

FRSC Flags Speeding, Fatigue, Overloading Among Tanker Drivers

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has identified speeding, driver fatigue, overloading and driving against traffic as persistent safety violations among

petroleum tanker drivers, warning that the practices continue to endanger lives and property on Nigerian roads despite as enforcement.

CONTINUES ON P4

LAMATA Plans Three New Blue Line Stations, Eight-Car Red Line Trains

Lagos State is set to deepen its investment in mass transit infrastructure as LAMATA announced that three new stations on the Blue Rail Line will commence operations

by February 2027, while the Red Rail Line will receive three new eight-car train sets in November to more than double passenger services on the corridor.

CONTINUES ON P4

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Tuesday, October 27th, 2026

E - NEWSPAPER

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The Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has promised that the Opebi-Ojota link bridge will be opened to traffic before Christmas, saying the project will significantly improve transport connectivity and ease congestion in the axis.

Sanwo-Olu gave the assurance on Monday during an inspection of the ongoing construction work, where he expressed satisfaction with the pace and quality of work on the 1.3-kilometre bridge.

He said the bridge, which links Opebi to Ojota, is a key infrastructure project designed to decongest the busy Opebi-Ikeja-Ojota corridor, reduce travel time and provide an alternative route for motorists within the axis.

According to him, the project is part of the state government's broader efforts to expand the road network, strengthen mobility and support economic activities across Lagos.

CONTINUES ON P2



Ongoing construction work on the Opebi-Ojota link bridge, Lagos, on Monday.

FG Completes 348km Of Roads, Ongoing Projects Hit 4,084km In North-West

The Federal Government says it has completed 348 kilometres of road projects across the North-West, while 4,084 kilometres of other projects are currently ongoing in the zone.

The Minister of Works, Engr. David Umahi, disclosed this on Monday in Abuja, noting that the ongoing projects cut across major highways and rural access roads in the seven states of the region.

Umahi said the projects

form part of the government's efforts to improve road connectivity, support trade, enhance security and boost economic activities in the North-West.

He added that the completed roads have already begun to ease the movement of people, goods and services, while the ongoing projects are at various stages of completion.

The minister reiterated the government's commitment to delivering quality and durable road infrastructure nationwide, particularly in regions critical to food security and national economic growth.

He urged contractors to maintain the pace of work and adhere to agreed specifications and timelines to ensure timely completion of the projects.



Aviation cargo operations at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Lagos.

Sanwo-Olu Promises Opebi-Ojota Link Bridge Will Open Before Christmas P1



September Roadmap

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1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

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General News

SAHCO Calls For Stronger Stakeholder Collaboration To Boost Air Cargo Sector

By Bolu-Olu Esho, Lagos

The Chairman of Skyway Aviation Handling Company (SAHCO) Plc, Dr Taiwo Afolabi, has called for stronger stakeholder collaboration, mutual trust and shared responsibility to drive the growth, efficiency and global competitiveness of Nigeria's air cargo industry.

Afolabi made the call at the SAHCO Plc Cargo Stakeholders Forum held recently in Ikeja, Lagos, where he highlighted the strategic importance of air cargo operations to international trade, market connectivity and national economic development.

Represented by the Managing Director of SAHCO Plc, Mrs Adenike Aboderin, he identified

airlines, freight forwarders, regulatory agencies, cargo agents, importers, exporters and other service providers as critical partners in the industry's value chain.

"The air cargo sector plays a vital role in facilitating international trade, connecting markets, supporting businesses, and contributing to economic development," Afolabi said.

He said SAHCO had continued to invest in modern technology, equipment and infrastructure to improve its cargo-handling capabilities.

The upgrades include a new dual-view X-ray machine for advanced cargo screening, an

ETB (Electronic Targeting and Baggage) machine for identifying prohibited substances, a 16-tonne forklift for heavy and oversized consignments, and improved cold-chain facilities for temperature-sensitive goods.

Afolabi noted that the investments reflect SAHCO's commitment to efficiency, security and international standards, adding that sustained collaboration among industry players was essential to maximising their benefits.



Cargo handling operations at the SAHCO cargo terminal, Lagos.

NIMASA, ITF Partner To Boost Seafarers' Mental Health, Wellbeing

By Chidi Ugwu, Lagos

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) has partnered with the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) to strengthen mental health awareness and improve the wellbeing of Nigerian seafarers and maritime cadets.

The partnership was formalised on Monday through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Lagos at the opening of three-day Seafarers' and Training of Trainers Programme.

NIMASA's Executive Director, Maritime Labour and Cabotage Services, Jibril Abba, said the initiative would build the capacity

of maritime educators, agency officials and labour representatives to equip seafarers and cadets with practical skills in stress management, early intervention and psychological first aid.

He noted that seafarers face unique challenges, including long working hours, separation from family and difficult sea conditions, which could lead to stress, anxiety and depression.

Abba said the MoU would support training for maritime institutions and NIMASA officials, with the wellbeing module to be integrated into maritime training curricula and later extended to Port Harcourt.

Nigerian Refineries Receive 127 Million Barrels Of Crude In Nine Months – NUPRC

By Kingsley Benneth, Lagos

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) has disclosed that domestic refineries received more than 127 million barrels of Nigerian crude oil and condensate between January and September 2026.

The Commission Chief Executive, Oritsemeyiwa Eyesan, said deliveries improved in the second and third quarters after disputes affected supplies in the first quarter.

Speaking at the OTL Africa Downstream Energy Week in Lagos, she said refineries received 53.7 million barrels in Q2 (97.4 per cent) and 45.1 million barrels in Q3 (76.2 per cent).

Eyesan said the commission was consulting stakeholders on a proposed crude swap framework that could reduce transportation costs by \$3 to \$4 per barrel.

She added that Nigeria's crude oil and condensate production averaged 1.717 million barrels per day in September, representing a 2.34 per cent increase from the previous month.

The swap, she said, would allow refiners to receive crude from the nearest suitable production or export point, strengthening domestic refining and improving supply efficiency.

DRC, AFC Sign \$877m Agreement For Kinshasa Urban Rail Project

By Juliet Oyoyo, Abuja

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has signed a joint development agreement with the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) for the first phase of the \$877 million Kinshasa Urban Train (Metrolin) project.

The agreement, signed in Dubai by the DRC's Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Transport, Jean-Pierre Bemba, and AFC President and Chief Executive Officer, Samir Zuhairi, will support the reconstruction of an existing 25-kilometre railway

line linking Kinshasa to N'Djili International Airport.

The first phase includes the conversion of the track to standard gauge, construction of eight stations, electrification, modern signalling and a 25-megawatt thermal power plant. It is expected to transport about 452,000 passengers daily, with a maximum capacity of 600,000.

The project forms part of a planned 300-kilometre commuter rail network to address traffic congestion and improve urban mobility in Kinshasa.

Etihad Airways Launches Daily A380 Flights To Bangkok

By Uche Nwosu, Abuja

Etihad Airways has commenced daily Airbus A380 flights between Abu Dhabi and Bangkok, with the first service arriving in Bangkok on Monday, October 26, 2026.

The new service expands capacity on the popular route and introduces the airline's premium onboard offerings to Thailand for the first time.

The A380 features The Residence, the world's only three-room suite in the sky, as well as First Apartments, Business Class and Economy Class cabins. Passengers can also benefit



An Etihad Airways Airbus A380 aircraft at Abu Dhabi International Airport.

from improved connectivity through Abu Dhabi and the airline's stopover programme, which offers a complimentary hotel stay of up to two nights.

SAHCO Calls For Stronger Stakeholder Collaboration To Boost Air Cargo Sector

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General News

NCAA Warns International Airlines Against Boarding Passengers Without Health Forms

By Our Correspondent
ABUJA

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has warned international airlines operating flights into Nigeria against allowing passengers and crew members to board without completing the mandatory Health Declaration Form, threatening sanctions for non-compliance.

The directive, issued in a circular to all international carriers, is part of efforts to strengthen public health surveillance and prevent the spread of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) following the recent confirmation of an Ebola case in Nigeria.

The NCAA, a member of the Presidential Task Force on Ebola Virus Disease, said the updated guidelines followed recommendations from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United States and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Under the directive, all international airlines are required to ensure that every passenger scheduled to arrive in Nigeria completes and submits the prescribed Health Declaration Form before boarding.

The requirement applies to all categories of travellers, including diplomats, legislators, children,

adults and members of airline crews.

The authority stressed that no passenger would be permitted to board a flight bound for Nigeria without fulfilling the requirement, warning that airlines would be held accountable for any breach.

It added that carriers found violating the directive would face sanctions in accordance with existing laws and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Regulations.

The NCAA further stated that arriving passengers and crew members could undergo additional health screening upon arrival in

Nigeria upon infection prescribed by health declaration form of authorities.

The NCAA, concerning to all the arriving to the five categories, the below working closely, legitimate could with the existing law and the screening Aviation arrival Nigeria where deemed necessary.

The NCAA further stated that all arriving passengers and crew members could undergo additional health screening upon arrival in Nigeria where deemed necessary by the relevant health authorities.

The circular explained that

closely with other members of the Presidential Task Force on Ebola to ensure the effective coordination and implementation of measures aimed at preventing and controlling the disease.

It added that the updated guidance on the Health Declaration Form was intended to strengthen existing preventive measures and ensure compliance across international air travel operations.

The NCAA consequently directed all international airlines to implement the requirements strictly and immediately.

Sanwo-Olu Promises Opebi-Ojota Link Bridge Will Open Before Christmas

By Uche Nwosu, Lagos

Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has assured residents that the Opebi-Ojota link bridge will be ready for public use before Christmas, following delays that pushed its completion beyond the previously announced September deadline.

Sanwo-Olu gave the assurance on Sunday during an inspection visit to the project site, where he assessed the progress of work and sought explanations for the delay in opening the bridge.

He said the bridge was designed to reflect the historical and cultural identity of the area, particularly its association with the traditional cane market.

According to him, the design



The ongoing Opebi-Ojota link bridge project in Lagos.

incorporates a traditional steel structure inspired by the cane market, a nod to the area's heritage while delivering.

He expressed confidence that the remaining structural work within a few more days, followed by the installation

One Dead As Tricycle, LT Bus Collide In Lagos

By Our Correspondent
LAGOS

One person has been confirmed dead following a collision involving a tricycle and a light transport (LT) bus at Iyana Ejigbo, Lagos State.

The fatal accident occurred on Monday morning in front of Grooming Centre, inward Iyana Ejigbo, according to the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA).

The agency confirmed the incident in an update posted on its official X account at about 9:30 a.m., stating that the crash resulted in the loss of one life.

LASTMA disclosed that its officers, alongside police personnel, promptly mobilised to the scene to carry out emergency response and rescue operations.

The agency did not provide further details about the identity of the deceased or the circumstances that led to the collision.

Following the incident, LASTMA urged motorists and other road users to exercise caution and comply with traffic regulations to prevent avoidable accidents.

The authority reiterated the importance of responsible driving and strict adherence to road safety rules in reducing road crashes across Lagos.

NURTW Backs TOAN, Names Istijabah Lagos Chairman

By Francis Onoibhohlo, Lagos

The Tricycle Owners Association of Nigeria (TOAN) has appointed Alhaji Abdul-Azeez Abiola, popularly known as Istijabah, as its interim Lagos State chairman for a six-month tenure, in a move aimed at promoting unity and stability among tricycle operators across the state.

The appointment was formally communicated by TOAN's National President, Comrade Augustine Agbo-Akpe, and National Secretary, Comrade Christiana Adebayo.

Speaking at the NURTW office in Lagos on Monday, Agbo-Akpe said the decision was part of efforts to harmonise the activities of tricycle operators and reduce divisions within the sector.

He explained that the appointment was a temporary arrangement designed to provide leadership while preparations for a substantive election were underway.

In his acceptance speech, Abiola described the appointment as a privilege and pledged to prioritise unity, organisational restructuring and stability.

He urged members to resolve disagreements through dialogue and avoid actions capable of disrupting commercial activities.

The Lagos State Chairman of NURTW, Comrade Mustapha Adekunle Sego, confirmed that the union had received a letter from TOAN introducing Abiola as the interim chairman for six months.

Vehicle Imports Rise 42.5% Despite High Prices After Duty Cuts

By Kingsley Benneth, Lagos

Nigeria's vehicle import market recorded a 42.5 per cent increase in the first half of 2026, despite persistent high retail prices following the Federal Government's reduction of import duties and other vehicle-related charges.

Data from the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) showed that 103,375 vehicles passed through the country's ports between January and June 2026, compared with 72,568 units in the same period of 2025.

The increase signals renewed activity in vehicle imports, although the government's fiscal measures have yet to translate into significant price reductions for consumers.



Imported vehicles at a Nigerian port.

Under the 2026 Fiscal Policy Measures, the government reduced the total tariff on passenger vehicles from 70 per cent to 40 per cent, and the import levy on used vehicles from 15 per cent

vehicles from 15 per cent to five per cent, effective July 1.

However, market checks show that prices remain high, with some popular models recording further increases.

NCAA Warns International Airlines Against Boarding Passengers Without Health Forms

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General News

PAGG Accuses Edo Govt Of Complicit In Arrest, Arraignment Of Pa Iduoriyekewmen

By Francis Onoiribholo, Benin

The Peoples' Assembly for Good Governance (PAGG) has accused the Edo State Government of complicity in the arrest and arraignment of 90-year-old Pa Joseph Iduoriyekewmen and three others over alleged cultism, describing it as politically motivated to muzzle opposition voices.

The group, in a statement jointly signed by its National Chairman, Dr. Samson Isibor, and National Secretary, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nkama, said the arrest of the father of the Edo South senatorial candidate, Hon. Matthew Iduoriyekewmen, was a calculated attempt to intimidate the opposition ahead of the 2027 elections.

Pa Iduoriyekewmen was arrested by armed policemen at his Amagba, Benin City residence on October 6, 2026, and arraigned on October 19 at the Edo State Special Criminal Court on charges of cultism, conspiracy, attempted murder and land dispute. He and three others were granted bail of N1 million each.

"How could they allege that a 90-year-old great-grandfather is a cultist?" the group queried.

PAGG warned that no amount of intimidation would suppress the opposition, and called on Governor Monday Okpebholo to order the immediate withdrawal of the case.



Pa Joseph Iduoriyekewmen

Delta Tops States In Liquidity Rating, Says Tilije

By Goddy Umukoro, Asaba

Delta State has emerged as the highest-ranked state in liquidity rating among the 36 states, Commissioner for Finance, Sir Fidelis Okenmor Tilije, has said.

Speaking in Asaba, Tilije attributed the feat to fiscal discipline, improved revenue generation and prudent resource management under Governor Sheriff Oborevwori.

He said the state is funding its 2026 procurement cycle and executing major projects in roads, bridges, healthcare and education without taking new loans.

Tilije noted that the growth in internally generated revenue (IGR) was driven by reforms such as professionalising revenue collection, widening the tax net and blocking leakages, not by tax increases.

He added that the government had institutionalised the 13th-month salary, maintained prompt payment of salaries and continued free healthcare for pregnant women and children under five.

The commissioner urged Delians to support the governor's re-election bid in 2027, assuring that prudent management would be sustained.

Uduaghan Played Key Role In N'Delta Peace, Says PANDEF Chairman

By Wilson Macaulay, Yenagoa

The National Chairman of PANDEF, Ambassador (Dr.) Godknows Bolade Igali, has described the late former Delta Governor, Dr. Emmanuel Eweta Uduaghan, as a key figure in the restoration of peace in the Niger Delta during the era of militancy.

In a condolence letter to Governor Sheriff Oborevwori, Igali, laid Ghana's tribute to Uduaghan, who served as Secretary to the State Government and later as governor, was distinguished by integrity, commitment

and selfless service.

He noted that Uduaghan worked tirelessly to promote stability in the region and remained a bridge-builder whose impact extended beyond Delta State.

Igali recalled their long-standing friendship, adding that for her governor's passing was a great loss to Delta, the Niger Delta and Nigeria.

He prayed for the repose of his soul and for comfort for the Uduaghan family, the state government and the people of Ogwashi-Uku.

2027: Group Raises Alarm Over Alleged Plot To Import Foreign Fighters Into Benue

By Tor Vande-Acka, Makurdi

A group, National Intelligence Watch, has urged security agencies to investigate allegations of a plot to recruit foreign fighters from Cameroon, Chad and Niger to destabilise Benue State ahead of the 2027 elections.

In a statement, its Chairman, Chief Matthew Apine, said the alleged plan, if confirmed, could worsen insecurity and undermine the credibility of the polls.

The group linked the claim to ongoing political disagreements between the SGF, Senator George Akume, and Governor Hyacinth Aliu, and called for a thorough investigation, prosecution of those involved and increased security vigilance in vulnerable communities.

It urged political leaders to resolve their differences lawfully and cautioned against actions that could threaten public peace.



Security operatives on patrol in Benue State.

EndSARS: Six Years After, Global Rights Demands Justice For Lekki Toll Gate Victims

By Jide Oyekunle, Abuja

Global Rights has called on the Federal Government to implement the 2024 ECOWAS Court judgment on the October 20, 2020, Lekki toll gate shootings and ensure accountability for security personnel involved in the #EndSARS demonstrations.

In a statement by its Executive Director, Abiodun Baiyewu, the organisation said six years after the protests, accountability remains elusive and the core demands of #EndSARS have

not been met. It recalled that at least 135 protesters were extrajudicially killed nationwide during the 2020 protests, while 31 protesters were killed and 1,35 arrested during the August 2024 #EndBadGovernance protests.

The group noted that the Lagos State Judicial Panel of Inquiry found the Army and Police complicit in the Lekki shootings and made recommendations on accountability and compensation, which it said the state government

has failed to implement. Global Rights urged the Federal Government to implement the ECOWAS judgment, provide reparations, ensure the right to peaceful assembly, and publicly disclose progress on investigations.

It also called on the Lagos State Government to state the status of the panel's recommendations and reaffirmed

the status of the panels office received to stand and reaffirm its commitment for victims of police brutality.

"Six years ago, we promised to stand with the victims and their families, and we have not reneged on this promise," Baiyewu said.

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General News

Tinubu Demands African Defence Partnerships Deliver Lasting Security

By Kingsley Benneth, Abuja

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has challenged African countries to move beyond defence equipment acquisitions and forge strategic military partnerships that strengthen local industries, transfer technology and deliver lasting security capabilities.

Tinubu, who spoke at the opening of the Africa International Defence Exhibition (AFRIDEX) 2026 in Lagos, was represented by Senate President Godswill Akpabio.

He said successful partnerships must build Africa's capacity to maintain its weapons systems, develop indigenous expertise and sustain military operations.

"Every major acquisition should help develop skills, transfer knowledge, strengthen local industry and deepen our capacity to maintain what we operate," he said.

The President urged sustained investment in African-led peace operations, warning that troops deployed to conflict zones must be backed by predictable funding,

adequate equipment, rigorous training and long-term support.

He identified terrorism, insurgency, banditry and piracy as major threats and called for stronger collective action, maritime cooperation in the Gulf of Guinea, and investment in emerging technologies such as cyber, space and AI.

Tinubu said AFRIDEX 2026 should translate Africa's potential into operational strength to defend its people and preserve peace.



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Tinubu Says Dangote Group Performs Excellently In Driving Economy

By Chidi Ugwu, Abuja

President Bola Tinubu has commended the Dangote Group for its significant contribution to Nigeria's economic growth, citing its strategic investments in key sectors as instrumental in boosting domestic production, creating jobs and reducing dependence on imports.

The President gave the commendation during a visit to the Dangote Group pavilion at the 32nd Nigeria Economic Summit in Abuja.

Represented by Vice President Kashim Shettima, Tinubu said the Group's investments in cement, fertiliser, sugar, salt and petroleum refining are strengthening industrial capacity and the economy.

He noted that his administration is creating conditions for public and private sectors to invest and expand. He added that the Dangote Group is the second biggest employer of labour after the federal government.

2027: Kano North Will Deliver 1m+ Votes To Tinubu — Bichi

By Ahmad Tijjani Abdul, Kano

The Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations, Abubakar Kabir Bichi, has said APC in Kano North is working to deliver over a million votes for the party in the 2027 general elections.

Speaking at an APC Campaign Council stakeholders meeting in Bichi, he said the zone has about 1.3 million registered voters and will outdo Kano Central in the number of votes.

Bichi said APC and President Tinubu deserve the support of Kano people because of ongoing

development projects and interventions, assuring that the party is fully prepared for victory in 2027.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Governor Murtala Sule Garo, former Minister of Housing Abdullahi Tijjani Gwarz and other party leaders.

Oyo Govt Urges Residents To Prepare For Rising Temperatures As Dry Season Approaches

By Kazeem Awojoodu, Ibadan

The Oyo State Government has urged residents to adopt preventive measures against extreme heat and other weather challenges as the state transitions from the rainy season to the dry season.

The Commissioner for Environment and Natural Resources, Hon. Ademola Aderinto, said forecasts indicate prolonged dry conditions and higher temperatures, possibly influenced by global warming and El Nino.

He advised residents to stay hydrated, ensure proper ventilation, plant trees and conserve water. Aderinto also warned against heat exhaustion and advised light clothing and avoiding strenuous outdoor activities during peak heat.

He urged residents to watch for signs of heat-related illnesses, such as dizziness, headaches and excessive sweating, and seek immediate medical attention in cases of suspected heatstroke.

NURTW Backs TOAN, Names Istijabah Lagos Chairman

By Francis Onoiribhola, Lagos

The Tricycle Owners Association of Nigeria (TOAN) has appointed Alhaji Abdul-Azeez Abiola, popularly known as Istijabah, as its interim Lagos State chairman for six months to promote unity and stability among operators.

TOAN National President, Comrade Augustine Agbo-Akpe, said the move would harmonise tricycle operations and prepare for a substantive election.

The Lagos NURTW Chairman, Comrade Mustapha Adekunle Segbo, confirmed the appointment,

saying it will strengthen cooperation between NURTW and TOAN across the state.

In his acceptance speech, Abiola pledged to prioritise unity, dialogue and organisational restructuring, assuring members that the exercise would not lead to the removal of existing officials.

He urged operators to avoid actions capable of disrupting activities at motor parks.

Gombe Records Progress In Reducing Child Malnutrition — ES PHCDA

By William Attah, Gombe

The Executive Secretary of the Gombe State Primary Health Care Development Agency (PHCDA), Dr Abdulrahman Shuaibu, has said the state is recording progress in reducing child malnutrition.

He spoke after a quarterly review meeting on the SO-LNS programme, noting a decline in moderate malnutrition and improved immunisation uptake.

Dr Olusola Adeoye of Evidence Action said the programme, which provides supplementary nutrition for children from six to 13 months, has reached over 12,000 children in five LGAs.

She commended the turnout of mothers and said all 11 LGAs will be covered by November. The programme is funded with N1 billion, comprising N500m from the state and N500m from UNICEF.



A health worker putting nutritional supplement to a child during a malnutrition intervention programme in Gombe State.

EndSARS: Six Years After, Global Rights Demands Justice For Lekki Victims

By Jide Oyekunle, Abuja

Global Rights has urged the Federal Government to implement the 2024 ECOWAS Court judgment on the October 20, 2020, Lekki Toll Gate shootings and ensure accountability for security personnel.

The group said at least 135 protesters were killed during the #EndSARS protests, with continued impunity for similar killings, including 31 deaths during the August 2024 protests.

It called for reparations, a transparent investigation and protection of the right to peaceful assembly.

The organisation also urged the Lagos State Government to explain its response to the Judicial Panel of Inquiry's recommendations and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting victims and their families until justice is achieved.

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General News

Tinubu Demands African Defence Partnerships Deliver Lasting Security

By Kingsley Benneth, Abuja

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has challenged African countries to move beyond defence equipment acquisitions and forge strategic military partnerships that strengthen local industries, transfer technology and deliver lasting security capabilities.

Tinubu, speaking at the opening of the Africa International Defence Exhibition (AFRIDEX) 2026 in Lagos, represented by Senate President Godswill Akpabio, said defence cooperation must produce measurable results long after equipment is supplied.

"Every major acquisition should help develop skills, transfer knowledge, strengthen local industry and deepen our capacity to maintain what we operate," he said.

He called for sustained investment in African-led peace operations, stronger maritime cooperation, and preparation for emerging threats, including cyber, space and artificial intelligence technologies.

Tinubu urged participants at AFRIDEX 2026 to forge partnerships that strengthen military readiness, stimulate innovation and improve Africa's ability to defend its people.



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Tinubu Says Dangote Group Performs Excellently In Driving Economy

By Chidi Ugwu, Abuja

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has commended the Dangote Group for its significant contribution to Nigeria's economic growth, citing its strategic investments in cement, fertiliser, sugar, salt and petroleum refining as key to creating jobs and reducing import dependence.

The President, represented by Vice President Kashim Shettima, made the commendation at the 32nd Nigeria Economic Summit in Abuja, themed "Growth That Works: Delivering Jobs, Productivity and Shared Prosperity."

He said the administration is creating conditions for public and private sectors to invest, expand and generate productive employment, noting that the Dangote Group is the second biggest employer of labour after the federal government.

Tinubu stressed that Nigeria has performed below its potential for far too long, but "there is no shortcut for economic development," adding that the conglomerate's investments, including the Dangote Petroleum Refinery, are vital to Nigeria's industrialisation and energy security.

2027: Kano North Will Deliver 1m+ Votes To Tinubu — Bichi

By Ahmad Tijjani Abdul, Kano

The Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations, Abubakar Kabir Bichi, has said the APC in Kano North is working to deliver over a million votes for the party in the 2027 general elections.

Speaking at an APC Campaign Council stakeholders' meeting in Bichi, he said the zone has about 1.3 million registered voters and will outdo Kano Central in the number of votes.

Bichi said APC and President Tinubu deserve the support of the people of Kano because of

the developmental projects and interventions delivered by the administration.

"The focus of this meeting is to discuss likely challenges ahead of the 2027 elections and how we can secure victory across Kano State," he said.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Governor Murtala Sule Garo, former Minister of Housing Abdullahi Tijjani Gwarzo and other party leaders.

We're Reducing Child Malnutrition In Gombe – ES PHCDA

By William Attah, Gombe

The Executive Secretary of the Gombe State Primary Health Care Development Agency (PHCDA), Dr Abdulrahman Shuaibu, has expressed satisfaction with progress in reducing child malnutrition in the state.

Speaking after a quarterly review meeting on the Small Quantity Liquid-based Nutrients Supplement (SQ-LNS) programme, he said indicators show a decline in moderate malnutrition, with improved immunisation uptake and other integrated services.

Dr Olusola Adeoye, Assistant Country Director of Evidence Action, said the initiative provides complementary food for children aged six to 18 months and has reached over 12,000 children so far, with more LGAs to be included by November.



A mother feeding her child with supplementary nutrients under the SQ-LNS programme in Gombe State.

The programme, supported by the State Government, UNICEF and Evidence Action, is funded with N1 billion, comprising N500 million each from the state and UNICEF.

Oyo Govt Urges Residents To Prepare For Rising Temperatures As Dry Season Nears

By Kazeem Awojodu, Ibadan

The Oyo State Government has urged residents to adopt preventive measures against extreme heat and other weather challenges as the state transitions to the dry season.

Commissioner for Environment and Natural Resources, Hon. Ademola Aderinto, said forecasts indicate prolonged dry conditions and higher than normal temperatures, requiring extra precautions to protect health and conserve water.

He advised residents to stay hydrated, ensure proper ventilation, plant trees for shade and manage water responsibly by avoiding wastage and storing sufficient supply.

Aderinto warned against heat exhaustion and heatstroke, urging residents to wear light clothing,

seek shade during intense heat and schedule strenuous outdoor activities for cooler hours.

He also advised workers in poorly ventilated workplaces to take regular breaks and seek cooler environments.

The commissioner cautioned residents to watch for warning signs such as dizziness, headaches, weakness and excessive sweating, adding that suspected heatstroke requires immediate medical attention.

He called on individuals, businesses and community leaders to take the advisory seriously to reduce health and environmental risks during the approaching dry season.

Tinubu Demands African Defence Partnerships Deliver Lasting Security

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General News

KTO Rallies APC Supporters In Ota Ahead Of 2027 Elections

By Olorundare Enimola,
Lagos

Thousands of supporters of the All Progressives Congress (APC) on Saturday converged on Ota, Ogun State, for a political mobilisation rally organised by Hon. Kareem Tolani Oyindamola (KTO), Senior Special Assistant to the Ogun State Governor and founder of the KTO-YAYI Political Mobilisation Initiative.

The rally was aimed at galvanising grassroots support for President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola (YAYI), and other APC candidates ahead of the 2027 general elections.



Hon. Kareem Tolani Oyindamola (KTO) addressing APC supporters at the mobilisation rally in Ota, Ogun State, on Saturday.

Party leaders, stakeholders and supporters from the 16 wards in Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area attended the event, which organisers described as part of efforts to strengthen the party's grassroots mobilisation.

Addressing the crowd, Oyindamola urged party members to remain united and actively participate in the APC's mobilisation efforts, calling for support for President Tinubu and Senator Adeola's aspiration in Ogun State.

He stressed that unity, collaboration and sustained engagement with the grassroots would be critical to achieving the party's electoral objectives in 2027.

The rally also served as a forum for party faithful and stakeholders to strengthen political relationships across the local government.

According to the organisers, the KTO-YAYI Political Mobilisation Initiative is designed to deepen grassroots participation and encourage greater involvement of residents in the political process across Ogun State.

2027: ADC's Iduh Vows Victory In Idah Federal Constituency, Challenges INEC

By Atabor Julius, Lokoja

The ADC candidate for Idah Federal Constituency in the 2027 House of Representatives election, Pharmacist Peter Iduh, has expressed confidence in his chances of victory, urging supporters to intensify grassroots mobilisation.

Iduh made the call on Monday in Lokoja at a stakeholders' meeting organised by the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES).

He challenged INEC, security agencies and other stakeholders to demonstrate professionalism and impartiality in the electoral process.

According to him, such engagements would promote peace, reduce political tension and build trust ahead of the 2027 general elections.

Iduh appealed to parties to embrace peaceful competition and comply with electoral regulations, adding that the ADC's inclusive manifesto offers a viable path to development for the constituency.

"We are a law-abiding party and are ready to comply with INEC regulations. By the grace of God, on January 16, 2027, our people will vote for the liberation our party represents," he said.

Akwa Ibom Trains 800 Primary School Teachers In Literacy, Numeracy

By Idongesit Ashameri, Uyo

The Akwa Ibom State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) has begun a five-day training programme for 800 primary school teachers to improve literacy and numeracy instruction in public schools across the state.

SUBEB Executive Chairman, Dr. Amie Eke, who flagged off the exercise on Monday at QIC Model Primary School, Oku, Uyo, said the programme was designed to strengthen teachers' instructional skills and improve pupils' foundational learning.

He said the training, held in collaboration with UBEC, commenced across 16 centres, with 50 teachers at each.

The Permanent Secretary of SUBEB, Dr. Roseline Mfon, acknowledged the state government's support for the programme.

The exercise features education experts, including former UNIUYO Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Comfort Ekpo, and will end on Friday, October 30, with improved teaching techniques expected.

PDP To APC: Stop Blaming Opposition For Hunger, Take Responsibility

By Samuel Ogidan, Abuja

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has rejected attempts by the APC to blame previous administrations for the hunger and economic hardship confronting Nigerians, insisting that the ruling party must take responsibility for its record in government.

The PDP, in a statement by its National Publicity Secretary, Hon. Jungudo Haruna Mohammed, said the government should focus on concrete measures to ease the rising cost of living.

The party urged the APC to explain how it intends to make food affordable, support farmers, create jobs, improve security and restore citizens' purchasing power.

It said Nigerians are more concerned about the cost of food, security and their general standard of living than political exchanges of power.

The PDP added that the current administration must present a credible roadmap for economic recovery and food security.

Nigeria Reaffirms Bilateral Ties With Austria On National Day

By Stella Omona, Abuja

The Federal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening bilateral relations with Austria, as it congratulated the Austrian government and people on the country's National Day.

In a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Spokesperson, Oluwafemi Adeniyi, the government said Nigeria values its longstanding relations with Austria and looks forward to expanding cooperation, forward-looking cooperation.

It identified trade and investment, education, technology transfer, skills development, renewable energy and people-to-people exchanges as key areas for enhanced cooperation.

The ministry also highlighted continued collaboration on international peace and security, sustainable development and administration's expressing optimism for stronger and mutually beneficial partnerships.

Delta Tops States In Liquidity Rating, Says Tilje

By Goddy Umukoro, Asaba

Delta State has emerged as the highest-ranked state in liquidity rating among the 36 states, Commissioner for Finance, Sir Fidelis Okenmor Tilje, has said.

Tilje disclosed this during a meeting with management and staff of the Ministry of Finance in Asaba, attributing the feat to the state's fiscal discipline, improved revenue generation and prudent resource management.



Delta State Commissioner for Finance, Sir Fidelis Okenmor Tilje.

He said Delta is funding its 2026 procurement cycle and executing major projects in roads, bridges, healthcare and education without new debt.

Tilje noted that growth in internally generated revenue (IGR) was driven by reforms aimed at professionalising revenue collection and widening the tax net.

He also highlighted the consistent payment of salaries to over 60,000 workers and the institutionalisation of the 13th-month salary.

The commissioner urged Deltans to support Governor Sheriff Oborevwori's re-election in 2027, expressing confidence in the administration's ability to consolidate its achievements.

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