

LSCCC, FRSC Strengthen Partn'ship To Boost Road Safety And Emergency Response In Lagos

As part of sustained mechanisms within Commander of the efforts to deepen Lagos, the Lagos State Federal Road Safety institutional Command and Control Corps, Corps collaboration and Centre, LSCCC, team Commander reinforce coordinated paid a courtesy visit to Kehinde Hamzat, in emergency response the Sector Ikeja.

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FAAN, United Nigeria Airlines Meet Over Bird Strikes, Airport Safety

The meeting aimed to address recurring bird strike incidents, airport infrastructure gaps and other operational concerns affecting flight operations. Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) met with United Nigeria Airlines on Tuesday in Lagos to discuss mitigation measures

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Thurs, February 19th 2026

E - NEWSPAPER

Lagos Condemns Lekki-Epe Expressway Blockade, Restates C'ttment To Bus Reform

The Lagos State Government has condemned the blockade of the CMS-Lekki-Epe Expressway by some mini-bus operators, popularly known as Korope, describing the action as a violation of agreements reached with transport unions on the ongoing Bus Reform Initiative (BRI). The government expressed deep concern over the disruption of traffic along the busy corridor on Tuesday, February

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Hon. Sola Giwa - Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation

Lagos Govt Debunks Alleged Route Takeover By Seyi Tinubu's Buses

The Lagos State Government has denied allegations by commercial mini-bus operators, popularly known as Korope drivers, that it plans to take over transport routes along the Lekki-Epe Expressway for the deployment of buses linked to Seyi Tinubu. The denial follows a protest staged by the drivers on Wednesday at Block VGC Road, where they accused the state government of attempting to edge them out of operations along the busy

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Oyebanji Hails Tinubu On Roads Infrastructure In Ekiti

P5

Local Transport News

FRSC Warns Motorists Against Hazy Weather Conditions In Gombe

Culled
Gombe State Sector Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), has called the attention of the motoring public around the State to exercise heightened caution following the hazy weather conditions currently being experienced resulting in poor visibility and reduced clarity on roads.

The Command, through SRC Janet Kasa, Sector Public Education Officer, noted that the current seasonal haze and dusty atmospheric conditions pose significant risks to road users, particularly drivers whose vision may be impaired while driving, which could likely increase road traffic crashes if caution is not observed.

Reacting to the development, the State Sector Commander, CC Samson Kaura, emphasized the need for deliberate caution and strict compliance with traffic regulations while drawing the attention of the motoring public to the fact that hazy weather conditions and dust haze significantly reduce visibility and reaction

time for drivers.

He said that speeding at such a time becomes even more dangerous, and therefore appealed to all motorists to slow down, obey speed limits, and drive defensively to avoid preventable crashes. In view of the prevailing reduced visibility conditions associated with the dust haze, Commander Samson Kaura advised all motorists to strictly comply with traffic regulations and adopt safe driving practices at all times.

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Mohammed

NARTO Cuts Transport Fares By 30% Through CNG Partnership

Culled
The Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners has said its partnership with the Presidential Initiative on Compressed Natural Gas has helped reduce transportation costs by over 30 per cent while expanding its fleet and strengthening mass transit operations across the country.

Speaking at the association's 2026 Annual General Meeting in Abuja, the National President, Yusuf Othman, said the collaboration had opened up new opportunities for operators despite the prevailing economic challenges in the transport sector.

According to a statement issued by the association on Wednesday, Othman disclosed that NARTO had received and deployed several new vehicles under the CNG programme to boost its operational capacity and support safer and more affordable transportation.

He said, "Our partnership with the Presidential Initiative on Compressed Natural Gas has brought enormous

opportunities to the association. Notably, we successfully received and deployed new fleets to strengthen our transport capacity. These include 20 units of 14-seater CNG/petrol buses, five units of 56-seater hybrid CNG/diesel buses, and three units of 46-seater CNG/diesel engine buses.

"These vehicles are currently deployed for interstate and intracity shuttle services across the country, contributing meaningfully to safer, cleaner, and more affordable mass transportation, as well as reducing transportation costs by over 30 per cent. I am glad to inform this distinguished gathering that we have also received assurances from PiCNG that additional buses will soon be allocated to our association."

He described the AGM as an opportunity to review the association's performance in 2025 and chart a realistic path forward. Othman commended President Bola Tinubu for his support for the transport sector, particularly through the CNG initiative and ongoing road rehabilitation

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LSCCC, FRSC Strengthen Partnership To Boost Road Safety And Emergency Response In Lagos

Culled
As part of sustained efforts to deepen institutional collaboration and reinforce coordinated emergency response mechanisms within Lagos, the Lagos State Command and Control Centre, LSCCC, team paid a courtesy visit to the Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Corps Commander Kehinde Hamzat, in Ikeja.

GM, Lagos Command and Control, Mr Kennedy Giwa and FRSC Lagos sector Commander, Corps Commander Kehinde Hamzat

The General Manager, Mr. Femi Kennedy Giwa, who led the LSCCC delegation, commended the Federal Road Safety Corps for its professionalism, operational discipline, and steadfast commitment to road safety enforcement, traffic regulation, and crash response management across the State.

He reiterated that as the State's central emergency coordination hub, LSCCC remains committed to enhancing real-time incident monitoring, inter-agency



LSCCC partners FRSC to boost road emergency response in Lagos State.

communication interoperability, and rapid response activation across all emergency service providers.

The General Manager highlighted the Centre's ongoing technological advancement initiatives, including the introduction of the Local Emergency Response and Management System (LERMS I & II), a structured innovation designed to strengthen decentralized

emergency reporting, improve response efficiency, and enhance coordinated deployment across the State.

Responding, the Sector Commander, Corps Commander Kehinde Hamzat, appreciated the LCCC team and emphasized the importance of synergy among safety and emergency management institutions in safeguarding lives, protecting property,

and reinforcing public confidence in emergency services delivery.

Both agencies reaffirmed their shared mandate to enhance intelligence exchange, operational coordination, and joint response strategies, particularly in traffic incident management, rapid response deployment, and strategic public safety awareness initiatives.

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Osun Govt Assures Residents Of Timely Completion Of Road Projects

Culled

Osun State Government has disclosed that it has splitted the 55.6km Osogbo-Iwo-Ibadan road to three different contractors with a view to ensuring its timely completion.

This was disclosed by the Osun State Director of Highways, Engr. Moruf Ojebode during an on the spot-assessment of the ongoing 3.6km Odo-Ori-Ojaoba-Post office road in Iwo on Wednesday.

While noting that Governor Ademola Adeleke has set infrastructural pace in Iwo by constructing first dual carriage way in the town, he added that several internal roads have been constructed within two years of Governor Adeleke's administration.

According to him, "This administration awarded 3.6KM dual carriage way from Odo-Ori market to Oja-Oba to Post office. From Oja Oba we have the spot that leads to Oluwo's palace, that is phase one of the project in Iwo. We have second phase which has not commenced, that is from

Post office to Adeeke, Iwo/Ibadan road but the phase one, the success we have on the road is 50%. The drainage has been completed, we have the walkway and the median that are ongoing.

"We have internal roads that have been completed in Iwo which are Ansarudeen to Puti road, Feesu Agbowo road, Post office to Oke-Ifa, Army junction to Jagun Ode road and Junction Osogbo to Oke-Ola road. These roads are added to dual carriageway; this administration will set a pace for the dual carriageway in Iwo too."

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Governor Adeleke

FAAN, United Nigeria Airlines Meet Over Bird Strikes, Airport Safety

Culled

The meeting aimed to address recurring bird strike incidents, airport infrastructure gaps and other operational concerns affecting flight operations.

Following recurring bird strike incidents affecting flight operations, the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) met with United Nigeria Airlines on Tuesday in Lagos to discuss mitigation measures and broader safety concerns within the aviation sector.

The meeting, led by FAAN's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Olubunmi Kuku, brought together senior officials of both organisations to review environmental safety strategies, airside operations and infrastructure upgrades across Nigerian airports.

During the discussions, the airline's delegation, headed by its Chairman, Obiora Okonkwo, outlined the operational and financial impact of bird strikes on its aircraft.

The airline also raised concerns about

Category II airports, including limited operating hours, as well as incidents involving unruly passengers within terminals.

As part of its proposals, United Nigeria Airlines requested land allocation in Abuja to establish a Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility aimed at strengthening domestic aircraft maintenance capacity.

In response, FAAN said it has introduced environmental management measures to reduce bird strike risks, including improved habitat control and grass management around airport environments.

The authority also disclosed plans to upgrade airfield lighting systems at Category II airports, with apron and lighting improvements proposed for Benin Airport and additional enhancements in Jos Airport.

On passenger conduct, FAAN said enforcement measures would be strengthened to address cases of unruly behaviour.

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NCAA Lagos Manager Commends Tinubu's Policies Boosting Women's Leadership In Aviation

Culled

The Lagos Regional Manager of the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Mrs. Bukola Teriba, has commended the administration of Bola Ahmed Tinubu for expanding leadership opportunities for women in the aviation sector.

Teriba said federal policies have not only facilitated the appointment of women into key managerial roles across agencies under the Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development but have also created platforms for female professionals to demonstrate competence and leadership.

She spoke after receiving the "Woman of the Day" award from Women in Aviation International (WAI) at its 2025 award night in Lagos.

According to her, the current administration has increased the visibility of women in leadership across the sector. She urged female professionals to leverage the enabling environment to pursue career advancement and uphold high standards of performance.

Teriba described WAI as a movement



NCAA Women in aviation

advancing women across all layers of the aviation industry, noting that the organisation provides mentorship, empowerment, and inspiration for members to attain senior leadership positions.

She added that aviation, by its nature, demands alignment, precision, and discipline, values she said the association embodies in promoting inclusiveness and professional

excellence.

Guest speaker at the event and former Managing Director of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), Engineer Nnamdi Udoh, called for deliberate attention to work-life balance among female aviation professionals.

Speaking on the theme, "Work-Life Balance for Professional Women in Aviation," Udoh described aviation as a demanding profession requiring

resilience, technical accuracy, and sustained focus. He noted that women in the sector often operate under high-pressure conditions, including irregular schedules, extended duty hours, and critical decision-making responsibilities, while managing obligations outside the workplace.

He stressed that work-life balance is essential for safety and sustainability, warning that fatigue and burnout pose systemic risks within the industry. Udoh urged organisations to prioritise policies that promote retention, diversity, and long-term growth through supportive workplace cultures.

Also speaking, the National President of WAI Nigeria, Mrs. Rejoice Ndidinachi, said the association's vision of a more inclusive aviation industry is gaining traction nationwide.

She stated that WAI was founded as a movement to ensure women occupy roles across the aviation ecosystem, from cockpit operations and air traffic control to engineering, policymaking, and executive leadership.

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Local Transport News

Lagos Govt Debunks Alleged Route Takeover By Seyi Tinubu’s Buses

Culled
The Lagos State Government has denied allegations by commercial mini-bus operators, popularly known as Korope drivers, that it plans to take over transport routes along the Lekki–Epe Expressway for the deployment of buses linked to Seyi Tinubu.

The denial follows a protest staged by the drivers on Wednesday at Block VGC Road, where they accused the state government of attempting to edge them out of operations along the busy corridor. The protest triggered widespread reactions on social media.

Reacting to the claims, the Commissioner for Transportation, Oluwaseun Osiyemi, described the allegations as false and misleading. According to him, the Lekki–Epe corridor has officially transitioned into a Mass Transit and Regulated Transport Corridor under the state's Bus Reform Initiative (BRI), a framework designed to modernise and standardise public transportation in Lagos.

Osiyemi explained that the reform is deliberate and data-driven, aligning with the government's long-term vision of building a safer, more efficient and economically viable transport system. He stressed that the restriction of unregulated Korope operations along the corridor was neither abrupt nor targeted at any group. The commissioner noted that the government had engaged in extensive consultations with transport unions, corridor operators and other stakeholders before enforcement began.



Seyi Tinubu

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Culled

A mother and her four-year-old child were among 14 passengers who narrowly survived a road accident on Wednesday after a commercial bus overturned at OkunAjah, Lagos.

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) said the fully loaded Mazda bus, marked AKD 509 XL, suddenly lost stability along Coaster Road, opposite Lafiaji, before somersaulting and landing on its side. Passengers were left trapped in the wreckage, visibly shaken and injured.

LASTMA operatives responding to the scene pulled survivors from the twisted bus and coordinated medical evacuation. The four-year-old boy, his mother, and two others were taken to Mother & Child Hospital at Abraham Adesanya along Ogombo Road. Other injured passengers were transported to nearby hospitals by bystanders who assisted at the scene.

LASTMA spokesperson Adebayo Taofiq confirmed the incident, saying the exact cause of the crash had not yet been determined. The case has been handed

14 Escape Death As Commercial Bus Overturns In Okun Ajah

over to the Abraham Adesanya Police Division for investigation.

Taofiq said in a statement, “Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) solemnly announces the occurrence of a lone grievous road traffic accident along Coaster Road, opposite Lafiaji inward Okun Ajah, involving a fully laden Mazda commercial bus AKD 509 XL,” the statement read.

“The ill-starred vehicle overturned with violent force and culminating in a harrowing crash of considerable magnitude. In circumstances that can only be described as divinely fortuitous, a four-year-old boy and twelve other occupants including his mother survived what might otherwise have culminated in multiple fatalities,” it added.

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Oyebanji

The Ekiti State Governor, Biodun Oyebanji, has expressed his appreciation to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for approving the construction and rehabilitation of some inter and intra-state federal roads to boost the economy and general well-being of residents of the state. He said this on Tuesday when he received leaders of the Ekiti State chapter of the pan-Yoruba socio-political organisation, Afenifere. The Afenifere team was led by its Chairman, Elder Yemi Alade, to the Governor's Office in Ado Ekiti, the Ekiti State capital. Oyebanji said Ekiti State in the last three and a half years has received more than what the

Oyebanji Hails Tinubu On Roads Infrastructure In Ekiti

President promised the State.

The governor said the road projects, when completed, have the potentials to drive economic growth and development of the state and the South West region as some of them are linked to other states like Ondo and Osun.

He spoke just as the Afenifere leaders re-affirmed their endorsement of himself and Tinubu for re-election, citing the purposeful leadership provided by the president and governor for their support.

Oyebanji, who hailed the group for their support for Tinubu, said he remained tankful to the President for fulfilling all his promises to the state, leading to an unprecedented infrastructure development in Ekiti.

He said: “I also want to appreciate the President for his support for Ekiti, and I want to thank you for endorsing his re-election.

“Mr. President has fulfilled more than he promised us.

“As I speak now, Akure to Ado-Ekiti is

now 35 minutes.

“He did it, and with his support, we completed the airport.

“With his support, we have rehabilitated the Ado-Iworoko-Ifaki federal road.

“He has also approved the construction of the road from Osun State border to Aramoko.

“The value of that contract is N153 billion because it's going to be concrete pavement.

“Mr. President has also directed and approved reconstruction of Aramoko-Ijero-Ido Road, as well as Omuo-Ikole-Ifaki Road.

“I know that work is ongoing in ensuring that we are linked to the Osogbo rail line.

“So, when you cumulate all these things, he has done well for us.

“But, unfortunately, we still have some of our children, maybe because of ignorance or what they will eat, their actions still portray Ekiti as ungrateful people.

“We need to caution such people.

“I am not against politics but they

shouldn't play politics with facts.”

Speaking further, Governor Oyebanji described Afenifere as the custodian of Yoruba traditional values and culture, and thanked the Yoruba socio-cultural group for endorsing him and President Tinubu for second term.

He promised to continue to deliver the best policies and programmes to further improve the socio-economic lives of the people.

The Governor said: “On behalf of myself and Mr. President, I thank you for the open endorsement because Afenifere is the custodian of our values, political values and our culture.

“So, for you to come out openly to say this is where they are, I do not take it for granted and I'm extremely grateful on behalf of myself and the President.

“The endorsement was based on facts, you know.

“I'm aware that you went through all the projects and that is what separates Afenifere from other groups.

“You are meticulous, you are not partial, and you say things the way it is.”

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Lagos Condemns Lekki-Epe Expressway Blockade, Restates C’ttment To Bus Reform

Culled

The Lagos State Government has condemned the blockade of the CMS–Lekki–Epe Expressway by some mini-bus operators, popularly known as Korope, describing the action as a violation of agreements reached with transport unions on the ongoing Bus Reform Initiative (BRI).

The government expressed deep concern over the disruption of traffic along the busy corridor on Tuesday, February 17, and Wednesday, February 18, 2026, noting that the protest contravened resolutions jointly adopted after extensive stakeholder engagements.

According to the government, discussions on restructuring public transport operations along the Lekki–Epe corridor began in 2024.

At a stakeholders' meeting held on June 27, 2024, a communiqué was endorsed by the Special Adviser on Transportation, Sola Giwa; the



Hon. Sola Giwa

Permanent Secretary of Nigeria (RTEAN). Bus Route Network of the Ministry of Key resolutions from the (BRN), reallocation of Transportation; and the meeting included the Korope minibuses to state chairmen of the restructuring of existing inner arterial routes, National Union of Road bus operations on the introduction of an e- Transport Workers corridor, deployment of ticketing system, and the (NURTW) and the high-capacity buses in regulation and Road Transport line with the Lagos State standardisation of bus Employers Association Transport Policy and services to enhance

safety and security.

Stakeholders at the time reaffirmed their commitment to collaborative implementation of the reforms aimed at improving commuters' experience across the state.

At a subsequent meeting on December 2, 2025, stakeholders unanimously agreed that the bus scheme would commence on December 8, 2025.

The first phase of the reform, which will eventually extend to Epe, is set to operate along the Ajah–CMS (Marina)/Obalende, Ajah–Oshodi, Ajah–Berger and Ajah–Iyana Ipaja routes.

Speaking at the December meeting, chaired by Giwa, Special Adviser on Transportation to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, it was clarified that one operator would run an express service, while others would provide stopping services along the corridor.

Giwa reiterated that the state government had been working closely with stakeholders to formalise transit operations across Lagos, with a focus on commuter comfort, security, safety and fare stability.

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NIWA

The National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) disclosed that offenders of the Waterways Transportation Code have been charged in accordance with the law.

The agency also said it has deployed marshals across waterfronts nationwide and extended patrol hours beyond the 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. shift to ensure operational compliance on inland waterways transportation.

The Acting Managing Director, NIWA, Umar Girei, who made this known recently in Abuja, said the authority remains committed to enforcing penalties for violations, including overloading, operating unsafe vessels and failure to use life jackets, among other offences.

NIWA Prosecutes Waterways Violators, Extend Patrol Hours

Girei further confirmed that the culprits involved in boat accidents have been apprehended, prosecuted and appropriately fined.

“Most offenders have been charged in court, and penalties have been applied as required,” he said.

According to him, the initiative complements NIWA's enforcement efforts and commitment to a zero-tolerance policy on boat mishaps, stressing that the authority is targeting a year-round reduction in accidents.

“We are targeting a year-round, mishap-free water transport system. We seek the federal government's support to provide the necessary resources and incentives to meet this objective,” Girei added.

The NIWA boss also noted that the safety interventions have resulted in a significant decline in incidents, with some areas recording up to a 70 per cent reduction in accidents.

Also speaking, a member of the NIWA Board, Tajudeen Alao, observed that

although the law prescribes penalties for offenders, many boat operators in remote communities remain unaware of the regulations due to language barriers.

Alao disclosed that NIWA is set to launch a nationwide campaign to translate the provisions of its Safety Regulations Code into local languages, to reduce accidents and improve compliance across the country's inland waterways.

Alao explained the translation of the NIWA Safety Code into local languages is expected to significantly enhance awareness and compliance among boat operators in rural and remote communities.

He said this would contribute to safer inland waterways and support the authority's goal of eliminating boat mishaps nationwide.

Also, NIWA plans to collaborate with local governments, unions and cooperatives to ensure that the safety codes are widely disseminated and properly understood.

According to him, the campaign will also feature educational programmes highlighting the dangers of overloading, unsafe boat designs and neglecting the use of safety equipment.

Also, further underscored the Federal Government's ongoing campaign to phase out wooden boats for stronger and safer fibre vessels.

He, however, acknowledged the socio-economic challenges involved, noting that many rural boat owners may not be able to immediately afford fibre boats, but emphasised that sustained public education and improved boat design remain critical toward enhancing safety.

“The law is the law. But you need to educate the people. How many of them in places like Sokoto or Maiduguri are aware of the code of conduct? In how many languages has it been translated? We must reach the grassroots so they understand the consequences of negligence,” Alao said.

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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

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



commercial performance, the airline has intensified efforts to promote 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 airline has also leveraged its 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.

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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.

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

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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Budget Office Uncovers 10-year Capital Funding Gap In Nigeria’s Health Sector

Culled:
The Budget Office of the Federation has released data showing how the country has grossly underfunded the health sector in the past 10 years and how it has consistently short-changed the future of its citizens through abysmal release of budgetary allocations despite having one of the worst health indices in the world and constant disease outbreaks.

Nigeria's allocations to the health sector over the years have been below the recommended 15 per cent benchmark stipulated in the 2001 Abuja Declaration, which Nigeria was a signatory to

Titled “10-year capital funding gap in Nigeria's health sector“, the data showed a wide gap between capital appropriation and the actual release/utilisation from 2016 to 2025.

According to the data obtained by The Guardian, which specifically captured capital allocations and actual releases for 10 years, which was about N218.0 bn appropriated for capital projects in 2025, only N36 million was actually released to the sector.

It further showed that in 2024, 2024 the sum of N434.8bn was allocated



Prof. Pate

to the sector, while only N65.4bn, representing 15.06% of the allocation, was released.

Further breakdown of the budgetary allocations and releases revealed that in 2023, N134 billion was allocated, with N40.4bn released representing 30%, 2022 had N134.7bn allocated, and N87.3bn released 45%, 2021 had N194bn allocated, with N93.8bn representing 70% of the total capital budget

released.

In addition, N46.5bn was allocated for capital projects in 2019, while N25.5bn was released.

2018 had N71.1bn with N42.6bn release, N51.3bn in 2017 with N33.3bn released and N28.7bn in 2016 with only N15.2bn released.

Minister of Health and Social Welfare. Prof Ali Pate, on Monday, during the Ministry's 2026 budget defence before the House of Representatives Committee

on Healthcare Service, revealed that only N36 million out of the N218 billion appropriated for its 2025 capital expenditure was released.

He told lawmakers that the implementation of the 2025 capital budget was stalled by circumstances beyond the Ministry's control, adding that the meagre release made it practically impossible for the Ministry to execute its capital projects for the year.

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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, Ethiopie 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 congratulates 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.

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Nigeria, Angola Signs Visa Exemption Agreement



Nigeria signs an agreement with Angola

Culled:
countries.

Nigeria and Angola have formalised a visa exemption agreement for holders of Diplomatic and Official/Service Passports, marking a significant step in deepening bilateral relations between the two

The draft agreement was signed on 15th February 2026, on the sidelines of the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Heads of State and Government in AddisAbaba.

Nigeria's delegation was led by the Minister of Foreign

Affairs, Ambassador Yusuf Maitama Tuggar, while Angola was represented by its Minister of International Relations, Ambassador Tete Antonio, according to a statement from the Ministry's spokesperson, Kimiebi Ebienfa.

Speaking on the signing, Tuggar described the agreement as long overdue and timely, highlighting its importance in strengthening diplomatic and official engagement between Nigeria and Angola.

He emphasized that the Agreement would significantly enhance diplomatic and official relations between the two brotherly countries by easing travel procedures for holders of diplomatic and official/service passports.

According to him, “the visa exemption arrangement will facilitate smoother official exchanges, deepen institutional cooperation, and create broader opportunities for joint initiatives, dialogue, and partnership by enabling authorized government officials from both sides to move more freely and efficiently without administrative hindrances.

He further informed the gathering that relations between Nigeria and Angola are rooted in a long and shared history, dating back to the period of ideological conflict between the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in Angola.

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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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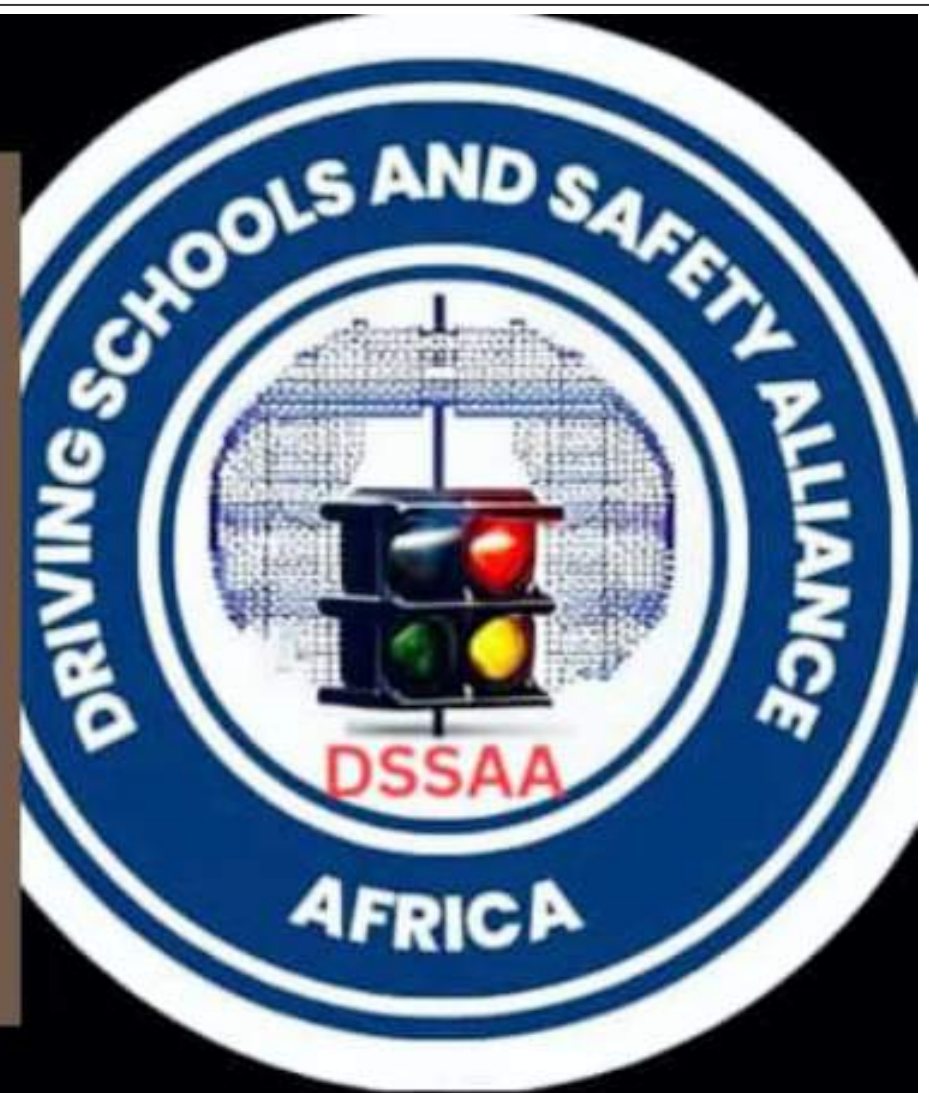


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