

Chinese Firms To Operate Warri, Port Harcourt Refineries - NNPC

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC Ltd) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with two Chinese firms for the restart, operation and expansion of the Warri and Port Harcourt refineries. In a statement on Monday, NNPC's Chief Corporate Communications Officer, Andy Odey, said the agreement

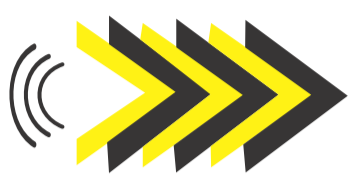
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NCAA Clears Gusua Airport, Commends Zamfara Govt

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GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Tues, May 5th 2026 E - NEWSPAPER

Lagos Launches Africa's First Ferry Safety Development, Mentoring Programme

The Lagos State Waterways Authority has announced the launch of Africa's first Ferry Safety

Development and Mentoring Programme in partnership with Interferry, in a move

aimed at strengthening safety standards and operational efficiency in the water transportation

sector. LASWA disclosed in a statement that the 18-month programme is

designed to improve ferry safety practices, enhance technical

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Hon Emmanuel Oluwadamilola - Special Adviser to the Governor on Blue Economy

LASTMA Moves To Curb Highway Crashes By Dispatch Riders

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has announced renewed efforts to tackle the rising

number of accidents involving dispatch riders on major highways across Lagos. The General Manager

of LASTMA, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, disclosed this on Monday, noting that the agency is stepping up both

enforcement and public safety advocacy to address the issue. According to him, LASTMA has already engaged representatives of dispatch

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Governor Mbah Unveils 135km Rail Project

P5

Local Transport News

FG, Airbus Partner To Boost Nigeria's Aviation Sector

Culled

The Federal Government of Nigeria has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Airbus, a leading global aircraft manufacturer, to strengthen the country's aviation and aerospace sector.

The agreement was signed during a working visit by the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo (SAN), to Airbus headquarters in Toulouse, France.

The minister was accompanied by senior officials from key aviation agencies, including the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), and directors from the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development.

According to the Ministry, the partnership is aimed at accelerating the development of Nigeria's civil aviation ecosystem through support for infrastructure development,

technical capacity building, and human capital development.

Speaking at the signing, Keyamo described the agreement as a strategic milestone for the sector.

"We are deeply honored to engage in a long-term partnership with Airbus. This agreement aligns with the Federal Government's commitment to accelerating the development of Nigeria's aeronautical ecosystem in all its dimensions," he said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Keyamo

ValueJet Rated Most Passenger-Friendly Domestic Airline

Culled

ValueJet has been honoured with the Most Passenger-Friendly Domestic Airline Award at the 15th edition of the Nigeria Aviation (NIGAV) Awards.

This reflects its growing reputation for customer-focused service and operational excellence within Nigeria's aviation industry.

The prestigious NIGAV Awards ceremony, held in Lagos, brought together key stakeholders across the aviation ecosystem, including regulators, airline operators, airport authorities, and industry professionals, to celebrate outstanding contributions to the growth and development of the sector.

Speaking on the achievement, the Managing Director and Accountable Officer of ValueJet, Captain Omololu Majekodunmi, described the award as a validation of the airline's customer-first philosophy.

"This recognition is a strong affirmation of our commitment to putting

passengers at the centre of everything we do," Captain Majekodunmi said.

In a statement, he added that the airline continues to strive to improve the travel experience by ensuring safety, reliability, and service excellence at every touchpoint. "This award encourages us to keep raising the bar," he added.

A major highlight of the NIGAV Awards is the Cabin Crew Contest, popularly known as the King and Queen of the Air, which celebrates excellence, professionalism, and service delivery among cabin crew in Nigeria's aviation industry.

ValueJet has recorded notable success in this category in previous years, with its cabin crew earning top honours, including Elvis Ikpa, Chinaza Miracle Okechukwu, and Henry Chika.

These achievements highlight the airline's strong investment in people, training, and service culture, ensuring that passengers consistently enjoy a high standard of in-flight experience.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

FRSC Intensifies Action Against Speeding, Mixed Loading

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps says it is intensifying efforts to tackle mixed loading, speeding and other major causes of road traffic crashes in the country.

The corps marshal, Shehu Mohammed, said this in Abuja on Monday.

Mr Shehu disclosed that the FRSC high command had earlier convened to review operations, evaluate challenges and develop practical solutions to improve road safety nationwide.

According to him, the meeting was aimed at making Nigerian roads safer and more motorable for all categories of road users.

The corps marshal identified mixed loading—where articulated vehicles carry both goods and passengers—as a growing concern, noting that the practice posed serious risks to lives.

"We are also confronted with speed. Speed is always one of the key reasons why we are having crashes," he said.

Mr Mohammed explained that the



Mohammed

corps was adopting localised strategies tailored to specific environments to address road safety challenges more effectively.

He said such strategies would involve collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including security agencies, community leaders, non-governmental organisations and other government institutions.

The FRSC boss stressed the need for sustained public enlightenment on safe driving practices and adherence to road safety regulations.

He urged motorists to adopt a culture of safety, discipline and responsibility while using the roads.

On the way forward, Mr Mohammed assured Nigerians of the corps' commitment to strengthening its

operations and delivering on its mandate.

"FRSC will continue to work and execute its mandate in line with the constitution while also building public trust and confidence that our roads will be safe and properly managed. We will ensure that reckless drivers who cause crashes or bully other motorists are removed from the roads," he said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News

Gov Eno Creates Aviation And Airport Development Ministry

Culled

Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has announced the creation of a Ministry of Aviation and Airport Development with a mandate to manage and oversee policies, strategies and programmes for aviation development in the state.

The new Ministry will also oversee affairs at the Victor Attah International Airport, making sure its newly acquired international status is properly maximized and harnessed to full potential.

Speaking on arrival at the Victor Attah International Airport from Accra, Ghana on Sunday, Governor Eno mandated Managing Director of the Ibom Airport Development Company, Engr Uwem Ekanem, to immediately take charge of the new Ministry pending the appointment of a new Commissioner.

According to the Governor, the Ministry must ensure the effective patronage of the Victor Attah International Airport, supervise the creation of a robust

aviation ecosystem and network to make sure Akwa Ibom becomes an aviation hub.

Speaking further on the new status of the Airport, Governor Eno said the flight from the VAIA to the Accra International Airport and back has validated the process.

“Today, after all the hard work put into the realization of this moment, here we are, finally back on an international flight from Accra, landing in Uyo for the first time in the history of this airport.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Governor Eno

Ogun Airport Records First International Flight

Culled

The Gateway International Airport in Iperu, Ogun state, reportedly executed its first international flight, airlifting Muslim pilgrims to Saudi Arabia for the 2026 Hajj exercise.

The flight, operated by Max Air, departed Iperu on Sunday night with 345 pilgrims — 151 males and 194 females — alongside officials of the state Muslim pilgrims welfare board.

Speaking on the feat in a statement on Monday, Kayode Akinmade, special adviser on media and strategy to the governor, said the aircraft landed at the King Abdulaziz International Airport in Saudi Arabia.

He said the milestone marks the commencement of Hajj operations in the state and also positions Ogun as a rising force in regional and international air transport.

“The development signals the facility's readiness to accommodate wide-body operations, reinforcing its compliance with global aviation standards and its

capacity for long-haul international travel,” the special adviser said.

Speaking before departure, Dapo Abiodun, governor of Ogun, described the inaugural flight as a defining moment in the state's development trajectory.

“What we celebrate today goes far beyond the arrival and departure of an international aircraft; it is a testament to focus, determination, resilience, commitment, sacrifice and teamwork,” the governor said.

Abiodun said the successful operation reflects Ogun's growing infrastructure capacity and its ambition to become a hub for commerce and investment, and global connectivity.

He also commended the federal government and the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) for designating the airport as a Hajj departure centre.

In his remarks, Ismail Yusuf, NAHCON chairman, represented by Olanrewaju Elegushi, said the new departure point would ease logistics for pilgrims in the

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Lagos Launches Africa's First Ferry Safety Development, Mentoring Programme

Culled

The Lagos State Waterways Authority has announced the launch of Africa's first Ferry Safety Development and Mentoring Programme in partnership with Interferry, in a move aimed at strengthening safety standards and operational efficiency in the water transportation sector.

LASWA disclosed in a statement that the 18-month programme is designed to improve ferry safety practices, enhance technical competence and promote professionalism among ferry operators across the state's waterways sector.

According to the agency, the initiative will provide participants with mentorship from Interferry experts alongside facilitators drawn from maritime institutions, maritime companies and regulatory agencies within Nigeria.

The statement noted that an intake



Oluwadamilola

verification exercise for applicants was successfully concluded on March 18, 2026, to ensure compliance with eligibility and selection requirements.

A total of 50 participants were selected for the pioneering programme, including ferry captains, deckhands, marine engineers and technicians, safety

officers, compliance professionals and fleet managers.

LASWA said the programme curriculum would focus on ferry design and construction, safety management systems, maritime regulations, preventive and predictive maintenance techniques, as well as operational best practices.

The agency added that the programme would adopt a hybrid learning structure comprising self-paced online courses, virtual mentoring sessions and monthly practical training exercises, with classes scheduled to commence in May 2026.

The official kick-off ceremony is slated for Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at the LASWA Head Office in Ikoyi, Lagos.

According to the statement, the launch event will feature presentations on the programme structure, introduction of mentors and participants, as well as stakeholder engagement sessions on improving ferry transportation safety in Lagos.

LASWA described the initiative as part of the Lagos State Government's broader commitment to safer waterways and the development of a globally competitive ferry transportation system.

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Local Transport News

NCAA Clears Gusua Airport, Commends Zamfara Govt

Culled

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has commended the Zamfara State Government for meeting required standards at the Gusau International Airport.

A delegation led by the General Manager, Aerodrome and Airspace Standards, Bayode B.S., and represented by Director Ahmad Abba, gave the commendation after inspecting the facility ahead of possible approval for 2026 Hajj operations.

The team expressed satisfaction with the airport's infrastructure after inspecting the runway, terminal building and control tower.

The Commissioner for Works and Infrastructure, Lawal Barau Bungudu, led the delegation on a tour of the facility alongside other government officials.

The NCAA team said the quality of construction and compliance with aviation standards reflect the state's commitment to delivering a safe and

modern airport.

The inspection marks the final technical stage before commissioning, with the airport expected to boost economic activities and improve connectivity in the state.

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NCAA

Culled

Enugu State Governor, Peter Mbah, at the weekend, announced plans to commence construction of a 135-kilometre rail line traversing key parts of Enugu State in the next couple of months.

The governor said the proposed rail line, for which feasibility studies had been concluded, would run from Ugwuoba through Udi, Ninth Mile, Enugu and Nsukka to Obollo Afor, positioning the state as a major economic hub.

This is as the people of Enugu North Senatorial District trooped out in large numbers to formally endorse his re-election and that of President Bola Tinubu.

Mbah made this known at an endorsement rally held at Nsukka Township Stadium, where he also reeled out achievements of his administration and defended ongoing reforms across sectors, promising that his administration would continue to make the state proud.

Mbah reiterated his government's target of growing Enugu's economy to \$30 billion within eight years, stressing that the focus was on building strong

Governor Mbah Unveils 135km Rail Project

economic fundamentals while ensuring that development remained people-centred.

He noted that investments in transport infrastructure, including modern terminals and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses, were aimed at improving mobility and boosting commercial activities across the state.

Also, Mbah, at the weekend, promised to compensate Ogige Market traders whose shops were demolished about two years ago. The shops were demolished to make way for the Nsukka ultra-modern bus terminal, which has since become operational.

According to the governor, the compensation was to stabilise the businesses of the affected traders.

Find Full Story In The Link

A'ibom Airport Begins International Flights



Governor Umo Eno

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, SAN, has highlighted the strategic significance of the Victor Attah International Airport in Akwa Ibom State, describing it as a transit hub remarkably unique in the country.

The airport on Saturday commenced international operations with the airlift of its first passengers to Accra, Ghana.

On board the maiden flight were the Governor of Akwa Ibom State, Umo Eno; the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo; and other government functionaries.

The minister, who spoke during a brief

ceremony held at the airport grounds before takeoff, said the facility is not just another airport but has the unique advantage of allowing passengers to transfer flights from international to international, domestic to international, and international to domestic.

He said such an advantage is not offered by any other airport in Nigeria, noting that Akwa Ibom was gradually transforming into a Dubai in Nigeria, given its infrastructural development and impact on the region and the country.

"This airport is not just one of those airports, not just a terminal building, but a world-class transit hub with immense impact.

"With this facility, passengers are afforded the opportunity of transferring their flights from international to international; domestic to international; and international to domestic.

"This kind of service does not exist

in any sub-national anywhere in the country, but only here in this airport. This is not just the best, it is the only existing one, a pacesetter in the country," Keyamo said.

He acknowledged the economic impact and ripple effects of the airport on the state and the country generally, describing them as massive.

The minister commended Governor Umo Eno for his commitment to completing the project and actualising its international status.

Eno attributed the success to the visionary leadership of his predecessors.

He said, "It was indeed a relay race of impactful leadership; from Obong Victor Attah, to Chief Godswill Akpabio, to Mr Udom Emmanuel, and to me. They have individually contributed their own quotas in an exceptional way for our common good."

The governor commended President Bola Tinubu "for his love and timely release of funds to the

sub-nationals to enable them execute projects, such as the Victor Attah Int'l Airport – a world-class transit hub."

He also appreciated Keyamo for his interest and commitment towards the realisation of the international status of the airport.

Earlier, the Commissioner for Finance and Supervising Commissioner for Special Duties, Emem Bob, thanked Eno for his foresight and determination to upgrade the airport to international status.

In their separate remarks, the Managing Director of Ibom Airport Development Company, Engr. Uwem Ekanem; the Chief Executive Officer of Ibom Air, Engr. George Uriese; and the Chairman of the firm that handled the construction of the new terminal, VKS, Engr. Oliver Ebong, commended the governor for overcoming challenges and pushing them to realise the full potential of the airport.

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- Apply with brush or roller
- Close firmly when not in use.

DIRECTION FOR USE:

- Mix paints in well-ventilated areas
- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
- Wear a respirator or paint mask
- Avoid electrocution!



20 LITERS

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...quality speaks

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LASTMA Moves To Curb Highway Crashes By Dispatch Riders

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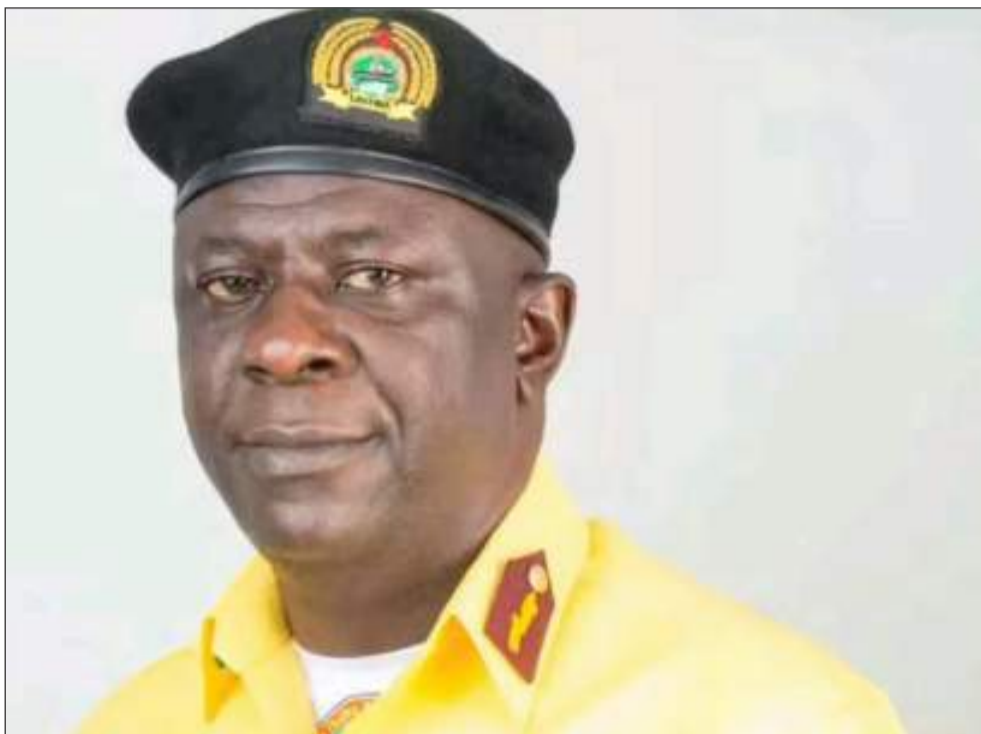
The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has announced renewed efforts to tackle the rising number of accidents involving dispatch riders on major highways across Lagos.

The General Manager of LASTMA, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, disclosed this on Monday, noting that the agency is stepping up both enforcement and public safety advocacy to address the issue.

According to him, LASTMA has already engaged representatives of dispatch riders' unions as part of a broader strategy to improve compliance with traffic regulations. He added that plans are underway to convene a stakeholders' meeting involving courier service operators and riders.

"The engagement will focus on ensuring that dispatch riders prioritise not only their own safety but also that of other road users," Bakare-Oki said.

He reiterated the commitment of the



Bakare-Oki

Lagos State Government to highlighted LASTMA's March, the initiative safeguarding lives and ongoing school traffic reached approximately 38 to 39 per cent of advocacy programme, which aims to instil road schools across the state. He emphasised that the programme is part of a long-term strategy to

promote a culture of safety on Lagos roads by educating younger generations.

The planned stakeholder engagement is expected to bring together unions, service providers, and regulatory bodies to address concerns and strengthen compliance among dispatch riders.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the initiative forms part of broader efforts to enhance road safety and reduce traffic-related incidents across Lagos.

"The engagement will focus on ensuring that dispatch riders prioritise not only their own safety but also that of other road users," Bakare-Oki said.

He reiterated the commitment of the Lagos State Government to safeguarding lives and property, stressing that collaboration with key stakeholders is essential to improving adherence to traffic laws.

Bakare-Oki also highlighted LASTMA's ongoing school traffic advocacy programme, which aims to instil road safety awareness and responsible behaviour among young people.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Chinese Firms To Operate Warri, Port Harcourt Refineries - NNPC



NNPC

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC Ltd) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with two Chinese firms for the restart, operation and expansion of the Warri and Port Harcourt refineries.

In a statement on Monday, NNPC's Chief Corporate Communications Officer, Andy Odey, said the agreement was signed with Sanjiang Chemical Company Limited and Xingcheng (Fuzhou) Industrial Park Operation and Management Co. Ltd.

He said the deal is expected to pave the way for a Technical Equity Partnership (TEP) aimed at completing ongoing rehabilitation

works and ensuring efficient operations of the refineries.

The MoU was executed in Jiaxing City, China, on April 30, 2026, by NNPC's Group Chief Executive Officer, Bashir Bayo Ojulari, alongside the Chairman of Sanjiang Chemical Company, Guan Jianzhong, and Chairman of Xingcheng Industrial Park Operation and Management Co. Ltd, Bill Bi.

Under the proposed arrangement, the Chinese partners will support the completion of outstanding rehabilitation work at both facilities and take part in their operation and maintenance to achieve sustainable performance.

The partnership will also explore the expansion and upgrade of the refineries to meet cleaner fuel standards, improve profitability and boost petrochemical production capacity. It is further expected to support the development of gas-based industrial hubs around the facilities.

Speaking after the signing, Ojulari described the agreement as a major milestone following months of negotiations.

"All parties recognise mutually beneficial opportunities for the development and long-term sustainability of NNPC's refining assets," he said.

He added that the MoU represents a key step toward securing technical partners for the rehabilitation and expansion of the country's refineries, while also unlocking opportunities in petrochemicals and gas-based industries.

Ojulari, however, noted that the agreement is non-binding and subject to regulatory approvals and further negotiations.

The rehabilitation of the Port Harcourt Refining Company was approved in 2021 at an estimated cost of \$1.5 billion, with contracts awarded to Italy's Saipem and other partners to restore its capacity of 210,000 barrels per day.

Similarly, the Warri Refining and Petrochemical Company is undergoing rehabilitation under a contract valued at about \$897 million, aimed at reviving its 125,000 barrels per day capacity and integrating petrochemical production.

Both projects form part of NNPC's broader strategy to reduce Nigeria's reliance on imported petroleum products.

The Port Harcourt refinery had briefly resumed operations in late 2024 after years of inactivity but was later shut down due to operational and financial challenges.

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Under the proposed arrangement, [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Oman, Iranian Ministers Discuss Maritime Security, De-Escalation

Culled

The foreign ministers of Oman and Iran held a phone conversation on Sunday to address growing regional tensions, maritime security, and ongoing diplomatic efforts surrounding Tehran's nuclear programme.

According to a statement from Oman's Foreign Ministry, Foreign Minister Badr al-Busaidi and his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi reviewed recent developments in negotiations between Iran and the United States over the nuclear issue, alongside other unresolved matters.

The discussions come amid heightened tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, where the United States has reportedly enforced a naval blockade targeting Iranian maritime traffic since April 13, following a stalemate in diplomatic talks.

Both ministers emphasized the importance of



maintaining maritime navigation and freedom of movement in the region. They also exchanged views on practical measures to de-escalate the situation

and promote dialogue. The Omani ministry noted that the talks were aimed at "pressing toward a path of constructive dialogue and

mutual understanding," while safeguarding the rights of all parties and ensuring compliance with international law. Oman has historically played a mediating role

in negotiations between Tehran and Washington, particularly on nuclear-related issues. Tensions in the region escalated after the United States and Israel

launched strikes against Iran on February 28, prompting retaliatory actions from Tehran against Israel and other countries hosting U.S. military assets. Iran has also disrupted shipping activities in the Strait of Hormuz.

A ceasefire brokered through Pakistani mediation was announced on April 8, followed by negotiations in Islamabad on April 11–12. However, talks ended without a breakthrough.

U.S. President Donald Trump later extended the truce unilaterally at Pakistan's request, without specifying a new deadline.

The discussions come amid heightened tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, where the United States has reportedly enforced a naval blockade targeting Iranian maritime traffic since April 13, following a stalemate in diplomatic talks. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Culled

An aerial drone photo taken on Nov. 15, 2024 shows people celebrating the That Luang festival in Vientiane, Laos. The China-Laos Railway cross-border passenger service marked its third anniversary on April 13, representing a significant milestone in regional connectivity

and cultural exchange. Linking Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan Province with the Lao capital Vientiane, the railway enables same-day trips between the two cities. By significantly slashing journey time, the railway also brings people of the two countries

China-Laos Railway Boosts Cross-Border Connectivity

closer to each other.

Over the past three years, the rail service has transformed cross-border mobility. According to the Laos-China Railway Co. Ltd. (LCRC), which operates the Lao section of the railway, the train service has handled over 800,000 cross-border passenger trips as of April 12.

The China-Laos Railway cross-border passenger service has evolved into more than just a transportation link. It has become a vital bridge connecting people, cultures, and opportunities. This steel artery has made exchanges and mutual learning between the two sides an accessible part of daily life.

This photo taken on Sept. 26, 2024 shows a view of Patuxay Park in Vientiane, Laos. The China-Laos Railway cross-border passenger service marked its third anniversary on April 13, representing a significant milestone in regional connectivity and cultural exchange.

Linking Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan Province with the Lao capital Vientiane, the railway enables same-day trips between the two cities. By significantly slashing journey time, the railway also brings people of the two countries

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This photo taken on April 16, 2026 shows an exterior view of the Luang Prabang Station of the China-Laos Railway in Luang Prabang, Laos. The China-Laos Railway cross-border passenger service marked its third anniversary on April 13, representing a significant milestone in regional connectivity and cultural exchange.

Linking Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan Province with the Lao capital Vientiane, the railway enables same-day trips between the two cities. By significantly slashing journey time, the railway also brings people of the two countries closer to each other. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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General News

Tinubu Congratulates Team Nigeria On Record 15th African Wrestling Title

Culled: President Bola Tinubu has congratulated Team Nigeria on its commanding performance at the 2026 African Wrestling Championships in Alexandria, Egypt, where the nation secured a record 15th continental title in the women's category.

The President described the victory as a statement of consistency, discipline, and national pride, noting that Nigeria's wrestlers have once again demonstrated why they remain a dominant force on the African continent.

With 8 gold and 2 silver medals from 10 events in the women's division, and an overall tally of 9 gold, 4 silver, and 3 bronze medals across categories, President Tinubu said the result reflects both excellence at the top and strength in depth across the team.

He paid tribute to Mercy Genesis, Adijat Idris, Esther Asaolu, and Mercy Adekuoroye for performances that combined skill with composure.

The President also commended Harrison Onovwiomoghwo for a confident and assured victory in the men's freestyle category.

He acknowledged the contributions of Ebierelayefa Andrew, Stephen



President Bola Tinubu

Akintewe, Dideikemei Erefagha, Solomon Ulabo, and Saviour Egoli, noting that championships are won not only by standout moments but by collective effort.

President Tinubu observed that the outcome reflects a broader shift in Nigeria's sports ecosystem, with renewed focus on structure, preparation, and long-term athlete development.

He noted that the work of the National Sports Commission, under the leadership of

Mallam Shehu Dikko, Bukola Olopade and their team alongside federations and coaches, is beginning to take firmer shape through a philosophy that rewards discipline, consistency, and high performance.

"This is how a sporting nation grows, not by accident, not by chance, but by design. By building systems that identify talent early, nurture it patiently, and prepare it deliberately for moments like this," President Tinubu said.

He added that the performance in Alexandria speaks to an emerging pipeline of athletes who are not only winning today but are being prepared to compete and succeed at even higher levels in the years ahead.

The President commended the Nigeria Wrestling Federation, led by its President, Bashir Adewale Adeniyi, MFR, for bringing renewed vigour into the sport and sustaining Nigeria's continental leadership.

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria Secures 2027 World Champs Mixed 4x100m Ticket

Culled:

Team Nigeria have secured qualification for the 2027 World Athletics Championships in China after reaching the final of the mixed 4x100m relay at the World Athletics Relays in Gaborone, Botswana, Sunday PUNCH reports.

The quartet of Favour Ashe, Jennifer Chukwuka-Obi, Chidera Ezeakor and Maria Thompson Omokwe produced a strong performance, stopping the clock at 40.24s to secure one of the qualification places on Saturday despite intense competition from global rivals.

Their effort also saw Nigeria break their own African record.

Canada won the semi-final in a world record time of 40.07s, ahead of Germany in 40.15s and the Netherlands in 40.20s, as Nigeria finished among the best-placed qualifiers for the final.

The qualification marks a major boost for Nigeria's relay programme, even as the team continues to battle across other events in Gaborone, with mixed fortunes in their bid to secure additional tickets for Beijing.

Nigeria's participation in several other relay events has been affected by the absence of key athletes, including Rosemary Chukwuma, Blessing Ogundiran and Anita Enaruna, who were unable to travel for the competition.

Their absence contributed to setbacks in the women's 4x100m, women's 4x400m and mixed 4x400m events, where Nigeria failed to secure further automatic qualification places for next year's championships.

Despite those challenges, Team Nigeria remain in contention for additional qualification opportunities through the last-chance rounds in the men's 4x100m, men's 4x400m and mixed 4x400m events.

In the mixed 4x400m, Nigeria faced a particularly difficult draw, up against hosts Botswana, South Africa, Ireland, the Netherlands and Germany, with only two automatic qualification spots available.

Similar high-pressure scenarios *Find Full Story In The Link*

150 Delegates Set For NDC State Congress In Ondo



Nigeria Democratic Congress (NDC)

Culled: The Nigeria Democratic Congress (NDC), Ondo State chapter, has disclosed that its state congress will be held on May 4 as part of moves to elect substantial officials of the party in the state. While disclosing that the proposed congress was in line with the directive of the party's national headquarters, the state publicity secretary of the party, Owolola Adebola, stated that no fewer than 150 delegates from the 18 local council areas of the state will participate in the

exercise.

According to Adebola in a statement made available to The Guardian at the weekend, the congress will take place in Akure, the state capital, adding that all necessary security and logistical arrangements have been finalised for the exercise.

The party had earlier conducted its ward and local government congresses across the three senatorial districts of the state, stressing that the exercise is essential in order to present a unified front ahead of the 2027 general elections.

While stating that the state congress would focus on the election of substantive state executive officers; Adebola added that exercise will also enable the party to review and

plan ahead of the polls.

Meanwhile, the party emphasised that adherence to the congress guidelines would be strictly enforced to ensure a transparent and orderly process.

The statement read in parts, "The Ondo State Chapter of the Nigeria Democratic Congress (NDC), in line with directives from the party's national headquarters, has scheduled its State Congress for Monday, 4th May, 2026.

"The Congress will take place at Royal Birds Hotel and Towers, Alagbaka, Akure, the Ondo State capital, at 12:00 noon.

"A total of 150 delegates from 18 local government areas of the state are expected to attend the event.

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Atiku Abubakar

Atiku To Visit US Over Nigeria's Insecurity, Governance Concerns

Culled: Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar has confirmed his planned visit to the United States to draw international attention to Nigeria's worsening insecurity, economic hardship, and declining governance standards.

During his forthcoming engagement, Atiku will speak with policy and institutional stakeholders in the US.

Explaining reasons for the visit through a statement issued on Sunday by his Media Adviser, Paul Ibe, Atiku said the country is facing a "full-blown internal crisis" that can no longer be downplayed or politicised.

"From the ravaging violence in the North-West and North-East, to the persistent bloodshed in the Middle Belt, and the growing spread of kidnapping and criminality across the country, Atiku warns that the Nigerian state is steadily losing its grip on its most fundamental responsibility: the protection of lives and property.

"According to him, the situation has moved beyond isolated incidents to a pattern of systemic failure. Communities are being overrun, livelihoods destroyed, and citizens abandoned to their fate.

"He argues that any government that cannot guarantee basic security

forfeits the moral basis of its mandate," the statement read.

On the economy, Atiku highlighted what he described as deepening hardship, citing rising inflation, a weakened currency, and declining purchasing power.

"He notes that rising inflation, a weakened currency, and collapsing purchasing power have pushed millions into distress, while policy inconsistency and lack of strategic direction continue to erode confidence in the economy," the statement said.

The former vice president also expressed concern about the state of

Nigeria's democratic institutions, warning that declining public confidence in governance, accountability, and the electoral process could threaten national stability.

"As the country moves toward another election cycle, he insists that any attempt to undermine transparency or manipulate outcomes will carry serious consequences for both unity and legitimacy," the statement said.

Addressing possible criticism of his planned US engagement, Atiku rejected claims that engaging international partners amounts to inviting foreign interference.

Find Full Story In The Link

SERAP, NGE Demand Protection For Journalists

The Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) and the Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE) have called on the administration of President Bola Tinubu, state governors, and other relevant authorities to urgently protect journalists, address insecurity, and end the culture of impunity across Nigeria.

The call was made as the international community marked World Press Freedom Day, during a joint

conference and interactive session held in Lagos. The event, themed "The Role of the Media in Promoting People's Rights, Accountability, and Access to Justice in the Context of Growing Insecurity in Nigeria," brought together editors, media professionals, civil society actors, and legal practitioners.

Organised by SERAP and NGE in Ikeja, the forum focused on the worsening security situation and its

implications for press freedom

In a joint statement read by SERAP Deputy Director, Kolawole Oluwadare, and NGE Assistant General Secretary, Akin Adewole, the groups stressed that protecting journalists and safeguarding information integrity are critical to peace, security, and democratic stability.

They expressed grave concern over escalating violence in parts of northern Nigeria, including Benue, Borno,

Kwara, Plateau, and Sokoto states, noting that killings, abductions, sexual violence, and forced displacement have continued unabated.

"Thousands have reportedly been killed and millions displaced, with women and children bearing the brunt," the statement said, adding that the pattern of attacks reflects systemic failures by authorities to prevent harm, investigate abuses, and prosecute perpetrators.

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



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

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