

Lagos Urges Patience As Kara Bridge Repairs, Truck Incident Trigger Gridlock

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CONTINUES ON P5

NANS Begins Nationwide Inspection Of Fed Road Projects, Commends Tinubu, Umahi

The National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) has commenced a nationwide inspection of federal road projects, with inspections of with a focus on roads the Kaduna-Abuja linking tertiary and Kaduna-Kano institutions across the roads, where the students' body country. The exercise began assessed the

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Thursday, September 17th 2026

E - NEWSPAPER

FRSC Warns Motorists Against Fake Traffic Offence Messages

The Federal Road Safety Corps has warned motorists and members of the public against fraudulent text

messages claiming that recipients have been recorded for new road traffic offences.

The warning was contained in a statement issued by the Corps' Public Education

Officer, Osondu Ohaeri, on Wednesday, following reports of the circulation of the

messages through mobile devices and social media platforms.

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NSCDC Seeks Multi-Agency Security For Lagos-Calabar Highway

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NPERA Vows Fines, Prosecution For Maritime Infractions

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Dr. Mobereola on an inspection tour to Marine Platforms Limited

FG Plans Abuja Rail Extension To Zaria, Kaduna, Kano, Daura, Katsina

The Federal Government has announced plans to extend rail services from Abuja to Zaria, Kaduna, Kano, Daura and

Katsina, with the initiative expected to create new employment opportunities and strengthen transportation connec- tivity across the northern region. The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation, Oluf

unsho Adebisi, disclosed this on Friday at the maiden convocation ceremony of the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology in Zaria, Kaduna

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Gridlock Returns To Naze-Nekede Road

P7



September

Roadmap

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3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
8am



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Local Transport News

Container Truck Crash Caused Kara Gridlock, Ogun Government Says

Culled

The Ogun State Government has attributed the severe traffic gridlock experienced along the Kara Bridge section of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway on Tuesday to a road traffic crash involving a containerised heavy-duty truck that suffered brake failure.

In a statement issued by the Commissioner for Transportation, Engr. Gbenga Dairo, the government said the truck's brake failure caused its container to detach and fall across both the inbound and outbound carriageways of the expressway, obstructing traffic and resulting in hours of congestion.

The commissioner explained that the incident occurred as the Kara Bridge Expansion Joint Replacement Project entered its second and final phase, appealing to motorists travelling from Lagos through the expressway to remain patient and cooperate with authorities managing traffic in the area.

According to the statement, the

situation was worsened when some motorists attempted to beat the traffic by driving against the flow of vehicles, a traffic violation that further complicated efforts to clear the obstruction and restore normal movement.

"The action significantly aggravated the traffic situation and contributed to the prolonged gridlock," the statement said, urging road users to refrain from route violations and comply with traffic regulations.

Find Full Story In The Link



Engr. Dairo

Lagos Intensifies Enforcement On Apapa, Lekki Port Corridors To Tackle Gridlock

Culled

The Lagos State Government has announced plans to intensify traffic enforcement along the Apapa and Lekki port corridors as part of efforts to address persistent congestion and improve the movement of articulated trucks in the areas.

The decision followed a strategy meeting convened by the Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Sola Giwa, on Tuesday at the Ministry of Transportation in Alausa, where officials reviewed recent feedback and assessed the prevailing traffic situation around the two major port corridors.

Giwa said the assessment revealed gaps in the existing enforcement process, prompting the ministry to review and strengthen its strategy for managing traffic and ensuring compliance with established regulations.

According to him, additional traffic management personnel will be deployed to the Lekki Port corridor to improve compliance with the E-Call-Up system

and facilitate the smooth movement of articulated trucks to and from the ports, including the Apapa axis.

He said the enhanced enforcement strategy had been scheduled for implementation, while urging officers of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, LASTMA, to remain committed to their responsibilities and maintain professionalism in the discharge of their duties.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation, Olawale Musa, said LASTMA would introduce a shift-based duty schedule for officers operating along the Apapa and Lekki corridors.

Musa explained that the arrangement was intended to ensure that traffic management personnel were available on the two corridors at all times. He added that officers found to be underperforming would be redeployed immediately.

The permanent secretary also directed operators of illegal parks around the two port areas to comply with the operational guidelines of the state government.

Find Full Story In The Link

Bus Rams Into BRT At Agric Terminal While allegedly Evading Levy Collector

Culled

An 18-passenger bus on Wednesday morning crashed into a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) vehicle at the Agric Bus Stop Terminal in Lagos State while allegedly attempting to evade roadside levy collectors.

The incident occurred as the white bus, which was reportedly travelling from Epe to Mile 12 International Market with three people and a load of cucumbers, approached the terminal.

According to a witness, Lekan Ajayi, a conductor popularly known as Shadow Nation, the bus driver attempted to avoid collectors allegedly associated with the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN), who were trying to stop the vehicle.

Ajayi said the driver, while attempting to evade the collectors, who allegedly used planks to stop the vehicle, tried to overtake another vehicle but lost control after swerving to the right.

The bus subsequently jumped over the walkway and crashed into the terminal, where passengers were waiting to



An 18-passeger bus crashes into a BRT terminal in Lagos

board buses.

Ajayi said he and other bystanders rushed to the scene to rescue the occupants of the vehicle, including the driver, the owner of the goods being transported and his assistant.

He said the driver sustained a serious head injury, while the owner of the goods suffered a deep cut to his palm and the motorboy sustained an injury

to his right leg after a metal object reportedly pierced it.

Ajayi expressed concern that the incident could have resulted in more casualties if it had occurred later in the day when more roadside traders and passengers would have been present around the terminal.

Meanwhile, officials of the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority

(LAMATA) reportedly prevented members of the public from taking photographs at the scene.

One of the officials explained that the restriction was intended to prevent unverified casualty figures and inaccurate accounts of the incident from circulating.

The victims were subsequently taken to a hospital for medical treatment.

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Local Transport News

Lagos Urges Patience As Kara Bridge Repairs, Truck Incident Trigger Gridlock

Culled

The Lagos State Government has appealed to motorists to remain patient as severe traffic congestion persists along the Lagos–Ibadan Expressway following the evacuation of a fallen tanker and ongoing rehabilitation works at the Kara Bridge.

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation, Olawale Musa, said on Wednesday that the disabled tanker had been successfully removed by the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), but warned that the situation had been exacerbated by motorists driving against traffic in an attempt to bypass the congestion.

Musa said the government had deployed additional traffic management personnel to the affected corridor to improve traffic flow and minimise delays. He added that the Ministry was working closely with the Lagos and Ogun State Police Commands, the Ogun State Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Corps

(TRACE), and LASTMA to ease the gridlock and restore normal vehicular movement.

He acknowledged that the rehabilitation of the Kara Bridge was causing temporary inconvenience but stressed that the project was necessary to preserve the critical transport infrastructure and ensure the long-term safety, functionality and resilience of the busy corridor.

"The rehabilitation work will be completed soon," Musa assured.

Find Full Story In The Link



The crash

Keyamo Endorses Uncover Naija, Supports Global Promotion Of Nigeria Talent

Culled

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Olorogun Festus Keyamo, SAN, has endorsed the Uncover Naija project, a national creative initiative aimed at promoting Nigerian artistic talent and strengthening the country's cultural and creative economy.

The endorsement was disclosed by the convener of Uncover Naija, Abiola Adelana, during the project's National Exhibition in Abuja.

Adelana said the minister's support would further advance the initiative's objective of exposing Nigerian creative talents to wider domestic and international audiences.

She noted that the connection between aviation, tourism and the creative economy provided an opportunity to use Nigeria's creative assets to improve the country's global image, attract visitors and create new economic opportunities for artists and other practitioners.

According to her, Uncover Naija was

established to identify, showcase and support emerging Nigerian creative talents while helping them derive greater economic value from their works.

The initiative attracted more than 700 applications from across the country, from which 25 finalists were selected by a jury comprising Chief Mrs Nike Okundaye, Ato Arinze, Arinze Stanley, David Olatoye and Maryam Maigida.

The Abuja exhibition featured works by the finalists and brought together government officials, artists, creative industry practitioners, jurors and other stakeholders.

Adelana said the project had evolved into a national partnership involving the Federal Ministry of Art, Culture, Tourism and Creative Economy, the Office of the Special Adviser to the President, as well as private-sector organisations.

She acknowledged the contributions of Sterling Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, Agege Local Government and other partners toward the success of the initiative.

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FG Plans Abuja Rail Extension To Zaria, Kaduna, Kano, Daura, Katsina

Culled

The Federal Government has announced plans to extend rail services from Abuja to Zaria, Kaduna, Kano, Daura and Katsina, with the initiative expected to create new employment opportunities and strengthen transportation connectivity across the northern region.

The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation, Olufunsho Adebisi, disclosed this on Friday at the maiden convocation ceremony of the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology in Zaria, Kaduna State.

Adebisi said the Federal Government was investing heavily in transport infrastructure and urged young Nigerians, particularly graduates of the institute, to acquire the skills needed to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the sector.

He said the planned rail expansion would allow passengers to travel by train from Abuja through Kaduna and Zaria to Kano, Daura and Katsina from January next year.



Olufunsho Adebisi

"By January next year, you can join a train from Abuja to Kaduna, Zaria, Kano, Daura, and Katsina," Adebisi said.

The permanent secretary, who disclosed that he was a graduate of NITT, said the training he received at the institution in 1995, alongside other professional programmes, contributed significantly to his career development. He commended NITT for its contribution

to manpower development in Nigeria's transport sector through professional training, capacity building and research.

Adebisi also praised the institute's Director-General and Chief Executive, Bayero Salih Farah, for his leadership and commitment to the development of the institution.

He further announced automatic

employment for the two overall best graduating students of the institute and offered them scholarships to pursue degree programmes.

The permanent secretary called on members of the National Assembly to support similar educational initiatives, citing the scholarship programme sponsored by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tajudeen Abbas.

He said such interventions would help empower young Nigerians and contribute to efforts to address crime and insecurity.

In his welcome address, Farah said the maiden convocation represented a significant milestone in the institute's development, following its expansion into National Board for Technical Education-accredited programmes in 2021.

According to him, the expansion enabled NITT to offer National Innovation Diploma, National Skills Qualification, National Diploma and Higher National Diploma programmes.

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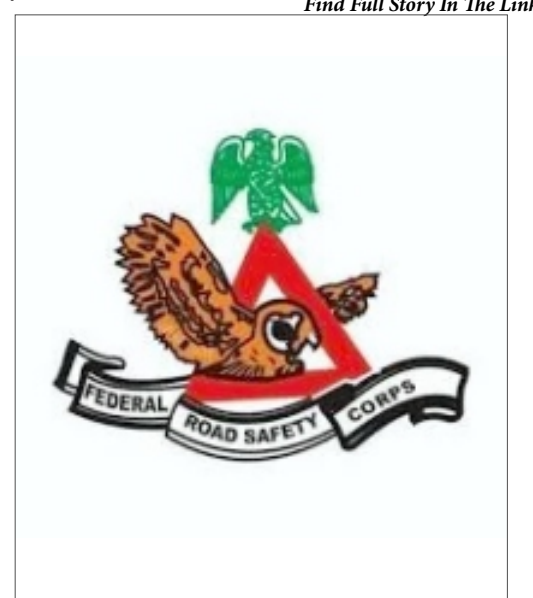
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Local Transport News

FRSC Warns Motorists Against Fake Traffic Offence Messages

Culled
The Federal Road Safety Corps has warned motorists and members of the public against fraudulent text messages claiming that recipients have been recorded for new road traffic offences. The warning was contained in a statement issued by the Corps' Public Education Officer, Osondu Ohaeri, on Wednesday, following reports of the circulation of the messages through mobile devices and social media platforms. According to the FRSC, the messages falsely present themselves as official communications from the Corps and create a sense of urgency by informing recipients that a new traffic offence has been recorded against them. The messages reportedly direct recipients to a website, "frscgov.top/ng," to review details of the alleged offence. The Corps, however, disowned the website, stating that it had no affiliation with the Federal Road Safety Corps. FRSC warned that the fraudulent links could be designed to harvest sensitive

information, including personal and financial details, from unsuspecting victims. It therefore advised members of the public not to click on suspicious links or make payments in response to unsolicited traffic offence messages. The Corps specifically urged motorists not to disclose banking information, passwords, card details, driver's licence information, vehicle registration details or other personal data through such platforms.



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FRSC

Culled
Gridlock has resurfaced along the Naze axis of the Naze-Nekede-Ihiagwa-Obinze Road in Owerri West Local Government Area of Imo State, leaving students, motorists and residents facing prolonged delays and worsening transportation difficulties. The deteriorating condition of the strategic road has made movement increasingly difficult, with motorists reportedly spending hours navigating damaged sections while students and residents of surrounding communities contend with traffic congestion, muddy portions and vehicle damage. The situation has also renewed concerns about the condition of the road and the sustainability of previous rehabilitation efforts, particularly because the route serves as an important link to the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) and the Federal Polytechnic, Nekede. The Ohanaeze Youth Council (OYC) has consequently called for urgent intervention by the Minister of Works, Senator David Umahi, and the Imo

Gridlock Returns To Naze-Nekede Road

State Governor, Senator Hope Uzodimma, to address the worsening situation. National President of the OYC, Comrade Igboayaka O. Igboayaka, said the road was too important to be left solely to the state government because of its connection to two major federal institutions. He urged the Federal Ministry of Works to intervene, stressing that the road's condition was having a direct impact on students, workers, residents and businesses operating in the area. "Although it is a state road, it connects two major federal institutions—Federal University of Technology, Owerri and Federal Polytechnic, Nekede.

Find Full Story In The Link

NPERA Vows Fines, Prosecution For Maritime Infractions



Dr. Akutah

The Nigerian Ports Economic Regulatory Agency (NPERA) has vowed to enforce its new legal framework against infractions and violations in the maritime sector, including the imposition of fines and criminal prosecution of offenders where necessary. The Director-General of NPERA, Dr Pius Akutah, disclosed this on Tuesday when the executive members of the Maritime Correspondents' Organisation of Nigeria (MARCON) visited the agency's headquarters in Lagos. Akutah said the NPERA Act 2026 had empowered the agency to regulate the economic activities of the maritime sector,

sanitise port operations and establish a level playing field for port users and service providers. According to him, the agency's responsibilities include protecting investments, regulating tariffs and improving the competitiveness of Nigerian ports. He stressed that NPERA would operate as an impartial regulator and would not target any particular maritime service provider or port user. Akutah said the new regulatory regime also provided the agency with the authority to impose financial penalties on those who violated its provisions, while certain offences could attract criminal prosecution and imprisonment. He said the objective was to establish a strong deterrent against practices capable of undermining the efficiency of the maritime logistics chain and trade. "The potency of the law is to help to sanitise the sector and we will have to apply the full weight of this law. That is the only time that deterrent regime will

work to protect the investments that are made there," he said. The NPERA boss further disclosed that the legislation would strengthen alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the maritime industry, particularly in view of the lengthy and costly nature of litigation. He said effective implementation of the law would help Nigerian ports compete favourably with international counterparts and contribute to the Federal Government's target of building a \$1 trillion economy by 2030. Akutah also said NPERA was collaborating with other government agencies to eliminate overlapping responsibilities in the maritime sector. He credited the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, with helping to prevent inter-agency rivalry during the development of the legislation. According to him, heads of relevant agencies were brought together by the minister to scrutinise the proposed law paragraph by paragraph and line by line before a common version was agreed

upon and submitted to the National Assembly. He said the heads of the agencies signed every page of the agreed document before it was forwarded to the National Assembly, ensuring that the legislation reflected the consensus reached among the agencies. Akutah also disclosed that NPERA had begun the process of transferring the development function of Inland Dry Ports to the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), in accordance with the minister's directive. He expressed optimism that other agencies would similarly relinquish responsibilities that were primarily regulatory, adding that the ministry was coordinating the transition to ensure that relevant agencies were carried along. The NPERA director-general commended MARCON for its partnership with the agency and urged maritime journalists to continue educating the public on the provisions of the new law and its implications for the industry.

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NANS Begins Nationwide Inspection Of Fed Road Projects, Commends Tinubu, Umahi

Culled

The National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) has commenced a nationwide inspection of federal road projects, with a focus on roads linking tertiary institutions across the country.

The exercise began with inspections of the Kaduna-Abuja and Kaduna-Kano roads, where the students' body assessed the condition of the infrastructure and its impact on students and academic communities.

NANS President, Dist. Comr. Babatunde Afeez Akinteye, said the tour was designed to provide the association with firsthand information on the state of federal roads serving tertiary institutions and identify areas requiring government attention.

The exercise commenced in Kaduna State with an inspection of the ongoing Federal Government road construction along the Kaduna-Abuja Road, particularly the section passing through the Federal Co-operative College,



Comrade Babatunde Akinteye

Kaduna.

Akinteye noted that the road was a major access route used daily by students of the institution, making its condition important to their movement and general welfare.

The NANS delegation later proceeded to Kano State, where it inspected the Kaduna-Kano Road, including the section serving Sa'adatu Rimi College of Education.

According to NANS, the road was found to be in

Education and members of the Students' Union on political consciousness and infrastructural development.

Akinteye urged students to remain actively involved in policies and government projects affecting their welfare, stressing that decisions taken by government at different levels had direct implications for students.

He said the nationwide road tour would enable NANS to assess the quality of federal road projects, examine their impact on students and identify challenges that require intervention.

Students of Sa'adatu Rimi College of Education commended President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the Minister of Works, David Umahi, for the road project, saying the improved infrastructure had eased transportation and movement around the institution.

NANS also held discussions with the management of the college on issues concerning students' welfare. Akinteye commended the Provost, Dr Kabiru Ahmed Gwarzo, for his commitment to the wellbeing of students.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NSCDC Seeks Multi-Agency Security For Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway



Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Lagos State Command, has called for a multi-agency security strategy to protect the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway from vandalism, theft and other criminal activities.

The call followed a joint inspection of the Lagos section of the 750-kilometre coastal highway by the NSCDC, the Federal Controller of Works in Lagos State, Olufemi Dare, and a representative of the Nigeria Police Force.

The inspection covered an 18-kilometre stretch of the project, from Okun-Ajah to Oniru, around the Rain Oil area.

The Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway, which begins from Victoria Island in Lagos and

extends to Calabar in Cross River State, is one of the Federal Government's major infrastructure projects aimed at improving transportation and connectivity along Nigeria's coastline.

Speaking during the inspection, the Lagos State Commandant of the NSCDC, Adedotun Keshinro, said the strategic importance of the project made it necessary for the highway to be treated as a Critical National Asset and Infrastructure.

Keshinro said the NSCDC remained committed to protecting critical national infrastructure across the state, but noted that securing a project of the scale of the coastal highway would require the combined efforts of security agencies, government authorities and communities along the route.

He consequently advocated stronger collaboration among relevant agencies and stakeholders to prevent vandalism and other criminal activities that could undermine the

project.

The inspection team identified several security concerns along the construction corridor, including the alleged theft of manhole covers and iron rods, vandalism of construction materials, destruction of fencing and the stripping of infrastructure components.

The team also observed unauthorised traffic activities, including the creation of illegal U-turns along parts of the highway.

Dare, who led the team through the construction corridor, reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to protecting the project and maintaining the integrity of the infrastructure.

He said the directive by the Minister of Works, David Umahi, on the protection of the road remained sacrosanct.

During the inspection, officials also assessed ongoing construction works, including flyovers, interchanges and deep-piled bridge

infrastructure along the corridor.

The NSCDC said early and coordinated intervention by security agencies and communities would be essential to preventing criminal activities from becoming entrenched and protecting the substantial public investment in the coastal highway.

The Corps added that sustained collaboration would help ensure the infrastructure is adequately protected and ultimately delivers its intended transportation and economic benefits to Nigerians.

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Train services across the Netherlands were severely disrupted on Tuesday after railway authorities discovered what they described as a coordinated act of sabotage targeting the country's rail network.

ProRail, which manages the Dutch railway infrastructure, said security systems had been deliberately interfered with at more than 30 locations, preventing trains from operating safely across several parts of the country. Railway workers discovered the first sections of pipe attached to railway tracks during inspections at about 5:30 a.m. One train collided with a pipe at Steenwijk, although no injuries were reported.

According to ProRail, the sabotage appeared to be continuing, with additional pipes discovered at some locations where railway personnel had already

Dutch Rail Network Hit By Coordinated Sabotage, Train Services Disrupted



removed materials earlier in the day.

ProRail spokeswoman Joke van der Cruysen said there was clear evidence that the materials had been

intentionally placed on the tracks.

She said the immediate priority was to remove the objects, preserve evidence for investigators and restore

train services as quickly as possible.

The disruption was particularly severe on routes north of Utrecht, Amersfoort, Zwolle and Deventer after midday, NS warned that services

across the country could be affected. NS said it hoped to resume services through Amersfoort, Zwolle and Deventer after midday, depending on the

progress of safety checks and repairs.

ProRail explained that the pipes, some measuring up to two metres long, had been attached to rails in a way that triggered railway safety systems designed to detect trains on the tracks. The interference caused signals to turn red and brought train operations to a halt.

At least five locations in Gelderland were reported to have been affected by the placement of steel pipes.

The disruption also affected the Reisplanner journey-planning application during the morning rush hour, leaving passengers with limited access to travel information. NS advised travellers to check for updates before beginning their journeys and said replacement buses could not be arranged because of the widespread nature of the disruption.
Find Full Story In The Link

Culled
Siemens Mobility has commenced live trials of its Signaling X digital signalling platform in urban public transport, marking the technology's first deployment in a real-world urban operating environment in Germany. The trial is being conducted in

partnership with Rostocker Straßenbahn AG (RSAG) on the tram tunnel beneath Rostock Hauptbahnhof. The section is used by tram routes 2, 3, 5 and 6.

As part of the project, Siemens has installed a software-defined interlocking system for the

Siemens Begins Live Trial Of Digital Signalling System In Germany

tunnel, moving Signaling X from testing into operational use on an active urban rail line.

Unlike conventional railway interlocking systems, which typically depend on dedicated signalling hardware, Signaling X runs its safety-critical software on standard IT servers. Siemens said the approach could make signalling infrastructure easier to modernise and scale while reducing dependence on proprietary hardware.

The trial follows testing of the platform at the Singapore Rail Test Centre in 2025, where Siemens introduced Signaling X for the metro market.

Siemens launched Signaling X in September 2024 as a digital signalling architecture designed for both mainline and urban rail systems. The platform separates signalling applications from proprietary hardware, enabling them to operate on commercially available servers.

The company said the architecture could support faster technology upgrades, simplify maintenance and reduce the impact of individual hardware lifecycles on railway operations.

Commenting on the deployment, Siemens Mobility's CEO of Rail Infrastructure, Marc Ludwig, described the project as an important step in the digitalisation of rail transport.

He said the live deployment would provide a foundation for faster innovation cycles, simpler system modernisation and more efficient long-term railway operations.

A key objective of the Rostock trial is to demonstrate that safety-critical signalling applications can operate reliably on standard servers while meeting CENELEC Safety Integrity Level 4 (SIL 4), the highest safety integrity level used in railway signalling.

Siemens said cybersecurity requirements applicable to critical infrastructure have also been incorporated into the installation.

For RSAG, participation in the project is aimed at supporting improvements in operational safety, particularly in urban environments where tram systems operate in close proximity to road traffic.

Dirk Glauner, Team Lead Railway Power Systems at RSAG, said safety remained a major challenge for mass-transit operators because of the risks associated with rail operations and interaction with road traffic.
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PUBLISHER
Greatpen Global Media Limited
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EDITOR IN CHIEF
Olorundare Animola

ADMIN ACCOUNT HEAD
Funmilola Olowookere

HEAD GRAPHICS
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NEWS CORRESPONDENT
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E - CIRCULATION
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ActionAid Nigeria Mobilises Youth For Democratic Part'tion Ahead Of 2027 Elections

Culled:
ActionAid Nigeria has launched an initiative aimed at strengthening youth participation in Nigeria's democratic process and promoting greater accountability ahead of the 2027 general elections.

The organisation made this known on Wednesday at a one-day Youth Democracy and Accountability Summit held in Abuja, where young leaders and other stakeholders examined issues surrounding democratic participation, governance, accountability and citizens' needs.

The summit, themed “Empowering Young People for Democratic Participation and Accountability Ahead of the 2027 General Election,” forms part of ActionAid Nigeria's efforts to enhance youth leadership, civic engagement and participation in governance.

Speaking at the event, the Country Director of ActionAid Nigeria, Dr Andrew Mamedu, represented by the organisation's Head of Programmes and Policy, Celestine Odo, said the summit was designed to broaden young people's understanding of democracy beyond the conduct of elections.

Mamedu said democracy should be



ActionAid

viewed as an ongoing process through which citizens derive tangible benefits from governance, adding that democratic dividends should be reflected in improved living conditions and responsive public institutions.

He said the summit would also focus on resource allocation and public finance, stressing that the way public resources are allocated and utilised significantly determines the extent to which citizens benefit from democratic governance.

According to him, participants would identify some of the challenges affecting Nigeria's democratic development and develop a youth-focused agenda that could be presented to political actors ahead of the 2027 elections.

He urged young Nigerians to use the proposed agenda to engage political candidates and mobilise their communities around issues that directly affect them, rather than restricting political participation to accepting campaign gifts.

Mamedu said young people should be equipped to articulate clear demands and hold politicians accountable for their promises when seeking their votes.

Also speaking, ActionAid Nigeria's Governance Specialist, Vivian Bassey, identified four major

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FG Urges Local Production Of Medical Diagnostics



Dr. Salako

Culled:
The Federal Government has called for increased local production of medical diagnostic products, describing diagnostics as a strategic national asset critical to Nigeria's health security.

The Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare, Dr Izaiah Salako, made the call on Wednesday in Abuja while declaring open the 28th Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Guild of Medical Laboratory Directors.

Represented by the Director and Head of the Medical

Laboratory Services Division in GMLD, Dr Samuel Fele, also urged the government and other stakeholders to reduce Nigeria's reliance on imported diagnostic reagents, consumables and equipment by developing a competitive local manufacturing industry.

Speaking on the theme of the conference, “From Diagnostic Sovereignty to Market Readiness: Building Nigeria's End-to-End Diagnostics Ecosystem,” Fele said the country must move from discussions about local production to concrete action.

He said the growing African in-vitro diagnostics market, valued at \$1.33bn in 2024, alongside increasing demand for point-of-care and rapid diagnostic services.

The National President of the

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Keystone Bank Opens Channels For Dangote Refinery IPO

Culled:
Keystone Bank Limited has opened its approved subscription channels to investors seeking to participate in the Dangote Petroleum Refinery and Petrochemical's N4.1 billion-share initial public offering (IPO).

The bank, which has been authorised as a receiving agent for the public offer, said its subscription channels are available to both existing customers and non-customers, as well as other eligible investors interested in acquiring shares in the refinery.

The public offer commenced on Monday, September 14, 2026, and is scheduled to close on October 13, 2026. Under the terms of the offer, 4.1 billion ordinary shares are being offered at N525 per share, with a minimum subscription of 10 shares valued at N5,250.

Investors are also allowed to apply for additional shares, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the offer documents.

Keystone Bank said investors had continued to use its approved digital and physical channels since the offer opened, reflecting growing interest in the Dangote Refinery IPO.

The bank, however, advised prospective investors to ensure that their personal and banking information, including their Bank Verification Number, is accurate and up to date before submitting their applications.

It also urged investors to use only approved subscription channels and remain vigilant against fraudulent schemes associated with the public offer.

The Executive Director, Corporate Bank and South, Keystone Bank, Nnenna Anyim Okoro, said the offer provides Nigerians with an opportunity to acquire an ownership stake in an enterprise expected to play a significant role in the country's industrial and economic development.

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National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

Nigeria's Inflation Drops Marginally To 15.39% In August - NBS

Culled: Nigeria's headline inflation rate declined marginally to 15.39 per cent in August 2026, compared with 15.43 per cent recorded in July, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The latest figure was contained in the NBS Consumer Price Index report released on Wednesday, which showed a 0.04 percentage-point decline in the headline inflation rate during the period under review.

The bureau also reported a sharper moderation in month-on-month inflation, which fell to 0.71 per cent

in August from 1.57 per cent in July, representing a decrease of 0.86 percentage points.

According to the NBS, the development indicates that the average price level increased at a slower rate in August than it did in the preceding month.

The bureau said food inflation also moderated, standing at 19.57 per cent year-on-year in August, compared with 25.30 per cent recorded in August 2025.

On a month-on-month basis, food inflation declined significantly to 1.02 per cent in August from 5.56 per cent in July, representing a 4.55

percentage-point reduction.

The NBS attributed the decline in food inflation primarily to changes in the average prices of several food commodities, including palm oil, carrots, pepper, onions, cassava flour, beef, yam flour, water yam and melon (egusi).

Other commodities that recorded price changes during the period included fresh ginger, fresh fish, Irish potatoes, wheat grain, frozen chicken and turkey meat.

At the state level, Adamawa recorded the highest year-on-year food inflation rate in August at 38.85 per cent. It was followed by Zamfara

with 37.96 per cent and Bayelsa with 36.20 per cent.

Borno recorded the lowest year-on-year food inflation rate at -4.04 per cent, followed by Jigawa at -0.23 per cent and Kebbi at 3.47 percent. On a month-on-month basis, Katsina recorded the highest food inflation rate at 9.48 per cent, followed by Rivers at 8.86 per cent and Osun at 8.32 per cent.

Meanwhile, Taraba recorded the largest month-on-month decline in food inflation at -12.42 per cent. Borno followed with -12.15 per cent, while Bauchi recorded a decline of -8.88 per cent.

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Power Supply Improves As Nigerians Ask Minister To Slow Down

The Minister of Power, Joseph Tegbe, has said improvements in electricity supply across parts of Nigeria have prompted some consumers to jokingly ask the government to “slow down” because their freezers are now working continuously.

Tegbe made the remark on Wednesday in Abuja while speaking at the commissioning of a 3-megawatt solar hybrid power project at Yakubu Gowon University, formerly

the University of Abuja.

The minister said the government had received positive feedback from electricity consumers following recent improvements in power supply, particularly in areas that previously experienced prolonged outages.

According to him, some locations that went for months without electricity were now recording up to 18 hours of supply daily.

“Places that didn't have light at all for three months are now having 18 hours light. Some areas called me to say, look, I should slow down, that everything in their freezer is freezing. That is what freezer is meant to do. Let it freeze the food that needs to be frozen.” Teqbe said.

Tegbe recalled that during his Senate screening, he had promised that Nigerians would begin to notice improvements in electricity supply

within three to six months.

He, however, acknowledged that significant challenges remained in the power sector, particularly the age and condition of existing infrastructure.

“Some of the infrastructure we have in the electricity and power sector are more than 40 years old. We're systematically replacing them, phasing them out and bringing new ones,” he said.

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