

NPA Introduces Phased Truck Entry To Tackle Apapa Port Gridlock

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has introduced a phased truck entry system for Apapa and Tin Can Island ports as part of measures to ease congestion and improve traffic flow around the nation's busiest seaports. The General Manager of the Lagos Port Complex, Debo Lawal, said the initiative is aimed at eliminating indiscriminate truck

CONTINUES ON P2

Otu Orders Immediate Repairs On Failed Sections Of Calabar-Odukpani Road

Cross River State Governor, Bassey Otu, has directed the immediate repair of failed sections of the Calabar-Odukpani Road to improve safety and ease of movement for motorists and residents. The governor issued the directive during an inspection of critical sections of the road along the Calabar corridor, where severe potholes and gully erosion have

CONTINUES ON P3

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NAMA, NCAA Clash Over Proposed Review Of TSC Charge Sharing Formula

The Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) are at the centre of a dispute over a proposal to review the sharing formula of the statutory five per cent Ticket Sales Charge (TSC), a development that has sparked debate across Nigeria's aviation sector. The proposal, currently before the National Assembly, seeks to increase NAMA's share of the levy, with

CONTINUES ON P7

TCN Advances Kano Rail Grid Con'tion, Boosts Kaduna Capacity

P2

Niger Graduates First Batch Of Traffic Officers To Boost Road Safety

P5

Navy Recover Suspected Vandalised Oil Pipelines In Imo

P2



Capt Najomo - DG NCAA, Umar Farouk - DG NAMA

FCC, NRC Strengthen Collaboration Of Federal Character Compliance

The Federal Character Commission (FCC) and the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) have reaffirmed their commitment to personnel processes across the railway corporation. The renewed commitment was made during an interactive meeting between the FCC Committee on Works, Transport and Aviation and the management of the NRC at the commission's headquarters in

CONTINUES ON P3

CPPE Warns Multiple Taxes Threaten Survival Of Nigerian Airlines

P7

TCN Advances Kano Rail Grid Connection, Boosts Kaduna Capacity

Culled
The Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) has intensified efforts to strengthen power infrastructure in the North-West with plans to connect the Kano Railway Station and other railway operational facilities to the national grid, while also taking delivery of two new power transformers for its ongoing transmission expansion project in Katsina State.

The proposed railway grid connection followed a strategic stakeholders' engagement held at TCN's Kano Regional Headquarters, where the company and the Federal Ministry of Transportation agreed to collaborate on providing a stable and reliable electricity supply for railway operations. Speaking during the meeting, TCN's General Manager (Transmission), Kano Region, Engr. M.K. Bello, stressed the importance of sustained collaboration among stakeholders, noting that early technical engagement would ensure seamless project

implementation and reliable power supply to the railway infrastructure. Participants discussed the technical requirements for the grid connection, project timelines, operational coordination, system reliability and the responsibilities of each stakeholder. They also considered measures to ensure compliance with national grid standards, network safety and seamless integration into the transmission network.

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TCN advances rail grid connection in Kano

Navy Arrests Two, Recovers Suspected Vandalised Oil Pipelines In Imo

Culled
The Nigerian Navy has arrested two suspected members of a pipeline vandalism syndicate and recovered a truck conveying suspected vandalised crude oil pipeline sections in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State. The operation, carried out by personnel of the Nigerian Navy Naval Base, Oguta, followed credible intelligence on the movement of suspected stolen oil pipeline materials along the Osu–Obodo Road.

According to a statement issued by the Naval Base, troops intercepted a Mercedes truck, registration number AGL 378 XV, at about 6:25 a.m. on July 13, loaded with about 10 sections of crude oil pipeline believed to belong to Addax Petroleum.

The Navy said the truck driver, identified as Stanley Uzoma, abandoned the vehicle and fled on sighting the operatives.

However, the escort of the consignment, Alfred Kwosa, 57, a retired Deputy

Superintendent of Police from Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State, was arrested after reportedly sustaining a gunshot wound while attempting to escape.

In a follow-up operation, naval personnel also apprehended Michael Nnamdi, popularly known as "Piloter," 51, at his residence in Nnebukwu community. He is alleged to be a member of the criminal syndicate.

The suspects, the recovered truck and the suspected vandalised pipeline sections have been taken into custody at Naval Base Oguta for preliminary investigation, while efforts are ongoing to apprehend the fleeing driver and other suspected members of the group.

Commenting on the operation, Commander of Naval Base Oguta, Commodore Sabo Tanko Lengaya, described the arrests as another significant breakthrough in the Navy's ongoing campaign against crude oil theft, pipeline vandalism and other forms of economic sabotage.

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NPA Introduces Phased Truck Entry To Tackle Apapa Port Gridlock

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The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has introduced a phased truck entry system for Apapa and Tin Can ports as part of measures to ease congestion and improve traffic flow around the nation's busiest seaports.

The General Manager of the Lagos Port Complex, Debo Lawal, said the initiative is aimed at eliminating indiscriminate truck parking and aligning port operations with international best practices.

Speaking in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Lawal said the NPA, under the leadership of its Managing Director, Abubakar Dantsoho, is working with Truck Transit Parks Limited (TTP) to regulate truck movement through a demand-driven scheduling system.

Under the arrangement, trucks will be released into the ports in batches based on the operational needs of individual terminals, rather than allowing all approved trucks into the port corridor at the same time.



Apapa port congestion

"If a terminal requires 100 trucks, they will not all be released at once. They will come in batches to reduce pressure on the port access roads," Lawal explained.

He disclosed that a joint task force has been clearing Apapa and Tin Can port access roads since June 26, operating daily until about 8 p.m. to prevent indiscriminate parking.

According to him, another clearance exercise will soon be carried out to sustain the progress made in restoring order around the ports.

Lawal also urged truck operators to leave the port environment immediately after loading or offloading cargo, noting that some drivers still park along access roads despite repeated engagements with their

unions.

He stressed that enforcement efforts would continue alongside stakeholder sensitisation to ensure compliance.

On infrastructure development, Lawal revealed that the Federal Government, through the NPA, has commenced payment of the five per cent counterpart funding required for the 726 million-dollar port rehabilitation project.

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Local Transport News

Otu Orders Immediate Repairs Of Failed Sections Of Calabar-Odukpani Road

Culled

Cross River State Governor, Bassey Otu, has directed the immediate repair of failed sections of the Calabar-Odukpani Road to improve safety and ease of movement for motorists and residents.

The governor issued the directive during an inspection of critical sections of the road along the Calabar corridor, where severe potholes and gully erosion have damaged parts of the highway.

According to Otu, the poor condition of the road reinforces the need for urgent intervention to protect commuters and restore confidence in the state's road infrastructure.

He instructed the Commissioner for Works and Infrastructure to mobilise contractors without delay to begin emergency remedial works on the affected sections.

The Calabar-Odukpani Road is a major transport corridor linking Calabar metropolis with Odukpani, Akamkpa and other parts of Cross River State. Its deteriorating condition has generated

widespread concern among residents and road users.

The governor said the emergency repairs would provide immediate relief while the state government develops a permanent engineering solution to address the recurring failures on the road.

He stressed that his administration is committed to delivering durable and sustainable infrastructure capable of serving both present and future generations, rather than relying on temporary fixes.

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Governor Bassey Otu

Anifowose Calls For Stronger Economic Regulation To Boost Nigeria's Port Dev't

Culled

The Director of Strategic Planning and Research at the Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), Rotimi Anifowose, has identified a stronger economic regulatory framework as critical to the sustainable development and competitiveness of Nigeria's port industry.

Speaking ahead of his retirement after 34 years of service at the Council, Anifowose said the proposed transition of the Nigerian Shippers' Council into the Nigerian Port Economic Regulatory Agency would mark a significant milestone for the nation's maritime sector.

He explained that the proposed agency, once it receives presidential assent, would strengthen transparency, ensure fair port pricing, protect the interests of both investors and port users, and promote greater efficiency, accountability and healthy competition within Nigeria's ports.

According to him, effective economic regulation should not focus solely on protecting cargo owners but should also

provide investors with a transparent and predictable business environment that encourages long-term investment.

Anifowose also identified the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as a major opportunity for Nigeria's maritime industry, urging stakeholders to position the country as a leading regional logistics and trade hub.

He said Nigeria could maximise the benefits of AfCFTA by expanding exports, increasing cargo throughput, promoting indigenous shipping, and strengthening freight forwarding services.

The retiring director further highlighted the immense potential of the marine and blue economy, noting opportunities in fisheries, aquaculture, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, offshore renewable energy, maritime transport, logistics and shipbuilding.

To unlock these opportunities, he called on the Nigerian Shippers' Council to deepen digital transformation, strengthen consumer protection, improve research and data management.

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FCC, NRC Strengthen Collaboration Of Federal Character Compliance

Culled

The Federal Character Commission (FCC) and the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) have reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring compliance with the Federal Character Principle in recruitment, promotions and other personnel processes across the railway corporation.

The renewed commitment was made during an interactive meeting between the FCC Committee on Works, Transport and Aviation and the management of the NRC at the commission's headquarters in Abuja.

Chairman of the FCC Committee on Works, Transport and Aviation and Federal Commissioner representing Enugu State, Hon. Peter Eze, said the engagement marked a shift in the commission's approach from reacting to violations to proactively ensuring compliance with constitutional provisions.

According to Eze, the meeting formed part of the FCC's oversight responsibility over the NRC and other Ministries, Departments and Agencies



FCC, NRC strengthen collaboration on the Federal Character Principle

(MDAs), with discussions centred on recruitment, promotions and monitoring.

He stressed that the commission has the constitutional mandate to oversee such personnel processes and warned that agencies carrying out recruitments or promotions without involving the FCC could face appropriate sanctions.

Eze, however, commended the NRC management for embracing the

commission's renewed approach and expressing readiness to work closely with the FCC.

He also disclosed that the commission would collaborate with the corporation to review its nominal roll to ensure future recruitments reflect equitable representation of states in line with the Federal Character Principle.

Responding, NRC Managing Director, Dr. Kayode Opeifa, described the

engagement as productive and timely, noting that it underscored the importance of collaboration among government institutions.

He reaffirmed the corporation's commitment to promoting national integration, describing the railway as one of Nigeria's strongest symbols of unity.

Opeifa also said the corporation was deploying technology to improve its operations despite funding constraints, adding that additional budgetary support would enable wider deployment of digital solutions to enhance railway services.

Speaking separately, FCC Executive Chairman, Hon. Hurrayat Motunrayo Omidiran, said the commission's engagement with federal agencies was designed to encourage collaboration rather than confrontation.

She reiterated the FCC's commitment to ensuring every Nigerian enjoys a sense of belonging through strict adherence to the Federal Character Principle.

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Local Transport News

Niger Graduates First Batch Of Traffic Officers To Boost Road Safety

Culled
The Niger State Government has graduated the pioneer batch of Traffic Management Officers as part of efforts to improve traffic management, reduce road congestion and strengthen enforcement of traffic regulations across the state.

The officers completed the first phase of their training at the Minna Institute of Technology and Innovation over the weekend and are expected to be deployed to strategic routes across the state.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony, the Commissioner for Transportation, Abdullahi Shu'aibu Maje, urged the newly trained officers to discharge their duties with integrity, discipline and professionalism. He also charged them to operate strictly within the provisions of the law establishing the Niger State Traffic Management Agency (NITMA).

Also speaking, the Director of the Vehicle Inspection Office, Danladi

Bako, stressed that public confidence would be critical to the agency's success. He advised the officers to treat motorists fairly and uphold high ethical standards while carrying out their responsibilities.

Meanwhile, the Director of Operations of NITMA, Saidu Tijjani, disclosed that arrangements had commenced for the second phase of training as the state government continues to strengthen the agency's capacity to improve traffic management and road safety.



Governor Bago

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Culled

Heavy rainfall on Monday disrupted movement across several parts of Lagos, leaving commuters stranded, worsening traffic congestion and prompting transport operators to increase fares.

Residents who spoke with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) described the downpour as one of the heaviest in recent weeks, saying it flooded major roads, delayed businesses and affected productivity.

Many commuters were forced to trek through flooded streets, endure prolonged traffic and pay higher transport fares to reach their destinations.

A resident of Alimosho, Mrs. Odion Okiade, said transport fares increased by at least ₦1,500 whenever it rained, adding that Monday's downpour placed an additional financial burden on residents already grappling with the rising cost of living.

Another commuter, Mrs. Nkiru Ogbonna, who travelled from Costain, said she had to wade through knee-deep floodwaters before getting to her office, describing the experience as a recurring challenge

Heavy Rain Grounds Lagos, Triggers Transport Fare Hike

during periods of heavy rainfall.

Mrs. Chineme Onuoha, who commutes from the Cele area, said a journey that normally takes between three and five minutes to Costain lasted about 25 minutes due to severe traffic congestion caused by the rain.

Similarly, another commuter identified as Mrs. Lilian said it took about 45 minutes to travel from Orile to Costain, adding that despite wearing a raincoat, she arrived at work soaked and exhausted after paying increased transport fares.

In Ayobo, near the Lagos-Ogun boundary, resident Mrs. Deborah said rising water levels from the nearby river frequently disrupt movement whenever heavy rain occurs, calling for improved flood control measures in vulnerable communities.

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NAMA, NCAA Clash Over Proposed Review Of TSC Charge Sharing Formula



Aviation

The Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) are at the centre of a dispute over a proposal to review the sharing formula of the statutory five per cent Ticket Sales Charge (TSC), a development that has sparked debate across Nigeria's aviation sector.

The proposal, currently before the National Assembly, seeks to increase NAMA's share of the levy, with supporters arguing that the agency's expanding operational responsibilities and rising infrastructure costs justify greater funding.

The controversy has drawn opposition from

labour unions within the NCAA, who warn that reducing the regulator's allocation could weaken aviation safety oversight and affect its ability to carry out certification, inspections and enforcement duties effectively.

Industry stakeholders backing the proposal argue that NAMA bears the greater operational burden in the aviation ecosystem, providing round-the-clock air navigation services that enable the safe movement of aircraft across Nigerian airspace.

The agency operates and maintains critical Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) infrastructure, including radar systems, Instrument Landing Systems, VHF communication facilities, Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) installations and other navigation equipment nationwide.

Supporters of the bill note that maintaining these systems requires significant investment in technology, regular calibration, software

upgrades, spare parts, diesel-powered facilities and continuous training of technical personnel in line with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) standards.

Retired pilot and aviation stakeholder, Mohammed Badamosi, said the current revenue-sharing formula does not adequately reflect the financial demands placed on NAMA.

According to him, while the NCAA receives about 56 per cent of the Ticket Sales Charge, NAMA receives approximately 23 per cent despite its nationwide operational responsibilities.

He questioned the basis for the existing formula, arguing that the agency responsible for managing air navigation infrastructure should receive funding that matches its operational obligations.

However, the Joint Action Committee of the NCAA has opposed reducing the regulator's allocation, suggesting that NAMA should instead be commercialised or partially privatised to attract private investment,

international financing and capital market funding for infrastructure upgrades.

Proponents of that approach believe greater financial independence would enable NAMA to modernise its facilities without depending heavily on statutory allocations and government budgets.

Supporters of the National Assembly proposal, however, maintain that while commercialisation may be a long-term solution, increased statutory funding remains necessary to sustain current operations and prevent deterioration of critical air navigation infrastructure.

Former Commandant of the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Group Captain John Ojikutu (retd.), also called for a balanced review of the revenue-sharing arrangement.

He said the allocation should be based on objective factors such as personnel strength, operational spread, infrastructure ownership, maintenance obligations and mandatory equipment calibration.

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NUPRC Highlights Faster Approvals, Fresh Investment In Upstream Oil Sector

Culled

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) says ongoing regulatory reforms are improving investor confidence in Nigeria's upstream oil and gas sector through faster approvals, fresh investments and a more business-friendly operating environment.

Speaking at the Nigeria Oil and Gas (NOG) Energy Conference 2026, the Commission Chief Executive, Oritsemeyiwa Eyesan, said the regulator has evolved beyond its traditional oversight role to become a business enabler focused on promoting efficiency, transparency and investment.

Eyesan said one of the key achievements of the reforms is the significant reduction in approval timelines, with some regulatory permits now processed within 24 hours.

According to her, the streamlined process is reducing operational bottlenecks, improving the ease of doing



Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC)

business and giving into Nigeria's oil and gas Production Nigeria investors greater industry while ensuring Limited and its partners certainty in project effective regulation of the for the Usan Infill Project execution. country's hydrocarbon in Oil Mining Lease investments. She noted that the resources. (OML) 138 as evidence Eyesan cited the recent of renewed investor t h e F e d e r a l \$1 billion investment confidence in the sector. Government's efforts to commitment by Esso She said the project, attract more investment Exploration and which marks the Industry Act.

company's first drilling campaign in about a decade, reflects positive investor response to reforms introduced under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) and the Commission's regulatory initiatives.

According to her, the investment underscores Nigeria's competitiveness as a destination for upstream oil and gas investments despite increasing competition from other oil-producing countries.

The NUPRC chief also said the award of Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPLs) to successful bidders in the 2024 licensing round is expected to trigger another wave of investments in the industry.

She explained that the licences would stimulate exploration activities, boost hydrocarbon reserves, create jobs and support economic growth through increased upstream investments.

Eyesan reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to ensuring that licence awards translate into field development and production in line with the objectives of the Petroleum Industry Act.

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CPPE Warns Multiple Taxes Threaten Survival Of Nigerian Airlines



Muda Yusuf

The Centre for the Promotion of Private Enterprise (CPPE) has warned that Nigeria's domestic airlines are under severe financial strain due to multiple taxes, statutory charges and regulatory levies, saying the current cost structure threatens the sustainability of the aviation industry.

In a statement, the Chief Executive Officer of CPPE, Muda Yusuf, said airlines lose about 35 per cent of their ticket revenue to charges imposed by aviation agencies before they can access the funds.

According to him, fees collected by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and the

Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) have become excessive and are no longer sustainable for operators.

Yusuf said the charges, which include ticket sales charges, passenger service charges, cargo fees, landing and parking fees, inspection charges, and import duties on aircraft and spare parts, are particularly burdensome given the aviation industry's traditionally low profit margins.

He acknowledged the Federal Government's decision to grant airlines a 30 per cent discount on statutory debts owed to aviation agencies but described the measure as temporary, urging authorities to address the underlying structural issues affecting the sector.

The CPPE boss called on the government to streamline the existing tax regime, arguing that reducing the financial burden on airlines would improve their viability and could ultimately result in lower airfares for

passengers.

Echoing the concerns, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Air Peace, Allen Onyema, said domestic airlines retain only a small portion of ticket revenue after statutory deductions.

He cited a domestic airfare of N350,000 as an example, claiming that airlines receive only about N81,000 after deductions, from which they must still cover operational costs such as aviation fuel, maintenance, staff salaries and aircraft financing.

Onyema also criticised the NCAA's five per cent Ticket Sales Charge, arguing that the levy unfairly reduces airline earnings because it is deducted directly from ticket revenue.

He suggested that the charge should instead be collected directly from passengers.

According to him, between 65 and 70 per cent of airline revenue is consumed by taxes, levies, fuel costs and other operating expenses, leaving operators with limited resources to sustain their businesses.

He further identified high borrowing costs and rising aviation fuel prices as additional challenges confronting the industry.

To address the situation, Onyema urged President Bola Tinubu to establish an Aviation Taxes and Charges Review Committee comprising government officials, regulators and airline operators to review the country's aviation fee structure.

However, the NCAA dismissed claims that taxes are responsible for rising airfares.

The agency's Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Michael Achimugu, maintained that airfare increases are largely driven by market forces, particularly increased demand during peak travel periods.

Meanwhile, governance analyst Joe Abah said passengers remain the biggest losers, arguing that while airlines and government agencies may benefit from higher fares, travellers bear the financial burden.

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