

Easter: NRC Schedules Three Lagos-Ibadan Train Trips, Introduces Osun Special Service

The Nigerian Railway Corporation's Chief Public Relations Officer, Callistus Unyimadu, disclosed that the Lagos-Ibadan Train

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NCAA Courts Global Investors To Boost Nigeria's Aviation Sector At NAAIS 2026

The Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Capt. Chris Najomo has sent a clear signal to financiers, lessors,

and global partners to take full advantage of the vistas of opportunities available in Nigeria to invest in the aviation industry.

He made this call during the maiden Nigeria Aircraft Acquisition and Investment Summit 2026, held in Lagos

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Fri, April 3rd 2026

FRSC Reshuffles Leadership, Appoints New Spokesperson And Zonal Commanders

The Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Shehu Mohammed, has approved the

redeployment of 162 senior officers across key formations of the Corps.

Those affected by the new development include Deputy Corps Commander Osondu

Ohaeri, who has been appointed as the new Corps Public Education Officer and

spokesperson of the FRSC.

Others affected by the

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Sanwo-Olu Urges Lagos Residents To Observe Safety During Easter

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Recurring Power Glitch Disrupts Operations At Lagos Int'l Airport

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FG Issues Ultimatum To Maritime Agencies On Performance

P5



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

FRSC Urges Motorists To Limit Travel, Avoid Speeding During Easter

The Federal Road Safety Corps has launched the 2026 Easter Special Patrol Operations, scheduled to run from

April 1 to 8, 2026, to ensure safe and smooth movement of road users during the holiday.

In a statement on

Wednesday, signed by Ag. Corps Public Education Officer, Felicia Kalu, the Corps Marshal Shehu Mohammed,

said the operation was necessitated by the "expected increase in vehicular and human traffic across the country, as Nigerians join the

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NPA Sets N1.489trn Revenue Target For 2026

P5

Local Transport News

FRSC Reshuffles Leadership, Appoints New Spokesperson And Zonal Commanders

Culled

The Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Shehu Mohammed, has approved the redeployment of 162 senior officers across key formations of the Corps.

Those affected by the new development include Deputy Corps Commander Osondu Ohaeri, who has been appointed as the new Corps Public Education Officer and spokesperson of the FRSC.

Others affected by the new posting include the following Zonal Commanding Officers: ACM C. Z. Mathew (RS5HQ Benin), ACM A. L. O. Ruk (RS9HQ Enugu), ACM B. S. Akande (RS10HQ Sokoto), and ACM Leye Adegboyega (RS12HQ Bauchi).

In a statement by Assistant Corps Commander Agboola Olundegun, the development also includes the redeployment of Sector Commanders to key states, including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Rivers, Kaduna, Bauchi, Imo, Benue, Yobe, Ogun, Delta, Osun, Kogi, Bayelsa, and Akwa Ibom, among

others.

The Sector Commanders redeployed are: AP Longkam to Kaduna Sector Command; O Ogunjobi to Ogun Sector Command; VA Kayode-Oni to Benue Sector Command; PE Bedford to Edo Sector Command; CE Edem to Delta Sector Command; FA Ajatta to Rivers Sector Command; FM Kalu Mnipr to Akwa Ibom Sector Command; SO Ordu to Bayelsa Sector Command; and T. Iliyasu to FCT Sector Command.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Mohammed

Fidelity, AFG Partner On Aircraft Leasing, Acqui'ion For Nigerian Airlines

Culled

Fidelity Bank has entered into a strategic partnership with Frankfurt-based Aircraft Finance Germany (AFG) to streamline aircraft leasing and acquisition.

The alliance, announced during the maiden Nigerian Aircraft Acquisition and Investment Summit in Lagos on Thursday marks shift from the prohibitive costs of outright aircraft purchases toward a sustainable, lease-rental-based model for domestic operators.

Stanley Amuchie, Executive Director at Fidelity Bank, emphasised that the collaboration merges local financial muscle with global technical expertise.

"Aviation is an industry where technical know-how is non-negotiable," Amuchie explained.

"By bringing AFG's sourcing capabilities together with our ability to provide structured finance, we are creating a platform that allows operators to enter the market without the burden of massive upfront capital. You pay lease rentals, you scale your business, and you own

the market."

"We're already doing a lot in Nigeria today. We're financing most of the airlines, the big ones in Nigeria. So, we're just finding another platform to improve on what we're doing already.

"So the arrangement is for us to bring finance and expertise together. Because the aviation industry is one industry you have to have the technical know-how to get into. So we're bringing the technical know-how from AFG and our ability to finance together," he explained.

He mentioned that Fidelity bank has supported Nigerian airlines including Air Peace, especially at a time when companies were skeptical about supporting the sector.

Explaining the partnership, Amuchie said AFG will be able to source the right kind of aircraft based on airlines needs and use while Fidelity provides financing.

"You can buy the assets and be able to lease, so you pay lease rentals. It depends on what the operator wants.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Umahi Commissions Enugu-Onitsha Road Urges S'West Leaders To Promote Tinubu's Projects

Culled

Minister of Works, Dave Umahi, has called on leaders in Nigeria's Southeast to actively promote the achievements of Bola Ahmed Tinubu, stressing that silence could weaken public support for the administration.

Umahi made the appeal on Thursday during the inauguration of the first 15-kilometre stretch of the reconstructed second lane of the Enugu-Onitsha Expressway, a key economic corridor linking major commercial hubs in the region.

Describing the road as one of the most strategic in the Southeast, the minister noted that the route had long been in poor condition, causing severe delays for commuters. He said the ongoing reconstruction is already transforming travel time and boosting economic activity.

"We must be vocal about what the president is doing," Umahi said. "Supporting the government goes beyond words—it requires telling our people the truth about ongoing



Umahi commissions the Enugu-Onitsha road

development."

He explained that the project, which had previously suffered delays under a tax credit arrangement, gained momentum after President Tinubu intervened in 2023. According to him, the administration approved a redesign using reinforced concrete technology to ensure durability.

Umahi revealed that while one

section of the project retained its original contract value of ₦202 billion, an additional 72-kilometre stretch was redesigned at an estimated ₦150 billion, bringing the total cost to over ₦350 billion.

The minister added that the nearly completed 15-kilometre portion—about 97 per cent finished—was opened ahead of the

Easter period to ease traffic congestion and improve travel experience for road users.

Beyond the Enugu-Onitsha Expressway, Umahi highlighted several ongoing federal road projects across the Southeast, including sections of the Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway and the Second Niger Bridge bypass.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Sanwo-Olu Urges Lagos Resident To Observe Safety During Easter

Culled

The Governor of Lagos State, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, has called on residents to prioritise safety and exercise caution as they celebrate the Easter festivities.

The appeal was conveyed through the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency, which also reassured the public of its preparedness to respond to emergencies during the period.

In a statement issued by the agency's Permanent Secretary, Olufemi Oke-Osanyintolu, residents were urged to remain vigilant and avoid actions that could result in accidents or disasters.

He stressed the need for individuals to be mindful of their environment and take necessary precautions to ensure a safe and hitch-free celebration.

Oke-Osanyintolu noted that LASEMA, in collaboration with other emergency response agencies, remains on high alert and fully equipped to handle any incidents that may arise across the state.

While reaffirming the agency's

readiness, he encouraged residents to promptly report emergencies by calling the toll-free numbers 112 or 767.

"We are prepared to respond swiftly to emergencies, but we also urge residents to take proactive measures to prevent avoidable incidents," he said.

Governor Sanwo-Olu extended his Easter greetings to residents, wishing them a peaceful and incident-free celebration, while reiterating the state government's commitment to safeguarding lives and property.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Governor Sanwo-Olu

Recurring Power Glitch Disrupts Operations At Lagos Int'l Airport

Culled

Operations at Murtala Muhammed International Airport were again thrown into temporary disarray following an electrical fault that triggered smoke at the airport's Terminal Three.

The incident, which occurred around mid-afternoon, caused concern among passengers and airport staff as emergency responders swiftly moved in to contain the situation. Officials confirmed that the Aerodrome Rescue and Firefighting Services were immediately deployed, preventing the fault from escalating into a major fire outbreak.

As a precaution, flight operations were redirected from Terminal Three to Terminal Two, forcing passengers to adjust travel plans amid the disruption.

This marks the second electrical-related incident at the airport within five weeks, raising fresh concerns

over infrastructure reliability. A similar fault in February led to a significant fire at the older terminal, destroying property belonging to concessionaires and agencies operating within the facility.

Despite the recurring glitches, the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria assured that safety protocols remain intact and that swift response measures helped avert a larger crisis.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government reiterated its commitment to upgrading the airport. Speaking at an aviation summit, Aviation Minister Festus Keyamo disclosed that about \$500 million has been invested in modernising the facility as part of a broader N712 billion overhaul project aimed at transforming the airport into a world-class hub.

While authorities continue to push for long-term upgrades, the latest disruption highlights the urgent need for stable infrastructure at Nigeria's busiest international gateway.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NCAA Courts Global Investors To Boost Nigeria's Aviation Sector At NAAIS 2026

Culled

The Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Capt. Chris Najomo has sent a clear signal to financiers, lessors, and global partners to take full advantage of the vistas of opportunities available in Nigeria to invest in the aviation industry. He made this call during the maiden Nigeria Aircraft Acquisition and Investment Summit 2026, held in Lagos between April 1 and 2, 2026, themed "Unlocking Capital, Confidence and Capacity in Nigeria Aviation."

The programme is aimed at extracting tangible deliverables that unlock Nigeria's aviation potential for investment and aircraft acquisition.

According to Capt. Najomo, in line with the federal government of Nigeria's Renewed Hope Agenda, and in a bid to boost aviation sector growth, Nigeria has domesticated the Cape Town Convention in the Civil Aviation Act 2022 and signed an updated Irrevocable Deregistration and Export Request Authorisation (IDERA), which has significantly impacted on the



NCAA

Nigerian aviation market by enhancing the safety and efficiency of aircraft leasing and financing.

While identifying three interconnected pillars upon which the future of our aviation sector must be built, including unlocking capital, unlocking confidence, and unlocking capacity, Capt. Najomo affirmed the NCAA's commitment to enforcing IDERA with fidelity.

He assured aircraft financiers and

lessors alike not to worry, declaring that Nigeria's market is open, structured, and reform-driven, with a proactive, data-driven, and internationally aligned CAA, and with airlines ready to engage responsibly and competitively.

He, however, reaffirmed the optimism of the NCAA in workable and realistic outcomes from this summit that will cause the much-sought paradigm shift in aircraft acquisition and aviation

investment, and expressed deep appreciation for foresight and doggedness of the minister of aviation and aerospace development, Festus Keyamo in conceptualising the uniquely defined summit.

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Local Transport News

Lagos Taskforce Launches Crackdown On Omotaku, Arrests Suspects In Lekki

Culled

The Lagos State Taskforce has intensified its enforcement operations against street urchins popularly known as "Omotaku," arresting several suspects during a raid at Marwa Bus Stop in the Lekki area of the state.

The arrests followed an incident involving a truck driver whose vehicle broke down at the location.

According to the Taskforce, the driver was allegedly confronted by the suspects, who attempted to extort him and threatened to remove parts of his vehicle, including the battery, side mirrors, and jack, while also demanding his phone and money.

Operatives of the agency, acting on intelligence and while on routine patrol, swiftly intervened and apprehended the suspects at the scene.

The Taskforce noted that the Marwa corridor had been under surveillance following repeated complaints from motorists and residents over cases of theft, harassment, and extortion linked

to the group.

The operation is part of the second phase of a broader enforcement drive, which began earlier in the week under the coordination of the agency's Chairman, CSP Adetayo Akerele, as part of efforts to rid the state of criminal elements.

Authorities said normalcy has since been restored in the area, adding that all arrested suspects will be charged to court in accordance with the Lagos State Special Offences Law. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



CSP Akerele

Culled

The Federal Government, through the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has issued a strong warning to heads of agencies under the ministry, demanding strict accountability and measurable results. Oyetola issued the warning during the signing of performance bonds with heads of maritime agencies at the Ministerial Management Retreat, held alongside the 2026 first-quarter stakeholders' engagement in Lagos on Thursday, where he emphasised the need for performance-driven governance.

"Let me emphasise that all Departments and Agencies under the Ministry must remain firmly focused on delivering tangible results," he said.

In a statement by Dr. Bolaji Akinola, Special Adviser to the Minister, Oyetola noted that performance bonds to be signed during the retreat are binding commitments that will be closely monitored and rigorously evaluated.

"These are not ceremonial documents. They are binding commitments.

FG Issues Ultimatum To Maritime Agencies On Performance

Accountability will not be optional," the Minister declared.

Oyetola reiterated the need for data-driven decision-making, robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and alignment with the Ministry's strategic objectives.

"At the institutional level, we must remain disciplined and accountable. Every department and agency must deliver measurable outcomes," he added.

He explained that the retreat was designed to foster alignment between policy formulation, implementation, and stakeholder expectations.

"The integration of this engagement enables us to listen, reflect, and recalibrate," he said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NPA Sets N1.489trn Revenue Target For 2026



Dr. Dantsoho

Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Dr Abubakar Dantsoho said the authority has a proposed N1.489 trillion revenue target for the 2026 fiscal year which is N21 billion above N1.468trillion targeted and surpassed in 2025.

He said the agency is also set for the various modernization projects of the Apapa and Tin Can Island ports to make them globally competitive.

Dr Dantsoho who spoke when he defended the agency's 2026 budget however commended the lawmakers for their approval of the proposed loan for the rehabilitation of Apapa and Tin Can Island Ports which he said

will help increase the nation's revenue.

He said: "Apapa and Tin Can Island ports are very old and small for required global competitors in the ports business. Apapa Port is about 100 years old while Tin Can is over 50 years old with inadequate capacities in size and vessel containments for modernized operations. Ground breaking of projects on their modernization will commence in two or three-weeks' time.

"So, the assumptions, in summary, the assumptions underlying the estimates, that we are looking to achieve during 2026 is that we are hoping that the commencement of the port modernization will help increase activities in the eastern ports. What that means is that because the constructions will start in Lagos, we have a technical way or operational way of diverting some of the vessels to other ports."

He said the NPA has total revenue of N1.489 trillion which he said is N21

billion higher than N1.468trillion targeted in 2025 from which N1.19trillion was realized as collected revenue.

He further explained that out of the projected N1.489 trillion, N945 billion is earmarked for capital projects, N447.5 billion for operating expenses and N90.6 billion for remittance into the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF)

Chairman of the House Committee on Ports and Harbour, Nnolim Nnaji said appropriation is crucial, fundamental and a vital tool in the socio-economic development of a nation, adding that very soon, the committee will also undertake oversight of some major ports across the country.

"We are also happy that the major infrastructural backbone of NPA, the Apapa and TinCan ports are now receiving attention.

"We are also going to look at what we are doing with regards to port rehabilitation, concessioning, and what we are doing with regards to so many other things at NPA." He said: "Apapa and Tin Can Island

ports are very old and small for required global competitors in the ports business. Apapa Port is about 100 years old while Tin Can is over 50 years old with inadequate capacities in size and vessel containments for modernized operations. Ground breaking of projects on their modernization will commence in two or three-weeks' time.

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Easter: NRC Schedules Three Lagos-Ibadan Train Trips, Introduces Osun Special Service

Culled

The Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has announced special train service arrangements across its major corridors to accommodate increased passenger traffic during the Easter holiday period.

In a statement issued in Lagos, the corporation's Chief Public Relations Officer, Callistus Unyimadu, disclosed that the Lagos-Ibadan Train Service (LITS) will operate three trips on Thursday, April 2, to manage the expected surge in commuters.

According to him, departures from Mobolaji Johnson Station, Ebute Metta, Lagos, are scheduled for 7:45 a.m., 1:40 p.m., and 4:00 p.m., while trains from Obafemi Awolowo Station, Moniya, Ibadan, will depart at 8:00 a.m., 10:50 a.m., and 4:30 p.m.

Unyimadu also revealed that the NRC, in partnership with the Osun State Government, will operate a special train service on the narrow gauge corridor. The service, fully sponsored by the state



Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC)

government, will convey passengers free of charge from Iddo Station in Lagos to Osogbo. He stated that the train will depart Lagos on Friday at 10:00 a.m., with the return trip scheduled for April 6 from Osogbo at the same time. On other corridors, the NRC said the Abuja-Kaduna Train Service (AKTS) will maintain its regular schedule, operating two

trips on Thursdays and three trips on Fridays through Mondays, covering morning, midday, and afternoon services between Idu and Rigasa. Similarly, the Warri-Itakpe Train

Service (WITS) will continue its routine operations, running on designated days while Thursdays remain reserved for maintenance to ensure safety and efficiency.

The corporation added that the Port Harcourt-Aba Train Service on the eastern narrow gauge corridor will also maintain its normal timetable, with departures at 8:00 a.m. from Port Harcourt and 3:00 p.m. from Aba.

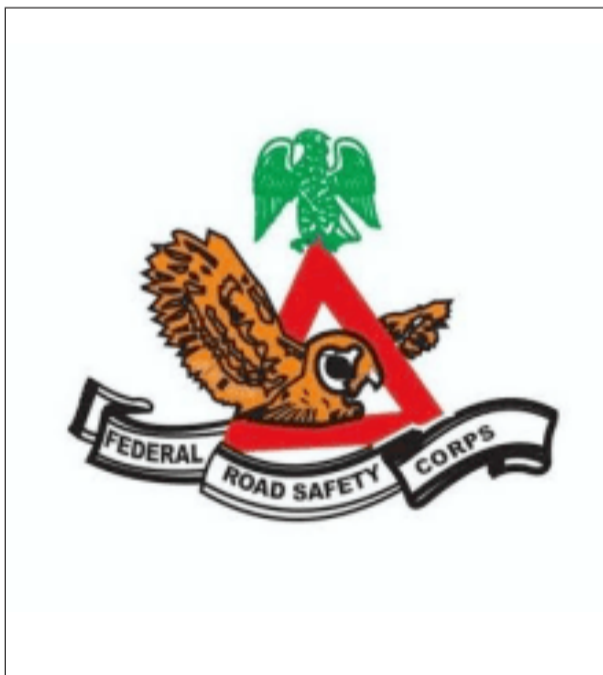
Reaffirming its commitment to safe, reliable, and efficient rail transportation, the NRC advised passengers to plan their journeys in advance, arrive early at stations, and comply with all ticketing and security procedures.

The corporation also extended Easter greetings to passengers, urging continued patronage of rail transport as a dependable means of travel.

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FRSC Urges Motorists To Limit Travel, Avoid Speeding During Easter



FRSC

"The FRSC is appealing to motorists to, possibly, reduce their presence on the roads so that mishaps can be prevented," said FRSC.

The Federal Road Safety Corps has advised motorists to undertake only essential journeys and to reduce speeding to minimise road crashes during the Easter celebration.

Babatunde Gold, the FRSC Itori unit commander, gave the advice on Thursday in Ota.

Mr Gold said that the advice to motorists had become necessary, especially during the Easter celebration, to prevent unnecessary

loss of lives.

He noted that any motorist who was not on the highway during Easter was not likely to be involved in a road crash.

"The FRSC is appealing to motorists to, possibly, reduce their presence on the roads so that mishaps can be prevented.

"Whenever they need to be on the road, they should use it with common sense by not driving against traffic and not competing with other road users," the unit commander said.

Mr Gold counselled motorists to strictly adhere to all traffic rules and regulations and to ensure that their vehicles are in good condition before putting them on the road.

He also urged them to cooperate with FRSC officers, as a special patrol exercise would be conducted to respond to emergencies and check drivers' excesses.

This, he said, would help to reduce

preventable crashes during the festive period and beyond.

The federal government has declared Friday and Monday as Easter holidays.

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China-Laos Railway Handles Over 70 Million Passenger Trips

Culled

The China-Laos Railway has handled over 70 million passenger trips since it began operations on Dec. 3, 2021, according to data released by China Railway Kunming Group Co. on Tuesday.

The landmark project, a flagship of China-Laos cooperation, links a string of renowned tourism destinations including Kunming, Xishuangbanna, Luang Prabang and Vientiane, with over 560 scenic spots, forming a key corridor for cross-border travel.

In response to surging demand, railway authorities from both countries have stepped up coordination to optimize services. The average daily number of passenger trains on the Chinese section has risen from eight in the early days of operation to up to 86, while on the Lao section, the



figure has increased from four to a peak of 18. So far, more than 780,000 tourists from more than 120 countries and regions worldwide have traveled across the

border via the China-Laos Railway, said the railway authority. Stretching 1,035 kilometers from Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan

Province to the Lao capital of Vientiane, the China-Laos Railway commenced operations on Dec. 3, 2021. To meet the growing demand for cross-border travel,

international passenger train services between Kunming and Vientiane were introduced on April 13, 2023. The landmark project, a flagship of China-Laos

cooperation, links a string of renowned tourism destinations including Kunming, Xishuangbanna, Luang Prabang and Vientiane, with over 560 scenic spots, forming a key corridor for cross-border travel.

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Culled

Caverton Marine, a subsidiary of Caverton Offshore Support Group, has entered into a strategic partnership with ExploMar to advance sustainable marine transportation across Sub-Saharan Africa.

The agreement was formalised

on March 29, 2026, at the Shanghai Boat Show, where both parties signed orders for 20 electric engines and battery systems, alongside plans to develop supporting onshore charging infrastructure.

Chief Executive Officer of

Caverton, ExploMar Partner On Electric Water Transport In Africa

Caverton Offshore Support Group, Olabode Makanjuola, described the collaboration as a major step toward transforming water transportation in the region. According to him, the partnership will focus on developing a standardised and scalable electric ferry platform tailored to the realities of African waterways.

He emphasised that cities like Lagos, despite being surrounded by water, still rely heavily on congested road networks, while waterways remain underutilised. He noted that conventional fuel-powered ferries are becoming increasingly expensive and less suitable for dense urban environments, making electric alternatives a viable solution.

At the heart of the initiative is the upgraded OMIBUS EV 2.0 ferry. The vessel features two 300-horsepower electric engines delivering a combined output of 600 horsepower, powered by four 90kWh battery units with a total capacity of 360kWh. This marks a significant improvement from earlier versions and is designed to provide a zero-emission, cost-efficient transport option.

The partnership combines Caverton Marine's expertise in vessel design and operations within African waters with ExploMar's strength in electric propulsion and control systems. Both companies aim to develop an integrated model where vessels and charging infrastructure are designed together, ensuring efficiency and scalability.

ExploMar CEO, Alex Dong, said the collaboration reflects a shared commitment to expanding electric maritime solutions beyond developed markets. He noted that Africa's waterways present a major opportunity for sustainable transport innovation and expressed confidence that the OMIBUS EV 2.0 will set new performance standards in emerging markets.

Makanjuola added that pilot operations are already underway in Lagos, with ongoing collaboration involving key regulatory bodies such as the National Inland Waterway Authority and the Lagos State Waterways Authority to ensure smooth integration into the transport system.

He stressed that the initiative is no longer conceptual, as implementation has already begun, positioning Lagos as a potential model for wider adoption across Africa. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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General News

World Bank Approves \$500m Credit For Nigeria's Agricultural Value Chains

Culled:

The World Bank has approved a \$500m International Development Association credit to boost Nigeria's agricultural sector under a new programme targeting smallholder farmers, value chains, and food security.

The funding will support the Nigeria Sustainable Agricultural Value Chains for Growth Project, also known as AGROW, which aims to improve productivity, strengthen market linkages, and create jobs across the country.

A press statement obtained from the World Bank's website on Thursday read, "The World Bank has approved a \$500m International Development Association credit for the Nigeria Sustainable Agricultural Value Chains for Growth Project, aimed at increasing smallholder farmers' productivity, strengthening agricultural value chains, and creating jobs while improving food and nutrition security."

The approval date for the loan project was disclosed as March 30, 2026, as earlier reported by The PUNCH in February 2026.

Regarding the loan, the global lender noted that agriculture remains Nigeria's largest employer but continues to underperform due to



World Bank

structural constraints.

It stated, "Agriculture remains Nigeria's largest source of employment, yet low productivity, limited access to quality inputs, climate shocks, and weak market linkages for smallholder farmers have constrained its potential to generate better jobs and affordable food."

The bank noted that many smallholder farmers are still trapped in subsistence farming, while food and nutrition insecurity persists

across the country.

According to the statement, the AGROW project will support agribusinesses that source produce from smallholder farmers through a results-based matching grant facility.

The initiative will focus on aggregation, post-harvest handling, agro-processing, and improved market access, with priority placed on key crops, including rice, maize, cassava, and soybeans.

The statement added that the

programme would strengthen agricultural research and extension services, expand access to improved and climate-resilient seeds, and establish a national digital farm and farmer registry.

It said farmers would also benefit from digital advisory services, including localised weather and climate information, to improve productivity and resilience.

The bank further disclosed that the project would improve seed and fertiliser regulatory

Find Full Story In The Link

Africa Drove Mobile Money To \$2trn In 2025

Culled:

The mobile money industry crossed \$2 trillion in transactions in 2025, yet more than 1.7 billion registered accounts sat idle.

The real story from Africa's digital finance revolution, it turns out, is less about growth and more about who actually uses it.

Behind the headline numbers of the GSMA's 2026 State of the Industry Report lies a paradox that should trouble policymakers from Lagos to Nairobi. Registered mobile money accounts surged by a record 268 million to 2.3 billion globally. But the proportion of accounts active on a monthly basis remains stuck at just 25.7 percent, barely budging from previous years. More than seven out of ten registered accounts are essentially dormant.

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for the bulk of this growth and hosts the world's highest mobile money usage rates. Yet the continent is also home to the deepest inactivity. In Nigeria alone, where nearly half of women now have mobile money accounts after a 21 percentage point increase in ownership, usage lags.

The report shows that even in markets where women and men own accounts at similar rates, women are consistently less likely to actually use them. In Uganda, 29 percent of male account owners received a mobile-enabled loan in the past month compared to just 16 percent of women. Across seven of ten countries surveyed, the gender gap in ownership persists, with Pakistan showing the widest at 63 percent.

Fraud is another major deterrent. Researchers estimate cybercriminals siphon \$4 billion annually from Africa's economy. The GSMA survey found identity fraud affected 90 percent of mobile money providers, while social engineering schemes hit 88 percent. In Kenya, where 70 percent of citizens use digital currency, losses to online theft reached an estimated \$883 million in 2023.

Find Full Story In The Link

Tinubu Appoints New PTDF Boss, Renews TCN MD's Tenure



Tinubu

Culled:

President Bola Tinubu has appointed Professor Shu'aibu Shehu Aliyu as the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), replacing Ahmed Galadima Aminu, who resigned to pursue the

2027 governorship race in Adamawa State.

The President also approved the renewal of the appointment of Engineer Sule Ahmed Abdulaziz as the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) for a second

and final term.

Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, in a statement, Thursday, explained that both decisions take immediate effect.

Professor Aliyu, a seasoned academic and administrator, brings extensive experience in research, education and institutional leadership.

His appointment, according to the Presidency, reflects Tinubu's commitment to strengthening strategic institutions in the petroleum sector and deepening human capital development in Nigeria's energy industry.

The Presidency further explained that President Tinubu expects the new PTDF helmsman to deploy his expertise to reposition the agency for greater impact in

capacity building, innovation and strategic support for the oil and gas sector, in line with national priorities.

Tinubu renewed Abdulaziz's tenure following a comprehensive review of his performance at the helm of the nation's transmission network.

Under his leadership, TCN has recorded improvements in grid stability, expansion of transmission capacity and system modernisation, further consolidating its role in Nigeria's electricity value chain.

With over three decades of experience in the power sector, Abdulaziz has also enhanced regional electricity integration through his leadership role in the West African Power Pool (WAPP).

Find Full Story In The Link



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Flutterwave

Flutterwave Secures Nigerian Banking License For Fast Payment Efficiency

Culled: Africa's leading payments technology company, Flutterwave, has secured a Nigerian banking license.

This license enables the fintech company to hold funds and deposits directly, strengthening its financial infrastructure across its largest market and enabling more efficient financial services and settlement flows for consumers, businesses and enterprises.

The banking license enhances Flutterwave's core payments business by allowing the company to optimize settlement flows and manage funds more efficiently within its ecosystem.

Nigeria represents one of Africa's most dynamic financial ecosystems, with trillions of naira moving through digital payment channels each year. By operating more directly within the regulated financial system, Flutterwave can further optimize how money moves across its platform and improve settlement efficiency across its network of merchants, businesses and consumers.

Historically, global payment companies have operated via a "sponsorship model, partnering with established commercial banks to access national clearing and settlement systems. While functional, this arrangement often limits

a fintech's pace of innovation and requires it to share a portion of the transaction value with the sponsoring institution.

By securing this banking license, Flutterwave gains greater control over how funds move within its ecosystem, including the ability to hold deposits and manage financial flows across its platform.

While Flutterwave will continue to work closely with banking partners across the broader financial ecosystem, the license enables the company to internalize key elements of its financial value chain, improving operational efficiency and supporting faster product

development.

This shift strengthens operational autonomy and allows Flutterwave to capture more value from the transactions processed within its ecosystem.

Founder and CEO, Flutterwave, Olugbenga Agboola, said the milestone allows the company to make its infrastructure more efficient and deliver faster, more reliable financial services.

"By operating directly within the financial system, we can streamline money movement, accelerate settlement for merchants, and build products that support sustainable long-term growth."

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria Targets Zero Food Waste In Sustainability Drive

The Nigerian government has reaffirmed its commitment to advancing policies and actions aimed at achieving a zero-waste future.

Speaking at the International Day of Zero Waste 2026 in Abuja, with the theme "Food Waste—Towards Sustainable Consumption and Production" the Minister of Environment, Mr. Balarabe Lawal, highlighted efforts to reduce food loss and waste, strengthen sustainable

food systems, promote circular economy solutions, and safeguard the environment for future generations.

Mr. Lawal emphasized that public awareness and behavioral change are central to achieving these goals. He called for action at every stage of the food value chain, urging farmers to adopt improved storage and processing technologies, and food businesses and retailers to implement more efficient inventory and

distribution systems.

According to him, "The choices we make today will determine the sustainability of our food systems, the health of our environment, and the wellbeing of our communities."

He noted that the collaboration between the Federal Ministry of Environment, the European Union Delegation to Nigeria and ECOWAS, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

underscores the importance of international partnerships in addressing global environmental challenges.

"Reducing Food waste requires action at every stage of the food value chain, farmers must be supported with improved storage, preservation and processing technologies. Food businesses and retailers must adopt more efficient inventory and distribution systems," Mr. Lawal said, [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

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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.

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