means of transportation.

"And of course, you have a shopping plaza, cinema, hotel, everything is there.

"So, we thought we should concentrate



Governor Alex Otti

all those transport terminals in this place instead of having different terminals at different places in the town," Otti stated. The governor, who appreciated the quality and level of progress of

the work done by the contractor, expressed the hope that, by the end of January, the project, if not completed, would be close to completion. "The work is going on very well, the consultants are very, very up to the

task. I'm happy with the progress of the work. I'm glad with the level of progress and with the quality of work. "Hopefully, before the end of this month, they will have gone far. But what I see here gives me

the impression that by the end of the month, if they haven't completed it, they would be very close to completing it.

"But, even if they need more time, I'll give them more time because it's better done right the first time," Otti stated.

He disclosed that the Aba Central Bus Terminal would soon begin immediately after the completion of the Umuahia terminal.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Transport, Dr Chimezie Ukaegbu, said that the essence of building the bus terminal was to centralise all motor parks in Umuahia, the state capital.

"We just wanted to centralise all transport activities, and that was why His Excellency, in his wisdom, decided to build a central bus terminal to stand as a one-stop transport hub for all commuters, passengers, and travellers. "Whatever mode of transport you want to use to travel, once you come into the central bus terminal, you'll be able to get it.

"We planned on citing the railway station there. Then, you have the bus station and all the parks.

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FG To Demolish Half Of Iddo Bridge Next Week



The Iddo bridge in Lagos

Half of the Iddo Bridge in Lagos State will be demolished next week in preparation for rebuilding.

The Regional Manager of Julius Berger Nigeria, Mr Thomas Christ, announced this on Sunday during an inspection tour of the bridge by the Minister of Works, Sen. Dave Umahi.

"Three spans of the existing Iddo Bridge are heavily damaged and need to be replaced.

"What we are doing at the moment is that we are separating the two lanes – the two directions – and next week, we will shift the traffic to one direction and one half of the bridge will be demolished and rebuilt.

"When this is done, by the end of March, most

likely, we will shift the traffic on the new side of the bridge and demolish this side of the bridge and rebuild this bridge," the manager said.

He said that the company was also constructing the bridge's underpass.

"We have already started with the drainage works, and the outfall to the lagoon is already done.

"After the drainage works, we will remove the soil and lower the road level so that we have a higher clearance for the bridge, so that no trucks can crash into the bridge anymore, which was a main reason for the damage on the existing one."

Responding, Umahi noted that the Iddo Bridge suffered a fire outbreak because of illegal occupants.

He said that the fire damaged three spans on both carriageways.

"Six spans are affected. What we have done is to re-asphalt one of the carriageways so that we drive that traffic totally over there and then remove the three spans of one carriageway.

"Then we can divert the traffic back and demolish the second carriageway," he said.

Umahi said that the work, to cost N15 billion, would be expected to end in June.

"Part of the problem is that the headroom is about 4.5 metres high, but the minimum should be 5.6 metres high; so, we are trying to achieve that minimum headroom."

He said that the contractor had done a significant part of the headroom and demolished the first three spans of the first carriageway.

"They have also built a bypass route over there. Julius Berger is doing well. I hope they don't delay the job.

"I am directing the engineer to monitor them and report back to us to ensure that this is completed as scheduled – June," he said.

The minister gave the assurance that, at the end of the repair, the Federal Government would install a closed-circuit television camera to monitor activities under the bridge

and on its top, just like what the government did on the Third Mainland Bridge.

"When this is done, by the end of March, most likely, we will shift the traffic on the new side of the bridge and demolish this side of the bridge and rebuild this bridge," the manager said.

He said that the company was also constructing the bridge's underpass. "We have already started with the drainage works, and the outfall to the lagoon is already done.

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Ethiopian Airlines Begins Construction Of 110-Million Passenger Bishoftu Airport

Culled
Africa's biggest airline, Ethiopian Airlines, on January 10, 2026, commenced construction of the Bishoftu International Airport, designed to handle up to 110 million passengers annually.

The disclosure was made by the Office of the Prime Minister of Ethiopia on Saturday via X, noting that the airport is slated to become Africa's largest once completed.

The project is expected to play a central role in sustaining Ethiopia's aviation growth, easing capacity pressure at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, and supporting the expansion of Ethiopian Airlines' global network.

According to the Office of the Prime Minister, Bishoftu International Airport is being developed as a new mega hub, as Addis Ababa Bole International Airport nears its



expanded annual capacity of 25 million passengers.

Located about 40 km southeast of the capital at an elevation of 1,910 meters, Bishoftu offers

suitable conditions for efficient aircraft operations and passenger handling.

Its proximity allows easy integration with the existing aviation network.

The airport's first phase will serve 60 million passengers annually, with the full plan reaching 110 million, making it one of Africa's largest aviation hubs.

"To sustain Ethiopia's rapid aviation growth and Ethiopian Airlines' expanding global network, a new mega hub is being developed alongside Addis Ababa

Bole International Airport, which is nearing its expanded capacity of 25 million passengers annually. This multi-airport strategy aims to future-proof Ethiopia's role as Africa's leading air transport gateway.

"Bishoftu International Airport (BIA) will be the largest aviation infrastructure project in Africa's history," the statement read in part.

It added, "The first phase of the airport will handle 60 million passengers per year, with an ultimate master plan capacity of 110 million passengers annually, placing Ethiopia among the world's top aviation hubs."

The multi-airport strategy aims to future-proof Ethiopia's aviation sector, boost Ethiopian Airlines' regional position, and support economic reforms, industrialisation, and AfCFTA connectivity.

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

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

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

NCC, CBN Order Refunds For Failed Airtime, Data Transactions

Culled:

In a major move to protect telecommunications subscribers, the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) have finalized a new regulatory framework that mandates instant refunds for failed airtime and data transactions.

This was disclosed in a statement signed by NCC's head of Public Affairs, Nnena Ukoha.

According to the statement, the framework is the outcome of several months of engagements involving the NCC, the CBN, Mobile Network Operators (MNOs), Value Added Service (VAS) providers, Deposit Money Banks (DMBs), and other relevant stakeholders. These engagements were prompted by a rising incidence of failed airtime and data purchases, where subscribers were debited without receiving value and experienced delays in resolution.

Under the new framework, where a purchaser is debited but fails to receive value for airtime or data—whether the failure occurs at the bank level or with an NCC licensee—the purchaser is entitled to a refund within 30 seconds,



NCC

except in circumstances where the transaction remains pending, of which the refund can take up to 24 hours.

The Framework represents a unified position by both the telecommunications and financial sectors on addressing such complaints. It identifies and tackles the root causes of failed airtime and data transactions, including instances where bank accounts are debited

without successful delivery of services. It also prescribes an enforceable Service Level Agreement (SLA) for MNOs and DMBs, clearly outlining the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in the transaction and resolution process.

The framework further mandates operators to notify consumers via SMS of the success or failure of every transaction. It also addresses erroneous

recharges to ported lines, incorrect airtime or data purchases, and instances where transactions are made to the wrong phone number.

Speaking on the development, the Director of Consumer Affairs at the NCC, Mrs Freda Bruce-Bennett, disclosed that the framework also establishes a Central Monitoring Dashboard to be jointly hosted by the NCC and the CBN.

Find Full Story In The Link

Health Minister Confirms Mass Measles, Yellow Fever Vaccination

Culled:

The Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Professor Muhammad Pate, says the Nigerian Government has administered more than 25 million doses of measles vaccine and 22 million doses of yellow fever vaccine nationwide.

Pate highlighted significant gains in immunisation coverage and preventive healthcare delivery across the country. He said, "Under this administration, over 25 million measles doses and 22 million yellow fever vaccinations have been administered, alongside Africa's first Mpox vaccine rollout."

The Minister explained that beyond measles and yellow fever, five million children had received the pentavalent vaccine, and 10 million Nigerians were vaccinated with the tetanus-diphtheria vaccine through the nationwide diphtheria response.

According to the Minister, more than one million vaccine doses from the Gavi-funded global stockpile were also deployed to support meningitis outbreak control in northern regions.

"As the country bearing the world's highest malaria burden, accounting for approximately 39.3 per cent of malaria-related deaths among children under five, deployment of the R21 Matrix-M vaccine marks a major public health milestone," he said.

He explained that the malaria vaccine rollout commenced in Bayelsa and Kebbi states, with Kebbi alone targeting 179,542 children of age five to 15 months.

"Nigeria received one million doses of the malaria vaccine, including 846,200 doses from Gavi and 153,800 doses financed by the Federal Government, with plans underway for further scale-up," he said.

The Minister stated that in 2025, the Federal Government committed 54 million dollars in domestic resources to the global fight against tuberculosis and emerged as the largest African contributor to the Global Fund, as announced at the most recent G20 meeting in Johannesburg.

Find Full Story In The Link

Over 150,000 Nigerians Jostle For 774 For NHF 2.0 Slots



National Health Fellows (NHF)

Culled:

Over 150,000 young Nigerians are vying for 774 placements as the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare begins the final interview stage of the National Health Fellows (NHF) Program 2.0, it emerged on

Sunday.

The exercise aims to select one fellow from each of Nigeria's 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs) from the pool of applicants.

The flagship initiative, coordinated under the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) Office, provides a

platform for young Nigerians to observe, learn, and actively participate in ongoing national health sector reforms, building future leaders at the grassroots level.

According to a statement from the Communications Desk of the SWAp Coordination Office on Sunday, the NHF 2.0 program highlights Nigeria's commitment to equitable, inclusive, and transparent development of health leadership while strengthening governance and service delivery across the country.

It said the selection process has been rigorous and merit-based, combining digital screening and shortlisting before the in-person state-level interviews.

According to the statement, panels in each state include

representatives from the World Health Organisation, State Ministries of Health, State Primary Health Care Development Agencies, academia, Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), traditional leaders, and SWAp desk officers.

"This process is part of our nation-building. We commend the extraordinary interest shown by young Nigerians and reaffirm our commitment to fairness, transparency, and excellence."

"We look forward to meeting and empowering the finest candidates from each LGA, who will help drive the transformation of our health system," the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Ali Pate, was quoted as saying.

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Education first

Nigeria Emerges Fifth-best English Speaking Country In Africa

Culled:

Nigeria has emerged as the fifth-best English-speaking country in Africa, according to the 2025 Education First English Proficiency Index cited by PUNCH Online on EF's website on Monday.

The report, compiled by global education leader EF, assessed English skills across 123 countries and regions, using data from 2.2 million test takers. This year's edition also included, for the first time, speaking and writing skills, measured using artificial intelligence technology developed by EF's education technology arm.

English, Nigeria's official language, remains central to education, governance, media, and business, helping the country maintain strong proficiency levels. On the African continent, Nigeria trails South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Zambia, which lead in English proficiency. The rankings underscore the growing importance of English as a bridge for international communication, education, and commerce.

Top 10 English-Speaking Countries in Africa (EF EPI 2025):

South Africa – Widespread use in government, education, media, and business.

Zimbabwe – English is the primary language of instruction and administration.

Kenya – Official language alongside Swahili, widely used in urban and professional settings.

Zambia – English is the official and main medium of instruction.

Nigeria – Official language, central to national communication and commerce.

Ghana – English is used from basic to tertiary education and in public administration.

Uganda – Official language; key role in trade, diplomacy, and professional environments.

Ethiopia – Widely used in education and international affairs, though not official.

Tunisia – Growing adoption among youth and professionals in education, tech, and tourism.

Morocco – Increasing popularity in schools and business for global trade and relations.

The report, compiled by global education leader EF, assessed English skills across 123 countries and regions, using data from 2.2 million test takers. This year's edition also included, for the first time, speaking and writing skills, measured using artificial intelligence technology

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Gombe Bans Activities Of Scrap Scavengers

The Gombe State Government has banned the activities of scavengers of scrap materials popularly known as 'Bola-jari' in an effort aimed at addressing emerging security challenges in the state

The ban which got the approval of the State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, was disclosed to Journalists shortly after an Expanded State Security Council Meeting convened to review emerging security challenges

and recent incidents in the state

Both dealers and scavengers of scrap materials in Gombe have constituted themselves into nuisance and causing serious security problems.

There has been an outcry of vandalization of Government and other public facilities as well as private homes by suspected scavengers who in turn, sell to dealers of such materials.

The council observed that operators in

the scrap business lack a coordinated structure, recognised leadership and effective regulatory framework, making their activities difficult to monitor and control.

Even though the operators of the business try to make it a legitimate one, it has caused serious security breach which Government in turn, tried to regulate, in an effort to check criminal elements in the entire activities.

Briefing newsmen shortly after the Expanded State Security Council Meeting, the State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Zubairu Mohammed Umar, in company of the State Commissioner of Police, Umar A Chuso and the Emir of Yamaltu, Alhaji Abubakar Aliyu, Journalists were told that the ban became inevitable following the inability of various segments of the business to come up with a unified leadership.

[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

DIGITAL MARKETING

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

JOB FAIR

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

HONORARIUM

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

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