

## Katsina-Ala-Takum Road Project To Enhance Security, Drive Economic Growth - Umahi

Engr. David Umahi, Minister of Works, has expressed optimism that the 78.62-kilometer Katsina-Ala-Tordonga-Takum road rehabilitation will enhance security and stimulate the local economy once completed. Speaking during an inspection of the ongoing project, Umahi emphasized that the President Bola Tinubu administration is

CONTINUES ON P3

## Kano Govt Inaugurates TRC Bridge At Challawa Hydro-Power Site

Ogun State Governor, Prince Dapo Abiodun on Thursday commissioned the Lantoro-Oke-Yidi-Isale Ake

Junction Road in Abeokuta South Local Government Area, describing the project as part of a deliberate infrastructure drive aimed at deepening connectivity and economic growth across Ogun Central Senatorial District. With the latest

CONTINUES ON P2



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# TRANSPORTATION

E-NEWSPAPER

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# LASTMA Rescues 1,075 Crash Victims, Impounds Over 17,000 Vehicles In 2025

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) says its officers rescued at least

1,075 injured road users during emergency responses across Lagos in 2025, pointing

to improved incident response and enforcement on major traffic corridors.

According to the agency, the rescues followed rapid-response deployments,

inter-agency coordination and the positioning of officers at

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## FAAN Warns Against Recording Other Passengers Without Consent

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## NEDC Assures Timely Completion Of Bridges, Road Projects In Borno

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## NIMASA Partners NAF To Strengthen Maritime Security

P2



Mr Olalekan Bakare-Oki - General Manager LASTMA

## Umahi Sets May 20 For Commissioning Of Lagos-Calabar Coastal H'way Section One

The Minister of Works, Senator David Umahi, has assured that section one of the Lagos-Calabar Coastal

Highway is scheduled for commissioning by May. Umahi, who lamented over the vandalism along the corridor,

particularly the cutting of metal fences and dumping of refuse into maintenance holes. The Minister, who

stated this during an inspection of the project at the weekend, said the Federal Government has intensified work on the strategic coastal

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## Ondo State Targets Growth With Seaport, Solid Minerals

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## Local Transport News

# NIMASA Partners With NAF To Strengthen Maritime Security

### Culled

The Nigeria Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) are reinforcing partnership towards safeguarding the nation's waterways upon which Nigeria's blue economy can flourish, drive economic growth and create jobs for long-term prosperity.

This was the focus of engagement over the weekend when the Director-General of NIMASA, Dr Dayo Mobereola, paid a courtesy visit to the Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), Air Marshal Sunday Aneke, at the NAF's Headquarters Force, in Abuja.

Speaking during the visit, Mobereola reaffirmed that maritime security remains fundamental to economic stability, international trade and sustained investor confidence.

He noted the long-term trend of zero piracy incidents within the nation's territorial waters over the last four years, and described the milestone as a "testament to the professionalism and coordinated efforts of the Armed Forces

of Nigeria and other security agencies".

"This achievement has significantly strengthened Nigeria's standing in the global maritime community and created a safer environment for commerce to thrive," he said.

The Director-General further noted that the growing volume of maritime traffic across Nigeria's coastal and inland waterways demands sustained vigilance, advanced surveillance and rapid response capabilities.

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Dr. Mobereola and Air Marshal Aneke

# Police Arrest Six Over Car Theft, Recovers Three Stolen Vehicles In Kano

### Culled

The Kano State Police Command has dismantled a six-member car theft syndicate, recovering three stolen vehicles in a breakthrough.

The suspects—Aliyu Mamman, Abdulhamid Usman, Saliha Abdulhamid, Auwal Shuaibu, Sani Bala, and Ahmad Mannir—were arrested by the Command's Special Intervention Squad (SIS) on February 13, 2026.

Mamman, 35, a resident of Gusau, Zamfara State, confessed to stealing vehicles across Kano, Kaduna, and Katsina States and implicated his accomplices in the operations. The recovered vehicles included a Golf Wagon, a Golf Opel, and a Hijet (Kurkura).

Kano State Commissioner of Police, Ibrahim Adamu Bakori, commended the squad for its professionalism and dedication, urging residents to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities.

According to a statement by the Command's spokesman, Abdullahi

Haruna Kiyawa, the arrests followed intelligence-led and technology-driven operations directed by the Inspector-General of Police, Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun.

"The Special Intervention Squad, under the guidance of CP Bakori, apprehended Aliyu Mamman at Hotoro Ring Road, Kano, which led to the arrest of the other syndicate members," Kiyawa said.

Mamman, 35, a resident of Gusau, Zamfara State, confessed to stealing vehicles across Kano, Kaduna, and Katsina States and implicated his accomplices in the operations. The recovered vehicles included a Golf Wagon, a Golf Opel, and a Hijet (Kurkura).

Kano State Commissioner of Police, Ibrahim Adamu Bakori, commended the squad for its professionalism and dedication, urging residents to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities.

According to a statement by the Command's spokesman, Abdullahi Haruna Kiyawa, the arrests followed

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# Umahi Sets May 20 For Commissioning Of Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway Section One

### Culled

The Minister of Works, Senator David Umahi, has assured that section one of the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway is scheduled for commissioning by May.

Umahi, who lamented over the vandalism along the corridor, particularly the cutting of metal fences and dumping of refuse into maintenance holes.

The Minister, who stated this during an inspection of the project at the weekend, said the Federal Government has intensified work on the strategic coastal corridor linking Lagos to the South-South and South-East.

The Senior Special Assistant to the Minister of Works (Media), Mr Francis Nwaze, in a statement, said the progress recorded on the section demonstrated the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's determination to deliver transformative infrastructure despite difficult terrain and environmental challenges.

He noted that deep soil conditions, with pits reaching over 20 metres, had tested engineering limits but were being



Engr. Umahi

successfully handled.

"We do not doubt that a man who worked with a very courageous president to tame the Atlantic Ocean can always subdue the challenges we have on this coastal route.

"Well, the section where we are is not the most challenging section of this route. This is section one, chainage 34. What we are seeing here is not different

from what we saw in chainage 18. From the HITECH data, the pit here is 20 meters deep, averaging 18 to 21 meters deep. At chainage 18, we had about 22 meters of pit, so HITECH conquered it."

The minister praised HITECH Construction Company for its resilience and commitment, explaining that unexpected soil discoveries were being addressed at the contractor's cost,

without any upward review of the project sum.

"No other contractor can bear this kind of risk. You have proven that you are not working for money, but for the success of the country."

He disclosed that the 3-kilometre stretch currently under inspection is nearing completion, with sub-filling expected to be concluded within days.

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## Local Transport News

# NEDC Assures Timely Completion Of Bridges, Road Projects In Borno

### Culled

The North East Development Commission (NEDC) has assured Borno residents that all ongoing bridges and road projects in the state will be completed as scheduled.

Speaking during an inspection of the Galtimari and Moromoto bridges in Maiduguri, the Commission's Managing Director, Mohammed Alkali, said the projects are vital for reconnecting communities and restoring livelihoods.

"There is no room for delay because these bridges are crucial to reconnecting communities and restoring livelihoods," Mr Alkali stated.

The two bridges, destroyed during the 2024 Maiduguri flood, form part of the commission's wider reconstruction programme in the state.

Mr Alkali said contractors had been instructed to adhere strictly to agreed timelines, with continuous technical supervision to ensure quality.

"The Commission is committed to transparency and accountability,

working closely with the Borno State Government to monitor progress and address challenges," he added.

He reiterated NEDC's commitment to recovery efforts across the North-East, noting that road and bridge construction is a central component of its development plan.

Once completed, the bridges are expected to ease transport difficulties and restore economic links that have been disrupted by insecurity and flooding.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



NEDC

# Katsina-Ala-Takum Road Project To Enhance Security, Drive Economic Growth

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Engr. David Umahi, Minister of Works, has expressed optimism that the 78.62-kilometer Katsina-Ala-Tordonga-Takum road rehabilitation will enhance security and stimulate the local economy once completed.

Speaking during an inspection of the ongoing project, Umahi emphasized that the President Bola Tinubu administration is committed to an inclusive approach, ensuring all communities benefit from national development initiatives. Represented by the Director of Information and Public Relations, Mallam Mohammed Ahmed Abdullahi, the Minister urged the contractor to adhere strictly to the contractual terms.

Engr. Mukaila Danladi, Controller of Works for the Federal Ministry of Works in Benue State, explained that work had been delayed due to the state's ban on mining activities, which required materials to be sourced from Abakaliki, Ebonyi State. He also cited security challenges and the breakdown of the

asphalt-making machine, which has now been replaced.

Engr. Ukeyima Manger, immediate past chairman of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), commended President Tinubu for awarding the contract and highlighted the project's potential to improve the local economy. He advised the contractor to water the road at least twice daily to minimize health hazards for surrounding communities.

Engr. James Ingbian, Project Coordinator for Gerawa Global Engineering, noted that the contract was awarded in 2023 but faced delays due to security issues and the mining ban. He assured that work resumption would deliver quality results per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the federal government.

As part of the project, a flood mitigation and repair initiative, including the construction of a 90cm ring culvert at Kilometer 19, Ushongo town, has been inaugurated to enhance road safety and protect surrounding communities.

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# Nigeria Loses \$6bn Yearly To Cargo Diversion Over High Airport Charges

### Culled

Nigeria is losing over \$6 billion yearly to freight diversion to neighbouring African countries due to high airport charges, multiple levies and continuous infrastructure gaps in its air cargo system.

Speaking with The Guardian in Lagos over the weekend, the Managing Director of Worldscope International Logistics Limited, Dr Segun Musa, regretted that the country loses at least \$500 million to countries like Ghana, Togo, Benin Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger Republic and several others within the subregion.

Musa who is a cargo expert, lamented that the combination of unnecessary costs and operational inefficiencies was already pushing exporters and importers to route shipments through other countries within the subregion, saying that air and sea cargo levies fees are lower, while their clearance processes are also faster.

Musa, expressed the situation as alarming, warning that Nigeria may



MMIA

lose its leadership position within the region to other countries if its current unfriendly policies not changed.

Musa who is also an aviation expert, insisted that Nigeria would not be a regional aviation hub with the current policies, which are being implemented.

He said: "If you look at the figure, we are losing over \$500 million in terms of revenue monthly, which is about \$6

trillion yearly. Neighboring countries have relaxed their charges and created a business-friendly environment. That is why cargo that should come into Nigeria are diverted.

"Government policies have not been favourable to the air cargo sub-sector. Number one, we don't need to have multiple agencies in the airports. Even seaports are complaining of this challenge.

When you have the same number of agencies that regulate the same cargo and doing virtually almost the same thing, it frustrates business and creates a bottleneck in the system.

"Cargo business is supposed to be very fast because it's a premium passage. You have to pay a lot of money for you to freight your cargo and when you are now subjected to different agencies doing all these checks that are supposed to have been done by a scanner, it increases the number of period that you're supposed to have exited or exported your cargo. These bottlenecks also create room for corrupt practices and delay in the clearance process."

He added that air freight was a volume-driven business, which rates decrease by the number of volumes processed.

However, Musa regretted that multiple charges imposed by aviation agencies, ground handling companies and other regulatory bodies had significantly raised the cost of doing business at Nigerian airports.

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## Local Transport News

# FAAN Warns Against Recording Other Passengers Without Consent

### Culled

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria has clarified that personal selfie videos are permitted at Murtala Muhammed International Airport, with intervention by airport officers occurring only when filming involves other passengers without consent or captures sensitive security areas.

The clarification follows an incident at MMA involving a passenger who recorded video in a restricted security screening area.

In a statement on Saturday, the authority said, "We understand the concerns raised and appreciate the conversation around this incident. The passenger was recording video within a restricted Security Screening area where signage clearly indicates that filming is not permitted."

In a statement on Saturday, the authority said, "We understand the concerns raised and appreciate the conversation around this incident."

"The passenger was recording video within a restricted Security Screening area where signage clearly indicates that

filming is not permitted."

The statement added that airport officers "politely advised the passenger to stop, especially as other travellers have the right not to be recorded without consent and such complaints are frequently raised."

When the passenger declined to comply, he was "invited to the Crime Investigation & Intelligence Unit office for further clarification, not detained, and the interaction focused on guidance around acceptable camera use within the airport environment."

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FAAN

### Culled

The Ondo State government has disclosed that arrangements have been concluded to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the proposed development of the Ondo deep seaport.

While disclosing the move, the Special Adviser on Entrepreneurship and Innovation to Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, Summy Smart-Francis, stated that the MOU will be signed on Monday during the investment summit.

According to Smart-Francis, the Chairman of the Investment Committee, the summit will, in no small measure, turn around the state's economic status.

Addressing journalists at a press conference on Friday in Akure, the state capital, Smart-Francis said the Ondo State Investment Summit 2026, with the theme "The New Order: Forging A Pathway To Prosperity", would attract investments into the state to create job opportunities and transform the state from a civil service state to an industrial hub.

Smart-Francis added that domestic and international investors, as well as captains of industry, are expected at the summit.

# Ondo State Targets Growth With Seaport, Solid Minerals

The chairman of the Investment Committee disclosed, "These would boost the economy of the state, and job opportunities would be created by these companies, which would translate to improved internally generated revenue (IGR)."

In his address, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ondo Development and Investment Promotion Agency (ONDIPA), Mrs Emmanuel Omomowo, said the state is looking into opening all sectors to investors, including the blue economy, agriculture, bitumen, solid minerals, silicon sand, and others.

Omomowo disclosed that the state government has put in place several incentives to make the investment take off seamlessly.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# FCT Residents Seek More CNG Buses To Ease Transport Challenges



Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Buses

Many residents of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) have called on the Federal Government to provide more Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to ameliorate transportation challenges in the territory.

The residents spoke with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Abuja on Sunday.

They said that although the government fulfilled its promise to provide CNG buses, the number currently in operation was insufficient to meet commuters' needs.

The call followed the government's efforts under the Presidential Compressed Natural Gas Initiative (Pi-CNG), inaugurated in October 2023 to promote cleaner, cheaper

public transport and reduce commuters' travel costs.

The initiative has delivered CNG buses, including four 50-seater hybrid buses, to the FCT Administration.

Under Pi-CNG, government and private-sector partners aim to deploy thousands of CNG buses, tricycles, and conversion kits nationwide, backed by tax waivers and safety regulations intended to accelerate adoption.

A civil servant, Mrs Grace Samuel, said the limited number of buses had not sufficiently eased pressure on public transport nor served the growing number of passengers across major routes.

According to Samuel, many passengers are often compelled to wait long hours before boarding.

"Most times, the buses are not available, and you may wait for hours before one begins boarding." The government needs to provide more buses," she said.

Another commuter, Mr Ibrahim Musa,

said the intervention had yielded limited relief, as fares charged by the CNG buses were not significantly different from those of conventional commercial vehicles.

"We expected the fares to be much lower, but on some routes, the difference is minimal. That is why many people feel the impact has not been substantial," he said.

However, some residents acknowledged that the initiative was a step in the right direction but urged authorities to strengthen monitoring and ensure fare compliance.

Mrs Jacinta Nwankwo, a nurse working in Apo, said she had not seen any of the promised buses along her route.

Nwankwo said, "I drive through Garki to Apo Resettlement Area every day to and from work, but I rarely see the CNG buses.

"Although I sometimes see some of the CNG buses parked around Area 1, picking up passengers going towards the Mararaba axis.

"Though there are no buses

designated to pick passengers going towards the Apo Resettlement Area where I work, and many other routes within the FCT.

"The buses are not enough; else they would have been deployed to all areas. So the government should do something about it, please, and most especially, ensure it is affordable to Nigerians."

Similarly, a motorist, Mr Jacob Agbo, appealed to the government to expand the fleet, improve route coverage and enforce regulated pricing.

Agbo said if this were done, it would ensure the programme achieved its intended objective of easing transportation costs for residents.

Mr Gideon Onah, a transport and energy expert, said the Pi-CNG programme had made progress, including expanding CNG conversion centres from just a few to more than 140 nationwide.

Onah, however, emphasised that wider infrastructure and fleet scale-up are still needed to achieve lasting cost relief for residents.

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**DIRECTION FOR USE:**

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- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
- Wear a respirator or paint mask
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**QUALITY EMULSION**

...quality speaks

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**QUALITY EMULSION**

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## Local Transport News

# LASTMA Rescues 1,075 Crash Victims, Impounds Over 17,000 Vehicles In 2025

## Culled

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) says its officers rescued at least 1,075 injured road users during emergency responses across Lagos in 2025, pointing to improved incident response and enforcement on major traffic corridors.

According to the agency, the rescues followed rapid-response deployments, inter-agency coordination and the positioning of officers at high-risk locations, enabling timely medical assistance and quicker clearance of crash scenes.

Enforcement records show that 17,169 vehicles were impounded for traffic violations during the year. Of this number, 5,581 were private vehicles and 10,825 were commercial vehicles, cited for offences including reckless driving, overloading, obstruction, mechanical defects and disregard for traffic rules. LASTMA also arrested 760 vehicles for driving against traffic.



Bakare-Oki

The agency said one-way violations remain a major cause of severe crashes and fatalities, adding that arrests for the offence reflect a tougher stance against behaviours that endanger other road users. LASTMA's General Manager said the figures underline a shift toward proactive traffic management, combining technology, intelligence-led enforcement and public education to improve compliance. He added that officers often operate in risky conditions to rescue victims, secure accident scenes and work with emergency services to prevent secondary incidents.

incidents.

The authority attributed many crashes to excessive speed, vehicle failure, fatigue, impaired driving and hazardous manoeuvres, including driving against traffic. It said vehicle impoundment is intended to deter violations and remove unsafe vehicles from circulation.

While noting gains made, LASTMA said enforcement alone is insufficient and called for cooperation from motorists, transport unions, fleet operators and the public.

The agency said it will continue advocacy and sensitisation campaigns alongside enforcement.

Operational reviews, LASTMA added, show that faster rescue interventions helped reduce injury severity, prevent deaths and restore traffic flow more quickly after crashes. The agency pledged to sustain enforcement, expand public education and adopt new strategies to address emerging transport challenges, urging motorists to obey speed limits, maintain roadworthy vehicles and follow lawful traffic directives.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

## Kano Govt Inaugurates TRC Bridge At Challawa Hydro-Power Site



Governor Abba Yusuf

THE Kano state government has inaugurated the newly constructed TRC Bridge at the Challawa 6MW Hydro Power Site, linking Turawa town and surrounding communities in what officials described as a major boost to transportation and socio-economic activities in the area.

Speaking during the inauguration ceremony, the State Commissioner for Power and Renewable Energy, Gaddafi Sani Shehu, described the bridge as a welcoming development that will significantly improve accessibility for residents.

The press statement was signed by Saad Umar Faruk Anipr, Public Relations Officer, Ministry of

Power and Renewable Energy, Kano State.

He expressed gratitude on behalf of the Kano State Government to Skipper Nigeria Ltd for executing the project, noting that the company had demonstrated strong commitment to sustainable development and improved livelihoods.

According to the commissioner, the bridge aligns with the administration's broader infrastructure agenda under Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf, aimed at strengthening socio-economic development across the state.

He also called on wealthy individuals and non-governmental organisations to complement government efforts in providing social amenities, stressing that collaborative initiatives are essential for long-term development.

In his remarks, the Managing Director of the Kano Hydro and Energy Development Company (KHEDCO), Engr. Ado Ibrahim Doguwa, said the bridge would ease the transportation of goods and improve access to

Turawa town, Karaye, Kiru and other neighbouring communities.

Project Director Mr. Shailendra Singh announced the successful completion of the road bridge constructed over the TRC as part of the 2x3MW Challawa Hydro Power Project. He commended Project Manager Mr. Anurag Rana and the project team for what he described as exceptional performance.

Singh also appreciated the support of Governor Yusuf and Mr. Jitender Sachdeva, Chief Managing Director of Skipper Group, whose contributions he said were instrumental to the project's completion.

Providing an update on the hydro project, Singh disclosed that the Challawa 2x3MW hydroelectric plant is expected to resume power supply to the Kano State Government by the end of May 2026 or early June 2026.

He added that controlled blasting operations would soon be carried out to remove the temporary access road

created during the bridge construction to ensure unobstructed water flow from the TRC. He assured that all necessary precautions would be taken to protect nearby buildings and the dam structure.

Dr. Vijaykumar Pundlik Sonawane explained that the rocky terrain near the temporary bridge, with an elevation difference of more than 3.5 metres from the TRC, necessitates careful blasting for safe and effective clearance.

The commissioner was accompanied at the event by the Managing Director of the Rural Electricity Board (REB), Engr. Bala Dambatta, the Deputy Managing Director of KHEDCO, Engr. Abduljabbar Muhammad Nanono, and other directors from the Ministry of Power and Renewable Energy.

The Kano State Government reiterated its commitment to delivering infrastructure projects that improve the quality of life of citizens and promote sustainable development across the state.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# Turkish Airlines Records 92.6m Passengers In 2025, Expands Nigeria Tourism Push

*Culled*

The General Manager of Turkish Airlines in Nigeria, Lokman Balkan, has celebrated a milestone performance in 2025, announcing significant growth in passenger traffic, load factor, and seat capacity.

Speaking at a session with journalists on Monday, Balkan said the carrier recorded 92.6 million passengers in 2025.

"We improved passenger traffic to 92.6 million in 2025, an increase of 8.8 per cent from the corresponding year before. Our load factor moved to 83.2 per cent, experiencing a 1.2 per cent increase, while we reached 273.2 billion available seat kilometres, an increase of 7.5 per cent," he said.

He described the figures as evidence of the airline's expanding global network and sustained passenger confidence. Beyond



commercial performance, the airline has intensified efforts to promote Nigeria as a tourism destination. "We are committed to promoting Nigeria as a

tourist destination and encouraging visitors to explore the country. Last year, we launched a promotional video showcasing Nigeria's rich cultural heritage and

natural beauty, which reached tens of millions of people worldwide," he said. According to Balkan, the campaign, shared on the airline's social media

platforms, spotlights Nigeria's vibrant cities, landscapes, and hospitality. He added that the airline has also leveraged its in-flight entertainment system to

project Nigeria to a global audience.

"On board our flights, we feature a comprehensive video showcasing Nigeria's beauty, culture, and attractions. We have also introduced Nollywood films on our IFE platform, which has sparked interest and curiosity among our passengers about Nigeria. By offering these films, we aim to inspire our passengers to visit Nigeria and experience its rich cultural heritage for themselves," he noted.

The General Manager further revealed that in May last year, the airline hosted the executive board of the National Association of Nigeria Travel Agencies at its headquarters in Istanbul. He said the visit enabled engagements with senior management and a strategic meeting with TÜRSAB to strengthen institutional ties.

*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.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

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## General News

# Nigeria Floors European Tech Firm In \$6.2m Arbitration Case

**Culled:**

The Federal Government has won a \$6.2 million arbitration case against European Dynamics UK Limited, which had dragged the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) before the tribunal over a national e-Procurement project contract dispute.

The Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN, described the case as a complex international arbitration that brought another legal victory to the country and the administration of President Bola Tinubu.

In the ruling which is final and not subject to appeal, the tribunal dismissed the contractor's claims in their entirety, relieving Nigeria of potential financial exposure estimated at about ₦9.3 billion in claimed payments and damages.

According to a statement that was signed by the media aide to the AGF, Mr. Kamarudeen Ogundele, Nigeria's legal team was led by Johnson & Wilner LLP, a Nigerian business and technology law firm, with Basil Udotai Esq., Founding Partner, leading the arbitration together with the firm's strategic partners and associates.



Fagbemi

"Upon assuming office, the Director-General of the BPP, Dr. Adebowale Adedokun, inherited a stalled technology project together with ongoing arbitration proceedings. European Dynamics UK Ltd had claimed approximately \$2.4 million for alleged milestone completions, \$3 million in general damages and an additional \$800,000 settlement claims.

"Prior to Dr. Adedokun's appointment, there had been

discussions around an out-of-court settlement. The Bureau, however, elected to continue with the arbitral process, maintaining that payments must be tied strictly to demonstrable value delivered. That led to the engagement of the specialised Nigerian legal team with expertise in technology contracting to review the technical and contractual issues in dispute.

"The underlying contract

concerned the design, development/customisation, supply, installation and maintenance of a national electronic Government Procurement (eGP) system financed with support from the World Bank. The project aimed to strengthen transparency, accountability and efficiency across federal public procurement processes.

"Central to the dispute was the User Acceptance Test (UAT).

*Find Full Story In The Link*

## DELSU Matriculates 9,498 For 2025/26 Academic Session

**Culled:**

Delta University (DELSU), Abraka has matriculated a total of 9,498 students in its 2025/2026 academic session

The matriculation oath was administered on the new student's weekend in Abraka, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.

Administering the matriculation oath on the freshers, Prof. Samuel Asagba, Vice Chancellor, Delta State University (DELSU), Abraka disclosed that the students were among the tens of thousands of candidates who had applied for admission into the university.

According to Prof. Asaba, "I congratulate you for not only attaining another milestone in your academic pursuit, but for successfully scaling through the difficult hurdles of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination and Post University Matriculation Screening exercise."

It could be recalled that this is the second matriculation exercise that Prof. Asagba is presiding over since his assumption of office on Dec. 2, 2024 as the 8th substantive Vice Chancellor of the university.

Prof. Asagba said that the university had distinguished itself as one of the centers of academic excellence, adding that it has become an attraction for candidates seeking admission into tertiary institutions.

The Vice Chancellor attributed the rush for admission into the university to the institution's track records of maintaining smooth and uninterrupted academic calendar over the years.

Prof. Asagba disclosed that the university currently had 17 Faculties with 109 academic programmes, in addition to one Institute of Education and Business School.

The Vice Chancellor said that the institution's management was setting machinery in motion to introduce more robust programmes to cater for the academic needs of this generation.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

## Nigeria, Angola Signs Visa Exemption Agreement



Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

**Culled:**

Nigeria's capital market has expanded significantly within the past year, with total market capitalisation rising by 125 per cent from about N55 trillion in April 2024 to over

N123.93 trillion.

The Director-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Emomotimi Agama, disclosed this in Lagos during his inaugural address to members of the Capital Market Working Group on Market Liquidity. Agama said the capital

market's contribution to the nation's Gross Domestic Product also rose sharply within the same period, increasing from 13 per cent to 33 per cent.

According to a statement issued by the commission on Sunday, the SEC chief said: "Since this administration came into being in April 2024, we have seen market capitalisation grow from about N55 trillion to over N123.93 trillion. Our contribution to GDP has moved from 13 per cent to 33 per cent. These are impressive figures, but they tell only part of the story."

He noted that while the growth indicators were significant, sustained reforms and improved market liquidity would be critical to consolidating the gains. He explained that the figures

show rising investor confidence and the ability of the Nigerian capital market to withstand economic pressure, but warned that size alone is not enough to guarantee long-term strength.

"A capital market is often described as the barometer of an economy's health. But for that barometer to be accurate, the market must be more than just large—it must be liquid," he said.

Agama noted that liquidity, which determines how easily investors can buy or sell shares without affecting prices, remains a key issue. He pointed out that high transaction costs for big investors and the concentration of trades in only a few highly capitalised stocks still limit the depth of the market.

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FG, Japan

# FG, Japan To Unveil \$50m Fund For Nigerian Startups

**Culled:** The Federal Government has formalised the launch of a \$50 million Impact Innovation Fund to support Nigerian startups tackling critical social challenges, following agreements signed between the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. The signing ceremony, held at the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning in Abuja on Friday, covered the grant contract for the "Project for the Development of Supporting Environment for Startups Addressing Social Challenges."

Under the arrangement, JICA will provide \$14 million in grant support, while NSIA will contribute up to \$20 million to match the grant as part of the \$50 million Impact Innovation Fund. The fund is structured as an onshore public vehicle and will combine financial support with technical assistance to help startups refine products, scale operations, and expand into new markets. Speaking at the event, NSIA Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Aminu Umar-Sadiq described the fund as a significant step for the startup ecosystem. "The Fund represents a transformative

step for Nigeria's startup ecosystem. By providing early-stage ventures in high-impact sectors with the capital and support they need to grow, we are enabling innovators to tackle some of Nigeria's most pressing challenges. "Our collaboration with JICA underscores our commitment to entrepreneurship, inclusive growth, and sustainable development," he said. The Ambassador of Japan to Nigeria, Suzuki Hideo, said he was "very pleased that the grant contract for the 'Project for the Development of Supporting Environment for Startups Addressing Social Challenges' will be

signed today between your esteemed ministry and JICA." He explained that the project forms part of a broader cooperation package Japan is proposing to Nigeria, aligned with its foreign policy priorities. "This initiative aims to achieve development goals by the 'co-creation' of social value through dialogue and collaboration with Japan's partner countries, while mobilising private finance in combination with ODA. "Today's project represents Japan's first-ever implementation of this development model globally, specifically involving a fund that incorporates private capital.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigeria Banks Enter Final Stretch Of Recapitalisation Drive

Nigeria's banking sector is entering the final stretch of its recapitalisation drive, with lenders stepping up capital actions ahead of the Central Bank of Nigeria's March 31, 2026, deadline. Analysts at Proshare say industry activity was subdued in the week ended February 12, as attention shifted from fundraising announcements to regulatory validation and capital confirmation processes. Capital actions across leading banks.

FCMB Group is undergoing capital verification by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to confirm whether it has met the new minimum capital threshold of N500 billion for international banks, according to Proshare analysts. The group previously secured its national banking licence in 2024 following an oversubscribed public offer and completed another ₦160 billion public offer last year as part of its push toward retaining its international

banking licence. The current verification process is therefore seen as the final regulatory confirmation of compliance. A successful outcome would likely lead to a formal announcement of its continued international operations. The update places FCMB at the final regulatory checkpoint as the sector prepares for tighter capital standards. Elsewhere, Sterling Bank has yet to disclose its recapitalisation plan, though

analysts expect a rights issue or private placement to close a gap between its current capital of about ₦167 billion and the ₦200 billion requirement. GTCO Plc completed a ₦10 billion private placement earlier, issuing 125 million shares at ₦80 each to a single investor. Proshare analysts described the move as a proactive step to strengthen capital buffers and support medium-term growth rather than a regulatory necessity. *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

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

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

### OTHER BENEFITS

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

#### JOB FAIR

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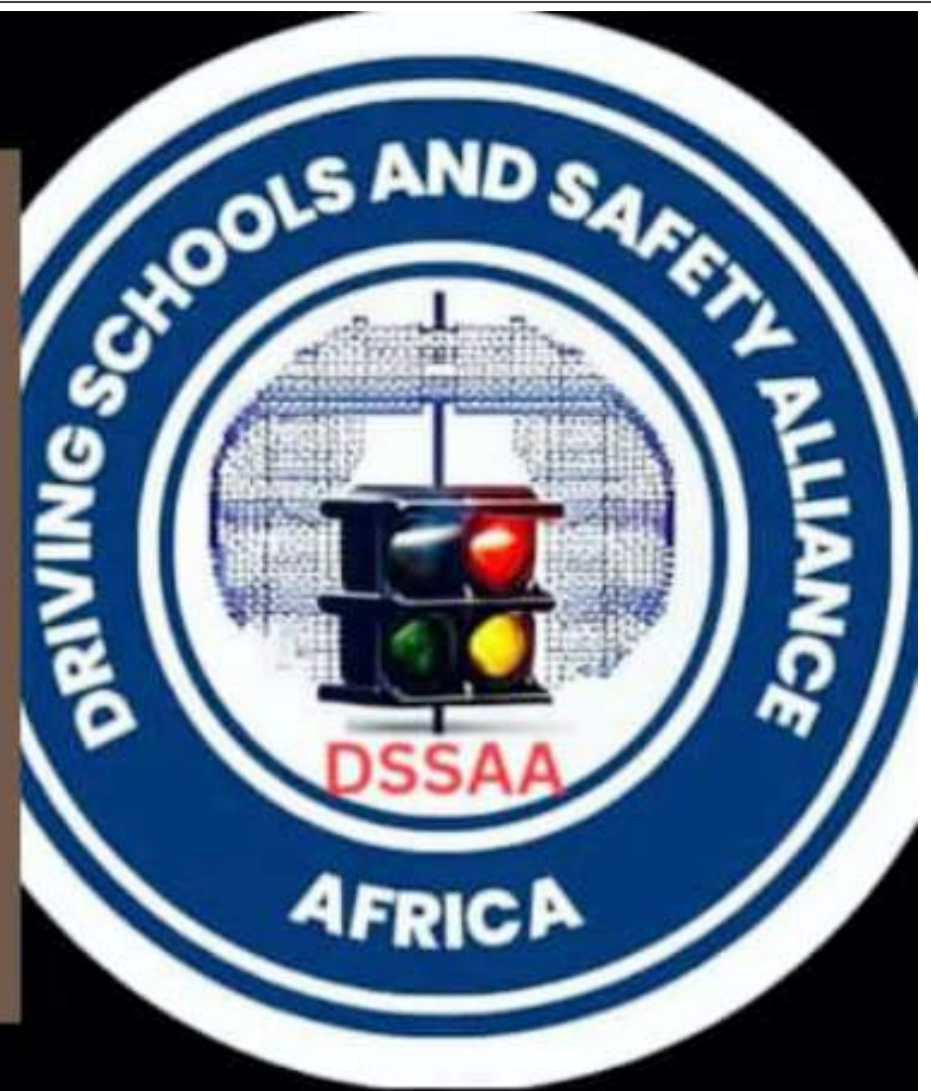


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