

FAAN's Cashless Policy Rollout Sparks Airport Gridlock

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NRC Hosts Nigeria's First Rotary Fellowship On A Moving Train

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has hosted Nigeria's first-ever Rotary fellowship on a moving train,

providing an unconventional platform for the Rotary Club of Ota to advance its service and community development agenda. The historic session took place aboard one of the corporation's passenger trains,

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Tues, March 3rd 2026

E - NEWSPAPER

FRSC Steps Up Crackdown On Illegal Roadside Pickups To Protect Pedestrians

The Federal Road Safety Corps has sustained enforcement and public enlightenment campaigns to curb

lawlessness among commercial drivers who stop indiscriminately to pick up passengers,

thereby endangering the lives of pedestrians and other road users. The Corps Public

Education Officer, Olusegun Ogungbemide, disclosed this in an interview with the

News Agency of Nigeria on Monday in Abuja. Ogungbemide descri-

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Corps Marshal Shehu Mohammed - Corps Marshal Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC)

LASTMA Deploys Advanced Digital Technology To Boost Emergency Response

The general manager of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Olalekan Bakare-Oki, has stated

that the strategic deployment of advanced digital technology has significantly transformed the agency's emergency response operations and strengthened the protection of lives on roads across Lagos.

Bakare-Oki stated this during a comprehensive operational review weekend, noting that the integration of modern technological tools has

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Zamfara Approves 95km Road Projects In Tsafe

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Local Transport News

FRSC Warns Motorists To Properly Document Cars

Culled

The call comes as part of the Corps' ongoing efforts to protect lives, prevent crime, and ensure road safety nationwide.

In a press statement signed by Olusegun Ogungbemide, Assistant Corps Marshal and Public Education Officer, on Monday, the Corps said it recovered another stolen vehicle during a routine patrol at RS2.1114 Isolo Unit Command. The vehicle was impounded on Saturday, 28th February, 2026, at about 1711 hrs.

A Toyota Sienna with registration number LSD438GK (ash colour) was stopped for Vehicle Licence Violation (VLV) after the driver failed to present valid documents and was impounded following FRSC protocols.

Unknown to the Command at the time of arrest, subsequent checks revealed that the vehicle had been reported stolen, while the driver had already been declared wanted.

In a further development, the suspect

was on Monday handed over to the Command in handcuffs by officers of the Nigeria Police Force, Ajao Division, for necessary action.

The statement in parts, "You would recall that the Corps continues to record giant strides in stolen vehicle recovery, particularly through the deployment of the National Vehicle Identification Scheme (NVIS).

"Through the digital verification and traceability framework provided by

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FRSC

FRSC Steps Up Crackdown On Illegal Pickups To Protect Pedestrians

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps has sustained enforcement and public enlightenment campaigns to curb lawlessness among commercial drivers who stop indiscriminately to pick up passengers, thereby endangering the lives of pedestrians and other road users. The Corps Public Education Officer, Olusegun Ogungbemide, disclosed this in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria on Monday in Abuja.

Ogungbemide described arbitrary stopping by commercial drivers, particularly during weekends, as a routine traffic offence.

According to him, the offence occurs daily and offenders are regularly apprehended through ongoing patrol operations across the country.

"It is a routine offence that creates obstruction on Nigerian roads and has caused accidents. It is a daily offence that is being apprehended accordingly."

The FRSC spokesman, however, noted that enforcement agencies could not

arrest all offenders at once due to the widespread nature of the violation.

"It is unfortunate that we cannot arrest all the offenders entirely at the same time, but our routine patrols have been apprehending such offenders," he said.

He explained that beyond enforcement, the corps continued to prioritise public education to discourage unsafe practices among drivers and passengers alike.

"According to him, the only thing we can do is to continue to enlighten members of the public that it is wrong and should not be encouraged, while enforcement is still ongoing." [Recast needed: Attribution improperly embedded in quote structure.]

Ogungbemide said FRSC records showed consistent daily apprehensions of traffic offenders, reflecting sustained monitoring and enforcement actions nationwide.

He emphasised that creating obstruction on highways or within urban areas was prohibited under traffic regulations and would continue to attract enforcement measures.

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The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has hosted Nigeria's first-ever Rotary fellowship on a moving train, providing an unconventional platform for the Rotary Club of Ota to advance its service and community development agenda.

The historic session took place aboard one of the corporation's passenger trains, where members of the Rotary Club of Ota held their fellowship while in transit.

The engagement, led by the club's President, Charles Umukoro, brought together top officers and members who described the moving setting as a symbol of progress and innovation in civic responsibility.

In attendance were Vice President Bisi Seleso, Pioneer President Olumide Adebisi, Treasurer Olumide Omotola, President Elect Fatai Wasi, and the club's oldest serving member, Dr Kele Abolaji.

Part of the highlight of the trip was the moment the Railway District Manager,



NRC Train

Rasheed Adedeji, joined the Rotarians on board to formally welcome them to the moving-train fellowship.

He applauded the initiative for projecting the railway as a safe and strategic national asset and used the opportunity to encourage more civic groups to explore partnerships that showcase the modern face of rail travel.

Adedeji was formally inducted as a member of the Rotary Club of Ota, a gesture that both sides described as a reinforcement of shared values in public service and community development.

The fellowship also marked the start of the club's large tree planting initiative, launched yesterday to support environmental protection and climate change mitigation efforts across host

communities.

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Local Transport News

Stadium Junction-Luba Road 99% Completed, Set For Commissioning - Abiodun

Culled

Governor of Ogun State, Dapo Abiodun, has announced that the Stadium Junction-Luba Road project is almost ready for completion, revealing that construction work has reached about 99 per cent.

The governor made this known through a post shared on his official X handle, where he gave an update on the progress of the road project, which serves residents of Erunwun, Atan, Luba and neighbouring communities.

According to him, the work has moved beyond the asphalt binder stage and is now in its final phase ahead of full completion and commissioning.

"This level of progress underscores our firm commitment to delivering durable and reliable road infrastructure that directly impacts the daily lives of our people," the governor said.

He explained that the Stadium Junction-Luba corridor remains an important route within the area, noting that its reconstruction is expected to

reduce travel time, improve safety for motorists and strengthen connectivity across the communities.

Abiodun also stressed that the project forms part of his administration's people-centred development agenda aimed at improving infrastructure and boosting economic activities in the state.

"Our administration remains focused on people-centred development. Through sustained investment in road infrastructure, we continue to ease movement, stimulate economic activities,

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Governor Abiodun

Abia Launches Cashless Payment For Green Shuttle Buses

Culled

The Abia State Government has officially commenced the full rollout of the Abia Connect Card, a cashless payment system for the Green Shuttle Bus Service, as part of efforts to modernise public transportation in the state.

The initiative, driven by the Ministry of Transportation under Governor Alex Otti's administration, aims to deliver a seamless commuting experience for residents.

In a statement issued over the weekend by the State Commissioner for Information, Okey Kanu, the government described the development as a milestone in its drive to build a digital, transparent and efficient transport ecosystem.

According to the statement, the Abia Connect Card, also known as the "Abia State Card", eliminates inconveniences associated with cash payments, including delays, disputes over change and revenue leakages.

"We are intentionally moving away from

the hassles of cash transactions. With the Abia Connect Card, commuting becomes as simple as a single tap.

"It is efficient, reliable, and designed to ensure that our public transport system works effectively for everyone," the statement read.

The government said the first card is currently free for residents and can be obtained at designated Green Shuttle terminals and authorised agent locations across Aba and Umuahia.

Prospective users are required to present their ABSSIN to receive the card, while those without one can register via the Abia Pay portal.

After funding the card, subject to a ₦50 top-up charge, commuters are to tap it on the payment device upon boarding, with a confirmation sound validating successful payment.

It was stated that the card does not expire, and funds loaded onto it remain valid without a time limitation, and the Green Shuttle Service operates both inter-city and intra-city routes.

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LASTMA Deploys Advanced Digital Technology To Boost Emergency Response

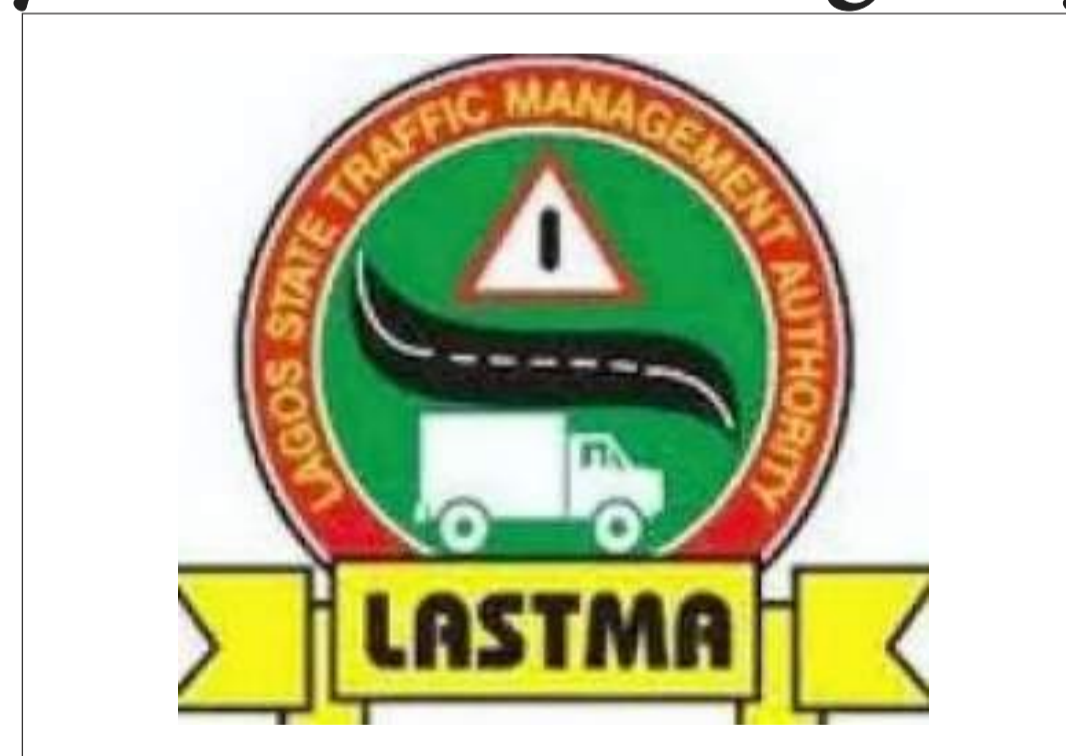
Culled

The general manager of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Olalekan Bakare-Oki, has stated that the strategic deployment of advanced digital technology has significantly transformed the agency's emergency response operations and strengthened the protection of lives on roads across Lagos.

Bakare-Oki stated this during a comprehensive operational review weekend, noting that the integration of modern technological tools has drastically improved incident detection, coordination and response efficiency within the authority.

He said the adoption of surveillance drones, Traffic Management System (TMS) cameras, GPS-enabled patrol vehicles, intelligent communication platforms, body-worn cameras, toll-free emergency lines, automated incident-detection systems and a centralised command-and-control centre represents a major institutional transformation for LASTMA.

He stated that the deployment of these



LASTMA

digital systems has eliminated several operational challenges previously caused by delayed reporting and logistical constraints. With real-time monitoring capabilities now in place, traffic incidents are instantly detected, digitally verified and rapidly communicated to nearby patrol and rescue units.

"Our commitment to technological modernization is anchored on the

imperative to safeguard human life," Bakare-Oki stated. "Every minute saved in an emergency response is invaluable. These intelligent systems now empower our operatives to respond with unprecedented speed, accuracy and professionalism," he stated.

The LASTMA boss further revealed that the agency's Rescue Team, Monitoring and Surveillance Unit, Comptrollers,

Commanders and Zonal Heads are now equipped with mobile data terminals and integrated communication tools linked directly to the central command centre.

This digital coordination, he noted, allows for faster traffic rerouting, prompt collaboration with medical and security agencies and swift clearance of accident scenes to prevent secondary crashes and prolonged congestion.

Bakare-Oki added that the introduction of predictive data analytics has strengthened proactive traffic management across the state. By analyzing congestion patterns and identifying high-risk accident corridors, the agency can strategically deploy personnel ahead of peak traffic periods, thereby preventing disruptions and reducing casualty rates.

He described the government's investment in digital infrastructure as part of a broader vision to build a smart and resilient megacity driven by innovation and public safety.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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#LagosMOT
#SafetywithMOT
#SafetyFirst
#Staysafe

Local Transport News

Dangote Refinery Raises Petrol Price To N875

Culled

The Dangote Petroleum Refinery has increased its Premium Motor Spirit gantry price by N101, raising the ex-depot rate from N774 to N875 per litre, heightening concerns over fresh fuel price increases across the country.

A senior official at the refinery confirmed the development to The PUNCH on Monday, noting that the adjustment followed recent volatility in global crude oil prices.

"Yes, the price has been reviewed. The new gantry price is now N875 per litre from N774. The review became necessary due to changes in global crude fundamentals and replacement costs," the official said.

Checks by The PUNCH on petroleumprice.ng confirmed that the revised price had already been reflected, indicating a shift in downstream pricing benchmarks.

The price increase came shortly after the refinery suspended petrol loading operations effective midnight on March 2,

2026, following a sharp surge in international crude oil prices, which crossed the \$80 per barrel threshold overnight.

Data obtained from industry sources showed that Premium Motor Spirit loading stopped at exactly midnight, halting product lifting and the issuance of Proforma Invoices, an indication that fresh transactions were temporarily paused.

However, the suspension applied strictly to petrol, as Automotive Gas Oil.



Petrol

Culled

The Zamfara State Executive Council (EXCO) has approved the award of a contract for the construction of a 95-kilometre road in Tsafe Local Government Area, in a move aimed at strengthening infrastructure and boosting socio-economic development across the state.

Governor Dauda Lawal disclosed this in a statement shared on his official Facebook page following the State Executive Council meeting he presided over at the Government House in Gusau.

According to the governor, the strategic road project will cut across several communities, including Yandoton Daji, Chediya, Doka, Yan Waren Daji, Hayin Alhaji, Bedi, Unguwar Joji and Yankuzo, before terminating in Tsafe. He noted that the road corridor was carefully selected to connect key settlements and enhance mobility within Tsafe Local Government Area.

Governor Lawal explained that the 95-kilometre road is expected to significantly improve connectivity among rural and semi-urban communities, reduce travel time, and facilitate the smooth

Zamfara Approves 95km Road Project In Tsafe

transportation of agricultural produce and other goods. He added that the project would stimulate socio-economic activities by improving access to markets, healthcare facilities, schools and other essential social services.

The governor further stated that improved road infrastructure would help unlock the economic potential of the benefiting communities, particularly in agriculture and small-scale trade, while also contributing to overall security and administrative efficiency in the area.

In addition to the road project, the council deliberated on other key development matters and approved further infrastructure initiatives designed to accelerate growth and expand access to basic amenities across the state.

Find Full Story In The Link

ABC Transport Honours Drivers For Accident Free Operations



ABC award ceremony

The Area Commander (Area E Command) of the Nigeria Police, FESTAC, ACP Chike Otti, speaking at the awards ceremony. With him are ABC Transport GMD, Jude Nneji (I), and the DPO, FESTAC Police station, Bakare Ibrahim

Five front line safety and security agencies, including Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, the Nigeria Police Force, and the Department of State Services, DSS, have lauded ABC Transport Plc and its drivers for their contributions to road safety in Nigeria.

They gave their commendations on Friday in Lagos at an event – Awards Ceremony For Non-Accident Operations 2025 – organised by

ABC Transport to honour a long list of its drivers for not being involved in accidents for some years.

Also applauding the transport company for its strict measures and adherence to regulations were the representatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, and the Lagos State Vehicle Inspection Device.

A total of 61 drivers from various divisions were presented with certificates at the ceremony held at the Group's Amuwo-Ofofin terminal a few days after marking its 33rd anniversary, having commenced operations on February 13, 1993.

Some of the drivers have driven ABC Transport vehicles for as long as 10 years without an accident, while others have five years to their credit.

In her remarks, Kaleson-Rejoice Makanto, a Chief Route Commander, CRC, at the Unit Command, FRSC, Apapa, commended ABC Transport for installing speed limiters in all its vehicles, noting that this has helped to

enhance its good safety records.

Makanto, who represented the Sector and Zonal Commanders, identified three factors, including environmental, human and mechanical, as major contributors to road crashes.

Lauding the company and its drivers, the Principal Occupational Safety Officer of the Lagos Safety Commission, Eng. Sanuth Ogunlaja disclosed that the body recently had cause to scrutinise ABC Transport's operations at its terminal in Jibowu, Lagos, but later discovered that they met all the set requirements.

The representative of the NDLEA at the event, Ebia Efenfia, an Assistant Commander of Narcotics, extolled ABC Transport, its on-board crews and station staff, for being good partners in the drug war.

Efenfia, who was accompanied by Iloma Nwosu, also an Assistant Commander of Narcotics, said, "You have distinguished yourselves in terms of being free from drugs and trafficking."

Similarly hailing the transport company

for collaborating with his organisation over the decades, was the officer in charge at the DSS office for the Amuwo-Odofin/Oriade area of Lagos, Alhaji A. A. Sunmonu.

He cited for example, the commendable conduct of the pilots and their assistants at the border posts on the Lagos-Accra route where ABC operates the Coach West Africa buses. Describing ABC passenger service as the alternative to travelling by air, the Area Commander, Area E Command of the Nigeria Police, FESTAC, ACP Chike Otti, identified regular training, being "too careful" and observing speed limits as some of the reasons the drivers have zero-accident records.

"Please, remain careful, because a vehicle in the hands of an untrained driver is a weapon of mass destruction," ACP Otto stated.

In the same vein, continuous training and learning, as well as discipline and dedication to duty, were identified by Adetokunbo Adeleye of the Lagos State Vehicle Inspection Service as the hallmarks of a good driver.

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DIRECTION FOR USE:

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

Local Transport News

FAAN's Cashless Policy Rollout Sparks Airport Gridlock

Culled

Passengers travelling through airports in Lagos and Abuja on Sunday were left stranded following the implementation of the Federal Government's cashless payment policy at airport access gates, triggering massive gridlock, missed flights, and widespread frustration among travellers.

Many passengers narrated harrowing experiences as motorists struggled to comply with the newly enforced electronic payment system introduced by the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria.

While some travellers abandoned their vehicles at airport entrances due to difficulties completing payments, others said they missed scheduled flights after spending hours attempting to access the airports.

Passengers who spoke with The PUNCH lamented what they described as poor planning and inadequate infrastructure to support the transition to electronic



FAAN

payment collection. A frequent flyer in Lagos, Adedeji Rilwan, said government agencies must balance reform with operational readiness. He added that he had to park his car at the airport entrance with his relatives to catch his flight. "Nobody is against cashless payment, but As I speak with you now, I am sweating profusely," he said. Another passenger at

the Murtala Muhammed Airport in Lagos, who identified himself simply as Wale, said the situation was chaotic and unexpected.

"I left home very early, thinking I had enough time for my flight, only to get stuck at the airport gate for over an hour. The payment system was not working smoothly. People were confused, and nobody seemed to know what to do," he said.

Recall that barely six months ago, FAAN had announced that all payments at its revenue points, including airport access gates, car parks, VIP lounges, and protocol services, would become fully electronic beginning September 2025.

The agency said the initiative was designed to modernise airport operations, promote transparency, and align Nigeria's aviation sector with global digital standards.

However, enforcement remained largely dormant until February, when FAAN announced that the Federal Government had resolved to fully activate the cashless policy from March 1, 2026, as part of efforts to block revenue leakages.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Enugu Drivers Oppose State-Run CNG Buses



Enugu CNG Buses

Some commercial drivers in Enugu State, Monday, pleaded with the state government to hands off its transportation interests and solely regulate the sector. According to the drivers that spoke with THE WHISTLER, the active involvement of the state-owned CNG buses in carrying passengers on major routes was adversely affecting their sources of livelihood. Samson Eze drives a Sienna and plies Enugu-Nsukka route. He said the competition posed by the state-run CNG buses had adversely affected his earning. "This is almost 1pm, and I am yet to load my first trip to Nsukka," laments Eze. "All the passengers now prefer the CNG buses because they are cheaper and more

comfortable. But we the drivers are paying the prices. Yesterday, I was only able to load two trips from morning till night. On Saturday, I 'blew empty', hoping to carry passengers standing on roadsides. I couldn't get any because even the CNG buses now pick passengers on the road. Because they are now very frequent, passengers patiently wait for them. What does the state want us to do?"

Charles Obum echoes the same frustration. He said, "I want the state government to regulate the transport sector, and leave the business for the commercial drivers. It is wrong for the state to be competing with us. No one can defeat the state in a contest like this. The governor should initiate ways of protecting businesses in the state rather than exposing us to the danger of collapsing."

He said the state planned its transport scheme to run down private commercial drivers. "The state first constructed ultra-modern terminals where these buses load and

discharge passengers. It then forced commercial drivers to be loading inside the same parks. What it means is that passengers easily have access to the CNG buses. If we are operating in different places, some passengers might not have the option of boarding the CNG vehicles. It is unfair and should be looked into." Some passengers who spoke with our correspondent expressed gratitude to the state government for the transport scheme. "I am Mrs Mgbede. I patronise the CNG buses for many reasons. I park my car comfortably at the park, board the bus to Nsukka, and return through the same means. One advantage of the CNG buses is that they are not disturbed at various police checkpoints along Enugu-Nsukka road. The checkpoints are boring. Other commercial vehicles waste a lot of time at those checkpoints. So I always enjoy the CNG ride. They are faster too."

James Itodo, a trader, said, "The

CNG buses also carry goods. In them, no police or road safety officials disturb anybody. Again, the buses do no lack passengers. So there is nothing like delays at the parks. I pity those other commercial drivers. They were exploiting us before."

A driver at a leading transport company, on condition of anonymity, said he and his colleagues were avoiding all the routes the state CNG buses ply. "It is can be terrible calling on passengers that will not enter your bus.

Some passengers will stay in my bus briefly, and leave for the CNG buses. I doubt if the state entrance into transportation is the best. We are made to pay taxes to the state, yet the same state is depriving us passengers. How do you expect us to pay? Let Gov Peter Mbah review the scheme of the CNG buses, or provide us alternative sources of living. We used to charge N3000 to Nsukka before. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Airlines Suspend Middle East Flights As US-Israel Strikes Shut Regional Airspace

Culled

Several airlines across Asia and Europe have cancelled flights and suspended operations following the widespread closure of Middle East airspace.

Reuters reported on Saturday that flight maps showed virtually empty skies over Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Israel and Bahrain as carriers halted services and rerouted aircraft amid mounting security concerns.

The disruptions follow United States and Israeli attacks on Iran and Iran's subsequent retaliation, triggering sweeping airspace restrictions across the region.

According to Reuters, major Gulf hubs were among the hardest hit by the widespread suspension of flight operations. Airports and airlines across the region were forced to temporarily halt services as security concerns mounted.



“Airlines suspended flights across the Middle East on Saturday, including to and from the world's busiest travel hub, Dubai, after the United States and Israel

launched strikes on Iran, plunging the region into a renewed military confrontation.

“Flight maps showed airspace over Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Israel and

Bahrain virtually empty as Israel said it struck

Iran and the U.S. military initiated a series of strikes against targets in the country. Iran retaliated with a salvo of

missiles,” the report read in part.

Major airports, including Dubai International Airport and Al Maktoum International Airport, suspended operations

until further notice and advised passengers not to travel, while airlines such as Emirates and flydubai temporarily halted services to and from Dubai.

Preliminary data from aviation analytics firm Cirium showed a sharp spike in cancellations across the region on Saturday. The figures suggest that disruptions could deepen if airspace restrictions remain in place.

Airlines cancelled nearly 40% of flights to Israel and about 6.7% of flights to the wider Middle East region.

European carriers, including British Airways, Lufthansa, Air France, Iberia and Wizz Air, suspended or cancelled services to Tel Aviv, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Amman and Bahrain.

Regional operators such as Qatar Airways, Kuwait Airways and Turkish Airlines also temporarily halted select routes.

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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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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General News

NYCN Diaspora Adopts 2026 Constitution, Unveils Nigeria Diaspora Youth Day

Culled:
The Diaspora arm of the National Youth Council of Nigeria, NYCN, has formally adopted its 2026 Constitution, strengthening its mandate as the umbrella body and statutory mouthpiece for Nigerian youths and youth organisations outside the country.

The new constitutional framework, enacted on February 23, 2026, in London, is designed to entrench transparency, accountability and structured global coordination of Nigerian youths in the Diaspora.

NYCN Diaspora President, Amb. Collins Osazee Idahosa, said the development marks a significant milestone in consolidating the Council's role in advocating for the rights and interests of Nigerian youths abroad, while promoting inclusive participation in Nigeria's governance process.

According to him, the Council remains committed to ensuring that Nigerian youths in the Diaspora realise their full potential through advocacy, consular and integration guidance, social enlightenment, mobilization and strategic partnerships.

Operating under the motto, "Build the Youth, Build the Nation," the Council,



Idahosa

he said, will leverage the new constitution to deepen youth development initiatives on a global scale.

The 2026 Constitution establishes a comprehensive governance structure with clearly defined organs to drive its international operations.

At the apex is the Diaspora Youth Congress, designated as the highest decision-making organ of the Council. The framework also provides for a Diaspora Board of

Trustees, empowered to function as the internal conscience and legal supervisory body of the organisation.

In addition, a Diaspora Advisory Council has been constituted to provide expert guidance, mentorship and policy oversight, while the Diaspora Executive Council will serve as the administrative and executive authority responsible for implementing and interpreting the Council's

global vision.

Speaking on the significance of the new constitutional order, Idahosa said: "As we operationalize this new Constitution, our focus remains squarely on our vision, to empower Nigerian youth in the Diaspora toward global impact, national pride and individual excellence."

Meanwhile, the Council has announced the institution of "Nigeria Diaspora Youth Day," slated for August 22, 2026, in London.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NITDA, Abia Partner On Enterprise Architecture Reform

Culled:
In alignment with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's priority areas of economic reform, digital innovation, and improved governance, the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) has reiterated its commitment to supporting sub-national governments in building integrated, data-driven systems that enhance service delivery and drive sustainable growth.

This commitment was reinforced at the Future Enterprise & Data Architecture of Abia State workshop themed "One Citizen, One Identity: Unlocking Data-Driven Governance." The high-level engagement brought together policymakers, technocrats, and development partners to chart a pathway toward a unified digital public sector anchored on interoperability and citizen-centric governance.

The workshop, organised by the state's Ministry of Budget and Planning and declared open by Governor Alex Otti, who was represented by the Deputy Governor, Engr Ikechukwu Emetu, focused on strengthening interoperability among Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to enhance revenue generation and improve service delivery across the state.

Speaking during a panel session titled "Breaking Silos, Building One Government," the Director General of NITDA, Kashifu Inuwa CCIE, who was represented by the Agency's Director of Stakeholder Management and Partnership, Dr Aristotle Onumo, emphasised that collaboration remains the cornerstone of successful digital transformation.

"One thing that is very clear is partnership and collaboration. If you want to take advantage of collective intelligence, then partnership is the key. If you want to succeed in building a unified government system, collaboration is the way to go,"

He stressed that digital transformation is not merely about deploying technology but about transforming people and culture.

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Services Drive Nigeria's GDP To 4.07% In Q4 2025



National Bureau of Statistics

Culled:
The services sector has continued to dominate the Nigerian economy as its contribution drove the country's real gross domestic product to 4.07 per cent year-over-year. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), in its

fourth quarter 2025 GDP figures released over the weekend, noted that the services sector continued to dominate overall output, accounting for more than half of aggregate GDP. According to the NBS, the sector's share rose marginally to 55.92 per cent in Q4 2025,

compared with 55.87 per cent in the same quarter of the previous year.

In 2023, the GDP grew by 4.1 per cent, in 2024, the rate was 3.38 per cent, and in 2025, it grew by 3.87 per cent.

"On an annual basis, the growth rate in 2025 stood at 3.87 per cent from 3.38 per cent in 2024," NBS said.

The report shows that in the first three quarters of 2025, Nigeria's GDP growth was 3.19 per cent in Q1, 4.23 per cent in Q2 and 3.98 per cent in Q3.

The data from NBS showed that the Q4 performance surpassed the 3.76 per cent growth recorded in the corresponding period of 2024, reinforcing signs of broad-based economic resilience.

According to the report, agriculture

recorded stronger growth during the period, with 4.00 per cent, an improvement from the 2.54 per cent recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2024.

Industrial activities also gained momentum, reflecting improved performance across manufacturing and related sub-sectors, while services remained the largest driver of economic expansion. The growth of the industry sector stood at 3.88 per cent from 2.49 per cent recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024, while the services sector recorded a growth of 4.15 per cent from 4.75 per cent in the same quarter of 2024.

On a full-year basis, economic growth strengthened in 2025, reflecting steady gains across key sectors of the economy.

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Mohammed Idris

Fake News Major Threat To Nigeria's Future, Says Information Minister

Culled: The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris, on Saturday warned that fake news and digital disinformation pose a grave threat to Nigeria's moral foundation and long-term stability, urging citizens, especially the youth, to embrace verification and responsibility in the digital space. Idris spoke in Kaduna on Saturday, at the 20th Joint Ramadan Lecture organised by the Nigerian Television Authority, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, and the Voice of Nigeria in Kaduna, describing the digital age as a defining moment for Nigeria's unity

and moral direction. The lecture, held at Lumana Hall, Zamani College, Kaduna, had as its theme: Digital Technology and the Moral Future: Navigating the Fitna of Our Time with Faith and Purpose. According to the minister, while digital technology has unlocked unprecedented opportunities for learning, enterprise and innovation, it has also "unleashed forces that threaten our moral fabric," with misinformation spreading faster than truth. "We live in an age where a single smartphone can broadcast lies before truth can respond," Idris said, warning

that algorithms often amplify divisive content because "anger spreads faster than reflection." He noted that disinformation has evolved into a subtle tool of political warfare capable of eroding public trust in institutions, deepening suspicion among citizens, and undermining national cohesion. Citing Surah Al-Hujurat (49:6), he urged Nigerians to adopt a culture of verification, stressing that Islam provides a timeless framework for navigating information disorder through investigation, accountability, and unity. He outlined what he described as key

ethical safeguards: the obligation to verify information, discipline of intention before sharing content, consciousness of accountability before God, humility in admitting limited knowledge, and prioritizing societal harmony over sensationalism. Addressing the youth directly, Idris said Nigeria's predominantly young population must deploy digital tools as instruments of nation-building rather than weapons of division, stressing that "a nation that fails its youth has no future." He maintained that the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu is

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Nigerians Pilgrims Safe In Israel, CAN Chairman

The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Kaduna State chapter, has assured Nigerians that pilgrims from the state currently in Israel are safe despite rising tensions in the Middle East amid reports of possible military action involving Israel, the United States and Iran. Speaking from Israel via a WhatsApp call on behalf of the Kaduna delegation, the State Chairman of CAN, Rev. Maaji Caleb, dismissed

concerns over the safety of the Nigerian pilgrims, stressing that there was no cause for alarm. "We are safe and praying fervently for Kaduna State and Nigeria. There is no cause for alarm here. Every pilgrim from Kaduna is safe," he said. Rev. Caleb explained that the pilgrims have continued their spiritual exercises without disruption, adding that adequate security measures are in place to guarantee their safety.

He noted that although recent developments in the region have sparked global concern, the situation has not affected the Christian holy sites being visited by the delegation. The cleric further disclosed that the pilgrims have devoted time to praying for peace and stability in Nigeria, particularly in Kaduna State. "We are praying for our peace-loving Governor, Senator Uba Sani, and President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for

God's guidance and protection. Nigeria will be great; Kaduna State will be great and enjoy the peace of God all round," he stated. Rev. Caleb urged families and loved ones back home to remain calm, assuring them that the delegation is in constant communication with relevant authorities and tour coordinators. He reaffirmed the commitment of Kaduna Christians to national unity and peaceful coexistence, noting that

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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

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