

Security Scare At Akure Airport Not A Targeted Attack - Keyamo Clarifies

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FG Approves Electric Buses For Civil Servants To Boost Local Auto Industry

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GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Wed, March 18th 2026 E - NEWSPAPER

Oyetola, UK Seal 746M Euros Deal To Upgrade Apapa, Tincan Ports

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Dr. Adegboyega Oyetola, has unveiled a £746 million financing agreement with the United Kingdom that will deliver the modernisation of the country's seaport infrastructure. The financing arrangement, secured with the backing of UK Export Finance (UKEF), will fund the comprehensive modernisation and upgrade of the Apapa and Tin Can Island Port

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Dr. Adegboyega Oyetola - Minister of Marine and Blue Economy

NRC Releases Interim Report On Asham Station Train Incident On Abuja-Kaduna Route

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has issued an interim report on the train incident involving the Kaduna–Abuja service (KA-2) that occurred on March 16, 2026, near Asham Station. According to the report signed by the Managing Director, Kayode Opeifa, the KA-2 service departed Rigasa Station at 7:15 a.m. as scheduled and arrived at Jere Station one minute ahead of time at 8:52 a.m. The train, however, departed Jere at 8:59 a.m., six minutes

CONTINUES ON P7

Eid: FRSC Deploys 1,889 Personnel In Kano

P5

Local Transport News

Kaduna Builds 36km Road To Link 36 Farming Communities

Culled

The Governor of Kaduna State, Uba Sani, has commenced the construction of a 36-kilometre Bagoma–Gagumi road in Birnin Gwari Local Government Area, which will benefit 66 farming communities in the council area.

The Managing Director of the Kaduna State Roads Agency, Abdullahi Ahmed, disclosed this during an inspection visit to the ongoing project on Sunday, describing the governor's rural road development initiative as transformative.

According to him, when completed, the Bagoma–Gagumi road would surpass the recently inaugurated Gadan Gayan–Gwaraji–Kujama road, which currently ranks among the longest roads constructed by the administration.

The earlier 35-kilometre road cuts across three local government areas — Igabi, Kajuru and Chikun local government areas — and includes a 130-metre bridge over the Kaduna River, serving several rural

communities.

Baba Ahmed said the Bagoma–Gagumi road would significantly improve the socio-economic conditions of residents in Birnin Gwari, noting that 66 farming communities would benefit directly from the project.

“The road will link farmers to markets, residents to schools and hospitals, and open up the area in a way that will significantly impact the local economy,” he said.

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Governor Sani

Oyetola, UK Seal 746m Euros Deal To Upgrade Apapa, Tincan Ports

Culled

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Dr. Adegboyega Oyetola, has unveiled a £746 million financing agreement with the United Kingdom that will deliver the modernisation of the country's seaport infrastructure.

The financing arrangement, secured with the backing of UK Export Finance (UKEF), will fund the comprehensive modernisation and upgrade of the Apapa and Tin Can Island Port Complexes in Lagos, after 50 years of construction.

In a statement issued yesterday by the Special Adviser to the Minister, Dr. Bolaji Akinola, Oyetola said both ports handle over 70 per cent of Nigeria's imports and exports, and serve as the central arteries of the nation's maritime trade.

He said the financing agreement will be formally signed during President Bola Tinubu's high-profile state visit to London on March 18 and 19, 2026.

The Minister described the financing package as a transformative milestone for the country's port system, noting that

the scale and scope of the modernisation project mark the first comprehensive overhaul of the facilities since their establishment.

The Lagos Port Complex Apapa, established in 1913, has remained Nigeria's oldest and busiest seaport for more than a century, serving as the gateway for a vast proportion of the nation's imports and exports.

The Tin Can Island Port Complex was later developed to complement Apapa and was officially commissioned on 14 October 1977.

Oyetola said that despite their strategic importance, neither facility has experienced a modernisation programme of this magnitude, making the initiative the most significant port upgrade undertaken by the Federal Government in almost 50 years.

According to Oyetola, the project forms a central pillar of the Federal Government's broader agenda to unlock the vast economic potential of Nigeria's marine and blue economy.

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LAMATA Begins Compensation For Residents Displaced By Blue Line Rail Project

Culled

The Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority has officially kicked off the compensation process for tenants and occupants affected by land acquisition for the Blue Line rail depot at Okokomaiko, as part of the expansive Lagos Rail Mass Transit Blue Line project.

The announcement came after a stakeholder engagement meeting held at the palace of the Oniba of Iba Kingdom, Oba Sulaimon Adeshina, where traditional leaders, project-affected residents, and LAMATA officials gathered to discuss compensation procedures and project timelines.

According to a post on LAMATA's X handle on Tuesday, at the meeting, LAMATA's Rail Project Manager, Abidemi Atobatele, outlined the process for tenants to claim their compensation.

He said, “Tenants were informed of the documentation required to facilitate the processing of their claims, including their Project Affected Persons (PAP) cards, tenancy rent receipts, recent passport photographs, and valid means of



LAMATA

identification.”

Atobatele stressed that the authority aims to make the process “transparent, fair and timely,” noting that the compensation exercise is scheduled to run from Wednesday through Friday next week to allow for an orderly payout. Oba Sulaimon Adeshina urged residents to cooperate with the Lagos State Government to ensure the successful

delivery of the rail project and encouraged those with concerns or special appeals to bring them forward through the palace so they can be communicated to LAMATA and state authorities.

Residents were reminded that this compensation is part of a broader land acquisition effort needed to clear space for the depot, which will support the Blue Line's expansion, a key public-transport

infrastructure initiative intended to improve mobility and economic activity along the corridor.

LAMATA also reiterated that the documentation requirements and compensation procedures are designed to uphold fairness and international best practices in resettlement and compensation for infrastructure-affected persons.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News

FRSC Takes Road Safety Campaign To Ogun Motor Parks

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Ogun Sector Command, has taken a road safety campaign to motor parks across the state, ahead of the Eid-el-Fitri celebrations.

The Public Relations Officer of the Command, Odunsi Afolabi, said the move is to ensure a crash-free festive season, in line with the directives of the national headquarters, with the aim of sensitising the motoring public on the necessity of adopting safe driving habits during and after the festivities.

Representing the Sector Commander, Corps Commander Akinwunmi Fasakin, the Sector Head of Operations, Deputy Corps Commander Samuel Ogundayo, led the exercise which commenced from the Sector Command Headquarters and culminated at the busy Panseke Motor Park.

While addressing officers and transport stakeholders, DCC Ogundayo emphasized the importance of

discipline and civility.

He urged motorists to shun "critical offenses" that often lead to avoidable tragedies, specifically excessive speeding and dangerous overtaking; overloading of passengers and goods; use of mobile phones while behind the wheel, and driving under the influence of alcohol or tiredness.

During the rally, personnel distributed safety flyers and utilised megaphones to engage directly with drivers and commuters at the parks, ensuring that

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FRSC Officers in Ogun motor parks

FG Engages Concessionaires To Automate Airport Access Gate Payments

Culled

Following the earlier suspension of the full cashless access gate payment system by President Bola Tinubu after it triggered severe traffic congestion at airport entry points, the Federal Government has announced plans to introduce a fully automated electronic payment system at airport access gates nationwide.

The minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, disclosed this on Tuesday, noting that the government will engage concessionaires to deploy a more efficient and seamless automated payment infrastructure across the country's airports.

In a statement issued by the minister's special adviser on Media and Communications, Tunde Moshood, the planned concession is expected to fully automate the access gate payment system and eventually eliminate cash transactions.

According to the minister, while the concession process is underway, the

government has approved the temporary reintroduction of a hybrid payment system that allows both cash and electronic payments at the airport access gate.

"After reviewing the initial implementation and the operational challenges observed, the Ministry has resolved to engage concessionaires to introduce a fully automated or electronic system at all access gates at our airports in order to fully and eventually eliminate cash payments," the statement said.

"In the meantime, a hybrid payment system that accommodates both cash and card payments will resume at all airport access gates with effect from Friday, March 13, 2026. Motorists who already possess FAAN Go Cashless Cards may continue to use them until further notice."

The minister also urged road users and airport visitors to obtain and use the FAAN Go Cashless Card as the authority continues to enhance and optimise the electronic payment system.

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FG Approves Electric Buses For Civil Servants To Boost Local Auto Industry

Culled

Mr Osanipin said the buses would be sourced from local assemblers to strengthen domestic manufacturing and boost growth in Nigeria's automotive sector.

The federal government has approved the acquisition of electric buses for civil servants as part of efforts to promote local vehicle assembly and accelerate Nigeria's transition to cleaner transportation.

The director-general of the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), Joseph Osanipin, said this during a briefing for journalists in Abuja on Tuesday.

Mr Osanipin said the buses would be sourced from local assemblers to strengthen domestic manufacturing and boost growth in Nigeria's automotive sector.

He said the government had also procured charging infrastructure that would be installed in parts of the country to support the deployment and adoption of electric vehicles.

According to him, the initiative aims to



Mr Osanipin

encourage the transition to cleaner mobility while creating opportunities for local manufacturers.

Mr Osanipin also said the council was establishing an automotive development park in Nnewi, Anambra, to strengthen Nigeria's automotive ecosystem.

He said the facility, known as the Nnewi Automotive Development Park, would provide shared infrastructure for

automotive manufacturers and component producers.

"We are developing the Nnewi Automotive Development Park, where we will provide the necessary infrastructure so that users of the park can share facilities.

"The arrangement will allow investors and manufacturers to operate without having to individually provide all the required infrastructure before

establishing operations," he said.

He said the council was currently seeking additional investment to accelerate development of the park and attract more players into the sector.

Mr Osanipin urged Nigerians to patronise locally assembled vehicles, noting that doing so would help create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

He said NADDC was also providing training to manufacturers and other stakeholders to promote local production of vehicle components such as batteries and tyres.

The director-general said the move would reduce import dependence, create employment opportunities and contribute to the country's gross domestic product.

He said the council was working with the Bank of Industry (BOI) to facilitate the disbursement of the National Automotive Development Fund to qualified stakeholders.

Mr Osanipin also said NADDC was working toward forwarding a bill to the National Assembly of Nigeria to

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Local Transport News

Lagos Taskforce Clears Air On BRT Enforcement

Culled

Chairman of the Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences Enforcement Unit (Taskforce) Mr Adetayo Akerele, has reassured residents of the unit's commitment to public safety, sanitation and traffic order.

Akerele gave the reassurance during a quarterly media parley held at its headquarters in Oshodi on Tuesday.

He also warned against false reports by the media, urging that proper verifications be made before publication.

The chairman noted that some members of the public and media outlets had wrongly conflated the task force's activities with those of other government agencies, especially with regard to enforcement along the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor.

"The rules governing the corridor are not for the benefit of the task force or any agency, but for the larger Lagos population.

"Our interventions aim to ensure safety, convenience, and peace of mind for

Lagosians," he said.

Akerele also addressed a recent controversy surrounding a video circulated by an online television platform, claiming that taskforce officials had hijacked a vehicle and drove same on a one-way.

"An internal investigation confirmed the videos were misleading, showing that the vehicle had been impounded for driving against traffic and the operatives provided video evidence showing the driver attempted to escape.

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Akerele

Culled

The Kano Sector Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has deployed no fewer than 1,889 personnel and operational logistics for the 2026 Eid-el-Fitri Special Patrol Operations.

A statement on Tuesday by the Sector Command's Public Relations Officer, Abdullahi Labaran, confirmed the development, adding that the operation is expected to commence from Tuesday, 17th to 22nd March 2026.

"The Federal Road Safety Corps, Kano Sector Command has deployed 1,889 personnel and operational logistics for the 2026 Eid-el-Fitr Special Patrol Operations scheduled for 17-22 March 2026 to ensure safe and smooth travels during the Sallah celebrations," the statement said.

According to the statement, the special patrol was aimed at reducing road traffic crashes, fatalities and injuries while ensuring the free flow of traffic across major highways and roads in the state.

"The deployment comprises 1,348

Eid: FRSC Deploys 1,889 Personnel In Kano

Regular Marshals and 541 Special Marshals, who will maintain 24-hour patrol operations across the 44 Local Government Areas of Kano State.

"The operation will be supported by five ambulances, a heavy-duty tow truck, and 25 patrol vehicles to guarantee prompt rescue services and quick clearance of road obstructions," it added.

It added that the Corps will focus enforcement on critical traffic offences, including speeding, dangerous overtaking, lane indiscipline, overloading, use of mobile phones while driving, seat-belt violations, tyre offences, road obstruction and operation of mechanically deficient vehicles.

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Security Scare At Akure Airport Not A Targeted Attack - Keyamo Clarifies



Keyamo

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, on Tuesday cleared the air on the recent security breach at the Akure Airport in Ondo State, saying the incident was not a direct attack on aviation infrastructure.

He said the airport was not the intended target of the attackers.

Keyamo made this known while speaking on a public affairs programme on Eagle 102.5 FM, Ilese-Ijebu, Ogun State, while addressing growing public concerns over safety within Nigeria's airport system.

The minister explained that the incident, which generated conflicting narratives between

aviation authorities and the police, must be properly understood within the context, noting that what occurred was an external security situation that spilled into the airport premises rather than a deliberate attempt to compromise aviation safety.

"Okay, there are two angles to this. The first is the conflicting statements and the second of why they will gain access in the first place. Of course, the first one, the conflicting statements, you know, when people sit down in Lagos and Abuja and rely on information of their lieutenants on the ground, sometimes, not all the time, sometimes you are bound to have them such discrepancies because you are not physically there," he said.

He emphasised that available accounts indicate that individuals suspected to be fleeing from a security situation involving bandits or kidnappers gained access to the airport through a vulnerable section of the perimeter fence, rather than targeting passengers or airport

operations. According to him, the distinction is critical in preventing unnecessary panic and preserving public confidence in the safety of Nigeria's aviation sector.

Recall that on Monday, the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) reported that four suspected bandits were arrested around the Akure Airport following a joint security operation triggered by a distress alert over suspicious movements near the airport perimeter.

However, the Nigeria Police Force in Ondo State, in a statement by its spokesperson, Abayomi Jimoh, dismissed the claim as misleading, insisting that no such arrest took place at the airport. The police clarified that only two suspected logistics suppliers aiding kidnappers were apprehended along the Eleyewo and Ilu-Abo axis, not within the airport facility.

Keyamo acknowledged discrepancies in reports issued by aviation agencies and the police, attributing the inconsistencies to bureaucratic communication gaps rather than

deliberate misinformation.

He noted that in large institutional structures, especially within government, reports often pass through multiple layers before reaching decision-makers, which can sometimes result in variations in the details presented. The minister explained that officials issuing statements from headquarters in cities like Lagos or Abuja often rely on information relayed from personnel on the ground, which may not always capture the full picture in real time.

"The person issuing a statement in Lagos at the headquarters in Lagos is not physically on the ground, and I think maybe that's what happened. I'm also trying to get the full reports from all parties. Now, being the minister, I'm trying to get from all sides, but obviously what happened was that, of course, there was an intrusion into the airport in Akure, Akure airport, not that they were targeting the airport. The airport was not a target. Let us be very clear about this. In all the accounts, the airport was never a target.

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- Wear a respirator or paint mask
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QUALITY EMULSION

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Local Transport News

NRC Releases Interim Report On Asham Station Train Incident On Abuja-Kaduna Route

Culled

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has issued an interim report on the train incident involving the Kaduna–Abuja service (KA-2) that occurred on March 16, 2026, near Asham Station.

According to the report signed by the Managing Director, Kayode Opeifa, the KA-2 service departed Rigasa Station at 7:15 a.m. as scheduled and arrived at Jere Station one minute ahead of time at 8:52 a.m.

The train, however, departed Jere at 8:59 a.m., six minutes behind schedule, due to the coupling of locomotive 2809 to enhance operational resilience.

The incident occurred at about 9:16 a.m. between kilometre points 50 and 51, as the train approached Asham Station. A loud bang was reported when the power car and trailing locomotive collided with one of the passenger coaches.



The train incident

Preliminary findings indicate a possible fault with one or more couplers, although investigations are ongoing to determine the exact cause. The NRC confirmed that no derailment occurred.

Following the incident, locomotive 2809, power car BVA0002, and passenger coach SP0006 — were detached from the train. The train had 481 occupants on board, arriving Kubwa Station at 10:10 a.m. and terminating at Idu Station, Abuja, at 10:39 a.m., recording a total delay of 38 minutes. The service resumed movement at 9:42 a.m., including 429

passengers out of 459 booked, 10 crew members, 26 security personnel, six vendors, eight cleaners, and two third-party operators.

The NRC reported that 26 individuals sustained varying degrees of injuries, including passengers, medical personnel, cleaners, and security staff attached to the service.

Despite the disruption, the corporation restored operations later in the day. The return service, AK1, departed Idu for Rigasa at 2:48 p.m., significantly behind its scheduled 11:00 a.m. departure, and arrived Kaduna at 5:33 p.m. The Managing Director and other NRC officials were on board.

Subsequently, the KA-4 service departed Rigasa at 6:12 p.m., arriving Kubwa at 8:31 p.m. and Idu Station at 8:58 p.m., with the Managing Director still on board.

The NRC stated that investigations into the cause of the incident are ongoing and assured the public of its commitment to safety across the rail network.

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Oborevori Unveils Delta Road To Boost Local Economy



Governor Oborevori commissioning the 31km road in Delta State

Governor of Delta State, Sheriff Oborevori, has commissioned the reconstructed 31-kilometre Ohoror–Bomadi Road, describing the project as a major step toward boosting economic activities and improving connectivity in riverine communities.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony on Tuesday, Oborevori said his administration is committed to ensuring that development reaches all parts of the state, particularly areas that have historically been underserved.

He noted that the road, which links several local government areas including Ughelli

North, Ughelli South, Patani, Burutu, and Bomadi, would significantly reduce travel time, ease the movement of people and goods, and open up new economic opportunities for residents.

“We are resolved to rewrite the story of our riverine communities. Our administration is committed to ensuring that sustainable development gets to every part of the state, regardless of terrain or location,” he insisted.

Oborevori emphasized that infrastructure development remains a key driver of economic growth, adding that improved road networks would help connect farmers to markets, attract investments, and strengthen rural-urban integration.

He explained that the project involved complex engineering works tailored to the swampy terrain, including sand filling, soil stabilization, concrete reinforcement, embankment

protection, and asphalt surfacing. According to him, the road spans between 6.5 and 10.3 metres in width, with hard shoulders in some sections.

The governor also disclosed that his administration had approved projects worth over ₦400 billion across critical sectors such as infrastructure, health, education, power, judiciary, and security.

On power supply, he said efforts were ongoing to improve electricity access through the extension of transmission lines and installation of transformers, noting that some communities that had been without power for years had now been reconnected to the national grid.

He further revealed plans to strengthen security across the state, including the construction of police divisions in all 25 local government areas and the establishment of a Special Protection Base.

Earlier, the Commissioner for Works (Rural Roads) and Public Information, Charles Aniagwu, said the road project traverses multiple communities and was designed with modern engineering solutions to ensure durability.

In his remarks, Chairman of Bomadi Local Government Council, Hon. Dagidi Andaye, described the project as a historic intervention, noting that the area had not witnessed such development in over a decade.

Community leaders and stakeholders also commended the governor for his commitment to inclusive governance, saying the road would reduce accidents, lower transportation costs, and improve livelihoods.

The event attracted a large turnout of residents, political leaders, and traditional rulers, reflecting widespread appreciation for the project and its expected impact on the region.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Ethiopian Airlines To Inaugurate Three New Domestic Airports

Culled
Ethiopian Airlines, the largest network operating carrier in Africa, announced plans to inaugurate three new domestic airports and launch passenger flights to the destinations by mid-April 2026.

The new airports are located in Negele Borena, Gore Metu, and Debre Markos.

Ethiopian plans to operate thrice weekly passenger flights to each of the destinations. The addition of the three destinations increases Ethiopian Airlines' domestic network to 26, further boosting air connectivity throughout the country.

Commenting on the achievements, Ethiopian Airlines Group CEO Mr. Mesfin Tasew said, "The inauguration of these three new airports, along with the commencement of passenger services, represents a major



milestone for Ethiopian Airlines and for the nation as a whole. This expansion reflects our steadfast commitment to enhancing connectivity within Ethiopia and

serves as a powerful driver of economic growth and regional development. Its mission is to build an inclusive and integrated air transport network that

empowers communities, unlocks economic opportunities, and supports national development by making safe, reliable, and efficient air travel

accessible to all." As Ethiopian Airlines prepares to integrate the three new destinations into its network, its focus on modernizing the domestic travel

experience remains firm, highlighted by infrastructure renovation and enhancement.

It is to be recalled that the airline inaugurated Yabello airport as the 23rd domestic destination in 2025.

Ethiopian Airlines Group (Ethiopian) is a true African success story, transforming a visionary dream into a globally renowned reality for nearly eight decades.

Operating flights to more than 160 domestic and international passenger, and cargo destinations across five continents, Ethiopian bridges the gaps between Africa and the world.

Emphasizing passenger comfort and environmental sustainability, Ethiopian utilizes ultra-modern aircraft such as Boeing 737s, 777s, 787s, Airbus A350-900, A350-1000 and De Havilland Q400. Ethiopian, the Star Alliance [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 Deploys New Diagnostic Technology To Close Tuberculosis Detection Gap

Culled: Nigeria is intensifying efforts to detect and treat tuberculosis with the rollout of new diagnostic technology, as health officials and partners warn that thousands of cases remain undetected across the country.

At the 2026 Pre-World TB Day press briefing in Abuja, the Director of Public Health, Dr Charles Nzelu, announced that the Federal Government is deploying over a thousand units of the Pluslife Mini Dock diagnostic platform to expand access to testing, particularly in underserved communities.

"This near-point-of-care technology is a game-changer, allowing us to bring molecular-grade testing to the most remote communities, ensuring that no Nigerian is left behind due to geography," he said.

The initiative forms part of broader efforts to bridge gaps in tuberculosis detection as Nigeria approaches the final phase of its 2021–2026 National Strategic Plan.

While the country has recorded improvements in case notification, Nzelu acknowledged that the burden of the disease remains high.

"We have significantly increased TB case notification. However, we must be frank: the burden remains high. To



Pre-world Tuberculosis Day Conference

bridge the gap, we are leading with innovation," he stated.

Beyond diagnostics, the government is strengthening electronic reporting systems to enable real-time data tracking from health facilities to national dashboards, a move aimed at improving supply chain management and preventing shortages of essential medicines.

"This transparency allows us to manage our supply chain effectively and prevent stock-outs of life-saving medicines,"

Nzelu said.

He emphasised that technology alone is not enough, highlighting the role of community health workers, TB survivors and the media in tackling stigma and improving treatment outcomes.

"Our progress is powered by people, the community health workers, the brave TB survivors, and the journalists in this room who help us fight the stigma that still prevents many from seeking care," he added.

Also speaking, the Acting National Coordinator of the National Tuberculosis, Leprosy and Buruli Ulcer Control Programme, Dr Clement Adesigbin, said Nigeria remains among high-burden countries but stressed that progress is being made through coordinated national efforts.

"It is not about whether we are first or second; the important thing is what we are doing to change the narrative," he said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

FG Must Save Nigerian Workers From Current Shock

Culled:

The President of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), comrade Joe Ajaero has called for an immediate Federal Government intervention of the collective anguish of millions of Nigerian workers bearing the brutal cost of a global capitalist crisis they did not create.

Ajaero said the military escalation involving the US, Israel, and Iran has sent shockwaves through global oil markets making petrol prices in Nigeria have skyrocketed to between N1,170 and N1,300 per litre.

"This is a direct assault on the Nigerian people. While imperialist rivalries play out with bombs abroad, our working class is bombarded with poverty and hunger because, we have refused to ensure that our Public refineries are operational.

"This crisis has brutally exposed the fragility of Nigeria's downstream sector, tearing off the mask of those who claimed local refining made us immune".

According to him, the Dangote Refinery has adjusted its prices in lockstep with global volatility, passing the burden directly to the masses.

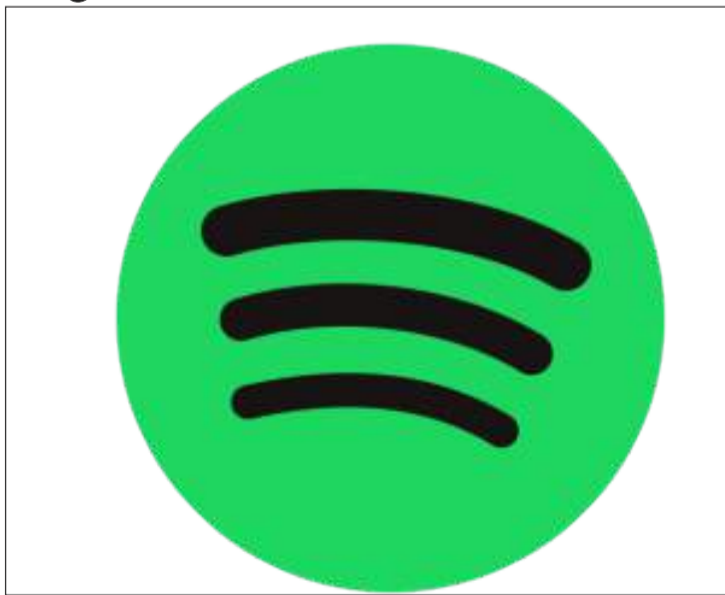
"This makes a lie of comfortable narratives about meeting domestic demand. As long as we remain dependent on a market-driven pricing structure tied to global vicissitudes, and refuse to bring our public assets to life, we will remain hostages to wars and speculators.

"The NLC warned of the danger of sabotaging our refineries to create a monopoly. This is a wake-up call for the managers of our economy. No nation achieves economic freedom by exporting jobs and importing prices.

"The government must immediately halt the vandalism of the public sector and bring the Port Harcourt, Warri, and Kaduna refineries back on stream; not as a favour, but as a right of the Nigerian people to cushion themselves from a hostile global order.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigerian Artists Earn Over \$42m From Spotify Streams In 2025



Spotify

Culled: Nigerian musicians' annual revenue from Spotify in 2025 crossed \$42m, painting a vivid picture of a market that is thriving at home and making waves internationally, according to the platform's latest data.

The figures were disclosed in Spotify's annual Loud & Clear report, which examines how artists generate income from streams and how listeners engage with music across international markets.

According to the report, revenue generated by Nigerian artists on Spotify

rose by more than 140 per cent over the past two years, indicating a surge in local consumption and stronger demand from international listeners.

The report revealed that in 2025, Nigerian musicians were streamed 30.3bn times and accumulated 1.6bn listening hours, with first-time listeners discovering tracks by Nigerian artists more than 1.3bn times during the year, a 26 per cent increase on 2024.

Local music also dominated Spotify's Nigerian charts, with Nigerian artists featuring on more than 80 percent of the platform's Daily Top 50 in the country. Meanwhile, local streaming of Nigerian music jumped by 170 percent year-on-year, suggesting deeply rooted domestic support for homegrown talent.

Jocelyne Muhutu-Remy, Spotify's Managing Director for Africa, said Nigeria's music scene continues to defy expectations.

"Nigeria's music story continues to be one of creativity, innovation, and global cultural influence. What we're seeing is a market where talent is not only reaching new audiences around the world but also building deeper connections at home," she said.

Emerging and independent artists also saw major gains on the platform. Streams of Nigerian female artists increased by 55 per cent year-on-year, while those from independent artists grew by 75 per cent, underlining a broadening of the music ecosystem beyond established names.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



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Prince Malik

Nigeria, UAE Firms Sign \$200m Defence Technology Pact

Culled:

Nigeria is set to attract up to \$200m in investment to develop defence technology, cybersecurity capabilities, and satellite infrastructure following a strategic partnership between Nigeria-based Nigus International Investment Limited and UAE-headquartered Elmirate Investment LLC (Elmirate Capital).

The two companies signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a next-generation technology and advanced manufacturing platform in Nigeria aimed at strengthening domestic defence production, expanding space

technologies, and building digital security systems.

Executive Chairman of Nigus International Investment Limited, Prince Malik Ado-Ibrahim, said the initiative reflects Africa's growing recognition that technological capability is increasingly linked to economic strength and national security.

"Africa is entering a pivotal phase in its development, where technological capability will increasingly define economic strength and national security," Ado-Ibrahim said in a statement on Monday.

"Through this partnership, we are

working to build a platform in Nigeria that supports innovation, advanced manufacturing, and meaningful technology transfer.

Our objective is to create a sustainable industrial base capable of serving national priorities while contributing to the wider security needs of the region."

The collaboration will be implemented through a newly established special purpose vehicle, Nigus Tactical Systems Ltd, which will serve as the central platform for investment, technology integration, and operational development.

According to the partners, the initiative

is designed to support Nigeria's ambition to strengthen domestic defence production, expand advanced technology capacity, and reduce reliance on imported security infrastructure.

Managing Director of Elmirate Capital, Pankaj Ghode, said the planned investment demonstrates confidence in Nigeria's economic potential and its ambition to emerge as a technology and aerospace hub.

"We are proud to partner with Nigus International on an initiative that aligns with Nigeria's ambition to become a leading technology and aerospace hub," Ghode said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

UK, Nigeria Deepen Trade Ties To Boost Jobs, Expand Operations

In a press statement on Tuesday, companies from both countries expressed their commitment to new investments across key sectors such as financial services, technology, education, and manufacturing.

The investments are driven by ongoing cooperation under the UK-Nigeria Enhanced Trade and Investment Partnership.

The statement noted that Nigerian banks, fintech firms, and creative

industry businesses are scaling up their presence in Britain, while British companies are also increasing investments in Nigeria, strengthening economic ties between the two nations.

The development comes as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mr Bola Ahmed Tinubu, alongside the First Lady, Mrs Oluremi Tinubu, prepares to begin a State Visit to the UK on Wednesday.

Several Nigerian financial institutions are at the forefront of the expansion.

According to the report, Zenith Bank has opened a new branch in Manchester, expected to create about 30 direct jobs. Fidelity Bank has also strengthened its UK presence following the acquisition and rebranding of Union Bank UK, with plans to increase its workforce.

Other banks, including FCMB, are

expanding digital financial services to support cross-border payments between Africa and global markets. In total, about seven Nigerian banks now operate in the UK, supporting at least 1,000 jobs.

Nigerian fintech companies are also making significant investments. LemFi plans to invest £100 million over the next five years and has designated London as its global headquarters.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

There are available grants from National Governments, multinational corporations and NGOS.

The leadership of DSSAA is committed to pursuing these grants at the African Union Secretariat, Ecowas NGO Roundtable and other multilateral Initiatives and making them available to Members only.

CAPACITY DEV.

Membership gives you access to our robust learning portal where you get latest Road Safety Research, scholarship opportunities and internships. Admission to ADPRIP is at a discounted rate. Our interfaces with Government authorities gives you Industry advantages.

NETWORKING

Your participation in our community platforms opens up new business relationship opportunities with operators, Regulators, Vendors, Researchers and Investors across the globe as membership is open worldwide.

GOOD BUSINESS

PROFILE/LEVERAGE

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

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

OTHER BENEFITS

DIGITAL MARKETING

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


JOB FAIR


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

HONORARIUM

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

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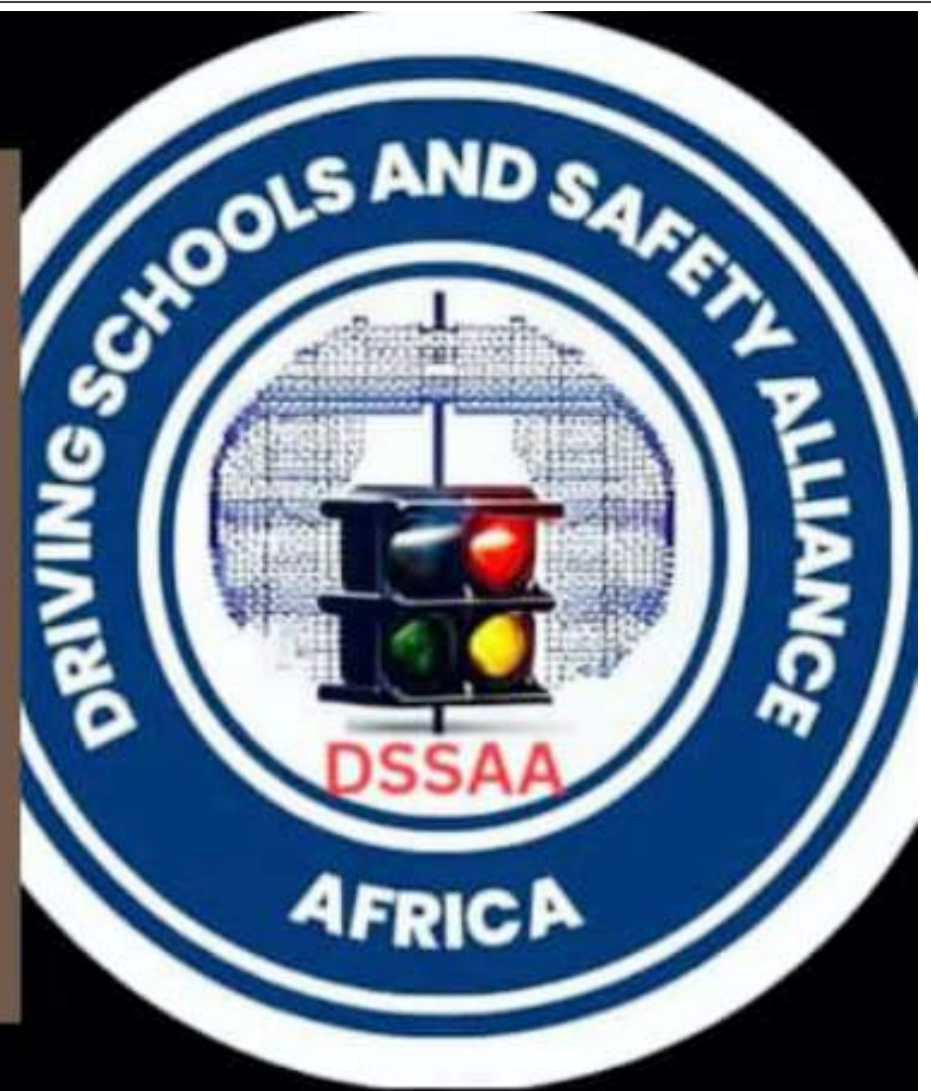


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