



NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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N200
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48
PAGES



1001
DAYS

since chibok schoolgirls
were abducted



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Ex-Niger Gov Kure dies in Germany → P 3



Trade ministry budgets N22bn for research, governance

By Nuruddeen M. Abdallah

The Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment has budgeted over N22 billion for

research and development, as well as governance and institutional reform this year.

The ministry's total budget (headquarters) for the year is N25.6

billion, of which N2.5 billion is "total recurrent" and N23 billion "total capital."

Analysis of the 2017 proposed budget of the ministry shows that

N20.5 billion was voted for "research and development" though it spent only N494 million in 2016 and N108

— Continued on page 5

Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment 2017 Budget

Research and Development

N20.5bn

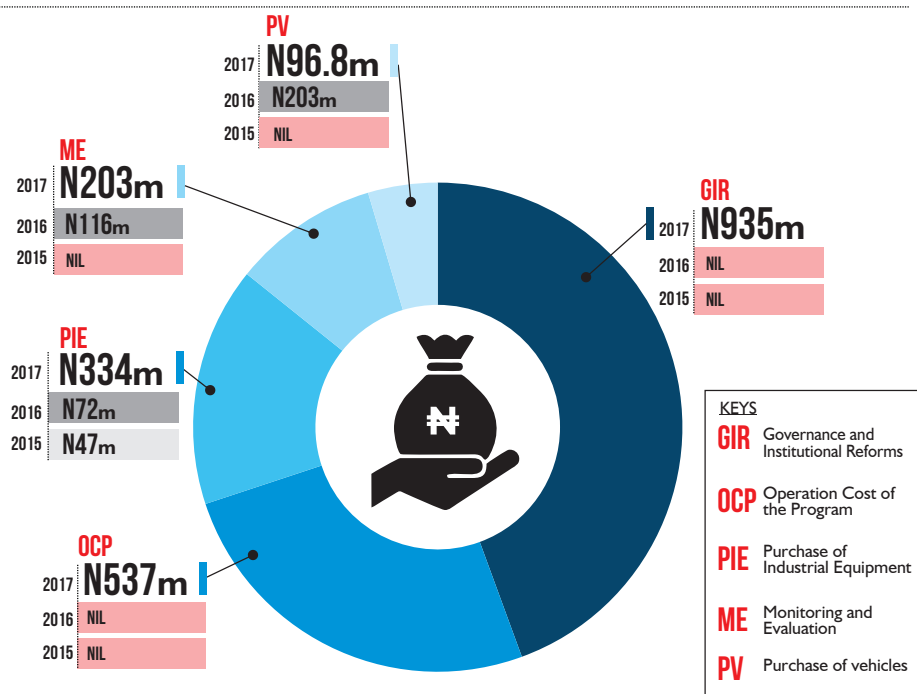


N494m

2016

N108m

2015



KEYS
GIR Governance and Institutional Reforms
OCP Operation Cost of the Program
PIE Purchase of Industrial Equipment
ME Monitoring and Evaluation
PV Purchase of vehicles

Other components of 2017 FMITI Budget

TRAVELS N223m



N155m

INTERNATIONAL TRAVELS

N68m

LOCAL TRAVELS

ENERGY N144m



N71m

ELECTRICITY CHARGES

N73m

FUELING OF GENS/VEHICLES

IT matters N152m



N82.8m

PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS

N69m

SOFTWARE & CONSUMABLES

SECURITY N47m

FUMIGATION/CLEANING

N43m

WELFARE

N70m

Infograph ALI A. GEIDAM

Editor's Choice

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Musical instrument: Sokoto sacks Hisbah Commission P 6

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Compiled by
Jamil Salim
& ABBAS JIMOH

WEATHER

ABUJA MOSTLY SUNNY 37 21 MAX MIN	KADUNA MOSTLY SUNNY 31 16 MAX MIN	KANO MOSTLY SUNNY 29 13 MAX MIN	MAIDUGURI MOSTLY SUNNY 30 14 MAX MIN	JOS MOSTLY SUNNY 27 13 MAX MIN
SOKOTO MOSTLY SUNNY 31 17 MAX MIN	IBADAN MOSTLY SUNNY 38 20 MAX MIN	ENUGU MOSTLY SUNNY 38 20 MAX MIN	P/HARCOURT PARTIALLY CLOUDY 30 18 MAX MIN	LAGOS MOSTLY SUNNY 35 24 MAX MIN

(Temperature in centigrade)

AFRICAN SAYINGS >>

Peace is costly but it is worth the expense.
(Kenya)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT >>

Great changes may not happen right away, but with effort even the difficult may become easy.



Bill Blackman

PHOTO OF THE DAY >>

■ Servicemen carry a birthday cake with the colours of the African National Congress to mark its 105th anniversary at Orlando Stadium in Soweto yesterday. South African President denounced corruption within the ruling ANC party and admitted that mistakes had cost the party at the ballot box after a year of damaging scandals



Photo: AFP

PRAYER TIMES

CITIES	FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGRIB	ISHA
ABUJA	5:35	12:48	3:57	6:29	7:34
ENUGU	5:29	12:47	3:56	6:32	7:37
KADUNA	5:36	12:47	3:56	6:25	7:30
KANO	5:38	12:43	3:52	6:18	7:23
KATSINA	5:40	12:47	3:56	6:20	7:25
LAGOS	5:45	1:03	4:12	6:48	7:53
MAIDUGURI	5:15	12:24	3:33	5:59	7:04
P/HARCOURT	5:29	12:49	3:58	6:36	7:32
SOKOTO	5:49	12:56	4:05	6:29	7:34

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna

STOCK INDEX

GAINERS	GUINNESS	ZENITHBANK	OANDO	ACCESS	UCAP
OPEN	78.9	14.5	4.54	6.14	2.88
CLOSE	80	14.77	4.69	6.28	3.02
CHANGE	1.1	0.27	0.15	0.14	0.14
LOSERS	MOBIL	NESTLE	CADBURY	UBN	UACN
OPEN	279	810	10	5.49	16.9
CLOSE	265.05	809	9.5	5.22	16.64
CHANGE	-13.95	-1	-0.5	-0.27	-0.26

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Former Niger governor Kure dies at 60

From Ahmed Tahir Ajobe (Minna), Musa Abdullahi Krishi & Misbahu Bashir (Abuja)

Former Niger state Governor, Engineer Abdulkadir Kure, died yesterday at a German hospital at the age of 60.

The former governor was flown to Germany three weeks ago for medical attention but died yesterday afternoon.

His former Chief Press Secretary, Muhamud Abdullahi, who confirmed the death, said Kure died of kidney complication, and that arrangement was already being made to bring his remains to the country.

Kure was governor of Niger state from 1999 to 2007 under the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

He was the Director of Engineering Services in the Federal Capital Territory before joining politics in 1998 when he contested for the governorship of the state.

After leaving office, Kure became a member of the Board of Trustees

of the party, a position he held until his death. He was a member of the Senator Ahmed Makarfi faction of the PDP.

Born on February 26, 1956, late Kure is survived by wife, Senator Zaynab Kure, and six children.

Niger State government yesterday declared three days of mourning in honour of the former governor. A statement by the commissioner of information, Culture and Tourism Mr. Jonathan Vatsa said all flags would be at half mast.

The statement said the state government led by Governor Abubakar Sani Bello would miss the wise counsel of the former governor who despite political differences never failed to offer meaningful advice to the government.

Also, former governor of the state, Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu described the death of Kure as devastating.

Aliyu said in a statement signed by his media adviser, Mr. Israel A. Ebije, that Nigeria had lost a great politician.

The PDP in the state, through its

chairman Tanko Beji, said Kure's death was sad as the late governor had contributed immensely to the socio-political development of Niger state and Nigeria as a whole.

In his own condolence message, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Yakubu Dogara, said in a statement by his spokesman, Turaki Hassan, that the former governor's death was a big loss, as Kure was a politician whose experience and wisdom would be missed.

Also commiserating with Kure's family, Governor Umaru Tanko Al-Makura of Nasarawa State said in a statement signed by his special Assistant Media and Publicity, Ahmed Tukur that the late Kure was a community leader and stakeholder, who contributed immensely to the development of Niger state and the entire country.

Also, former governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Attahiru Bafarwa said Kure's demise was a great loss to the political family and the future political unity and cohesion among Nigerians.

Budget tops agenda as N/Assembly resumes tomorrow

By Ismail Mudashir & Musa Abdullahi Krishi

The consideration of 2017 Budget and constitutional amendment are top on the agenda of the National Assembly as the lawmakers resume from Christmas and New Year break tomorrow.

Daily Trust reports that the two chambers of the National Assembly had embarked on the recess December 15 last year, a day after President Muhammadu Buhari presented the 2017 budget.

The lawmakers are also expected to consider the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) /Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP). The document was transmitted to the National Assembly in September but it has not been passed.

Our correspondents report that MTEF/FSP is prerequisite for the passage of the budget.

Also, the amendment of the 1999 Constitution is expected to dominate the front burner at the Senate. Senate President Bukola Saraki had in December during the presentation of the interim report of constitutional amendment chaired by the Deputy Senate President, Ike Ekweremadu said the amendment would be passed this month or early next month.

Before embarking on the recess, Saraki had also fixed this month for the passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB).

Senate to screen Ayine as AuGF nominee

By Hamisu Muhammad

The Senate Public Accounts Committee will today commence screening of Mr. Anthony Mkphe Ayine as nominee for the vacant position of Auditor General for the Federation [AuGF].

He was nominated by President Muhammadu Buhari following his emergence as the best amongst the last three candidates in a keenly contested selection examination organized by the Federal Civil Service Commission. He graduated with B.Sc. (Hons.) degree in accounting from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, 1985/86 session.

Ayine, from Cross River State is current Auditor General in the employment of Cross River State with over 18 years post professional qualification experience.

The long delay in the appointment of the Auditor General has stalled presentation of the report of the audit of the Federal Government's 2015 Financial Statement to the National Assembly.

FRSC confirms 15 dead in Zamfara auto crash

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Zamfara State Command has confirmed 15 persons dead in a ghastly accident which occurred along Gusau-Tsafe road in the early hours of yesterday.

Sector Commander, Amos Thilizer told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the accident was caused by Dagote cement trailer driver, who lost control and ran into a Toyota hiace, killing all the passengers.

The sector commander further said that three other persons who were in the trailer sustained various degrees of injuries and had been taken to General hospital Tsafe for medical care.

He said 15 corpses were later deposited at the Tsafe general hospital mortuary while efforts were being made to contact their relatives. (NAN)



Emir of Kano, Muhammadu Sanusi II with graduands of a Qur'anic recitation programme at the Emir's Palace in Kano at the weekend.

Photo: Sani Maikatanga

Buhari: Many more Chibok girls returning soon

By Isiaka Wakili

One thousand days after the abduction of Chibok girls, President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday said the country was not completely in the depths of despair, but buoyed with hope that they would yet rejoin their families and loved ones.

He specifically expressed hope that with three of the girls recovered by the military and 21 others freed through engagement with their captors, many more would still return as soon as

practicable.

Buhari, in a statement by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity Femi Adesina, re-committed the Federal Government to securing the release of the girls kidnapped by Boko Haram insurgents.

The president also declared that the return of the remaining Chibok girls was a goal his government remained steadfastly committed to.

According to him, the intelligence and security forces are unrelenting, and

that whatever it takes, his administration remains resolute.

"I salute the fortitude of the distraught parents. As a parent also, I identify with their plight. Days turned to weeks, weeks turned to months, months turned to years, and today, it is 1,000 days. The tears never dry, the ache is in our hearts. But hope remains constant, eternal, and we believe our pains will be assuaged.

"Our hopes will not be shattered, and our hearts will leap for joy, as more

and more of our daughters return. It is a goal we remain steadfastly committed to," President Buhari said.

The president commended all those who had been in the vanguard for the recovery of the girls, both nationally and internationally.

He said: "Someday soon, we will all rejoice together. Chibok community, Nigeria, and, indeed, the world, will yet rise in brotherhood, to welcome our remaining girls back home. We trust God for that eventuality."

Army captain, 4 soldiers killed in Buni Yadi Brigade attack

From Hamisu Kabir Matazu, Damaturu

An Army captain and five soldiers were killed Saturday evening in an evening attack launched by suspected Boko Haram militants on 27 Taskforce Brigade of the Nigeria Army in Buni Yadi, Gujba Local Government Area of Yobe State.

A military source told our correspondent, "Some of the soldiers have spent over 20 years in active

service and the captain was posted recently to the Brigade before the terrorists struck and killed them."

He said casualty on the side of Boko Haram could not be ascertained because most of them fled with bullet wounds and many cops were seen scattered in the bush.

The Brigade Spokesman, Lt. George Okupe, said there was indeed an attack, except that he could not confirm the casualty figure as personnel were

currently on the trail of the militants and details were not available.

"I cannot confirm whether the captain and the five soldiers were killed, but I know that some of the soldiers are MIA (Missing In Action)," he said.

Buni yadi was a Boko Haram stronghold recaptured by the military in 2015 before the 27 Taskforce Brigade relocated there from Damaturu due to its strategic location.



■ From left: Commandant, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Plateau State Command, Mr Solomon Olasupo; Commissioner of Police, Plateau State Command, Mr Peter Ogunyanwo; and Commander, Operation Safe Haven, Maj.-Gen. Rogers Nicholas, during the Interdenominational Church Service Armed Forces Remembrance Day in Jos yesterday

Photo: NAN

2 killed, 26 injured in Hawan Kibo road crash

From Lami Sadiq, Jos

At least two persons were confirmed dead while 26 were injured following a road accident involving three busses close to a new security checkpoint mounted by Operation Safe Haven (OPSH) at the Forest/Hawan Kibo area of Plateau State.

Our correspondent who visited the area Saturday evening observed that three busses were involved in the accident while men of the FRSC were seen clearing the road for other road users.

Plateau State sector commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission, Crawford Oti who confirmed the accident, said his men had received a distress call around 12:58pm Saturday and arrived at the scene of the crash by 1:02pm where they rushed victims to the Kafanchan general hospital for proper medical care. Oti said 28 persons, including five children, were involved in the accident.

Suspected cultists kill 10 in C/River town

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

Ten people were allegedly killed by young people believed to be cultists and armed gang members in Ekor town in Yakurr Local Government Area of Cross River State over the weekend.

The Divisional Crime Officer (DCO), Deputy Superintendent of Police John Eluu who is attached to the Divisional Police

Headquarters in Ugep in the LGA, said however that as at 6 January 2017, only five people were killed, and that the Police had arrested more than 10 people, mostly youths.

Eluu said the police, having stepped in, would ensure that all those behind the killing were brought to book and the tension in the town doused.

The incident which residents

of the town described as a 'civil war', was suspected to be sponsored by some politicians in the state.

One of the chiefs in the area who did not want his name in print, said, "Over the years these miscreants, recruited, armed and financed by dubious and power drunk politicians, have made life unbearable for the peace-loving people of

Ekor by engaging in all sorts of lawlessness and impunity because they have the support of politicians close to the powers that be."

He said that in July 2006, the suspected cultists had instigated "an orgy of blood bath in Ekor by fighting one another over which of them controlled turfs for some useless and selfish politicians."

9 in critical condition after Enugu road accident

From Tony Adibe, Enugu

Nine people comprising two drivers, a bus conductor and other occupants of the vehicles have been confirmed critically injured after the vehicles in which they were traveling was involved in an accident.

The accident occurred about 5pm yesterday when a Toyota Hiace bus marked Enu 681 XA collided with a Toyota Carina 11 car with registration number CG 25 ENU along the Enugu-Markurdi expressway at Umuoka in Udi Local Government Area of Enugu State.

Enugu State police spokesman, Ebere Amaraizu who confirmed the incident in a statement, said that a police team that arrived at the scene had taken the injured victims to Enechi Hospital, Ukehe and Bishop Shanaham hospital Nsukka for medical attention.

As at the time of this report, the identities of the victims were yet to be ascertained.

Mystery trees in Ogun attract thousands

Thousands of people have thronged the houses of two Christians in Ogun State where the inscription of an Arabic word appeared on two trees.

The inscription is believed to be the name of Allah.

The Moringa trees were located at 6 and 9, Unity Street, Ire-akari Estate, Iloye, Abule Iroko, Ado-Odo Ota, Ogun state.

The inscriptions on the first tree was discovered on Dec 24, 2016 while that of the second tree was discovered on Jan. 2, 2017, Mr Michael Ibrionke, the occupant of one of the houses where the trees are located, said what happened remained a mystery to him.

Ibrionke, who said he had been living in the house for more than 17 years, said the Moringa trees were planted in 2014.

He told our correspondent that since the discovery, thousands of people of different faiths had visited to see the trees, offer prayers and appreciate the work of God.

"On December 26, 2016, we celebrated Christmas party in my compound and did not discover anything. But on the January 2, while I was doing my morning exercise with

my wife, she called my attention to it. My wife was the one that discovered it. We are not Muslims, so we called a Muslim brother (Mr Ajibade) to explain the strange thing. We also invited an Imam, who also confirmed it.

"Over 10,000 people of different faiths have visited my house since January 2. On Thursday about 12 noon, my son counted over 3,000 people. We are not complaining about the disturbance, because it will mean we do not value the work of God. We are happy about it, people are greeting and praying for us. What happened has not affected our faith as Christians. People are celebrating and praising God. It is a mystery to everyone."

A pastor, Olumide Olagbegi, also said that God was revealing to the people that He is an Elvon God (He is only one).

He said it could mean so many things to a layman but that God can come in so many ways.

A Muslim cleric, Imam Hamzat Oyeyemi, told our correspondent that the sign was of God, adding it was a sign of goodness to the family and the people.

"It is a miracle. This Arabic word appeared in a Christian house, is a sign of goodness; it is a mystery to mankind and people should be good. God has 99 names. The first is Allah, the name is from God, no one can share a name with God."

Mr Michael Dada, the owner of the second house where the Arabic word appeared, said the tree was planted since 2010, but showed no sign of any misery until December 2016.

"There was a bush around the house, so I called some boys to help me clear it. It was in the process that the boys saw it. We first discovered it on the Dec. 24, but paid no attention to it because we are Christians. We can't count the number of the people that had visited this tree since the beginning of 2017. We invited some Muslims, they told us the name of Allah was written on it, we are Christians so we do not know the meaning. I don't want to turn it to anything, anybody can come and pray as they believe, it is a mystery," he said.

Meanwhile, photographers and petty traders, especially those who sell sachet water and snacks, are making brisk business. (NAN)

FG asks specialised varsities to drop law, accounting, others

By Misbahu Bashir

Specialised institutions such as universities of agriculture and technology have been directed to stop running programmes outside their mandates including law and accounting.

They have also been asked to avoid changing the nomenclature of courses such as banking engineering to suit their needs.

Head of Media, Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Dr. Fabian Benjamin said in a statement yesterday that Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu has directed the board to delete all courses run by specialised universities outside their mandates.

Specialized universities are set up to pursue specific courses to steer the need of manpower in a particular sectors of the economy. Some of these specialized institutions included universities of agriculture, universities of technologies and universities of medicine.

He said government has observed that 'these institutions have derailed' from their statutory responsibility by running programmes that are antithetical to their mandates.

"Government note the unfortunate situation were universities of agriculture offer programmes in law, management courses such as accounting, banking and finance, business administration among others. As if that was not enough some institutions change the nomenclature of some of the course to read for instance banking engineering, accounting technology among other names. This is an aberration and should be stopped with immediate effect."

He said in view of the development, the minister of had directed the board to delete all such courses on its portal and all candidates desirous of sitting for the 2017 UTME were advised not to be hoodwink into such programmes as they were illegal and were not provided for in 'our brochure.'

He said the board had not commenced the sales of the 2017 UTME application documents. "Candidates are urged to exercise patience as the board is putting final preparations towards commencing the sales. The delay has been occasioned by the board desire to reduce to the barest minimum challenges associated with the conduct of the board's examination."

He said that admissions will be conducted within the stipulated dateline.

He said candidates and parents were advised not to pay money to any agent, bank for any registration as the board has not and will not appoint any agent.



■ From left: Chairman Civil Service Commission, Mrs Joan Ayo; Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr Babachir David Lawal; Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, and other dignitaries during the Inter-Denominational Church Service for the 2017 Armed Forces Remembrance Day Celebration at the National Christian Centre in Abuja yesterday

Photo: NAN

Trade ministry budgets N22bn for research, governance

— Continued from page 1

million in 2015 on the same subheads.

The ministry budgeted N203 million for "monitoring and evaluation" in 2017, whereas its expenditure for the same purpose last year was N116 million. There was no provision for this subhead in the ministry's 2015 budget.

The ministry is proposing to spend N935 million on a new subhead called "governance and institutional reforms." There was no such provision in 2016 and 2015 budgets of the ministry analysed by this newspaper.

The ministry is also planning to spend N333.6 million on "purchase of industrial equipment." It spent N72 million on the same subhead in 2016 and N47 million in 2015.

It also budgeted N96.8 million on "purchase of vans," this year despite the fact that it spent N14 million and N189 million on "motor vehicles" in 2016.

The ministry also introduced another sub head called "operation cost of the program" where it budgeted N537 million this year.

The ministry has budgeted N223 million on travels in the face of economic recession facing the country. Of this figure N155 million was budgeted for international travels despite the subsisting embargo on such subhead.

On February 5, 2015, the office of the head of service of the federation announced the embargo in a circular

"Restrictions on Foreign Trainings and International Travels by Public Servants."

The circular signed by Mohammed Manga, assistant director media relations on behalf of the then head of service Danladi Kifasi, was a cost-saving measure following the recent development in the international oil market that has affected the revenue stream of government.

Local travels and transport (training) and local travels and transport (others) were voted N30.4 million and N37.7 million respectively by the ministry. Aside this, the ministry has also budgeted N48 million for "local training."

The ministry budgeted N159 million and N147 million for travels in 2016 and 2015.

For its energy needs, the ministry has budgeted over N140 million. The breakdown shows that N71 million is meant for "electricity charges," N59 million for fueling of generators, and N13.8 million for vehicles fuelling.

Though the ministry is planning to spend N71 million for electricity this year, checks show that only N19 million was spent for the same purpose in 2016 and N18 million in 2015.

On IT related matters, the ministry is proposing to spend N152 million thus: Purchase of computers (N82.8m), computer software acquisition (N44m), and stationeries/computer consumables (N25m).

The ministry which headquarters is located in Abuja

budgeted N45.6 million for security, and N70 million for welfare.

Another curious provision is the ministry's budget on fumigation and cleaning which was jacked up from less than a million naira (N638 thousand) in 2016 and N591 thousand in 2015 to N43 million this year.

Analysis of the ministry's budget shows that all the purchases of equipment are passed under "capital cost." For instance, purchases of computers, shredding machines, industrial equipments, vans, were captured as "capital cost."

Also, the N20 billion "research and development" was captured in the budget under "other capital projects: acquisition of non-tangible assets." Others items listed here are computer software acquisition, monitoring and evaluation, operation cost of the program, governance and institutional reforms.

Responding to *Daily Trust* inquiries on the budget, Ms Constance Ikokwu, spokesperson for the minister of industry, trade and investment, Okechukwu Enelamah, said explanations on the estimates will be made available during budget defence at the National Assembly.

She said "there will be a budget defence once the National Assembly is back from recess. I suggest you wait for that exercise, which will shed more light on the current budget proposal across the MDAs."

Justifying the billions budgeted for research and governance reform, she said "the items you mentioned fall under 'capital cost.' For an explanation, look at the sub-heading 'project name' which contains the breakdown of these items."

When *Daily Trust* checked the subhead "project name" referred above by the Ms Ikokwu, it found out that the list contains items such as participation in international conference, procurement of computers, capacity building, inspection tours, publications of trademarks, among others.

Ikokwu also denied any embargo on foreign travels. "There's no embargo on 'international travels.' We as a country must continue to meet our international obligations relating to trade and investment."

"On monitoring, this is a big ministry with cross-cutting responsibilities, therefore, we must continue to monitor and evaluate several projects for the benefit of the citizenry," she said.

On the N537 million "operation cost of the program" budgeted by the ministry, the spokesperson said the ministry "is committed to implementing the MITI Growth and Diversification Plan; and "it has created a dedicated task force to manage the entire program and guarantee long-term success of the Nigerian Diversification and Growth Plan."

Gambia: ECOWAS leaders meet in Abuja today

By Isiaka Wakili

President Muhammadu Buhari will today host four other West African leaders to a meeting aimed at avoiding violence and preserving democracy in The Gambia.

The Senior Special Assistant

to the President on Media and Publicity, Garba Shehu disclosed this in a statement yesterday.

The presidential spokesman said this was in furtherance of President Buhari's mandate as mediator in the political impasse in The Gambia.

Gambian President, Yahya Jammeh, had refused to accept defeat in the last month's election after he had initially accepted his loss in the December 1 election, but later changed his stance and vowed to cling on to power.

Shehu said today's meeting

in Abuja is following the one in Accra on the sidelines of the inauguration of Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Ado where the sub-region's leaders expressed readiness to continue the pursuit of dialogue with the leaders of The Gambia.

Bauchi govt to invite EFCC against Yuguda over N212bn fund

From Balarabe Alkassim, Bauchi

The Bauchi State government has said it will engage the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to recover over N212 billion allegedly misapplied by officials of the administration of former governor Isah Yuguda.

The state Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice, Barrister Ibrahim Yakubu Umar stated this at a press briefing on the report earlier submitted to Governor Mohammed Abdullahi Abubakar by a committee which investigated award of contracts in Bauchi State from May 2007 to May 2015.

Yakubu said the government would use legal means and would invite the

EFCC to help it recover the monies allegedly frittered away by the former governor, government officials and political appointees indicted by the committee.

The committee headed by Alhaji Salihu Lukman which submitted its report, was inaugurated about 11 months ago to investigate all major contracts awarded within the specified period by the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), Ministry for Local Government Affairs, Bauchi Specialists Hospital and other ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs).

A summary of the report submitted by the committee indicated that recoverable funds running into billions of naira were

expected from contractors, consultants, government officials and banks.

The report also stated that N196,193,573,298.97 was expected to be accounted for by various government officials in various MDAs while the office of the Accountant General would account for N16,024,496,897.70.

"The report as promised by His Excellency, Governor M.A. Abubakar is a deliberate effort for 11 months to give opportunity to all office holders, contractors and other persons to appear before the high powered committee to defend their actions in relation to the funds of Bauchi State Government in the period under review," he said.

Shedding more light at the briefing,

the state commissioner of Information, Culture and Tourism, Alhaji Abdullahi Muhammed Idris, said the committee was formed as a result of an earlier report by the transition committee headed by Air Commodore Tijjani Baba Gamawa (Rtd).

In a reaction, former commissioner of information in Yuguda's administration, Alhaji Salisu Barau who spoke to our reporter on telephone, said they had heard about the report but would not say anything for now.

"We have heard about the report and the allegations. But until we see a copy and studied the content we would not say anything now because we don't have the details," he said.



■ Gov. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal of Sokoto State

Sokoto govt disbands Hisbah Commission

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

The Sokoto state government has disbanded the state Hisbah Commission.

The action came a day after Daily Trust reported that the Commission seized musical instruments used during Governor Aminu Tambuwal's daughter's wedding for allegedly violating Shari'ah law being implemented in the state.

The Sokoto State Commissioner, Religious Affairs, Alhaji Mani Katami announced the Hisbah Commission disbandment in a chat with newsmen, saying the decision was taken on Saturday at a meeting with the leadership of the three factions of the commission with the officials of the Ministries of Religious Affairs and Justice.

He said that the three groups had failed to harmonize themselves into one group for efficient and united operations.

"The state government had given them a grace of over one year to do so, but the harmonization in line with the Act establishing the commission has proved abortive," he stated,

adding, "This has allowed unnecessary bickering, unilateral operations, while myriad of complaints were received from the members of the public about the alleged overzealousness and high handedness of its operatives."

He directed the chairman of the commission, Dr Adamu Kasarawa, to immediately hand over all documents and property to his office, and announced that the state government would soon constitute a harmonized leadership of the commission.

Reacting, the Chairman of the Commission, Adam Bello Kasarawa hinged the state government's action on the recent seizure of musical instruments used at the pre-wedding dinner of the daughter of Governor Tambuwal, which he said did not go down well with them.

"I have been receiving calls since the seizure was reported by your papers. Some were even threatening to attack the office. We don't believe in selective implementation of Shari'ah law and what we have done was in line with our mandate," he stated.

OPSH deploys 200 men to Kaduna

From Lami Sadiq, Jos

Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), the multi-security taskforce maintaining peace in Plateau State and Bogoro and Tafawa Balewa local government areas of Bauchi State, is redeploying 200 men to communities in Southern Kaduna.

The OPSH indicated that the measure is part of efforts to assist security agents from 1 Division to secure that part of Kaduna State that has recently faced bloody attacks.

Men of the taskforce especially from Sector 9 which covers Riyom local government area, a flashpoint LGA during Plateau's years of crises, have in the past six days

commenced cross-border patrols, said the STF Commander, Major General Rogers Nicholas.

General Nicholas led a confidence building patrol at the weekend to some of the crisis-ridden communities, including Goska, Dangoma, Bakin Kogi, Kafanchan and Godogodo in Jama'a local government area of Kaduna State and was received by Col. Hassan Bello, Commander Sector 4 of the Kaduna-based Operation Yaki.

He said the taskforce was also patrolling along the Jos-Saminaka axis, explaining, "Plateau is already volatile so we don't want a spillover because if there is a spillover, we might have serious issue in Plateau."

At the palaces of the Chief of Kaninko Chiefdom, Malam Tanko Tete and that of Godogodo, Iliya Ajiya Antang, Gen. Nicholas told the people that he had decided to lead the patrol to see the level of damage in the communities and to assure the people of their readiness to defend them.

He urged the people to return to their communities as

security agents and the government would ensure that attacks never happened again.

The chief of Kaninko, Malam Tanko Tete described his people as a simple ethnic community that only wanted the right to go to their farms and return home safely. Tete said most of his people had fled the communities but assured that he would do his best to encourage them to return.

Adeboye is G.O. RCCG worldwide, Obayemi for Nigeria

The Redeemed Christian Church of God has clarified that Pastor Enoch Adejare Adeboye remains the General Overseer (GO), Worldwide of the church, while Pastor Joseph Obayemi will head the Church in Nigeria.

A statement signed by Leke Adeboye, the clergyman's Personal Assistant, said the clarification was coming on the heels of misrepresentation of Pastor E. A Adeboye's announcement at the Annual Ministers Thanksgiving held at the Redemption Camp.

What he said, the statement clarified, is that the Church in Nigeria will now be led by Pastor Joseph

Obayemi.

The statement clarified that Adeboye stepped down in Nigeria to conform with the new legal requirements set up by the Financial Regulations Council, guiding all registered churches, mosques, and CSOs.

The regulation stipulates that heads of non-profit organisations like churches now have a maximum period of twenty years to lead their organisations.

They are not permitted to hand over to their families.

Leke Adeboye said Pastor Funsho Odesola, will now serve as the new Church Secretary while Pastor Joseph Adeyokunu, is the new Church Treasurer. (NAN)

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N5000 stipend: How beneficiaries were picked - Presidency

By Isiaka Wakili

The Presidency says the Community-Based Targeting (CBT) model of the World Bank was used two years ago to identify most of the beneficiaries of the federal government's N5,000 monthly stipend for the poorest.

The Senior Special Assistant to the Vice President on Media and Publicity, Laolu Akande, in a statement yesterday, said the World Bank was an active agent in the selection process.

Akande noted that the data collected belongs to Nigeria, saying the selection could not be described as partisan since beneficiaries from eight of the nine pilot states were picked even before the present administration.

He said in eight of the nine pilot states, the process had taken place at least two years ago through the World Bank-supported programme under an agreement entered into with the state governments.

Akande said the ninth state, Borno, which was added because

of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) situation with the list of the beneficiaries verified by state emergency management agency.

"This is an entirely fair and transparent process and short of mischief, there is no way you can describe this process as partisan. The president is president of the entire country and the SIPs are for all Nigerians as the case may be."

According to him, in addition to the nine pilot states and with the release of funds for the programmes, the CBT model has now commenced in other states.

On how the beneficiaries were identified

"First, the officials at federal level, working with the state officials, identify the poorest local government areas, using an existing poverty map for the state, then the local officials identify the poorest communities in the LGAs and we send our teams there. The first thing our team does after selection of the LGAs is to select members of the NOA, the LGA and community officials to form

the CBT team. Then we train the selected officials on how to conduct focus group discussions at community level.

"These focus groups comprise women, men, youths as the community determines. After training them, the CBT teams go to each of their communities to sensitize the leaders, including traditional rulers, on the CBT process and the necessity for objectivity and openness in the process. At that meeting, they firm up a date to convene a community meeting at a designated location within the community. On the set date, discussions are held in the local languages, using terminologies that resonate in that community.

"The CBT team will explain to the community the purpose of the gathering; that is, to determine the parameters of poverty upon which persons can be described as poor and vulnerable within the context of that community. The CBT teams will then engage each group (men, women and youths) in the conversation around the criteria and parameters for determining

the poorest people. The groups would then be encouraged to identify those households that fall within the criteria that the community itself determines, and told that the information is required for government's planning purposes.

"Various poverty criteria have been thrown up so far. In some cases, people have said it's the number of times they eat, it's the number of times the fumes of firewood go up from the house, the size of farmland or type of crops grown.

Then, the groups resume in plenary and report back the criteria and parameters discussed. The CBT team would then compile the criteria and parameters and ask each group to return to their break-out sessions and now begin to identify the households in the community that have been identified as fitting the criteria and parameters.

"Once that's done at the groups, everybody comes together again with names compiled by each group. Now, when the same name is featured

in at least two of the three groups, it is deemed qualified to be listed on the social register. At this stage, we now enumerate the members of the household and open a bank account for each of the care-givers by capturing the biometric data of households identified as among the poorest and vulnerable."

Payment Process

He said the states had been updated on the requirements for the engagement by the federal team and once the lists from the states were enumerated, their details would be uploaded onto a server at the Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System "which hosts the electronic platform that validates all the payments of the FG for social investment programmes."

Akande said banks had been informed that payments must be at community level, adding that "those banks engaged for the pilot stage have, in turn, engaged several payment agents to ensure cash-out to the beneficiaries in their places of residence which are distant to the bank locations."

Hajj 2017: S/Arabia new rules to protect pilgrims

By Abbas Jimoh with agency report

The Saudi Arabia Ministry of Hajj and Umrah has issued a set of rules to protect the rights of pilgrims. A document uploaded on the ministry's website says that it protects the rights of pilgrims through follow-up and supervising committees and communication centres established to receive complaints and observations.

The ministry said that it ensures the rights of foreign pilgrims by monitoring contractual commitments and services such as accommodation, food and transportation.

It said that it refers pilgrims' complaints to a special committee which decides punishment against violators.

According to the new rule a Hajj Services Company which provides substandard services will either be fined, suspended from work for a season or more and/or have its license revoked.

"Umrah pilgrims are entitled to safety and comfort while carrying out their rituals, transportation, luggage delivery and shipping, confirmation of flight bookings, alternative air tickets in case original ones are lost. "The rights of Hajj pilgrims include safety and comfort, full implementation of contractual obligation by service-providing companies, financial guarantees against companies to ensure that they honour their contracts, representation in courts in case companies object to financial compensation," it said.

Hajj quota lifting will end seats racketeering - Civil society

By Abbas Jimoh

The lifting of the 20 percent reduction on hajj seats allocation by Saudi authorities will end racketeering in the system in Nigeria, Independent Hajj Reporters, a civil society has said.

Saudi authorities had in 2013 imposed a 20 percent cut in the quota for foreign pilgrims, and a 50 percent cut for domestic pilgrims, to ensure safety during the expansion of the Grand Mosque.

A statement issued by its national coordinator, Ibrahim Muhammed and Publicity Secretary, Abubakar Mahmoud yesterday said Nigerian Muslims will have more opportunity to secure hajj seats to fulfill their religious obligations.

This development will also "reduce the pressure inherent in the efforts to secure hajj seats

through the back door, and close avenue of possible hajj seat racketeering in Nigeria."

The civil society commended the "Saudi ministry of hajj to return the 20 percent cut in hajj quota in the last five years."

The statement said the reduction greatly affected the chance of Muslims wishing to fulfill their religious obligations, thereby slashing the Nigerian hajj quota from 95,000 to 76,000.

Independent Hajj Reporters however advised the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) to give priority to states with higher demands, those that meet its recently capacity verifications exercise and first timers.

It also urged "NAHCON, SMPWBs and tour operators to double their efforts in anticipation of the new increase in numbers of pilgrims."




■ The Chairman of Jama'atu Izalatil Bida'ah wa Iqamatis Sunnah, Sheikh Mohammed Sani Yahaya Jigir, delivers a lecture at the group's national preaching event in Kaduna at the weekend

Photo: Shehu K. Goro

Ebira association inaugurates exco

By Mulikatu Mukaila

The Ebira Peoples Association (EPA), the umbrella body of all Anebira at home and in the Diaspora, has inaugurated its national executive council. The new national exco is headed by Dr Musa AbduRahman Adeiza, its President-General and Dr Adinoyi Ojo Onukaba as the Secretary-General. The new exco has the imprimatur of the Ohinoyi of Ebiraland, Alhaji Ado Ibrahim, who co-signed their appointment letters and the endorsement of all the first-class rulers (Ohis) in the four local government areas, who were equally present during the inauguration ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, according to a statement from the association, the new president-general called for unity, peace and harmonious co-existence among Ebira people and between them and other citizens in the country.

 FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE No. 5, Sule Katagum Road, P.M.B. 005, Azare, Bauchi State [OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR]	5 th January, 2017
ADDENDUM RE: INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION	
Further to our earlier advertisement on the submission of Technical Bids for Routine Procurement in the Centre published in the Federal Tenders Journal, Blue Print and The Nation Newspaper of Monday, 28 th November, 2016, some omissions have been observed under the "Requirements".	
2. Consequently, interested contractors are to submit the following, in addition to the requirements in the advertisement:	
i. Sworn affidavit indicating that no officer of the Centre or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, Shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the company as stipulated in Section 16(6)(f) of the Public Procurement Act (PPA).	
ii. Letter of Authorization from the original manufacturers in accordance with approved policy for procurement of Health and Medical Equipment for Tertiary Hospitals in Nigeria, for bidders of LOT II.	
iii. Evidence that demonstrates having resources and experience sufficient to meet the qualifying criteria for each LOT.	
It should also be noted that:	
· LOT I – stands as General Goods and Services (details and nature will be on the bidding document).	
· LOT IV – as Works (details and nature will be on the bidding document).	
4. In order to allow enough time for submission of bids, the closing date for the submission of bids has been extended to 23 rd January, 2017 at 12 noon.	
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N18.3m spent on ex-first ladies' jets landing fee - Aisha Buhari

By Isiaka Wakili

Wife of the president, Aisha Buhari has disclosed that the Nigerian High Commission in London was spending £32,000 (about N18m) as landing fees for private jets of former first ladies.

Mrs Buhari, in a statement yesterday by her spokesperson, Adebisi Ajayi, was reacting to a newspaper by an online report that accused her of "bleeding" the Nigerian High Commission in

London and abuse of privilege whenever she visits the UK.

The statement said, "What Sahara Reporters came up with was another conjecture of a purported internal memo within the consulate, which has no direct link to wife of the president.

"The new accusation, however, has still not been able to substantiate where Aisha Buhari made any direct contact with the mission for anything. The High Commission has its internal administrative procedure,

and it's not within the purview of the wife of the president to ask for diplomatic files.

"Furthermore, that the said memo showed little or no knowledge of her excellency's itinerary proves the simple fact we earlier submitted that she had no direct business with the embassy to warrant the accusation of waste or corruption insinuated in the report.

"Part of the wife of the president's trips abroad are for her NGO, which is not funded by the government,

and it is not uncommon to have stopover in Britain like any other country as the case may be."

According to the statement, VIP treatment is simple protocol for a personality of the wife of the president's status, "which is done all over the world, and at no point was she offered anywhere else. The High Commission provided the lounge and Aisha Buhari was not involved in the transaction. This is even a far cry from the £32,000 expended in the past

as landing fees for private jets of former first ladies.

"Attending an international women function with the governors' wives couldn't have been linked to the bogus allegation of corruption as these are approved trips. It will be to the credit of Sahara Reporters to carry out a thorough check if the so called monies (£3,500) spent for whatever reason by the High Commission has any direct link with Aisha Buhari. That is responsible journalism."

Buhari urged to partner religious leaders against corruption

By Abbas Jimoh

President Muhammadu Buhari has been urged to work closely with religious leaders to boost the success of his anti-corruption efforts.

The Chairman Board of Trustees (BoT) Interfaith Patriots for Peace Initiative (IPPI) Dr. Haroun O. Ajah gave the advice yesterday in a statement. While calling for support for the government's anti-corruption war under President Muhammadu Buhari, he said corruption had been a great enemy in the nation's development, unity and progress since independence

from the British in 1960.

"This endemic enemy called corruption has caused us the failure of the first republic that invited the military dictatorship. It also caused the failure of the second, third and subsequent republics with its abrasive military leaderships," Ajah said. "We as group of like minds saw the fight against corruption by the present administration under President Muhammadu Buhari as a matter that cannot be left for the government alone. We want a great Nigeria with rapid development and devoid of corruption."

He said that there was need to

take the fight against corruption to the grassroots and ensure that people at the grassroots start seeing reason to respect the government and have regards for people for their honesty, decency, credibility and dignity.

"Faith-based organizations shall develop blue print for better interfaith responses to corruption and fight against immoral values and social vices in line with the federal government national re-orientation campaign "Change Begins With Me" of the present administration," Ajah said.



President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana

Akufo-Addo breaks the 'John oligarchy' in Ghana

From Kate Da Costa in Accra

Nana Akufo-Addo at the weekend took oath of office as the fifth president of the Fourth Republic of Ghana.

He took over from President John Dramani Mahama of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), who lost to the opposition, New Patriotic Party (NPP) in the December 7, 2016 presidential election.

A k u f o - A d d o ' s emergence to power puts an end to the 'John oligarchy' in the country. Since returning to constitutional rule

in 1992, all Ghanaian presidents' first names had been John; beginning from Jerry John Rawlings, John Agyekum Kufuor and the late Evans John Atta-Mills to John Dramani Mahama.

In a colourful event held at the Black Stars Square in Accra, Nana Akufo-Addo and Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia were sworn-in President and Vice-President respectively. The occasion was witnessed by 15 heads of states, delegations of governments, ex-presidents and eminent personalities from Africa and beyond.

36 states should become districts headed by mayors - Bakare

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Preacher and Serving Overseer, The Latter Rain Assembly, Pastor Tunde Bakare yesterday advocated the abolition of 36 states of the Federation and reversion to a regional system.

He said the 36 states should be converted to districts to be headed by mayors.

In his State of the Nation Address delivered at the Church Headquarters in Lagos, he expressed optimism in the ability of President Muhammadu Buhari to restructure Nigeria and dissolve the 36 states which he described as "good for

nothing". He said the 36 states of the federation could not foster the growth and development of the nation.

Bakare who was the vice-presidential candidate to President Muhammadu Buhari when he contested under the platform of the defunct Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) in 2011 said he believed in the ability and capacity of Buhari to save the nation.

He also called for more commitment towards the fight against corruption, asserting that the war against graft is still being fought with kid gloves.

"It is very disheartening that

allegations of corruption remain rife in our country, even against key office holders in the present government," he said, reiterating that that the 36 states of the Federation had become a huge drainpipe on the country's resources. "These thirty-six states, overwhelmingly sustained by allocations from Abuja, cannot guarantee functional infrastructure such as world class roads, railways, airports, housing and urban development. These thirty-six states, largely unable to pay workers' salaries, cannot guarantee standard educational and healthcare systems, or facilitate rural development," he said.

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85-yr-old woman commits suicide in Kano

From Yusha'u A. Ibrahim, Kano

An 85-yr-old woman, Malamu Salamatu Hassan of Jar-Kuka village in Gezawa local government area, Kano state was reported to have committed suicide by hanging herself.

The body of the woman, a mother of six, was found dangling from a tree plant few meters away from the village in the early hours of yesterday.

The deceased's grandson, Muhammad Ibrahim told *Daily Trust* that the late Salamu was missing for two days before her corpse was found yesterday.

He said: "We had

searched police stations, hospitals and houses of relatives and well-wishers looking for her, only to find her lifeless body on a tree. It is a shocking incident and we really missed our grandmother."

Confirming the incident, the Police Public Relation Officer DSP Magaji Musa Majia, said, "Our men received a report from the village head of Tsamiya Babba that an aged woman was found dangling on a tree. The Divisional Police Officer led his team to the scene and took the woman to Sir Muhammadu Sanusi General Hospital where doctors confirmed her death."



2016 LearnAfrica-NECO Excellence Awards

The 2016 LearnAfrica-NECO Excellence National Awards were presented at a colourful event at Renaissance Lagos Ikeja Hotel on Wednesday, 7 December, 2016. The LearnAfrica Education Development Foundation would like to seize this opportunity to thank the National Examinations Council (NECO), all awardees (states & national), parents, school authorities, government officials and our media partners for their wonderful cooperation.



Egbunu Mudi Gabriel (Overall Best Candidate) of School for The Gifted, Gwagwalada, FCT, Abuja receiving an Award from Alhaji Musa Maikasuwa Yakubu, Secretary for Education, FCTA, representing the Honourable Minister of FCT, Alhaji Muhammed Musa Bello.



Suleiman Ibrahim (Second Overall Best Candidate) of School for The Gifted, Gwagwalada, FCT, Abuja receiving an Award for The Gifted, Gwagwalada, FCT, Abuja receiving an Award from Mrs E.I. Adegbamigbe representing Mr Adesina Odeyemi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Lagos State.



Ogorchukwu Mary Osemeke (Third Overall Best Candidate) of Louisville Senior Girls Secondary School, Gwagwalada, Abuja.



(L-R) John Felix Temitope (Winner of the J.F. Ade-Ajayi Prize for the Best Grade in History), Mr Sandy Udeme Okpongette (Overall Best Teacher-National), Mr Neville Osemeke, father of Ogorchukwu Mary Osemeke (Third Overall Best Candidate), Egbunu Mudi Gabriel (Overall Best Candidate), Suleiman Ibrahim (Overall Second Best Candidate), Akpeti Loyalty Ayakpo (Winner of the New Concept Prize for the Best Grade in Mathematics), Enenmoh Ikechukwu Augustine (Winner of Dr Ameyo Stella Adadevoh Prize for the Best Grade in Biology), Daniel Iremiren, younger brother of Isaiah Izien Iremiren (Winner of the New Concept Prize for the Best Grade in English Language) at the 2016 LearnAfrica - NECO Excellence Awards in Lagos recently.



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A Foremost Business Membership Organization with global affiliations is seeking qualified Management & Senior Executives to fill existing vacancies as provided herewith:

1 DIRECTOR GENERAL/ CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Applications are invited from interested and suitably qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Director-General/Chief Executive Officer.

Key Responsibilities:

- Responsible for development of current and long-term organizational goals and objectives as well as policies and procedures.
- Successful candidate must have strong organizational, administrative, and financial management skills. The CEO will be comfortable with hands-on role and be willing to do the essential tasks required to meet set goals of the organisation.
- Successful candidate should be able to resourcefully engage and mobilise other key executives to achieve results. The CEO should be an interdisciplinary and creative thinker who can be innovative as well as pragmatic on issues across various sectors of society.
- Strong written and oral communication skills are critical to ensure the CEO will be effective and persuasive in presenting the organisation and its mission to key clients and partners.
- The DG/CEO will be responsible to the Governing council through the president and chairman of council.

Basic Requirements:

- A Bachelors & Masters Degree in Economics, Management or Business Administration or equivalent Professional Qualification from reputable institutions. Other Relevant Postgraduate Qualifications will be an added advantage.
- He/She will be required to be articulate, analytical and decisive with excellent writing, presentation skills along with well-developed interpersonal and managerial skills and a balanced outlook. Regulatory experience and negotiating skills will be a distinct advantage. The candidate should be between 50 and 65 years of age.
- Should have served in senior management positions for at least 10 years in highly reputable institutions including minimum of 5 years as Director and another 5 year as Chief Executive.
- Should provide good references from at least 3 past work establishments.
- Ability to work within tight schedule.
- Application processes are as provided below this advertisement.



- Candidate should have strong knowledge/capacity in ICT
- Duties will involve local and international travel
- Remuneration and condition of service will be commensurate with similar senior positions in other organisation of this stature.

2 DIRECTOR TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Director Training and Capacity Development is responsible for providing technical expertise on various initiated corporate development and capacity building for leaders of various public and private sector organizations.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead in the design or review of existing capacity building programmes and tools;
- Plan, coordinate and facilitate the implementation of capacity building programmes for selected organizations.
- Design and implementation of Capacity Building Management framework and corporate evaluation project.
- Support development of capacity building solutions for scale, including curriculum, workshops, special in-plant programme etc in collaboration with foreign partners and consultant.
- Capacity to develop and conduct training programmes at specified levels for senior executives.
- Will be responsible to the Governing council through the DG/CEO

Basic Requirements:

- Bachelors & Master's Degree in Social Sciences or related field with bias in capacity development;
- At least 10 years of professional experience in leadership education, instructional design, or related field;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, verbal and written, including the ability to engage effectively with senior executives at all levels in a fast-paced and entrepreneurial work environment.
- Should have served in related senior position for over 6 years with responsibility for relevant department.
- Exceptional organizational skills with the ability to prioritize projects and follow through with meticulous attention to details, including initiative for long term structured training programmes.
- Age should be 45 - 60 years old.

3 ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

The Associate Director (AD) for Research, Policy and Advocacy (RPA) is responsible for leading research portfolio, policy analysis and advocacy. The AD manages the provision of analysis, advice and support for specified programmes of the organization. The AD oversees diverse contractual engagements with research partners and coordinates relationships with stakeholders and varied networks focused on research and policy.

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversee the development of policy briefs, learning projects including submissions or initiatives on current issues of interest to public & private sector organizations.
- Advance the organizations relationships with strategic partners and research institutes and advocacy coalitions to enhance, influence and impact in specified areas of development / operations.
- Author and / or co-author research, policy and advocacy publications for national and regional benefits.
- Will be responsible to the DG/CEO

Basic Requirements:

- At least a Masters-level degree or (PhD) in Economics, Political Science & Public Policy Development;
- Past experience working for (or closely with) major development organizations, especially international agencies with at least 5 years in senior executive position leading a relevant (RPA) department.
- Experience in research and development of complex national & global issues will be of advantage.
- Excellent writing skills with a proven ability to provide clarity and succinctness on communiques.
- Very strong interpersonal and communication skills, vibrant professional networks within global knowledge and management community.
- Age should be 40 - 55 years old.

4 HEAD, BUSINESS & PROJECTS MANAGEMENT

A highly resourceful, energetic & result oriented Business & Projects Development and Management Executive to resourcefully and productively manage special projects from conception to delivery of set goals.

Key Responsibilities

- Coordinating internal resources and third parties/vendors for the flawless execution of projects and ensuring that all projects are delivered on time, within scope and within budget;
- Developing projects and objectives, involving all relevant stakeholders and ensuring technical feasibility;
- Build long-term relationships with new and existing customers building good will and enduring partnerships.

Basic Requirements:

- Sound educational background, with 1st and 2nd degrees preferably in the fields of Economics, Marketing Communications and Projects/ Business Management.
- Proven working experience of at least 10 years, 5 of which should be as senior manager in charge of projects.
- Strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office, PMP / PRINCE ii certification is a plus.
- Age should be 35 - 50 years old.

APPLICATION PROCESS: If you fulfill the above requirements, please send your application with concise CV of not more than 5 pages with names of three non-related referees and their contact details to reach The Resource Consultant (NGC) c/o e-mail: TopExecs@gmail.com within two weeks of this advert - dated 9th-10th & 11th January, 2017.

BUSINESS

External reserves down \$3.22 bn in 2016- CBN

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

The nation's external reserves closed last year with a total balance of \$25.84 billion - 30 December - showing a decline of \$3.22 billion compared with \$29.06 billion it stood as at December 31, 2015.

The figure from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) indicates a 12.7 per cent decline year on year (y/y), but increased by 4.2 per cent month-on-month, up from \$24.69 billion on November 28 to \$25.781, due to a slight recovery in global oil prices.

Despite demand pressure, the nation's external reserves and the volume of money or other assets held by the apex bank recorded an increase of \$642 million in one month, after weeks of consistent and gradual gains.

These are in spite of a US\$2.3 billion decline in average inflows of foreign



■ CBN Governor, Godwin Emefiele

exchange into the CBN every month over the last 26 months as revealed by the apex

bank governor, Dr Godwin Emefiele.

CBN had disclosed in its data on foreign exchange utilisation for October 2016, that it granted access to about 7,792 requests for foreign exchange, valued at over \$867 million through the inter-bank window to enable them source vital raw materials and spare parts for their respective industries.

The accretion of Nigeria's foreign exchange (forex) reserves, which started about two months ago, continued in the new year, as the data by the apex bank showed that reserves had grown to \$26.094 billion, signifying a slow but steady improvement in the country's current account balance.

The present value of the reserves, derived mostly from the proceeds of crude oil sale, represents an appreciation by \$2.137 billion or nine per cent, compared with \$23.957 billion as of November 2016.

Ajaokuta Steel Company gets N4.3bn for revival

▶ Page 17

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

ARIK AIR

Abuja-Lagos 7:00, 9:00, 11:00, 13:00, 15:00, 17:00
Lagos-Abuja 7:00, 9:00, 11:00, 13:00, 15:00, 17:00
Abuja-Kano 14:20; Kano-Abuja 15:50
Abuja-Gombe 11:45; Gombe-Abuja 13:30
Abuja-Sokoto 9:40; Sokoto-Abuja 11:20
Abuja-Yola 16:30; Yola-Abuja 7:40
Abuja-Port Harcourt 7:00, 11:00, 16:30
Port Harcourt-Abuja 8:40, 12:40, 18:10
Kano-Lagos 13:10; Lagos-Kano 11:05
Lagos-Kaduna 11:30

AZMAN AIR

MONDAY- FRIDAY: Kano-Lagos, 7:30 a.m., 3:45pm
Abuja-Lagos 1:20 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:00pm
Lagos-Abuja 9:45 a.m., 3:30 p.m.
Abuja-Kano 2:30 p.m.
Kano-Abuja-Maiduguri 8:15 a.m.
Abuja-Maiduguri 9:30 a.m.
Maiduguri-Abuja-Lagos 11:20 a.m.
Abuja-Yola 11:30 a.m.
Yola-Abuja-Kano 1 p.m.; Sat: Kano-Abuja 8:00am
Abuja-Lagos 9:30 a.m.; Lagos-Kano 6 p.m.

OVERLAND AIRWAYS

Abuja-Minna 0730, 1750, Abuja-Bauchi 0900
Bauchi-Abuja 10.30, Minna-Abuja 1750
Lagos-Ilorin 0700, 1500, 0700, Abuja-Ibadan 1600
Ibadan-Abuja 0745, 1600

DANA AIR

MONDAY- FRIDAY: Lagos-Abuja Departure
7:02am, 11:07am, 3:30pm, and 5:10pm,
Abuja-Lagos 9 a.m., 1:05pm, 5:28pm, 7:08pm
Sat: Lagos-Abuja 7.02, 11.07am, 15.30pm, 5.10pm
Lagos-Uyo 9.17am Daily; Uyo-Abuja 11.07am daily
Abuja-Uyo 1.05pm; Uyo-Lagos 3.03pm
Lagos-PHC Mon-Friday 7.20am; PHC-Abuja 9.18am
Abuja-Phc 3.30pm Daily & Sun; Phc-Lagos 5.28pm

MEDVIEW

Abuja-Lagos: 09.00, 1400, 1500, 1715, 1915, 20.00.
Lagos-Abuja: 07.00, 08.50, 11.15, 12.00, 15.15, 17.15.
Abuja-Kano: 17.00
Kano-Abuja: 18.30
Lagos-Kano: 15.15
Kano-Lagos: 18.30
Abuja-Maiduguri: 13.15
Maiduguri-Abuja: 15.15
Lagos-Maiduguri: 11.15
Maiduguri-Lagos: 15.15
Abuja-Yola: 10.50
Yola-Abuja: 13.00
Lagos-Yola: 08.50
Yola-Lagos: 13.00
Enugu-Lagos: 08.45
Lagos-Enugu: 07.15
Lagos-Port Harcourt: 11.30
Port Harcourt-Lagos: 13.20

Kano, Kaduna airport runways in good condition - Sirika

By Chris Agabi

The minister of state, Aviation, Capt. Hadi Sirika, has said the runways at the Kaduna International Airport and the Malam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAIA) Kano are in perfect condition to handle flight operations.

The minister stated this at the weekend while inspecting facilities at both airports. As part of the inspection tour, the minister also inspected facilities at the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology (NCAT), Zaria and Nigerian Meteorological Agency's (NiMet) weather facility at Katsina.

The minister emphasised that the 3000 meters' Kaduna Airport runway is capable of

handling jumbo jets and B777s thus is capable of handling the traffic from the Abuja airport when the Abuja runway is closed on March 8th, 2017.

The minister also expressed confidence that the Kaduna Airport facilities will be fixed ahead the March 8.

"I have inspected the facilities and I must say that I am more than happy that Kaduna is ready for the task ahead. I have gone round, seen the provisions made, the Hajj terminal which is here for processing of passengers which we said will take up to 500 at a time and also another contingency plan that another VIP terminal could be converted in the event that they are more than 500 passengers at a time are ready.

"The original terminal

building is in advanced stage of completion and it would be completed before that time," he assured.

He said all the materials to fix the new terminal buildings have been procured thus all that is left is fixing and finishing.

"In case we are not able to finish the terminal building but from what we saw, everything is in place for the terminal building to be ready before the set date but just in case because we have made plans for redundant equipment, we are ready for eventuality but I can guarantee you that we will finish before the due date," he said.

After inspecting the runway, he assured of the integrity of the runway and its capacity to handle large aircraft requiring long landing and takeoff.

On his impression on the new international terminal building in Kano, the minister expressed satisfaction with the quality of work done.

On the completion date, he said the contractors have not briefed him on the definite date of completion yet.

At NCAT, the minister pledged his support to the development of the premier aviation college in West Africa.

He said he had to cancel the proposal that NCAT be decentralised and promised that government will support it meet its accreditation needs.

Capt. Sirika also noted that any private investor wishing to establish an aviation training institution in Nigeria would be supported by the federal government.

FG budgets N20bn for export expansion grant

By Francis Arinze Iloani

The federal government has budgeted N20 billion in the 2017 budget for the resumption of the controversial Export Expansion Grant (EEG) tax credit scheme.

The controversy surrounding the resumption of the scheme deepened late last year as the House of Representatives urged the minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Okechukwu Enelamah, to halt the

resumption of the grant.

The EEG, before its suspension, accumulated a backlog of over N150 billion, which exporters are still begging the federal government to settle.

The inclusion of the grant in the budget indicates that the federal government is poised at resuming the grant this year.

In addition to the grant, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment also appropriated N71.20 million for export

enhancement through purchase of equipment and furniture and N50.63 million for monitoring of crude oil and gas at various export terminals to ensure quantity exported conforms with approval (export permit) and the generation of metrology data.

The EEG was conceived in 1999 as a very important incentive required for the stimulation of export-oriented activities that will lead to significant growth of the non-oil

export sector.

The grant was designed to be disbursed to qualified exporters in the form of the Negotiable Duty Credit Certificate (NDCC) and utilised by beneficiaries for the payment of customs and excise duty on their export shipments.

The sudden suspension of the scheme in January 2014 rattled exporters, leading to the accumulation of backlog of over N150 billion.

CBN EXCHANGE RATES						
	US DOLLAR	POUND STERLING	EURO	YUAN/RENMINBI	RIYAL	CFA
Buying	304	373.5552	317.224	43.8158	81.0451	0.4693
Central NGN	304.5	374.1696	317.7458	43.8883	81.1784	0.4793
Selling NGN	305	374.784	318.2675	43.9608	81.3117	0.4893

January 4, 2017

COMMODITIES PRICE

CRUDE OIL BRENT \$55.75

GOLD \$1,156.40

SUGAR \$19.49

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	BUYING		
	DOLLAR	EURO	Pound S.
	395	N512	570
	SELLING		
	DOLLAR	EURO	Pound S.
	400	N515	573

ANALYSIS>>

Agitation grows for review of CBN's forex policy

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

The dominant part of last year was undoubtedly spent on lamenting the woes that betide the nation's manufacturing sector and its implications on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

One of such lamentations was the suspension of foreign exchange access to 41 import items into the country by the Central Bank of Nigeria.

The apex bank had stoutly defended the measure on the ground that it is a baby of necessity to stop the fast eroding value of naira as well as boost the country's industrialization drive of the incumbent administration.

Operators in the tomato industry, who are starved of forex due to the policy are already gnashing their teeth and possibly forecasting eventual collapse of the industry this year if the apex bank sustains the ban.

They said since the Central Bank of Nigeria enacted the forex policy which restricts 41 items including triple concentrate tomato paste from sourcing for forex in the interbank market, the tomato industry has been going through a declining phase.

Already, the Union of Tomato Paste Manufacturers in Nigeria said a total investment manufacturing sector of tomato paste valued at N19 billion would vanish this year if the forex restriction subsists.

Observers said the steady decline is also reflected in the loss of jobs by many trained practitioners in both the tomato and the larger agricultural sector that feeds the industry which provides the most employment opportunity and food to the country.

The National Bureau of Statistics said the unemployment rate in Nigeria was 12.1 per cent in the first quarter of 2016 and rose to 13.3 per cent in the second quarter of the year.

The current unemployment figure for the new year is scary of the fate of the country in 2017 and how it hopes to pull its economy from the brink of economic recession.

Observers said these figures might not be appreciated until a real live template is used.

Director General of Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), Mr Mudashiru Yusuf said the 41 items banned from sourcing forex in the interbank market are like 728 items to local manufacturers.

Observers are also of the opinion that the demand for Triple Concentrate Tomato Paste is not for itself as a concentrate, but its derived use to add form and utility in the production of finished products such as tomato paste, ketchups and sauces.

Besides, they said there is significant addition of value in the process of conversion and given the capacities which has evolved over time, Nigeria can become the hub of tomato paste re-processing for the surrounding less developed neighboring countries, thus replacing Chinese finished products imports in these places.

Nigeria produces an estimated 1.5 million tons of fresh tomatoes every year, making it the 13th biggest



Forex

producer in the world. Most of it goes to service the fresh tomato market in the country.

Tomato paste plays its role, primarily as a substitute for fresh tomatoes, when there is reduced availability of fresh tomatoes, tomato paste variants are used to shore up supply and reduce scarcity. Tomato paste is also a very good way to store tomatoes that would ordinarily go bad in their natural and fresh state being a seasonal crop with Nigeria still lacking adequate storage facilities.

Nigeria had developed a vibrant local processing industry but the importation of finished tomato paste products over the years has been affecting the growth of the industry because out of the imported 170 Million USD tomato paste in 2014 around 50 Million USD was for the triple concentrate.

Observers reasoned that since the triple concentrate tomato pastes not produced locally, this has to be imported and then value added by local processors with benefits such as employment, taxable income to state, production technology, growth of local industry and the country's economy.

Acknowledging attempts at local production of triple concentrate tomato paste by some companies since 2012, observers added that there is a lot to be done to solidify the industry in terms of suitable seed varieties, farming technology and inputs, so as to get the right quality and quantity to process fresh tomatoes to triple concentrate.

They further opined that it is also virtually impossible to feed the local demand for triple concentrate till the local processing industry evolves over time to acquire and execute the required backward integration to make this possible.

The decision to include triple concentrate tomato paste amongst 41 prohibited import goods is currently generating heat among consumers, labour and manufacturers alike and many have been expressing

frustrations over the forex policy.

Tomato paste is also a very good way to store tomatoes that would ordinarily go bad in their natural and fresh state being a seasonal crop with Nigeria still lacking adequate storage facilities

frustrations over the forex policy.

Director General, Nigeria Employers Consultative Association (NECA), Mr. Olusegun Oshinowo, wondered why the CBN prohibited tomato paste manufacturers from the foreign exchange that should not be extended to numerous products including petroleum.

He said NECA is trying to determine how many companies are set for redundancy in all sectors of the economy due to the forex challenge.

"There are companies thinking of 50 per cent slash on their staff strength as a first exercise not the final exercise. It is that bad. WAMCO sacked 40 staffers, Flour Mill sacked 800 workers, Seven-Up Bottling Company laid off 150 workers," Oshinowo said.

The persistent fall in Naira's value has not spelt good tidings for entrepreneurs who have been producing and groaning from the already hostile production environment.

Manufacturers in the tomato industry are merely holding on to the last straw as they do business but with

the exclusion from forex activities it is likened to death sentence on the tomato industry.

President of Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Franks Jacob said several of its member companies are presently operating below capacity and only few may be able to survive.

Observers said the forex policy is not just killing the tomato industry but does more than that as it effeminates the purchasing power of the consumer and this consumer-impotence is replicated all over the country as they cannot afford to buy because of inflation and loss of jobs.

The President, National Union of Food, Beverages and Tobacco Employees, Lateef Oyelekan, "all the companies involved in the Forex exclusion should be given the latitude to plan for backward integration, as one of the downside of the policy is that it has started leading to massive job loss.

According to him, the best approach would be a phase-wise implementation which will facilitate local backward integration of the key players through sound and stable policies and support measures.

This, he added, will also retain and build the local processing capabilities of the downstream re-processing industry, so that in the long run, not just Nigeria but the entire region can be serviced using local capabilities.

The President of the National Union of Shops and Distributive Employees (NUSDE), Kelly Ogbaloi, said: "CFAO sacked 36 employees, Dana laid off 42, Daylong sacked 10, Kevalrams asked 48 workers to go home, Dizengof terminated six staffers' appointments and Goldig sacked 53 breadwinners.

The Director-General of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), Muda Yussuf and other economic experts have implored the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to consider reviewing the ban with a view to exempting critical manufacturing inputs that are currently on the list.

RETURNS ON UTILISATION OF FUNDS SOLD TO CUSTOMERS FOR THE WEEK ENDED FRIDAY 6TH JANUARY 2017

SN	CUSTOMER	ITEM OF IMPORT	DATE OF FUND PURCHASE	EXCHANGE RATE	AMOUNT
1	HANA PACKAGING LTD	RAW MATERIAL: LLDPE (METALLOCENE)	3-Jan-17	306.00	26,536.25
2	HANA PACKAGING LTD	RAW MATERIAL: HIGH DENSITY POLYETHYLENE LOTRENE	3-Jan-17	306.00	43,000.00
3	IJEOMA AWELEKUME OKOLO	PTA	3-Jan-17	380.00	2,103.24
4	ADERIBIGBE FEMI GBOLADE	PTA	3-Jan-17	380.00	2,000.00
5	ADAMU DANLADI/IBRAHIM MUSA ABUBAKAR	SCHOOL FEES	3-Jan-17	380.00	429.79
6	POSITIVE IMPACT VENTURES/ADEOJO KELVIN OLUWATOSIN	STUDENT UPKEEP	3-Jan-17	311.00	630.65
7	IKEAZOR PHILIP/IKEAZOR NNAMDI	PTA	3-Jan-17	305.50	3,500.00
8	ANNE AND GUY MURRY BRUCE/MEAGAN MURRAY BRUCE	SCHOOL FEES	4-Jan-17	380.00	150.29
9	ADERIBIGBE FEMI GBOLADE	PTA	4-Jan-17	380.00	2,000.00
10	ABUBAKAR AHMED ABUBAKAR	PTA	5-Jan-17	380.00	4,000.00
11	ISICHEI YVONNE / ISICHEI IFEANYICHUKWU	PTA	5-Jan-17	380.00	2,000.00
12	ADAMU DANLADI/IBRAHIM MUSA ABUBAKAR	SCHOOL FEES	5-Jan-17	380.00	721.00
13	CFAO MOTORS NIG LTD	ONE LOT OF MITSUBISHI SPARE PARTS	3-Jan-17	305.50	201.37
14	ISICHEI YVONNE / ISICHEI IFEANYICHUKWU	PTA	6-Jan-17	380.00	2,016.00
15	IJEOMA AWELEKUME OKOLO	PTA	6-Jan-17	380.00	630.00
16	GANNA IBRAHIM MUHAMMED	PTA	6-Jan-17	380.00	2,000.00
17	OJO AYODEJI JULIUS	SCHOOL FEES	6-Jan-17	380.00	414.00
18	EKANEM SAMUEL ESSIEN	SCHOOL FEES/SUBSCRIPTION	6-Jan-17	380.00	290.00
19	ANNE AND GUY MURRAY BRUCE/MEAGAN MURRAY BRUCE	SCHOOL FEES	6-Jan-17	380.00	1,490.09
20	MOJEC INTERNATIONAL LTD	PREPAID SMART METERS	3-Jan-17	305.50	3,700.00
21	MOJEC INTERNATIONAL LTD	SMART METER WITH CUBIC AND METERING	3-Jan-17	305.50	6,300.00
22	CHRIS EIK PHARM & DRUGS CO. LTD	EMPTY HARD GELATIN CAPSULES	3-Jan-17	305.50	10,000.00
23	OYIN INDUSTRIES LIMITED/DAILY NEED INDUSTRIES LIMITED	RAW MATERIAL 8,200KG MENTHOL CRYST. BP	3-Jan-17	305.50	10,000.00
24	CHIZZY NIGERIA LTD	METHYL ISOBUTYL KETONE	3-Jan-17	305.50	10,000.00
25	HANA PACKAGING LTD	RAW MATERIAL: LLDPE (METALLOCENE)	3-Jan-17	305.50	388.75
26	IKEAZOR PHILIP	PTA	3-Jan-17	305.50	4,000.00
27	KENVEE NIG. LTD	KEROSENE STOVE	5-Jan-17	305.50	10,000.00
28	EDIC CHEMICAL AND ALLIED	FORTIFIED PROCAINE PENICILLIN MEGA INJECTION	5-Jan-17	305.50	10,000.00
29	CHRIS EIK PHARM & DRUGS CO. LTD	EMPTY HARD GELATIN CAPSULES	5-Jan-17	305.50	15,000.00
30	INTER-SWASTIK NIGERIA LTD	PP COPOLYMER AND AGRICULTURAL GRINDING MILLS	6-Jan-17	311.00	4,000.00
31	FINE CHEMICAL NIGERIA LIMITED	RAW MATERIAL FOR INDUSTRIAL USE: POLYPROPYLENE	3-Jan-17	305.50	222.50
32	K-ODEDINA IMPEX LIMITED	PRINTING PLATES, MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS FOR PRINTING AND PHOTOG	3-Jan-17	305.50	225.00
33	THERAPEUTIC LAB NIG LTD	PACKING MATERIAL FOR USE IN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY: CYPRIGOLD	3-Jan-17	305.50	450.00
34	NAKS INT'L CO LTD	DRIED ANIMAL FEED	3-Jan-17	305.50	700.00
35	NIGER BISCUIT CO LTD	HYDROGENATED VEGETABLE FAT	3-Jan-17	305.50	700.01
36	THERAPEUTIC LAB NIG LTD	RAW MATERIAL FOR PHARMACEUTICALS: CYPRIGOLD CAPLETS	5-Jan-17	305.50	7,468.49
37	THERAPEUTIC LABORATORIES NIG LTD	RAW MATERIALS FOR PHARMACEUTICAL	5-Jan-17	305.50	7,673.88

RETURNS ON SOURCE OF FUNDS SOLD TO CUSTOMERS FOR THE WEEK ENDED FRIDAY JANUARY 6, 2017

SN	SOURCE	DATE OF PURCHASE	EXCHANGE RATE	AMOUNT
1	OTHER SOURCES 1	3-Jan-17	375.28	4,533.03
2	AUTONOMOUS SOURCES	3-Jan-17	310.50	630.65
3	WEMA BANK	3-Jan-17	305.50	69,536.25
4	JAIZ BANK	3-Jan-17	305.00	50,000.00
5	OTHER SOURCES 1	4-Jan-17	375.39	3,571.82
6	OTHER SOURCES 1	5-Jan-17	375.26	5,299.47
7	GTBANK	5-Jan-17	305.00	50,000.00
8	OTHER SOURCES 1	6-Jan-17	375.17	6,804.09
9	AUTONOMOUS SOURCES	6-Jan-17	310.50	4,154.59



For further clarification and enquiries, please contact us on:
 Live Chat| www.keystonebankng.com
 Twitter| [www.twitter.com/keystonebankng](https://twitter.com/keystonebankng)
 Email| contactcentre@keystonebankng.com
 Facebook| <https://www.facebook.com/keystonebank>
 Instagram| [keystonebankng](https://www.instagram.com/keystonebankng)
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Convenience and Reliability

BOI disburses N3.1bn to micro-finance banks

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

The Bank of Industry (BoI) says it has so far disbursed N3.1 billion to 14 micro-finance banks under its Bottom of Pyramid (BOP) scheme which is aimed at enhancing the financial inclusion of micro entrepreneurs in the country.

The Acting Managing Director of the bank, Mr. Waheed Olagunju, disclosed this at the presentation of cheques to LAPO Microfinance Bank, Fortis Microfinance Bank and Lotus Capital Limited at the weekend in Lagos.

Specifically, the bank's boss gave a cheque each of one billion naira to LAPO Microfinance Bank, N500 million to Fortis Microfinance Bank and N500 million to Lotus Capital.

According to him, the bank had previously disbursed N1.1 billion to 11 microfinance banks under the scheme and secured approvals of N1.13 billion for nine other microfinance banks presently undergoing disbursement process.

"We also decided to work with microfinance banks because lending

to micro enterprises requires special skills that they have acquired," Olagunju said.

Olagunju, who noted that activities to be financed include agriculture, manufacturing, food products, beverages, solid minerals, services and artisanal activities, explained that the scheme aligns with government's employment and wealth creation objectives of the National Enterprise Development Programme (NEDEP).

He urged the banks to use the partnership and opportunity to add value to the lives of Nigerians through pro-active services that can move them out of poverty circle.

The Managing Director, Lotus Capital, Mrs. Hajara Adeola, expressed optimism that the partnership would boost economic activities and lead the country out of recession.

In his remarks, Mr. Godwin Ehigiamusoe, Managing Director, LAPO Microfinance Bank, noted that the partnership would enhance productivity of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector and help grow Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Heritage supports 35 young professionals with N50 m grant

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Heritage Bank Plc in partnership with the Nigerian Young Professionals Forum (NYPF) has intensified its support to young entrepreneurs with Grant of N50 million.

The Grant was awarded to about 35 young entrepreneurs in agricultural, creative industry and the information & communication technology (ICT) sector after a rigorous review process conducted by an independent body, out of the tens of thousands who applied for the grant.

Speaking at the award ceremony held in Lagos, the MD/CEO of Heritage Bank, Mr. Ifie Sekibo, affirmed that the 35 successful entrepreneurs will be provided with the required guidance on fund management as individual beneficiaries would get at most N2 million each.

Sekibo who was represented by the Divisional Head, Retail/SME, Mrs. Ori Ogba stated that the bank supported this initiative because of its belief in Nigerian youths, who make up about

80 percent of the country's population.

Ogba expressed her satisfaction in the long term sustainability of the initiative, stating, "We will not support something that will not stand the test of time."

In his remarks, Mr. Moses Siasia, the Chairman/Founder of the NYPF said the idea of the Grant was born out of the desperation of young Nigerians to build businesses in an economy fraught with a seemingly endless onslaught of challenges.

YES Grant Brand Ambassador Mrs. Stephanie Okereke-Linus congratulated the winners of the Grants and praised Heritage Bank for its commitment to young people. She advised other banks to emulate Heritage Bank, while seeking beneficiaries to put the money received to good use.

30-year-old Paul Okoroafor owner of Santa Paulo Delakusa one of the beneficiaries who received the sum of N2 million said the fund will be used for full oil palm production. He expressed gratitude to the NYPF and Heritage Bank for giving hope to them.

FirstMobile increases transaction limit on App

First Bank of Nigeria Limited has announced increased transaction limits on its FirstMobile Lifestyle app to a maximum daily limit of N150,000.00 without the use of a token and a total daily transaction limit of N1,000,000 (One million Naira). This development would boost convenience and ease of banking as well as enhance customers' digital banking experience in line with the Bank's commitment to offer value-added services that suit the lifestyles of its customers.

In December 2016, FirstMobile recorded a milestone in its user numbers with the attainment of 1 million active users while over

N1.3 trillion transaction volume has been consummated using the FirstMobile app since its launch in 2015.

According to the Head, Digital Banking at FirstBank, Mrs. Folasade Femi-Lawal, the Bank will continue to leverage evolving technologies to support consumers' lifestyle by providing them with a suite of financial options in a convenient and highly secure environment. FirstBank's digital innovations were rewarded with awards in 2016 which include the Asian Banker award for Best Mobile Payments and the Global Finance Digital Bank of Distinction



Group Managing Director, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Maikanti Baru (left) and the Director, Media Trust Limited, Mallam Umar Abdullahi at a meeting between the management of two organisations in Abuja, Last Thursday.



From left: CCECC project manager Mr. Weng Wang, the Minister of State Aviation, Hadi Sirika and the Managing Director, FAAN, Salleh Dunoma at the inspection of the new terminal building under construction at the Malam Aminu International Airport Kano yesterday.



Divisional Head, Retail/SME of Heritage Bank Plc, Mrs. Ori Ogba, receives an Award of Recognition on behalf of the MD/CEO of the bank, Mr. Ifie Sekibo, as Nigeria's No. 1 Youth SME Friendly Bank in Nigeria from the Chairman of Nigerian Young Professional Forum (NYPF), Mr. Moses Siloko Siasia at the YES Grant Award Ceremony recently.



Chairman and Chief Coordinator of Africa International Investment Summit and Expo, Mr. Angelo Peter Elosia (right), chats with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi (left), at the Africa International Investment Summit and Expo in Abuja at the weekend. With them is the Economic and Commercial Counsellor at the Embassy of Spain in Nigeria, Mr. Pablo Segrelles
Photo: NAN

NEWS >>

Ajaokuta Steel Company gets N4.3bn for revival

By Ademola Adebayo

The federal government has allocated over N4 billion for the resuscitation of the Ajaokuta Steel Company. The allocation is contained in the 2017 appropriation budget which was presented to the National Assembly in December by President Muhammadu Buhari.

According to the breakdown, a total sum of N4,272,797,371 was appropriated, higher than the N3.9 billion budgeted for 2016.

Minister of Mines and Steel Development, Dr. Fayemi Kayode, had reiterated the commitment of

the federal government to settle all litigations between it and Global Steel Holdings Limited, as regards the steel company.

The company is Nigeria's leading steel plant, and was intended to be the leading supplier of quality steel products in all the major economic sectors including construction, packaging and wire drawing/nail making industry.

Since its inauguration in 1983, however, the plant had been embroiled in managerial inaptitude, controversy ranging from allegations of obsolete machines and outdated blast furnace model. Despite its initial completion,

the plant had suffered years of neglect under successive administrations.

According to the ministry's budget, the Nigerian Geological Survey Agency (NGSA) got N3.8 billion, chiefly for the generation of geological data which hadn't been updated recently.

The National Metallurgical Development Centre, Jos got N821 million, the Metallurgical Training Institute, Onitsha got N722 million, while the Nigerian Institute of Mining and Geosciences was allocated N472 million.

About N99 million was earmarked for Artisanal Mines and Registration Mineral Buying Centres.

Nigeria exported more lead, zinc ore in 2014 - NEITI

By Ademola Adebayo

The Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) has said a total of 67,164.02 tons of lead and zinc ore worth \$23,561,886.63 were extracted and exported from the country in 2014, making them the highest exported solid minerals in the country for that period.

NEITI, which made the revelation in its 2014 audit report of activities in the country's solid minerals sector which it released recently in Abuja, also said the total value of exported solid minerals from the country within the period was \$26,136,471.87.

According to it, a total of 67,164.02 tons of lead and zinc ore worth \$23,561,886.63 were extracted and exported from the country in 2014, making them the highest exported solid minerals in the country for that period.

Following this were columbite and gold ore and concentrates (ounces) with extracted volumes and export worth of 960 and 500 tons, as well as \$721,806.60 and \$600,000 respectively. Also mined and exported in 2014 was 773.80 tons of copper ore worth \$466,568.90.

NEITI equally noted that while Nigeria's total export at Free on Board (FOB) in 2014 was \$2,497,445,196.64 excluding oil and gas, the solid minerals sector accounted for about four per cent of this total export.

According to it, the sector also contributed 0.11 per cent to the country's Gross Domestic Products (GDP) ratio within the year.

Customs intercepts contraband worth N893m in Lagos, Ogun

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

The Nigeria Customs Service, Federal Operations Unit, Zone 'A' Ikeja, Lagos in the month of December 2016 alone intercepted various contraband with a duty paid value (DPV) of N893,873,250.

In same vein, the unit through its interventions recovered N494,416,975.92 from duty payments and demand notices on vehicles and other general goods that tried to beat the system from seaports, airport and border stations in the guise of false declaration, transfer of value, and shortchange in duty payment that are meant for the Federal Government of Nigeria.

This amount makes it a cumulative

of N1,388,290,225.92.

This huge recovery in the history of the unit in one month was attributed to the leadership by example and motivation the comptroller general gave to the officers and men of the unit when he assumed duty and some appreciable compliance levels of some patriotic Nigerians who voluntarily paid appropriate duties on their goods and vehicles before the deadline on the ban of vehicles through the land borders which was January 1, 2017.

While commending the officers and men of the unit for living up to their statutory responsibilities in suppression of smuggling and enhancing trade facilitation towards sustaining best international

standards, the Controller, Federal Operations Unit 'A', Comptroller Haruna Mamudu, thanked the Comptroller General of Customs, retired Col. Hameed Ibrahim Ali, for his effort in appreciating hard work and diligence to duty, and for always been there in giving helping hands when the need arose.

In another development, the unit also arraigned two Chinese smugglers, Messrs. Shu Xiang Quan and Wu Sheng He and a Nigerian, Mr. Ugochukwu Frank, before Hon. Justice Mohammed Hassan of the Federal High Court, Ikoyi Lagos State on December 29, 2016 on four counts charge of storing and exporting prohibited items.

sage

Business Building

The 37 million micro, small, and medium-size enterprises in Nigeria hold the key to unlocking the country's growth and prosperity. Magnus Nmonwu, Regional Director for Sage in West Africa offers some New Year's resolutions that can help Nigeria's business builders to get a good start to 2017.

1. Set targets and goals for 2017

As the New Year approaches, consider your objectives for the calendar year ahead. Focus especially on the aspects of your business that you neglect in day-to-day survival.

- Do you want to target new customer segments?
- Fix up your ageing IT setup? For example, you could look at simplifying business accounting with a solution from Sage, the market leader for integrated accounting and payroll systems.
- Hire new staff members?
- Write down each goal, along with a deadline and a metric for success.

2. Get in touch with your customers

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3. Freshen up your marketing

A New Year is as good a time as any to give your business a fresh coat of marketing paint. Why not audit your website, brochures, business cards and other marketing materials to ensure that they're up-to-date and that the content is professionally presented?

4. Think about training for yourself and your team

In a business world that moves as fast as ours, it's important to stay up to date with the latest trends. Think about the gaps in your and your team's skills and knowledge and book some courses and seminars. The Sage 300 HR solution allows you to track the training that has been delivered to your staff, and plan for new or refresher training for your entire team.

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New Year Resolutions
for Businesses in Nigeria



**OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE ABUJA**

INTEGRATED PERSONNEL & PAYROLL INFORMATION SYSTEM (IPPIS)

VERIFICATION AND BIOMETRIC CAPTURE OF ALL POLICE OFFICERS AND CIVILIAN STAFF IN FCT, BAUCH, GOMBE, ANAMBRA, ENUGU, RIVERS AND CROSS RIVER STATE COMMANDS BY THE OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION IN COLLABORATION WITH POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION AND THE NIGERIA POLICE.

This is to inform all **Police Officers** and **Civilian Staff** on the Payroll of Police in FCT, Bauchi, Gombe, Anambra, Enugu, Rivers and Cross River State Commands, that the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation (IPPIS Department), in collaboration with Police Service Commission and Nigeria Police, has concluded arrangement to carry out an exercise for the verification and Biometric Capture of all **Police Officers** and **Civilian Staff** to commence in Seven State Commands namely, FCT, Bauchi, Gombe, Anambra, Enugu, Rivers and Cross River. The exercise is in line with Federal Government's directive that Nigeria Police and all other Agencies of Government drawing their personnel cost from the Treasury should be brought into the Integrated Personnel & Payroll Information System (IPPIS) Platform. It is to be completed in 21 days in each of the commands.

2. The assignment would commence on Monday 9th January 2017 and the time for the exercise in all centres is from 9.00 am to 6.00pm daily. Below is the detailed Timetable of the exercise.

FCT, Bauch, Gombe, Anambra, Enugu, Rivers and Cross River from 9th - 29th January 2017

S/N	NAME OF CENTRE	ADDRESS OF CENTRE
1	POWA I	Opposite Force Headquarters Abuja
2	Gwagwalada Area Command	Gwagwalada
3	Maitama Area Command	Maitama
4	Kubwa Area Command	Kubwa
5	Police Officer MESS Garki	Garki
6	Karu Divisional Hqtrs	Karu
7	Lugbe Divisional Hqtrs	Lugbe
8	Peace Keeping Centre Abuja	Behind Force Headquarters
9	GHQ Mss Garki	Garki
10	POWA II	Opposite Force Headquarters Abuja
11	MD Abubakar Barracks Deidei	Deidei

Anambra State

SN	Centre	Location
1	Awka Police State HQTRS	Awka
2	Nnewi Area Command	Area Commander's Office
3	Central Police station Onitsha	Onitsha

Bauchi State

SN	Centre	Location
1	State Head Quarters	Bauchi Town
2	Metro Police Command	Bauchi town
3	Ningi Police Command	Ningi Town
4	Area Command Azare	Azare Town

Enugu State

SN	Centre	Location
1	State Headquarters	Enugu Town
2	Enugu Area Command	Enugu Town
3	Nsuka Area Command	Nsukka
4	Orji River Area Command	Police College Orji River

Gombe State

SN	Centre	Location
1	State Police Headquarters	Gombe town
2	Gombe Central Area Command	Gombe Town
3	Billiri Area Command	Billiri Town
4	Bajoga Area Command	Bajoga Town

Cross River State

SN	Centre	Location
1	State Police Headquarters	Calabar
2	Calabar Area Command	Calabar
3	Police Training School Odukpani	Calabar
4	Ikom Area Command	Ikom
5	Obudu Division	Obudu
6	Ogoja Area Command	Ogoja

Rivers State

SN	Centre	Location
1	Department of Finance and Admin State HQ PH	Port Harcourt
2	Area Command Port Harcourt	Port Harcourt
3	Area Command Ahoada	Ahoada
4	Area Command Bori	Bori
5	State CIID	Port Harcourt
6	19 Police Mobile Force	Port Harcourt

3. **All Officers** including **Civilian Staff** working in the Police are to come along with the **originals** and **two copies** of the following documents:
- Letter of employment for Officers;
 - Letter of Last Promotion;
 - Copy of Bank Statement/Cheque leaf
 - Police Identification Card;
 - Staff Identification Card (for Civilian Staff);
 - Service Number;
 - File number (for Civilian Staff);
 - Proof of year of entry for the rank and file (sergeant and below);
 - Birth certificate (Proof of Age);
 - Educational Qualifications;
 - Pension Fund Administrator and the RSA number from PFA; and
 - Bank Verification Number Copy obtained from the Bank.
4. The **Originals** of the above documents **must** be presented to the verification Team for sighting.
5. Please, note that this exercise is very important, as it will form the basis of enrolling all verified Officers on the IPPIS platform for the payment of salaries after the exercise is completed. Any Officer who fails to appear for this exercise will have his or her name deleted from the Police Payroll.

Signed
Accountant-General of the Federation



CITY NEWS

Vigilantes kill two suspected robbers in shootout near Abaji

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Two suspected robbers were shot dead by members of a vigilante group in the early hours of Saturday morning at Tashar-Fulani, near Ukya village on Abaji-Toto road.

Our reporter learnt that one of the robbers escaped with bullet wounds from the exchange of gunshots with members of the vigilante.

A driver, identified as Aliyu, who escaped the robbery attack, said the incident happened at 4:12a.m., when the robbers emerged at a sharp bend near Tashar-Fulani to attack

motorists.

He said the vigilantes who laid ambush on both lanes, opened fire on the robbers, as they started flagging down oncoming vehicles from Toto town.

He said it was in the exchange of gunfire that two of the robbers were killed and one of them escaped with bullet wounds.

"You know the vigilante took them by surprise; the robbers were thinking that they have left the checkpoint not knowing that they divided themselves into two groups and laid ambush on them as they were about to carry out an operation," he said.

Aliyu, who said he was

carrying passengers from Abaji on his way to Toto town, said he applied the brakes and reversed his car when the robbers emerged from the bush.

Our reporter learnt that the suspected robbers had been terrorising motorists plying the Abaji-Toto road on a daily basis, a situation which forced authorities of Toto Local Government and Rubochi to set up the vigilante group at sharp bends where the robbers always targeted motorists.

A police source at Toto division, who preferred anonymity confirmed the incident, saying the two corpses

of the robbers have been handed over to the police at Abaji division.

When contacted, the Abaji Divisional Police Officer (DPO), CSP David Kolo, confirmed the incident, even though he said the two corpses were handed over to the Rubochi police division.

"Actually, the place where the incident happened was not under my jurisdiction so when the Toto police brought the two corpses, we called on Rubochi police division and handed over the corpses to them," the Abaji DPO said via telephone to our reporter.

Two injured as vehicles collide at Dabi village

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Two persons sustained injuries in a head-on collision that involved two vehicles on Saturday evening at Dabi village on the Abuja-Lokoja road.

A witness said the accident happened at 3:42p.m. and involved a Toyota Camry car with registration number YJG 588 MB and a Volkswagen Golf with registration number MNA 245 NA.

He said the Toyota car, which was coming from Lokoja axis, overtook another vehicle and collided with the Golf coming from Gwagwalada end.

He said the accident left the Golf car driver and one other person wounded.

"It was the Golf driver and one other person sitting beside him that sustained injuries and were taken to hospital by a police patrol team that arrived the scene," he said.

Our reporter, who arrived the scene shortly after the accident, saw policemen and sympathisers gathered at the scene as argument ensued between the Toyota car driver and some sympathisers who were blaming him for the accident.

When contacted, the Yangoji unit head of operation of the FRSC, Mr. A. D. Amadi, said the command was not aware of the accident.



■ A risky ride along Kubwa expressway in Abuja at the weekend

Photo: Ukeoma Modestus

FCT minister warns vandals

By Mulikatu Mukaila

The FCT Minister, Malam Muhammad Musa Bello, has warned criminals who vandalised public property that security agencies will clamp down on them soon.

The minister who chaired a security meeting in Abuja to review the activities of the year 2016 and proactively chart a new course for 2017, at the weekend, said the committee will also take decisive action against scavengers.

"The committee resolved that vandalization of public utilities in the Federal Capital Territory must be stopped forthwith, as the security agents would clamp down on any suspected vandal and be made to face the full wrath of the law," a statement of the FCTA said.

The committee noted that most of the traffic lights in Abuja metropolis have

been vandalised, which has led to signal failure in such interchanges.

Bello appreciated the support the FCT Administration has been enjoying from the FCT security community and called for closer collaboration in 2017 and beyond.

Malam Bello reiterated that the FCT Administration would give serious attention to the problems of traffic offenders, illegal activities of commercial motorcyclists, vandalization of public utilities, restricting of Keke Napep to designated areas, which are the estates, among others.

The minister emphasised that abandoned and uncompleted buildings across the Federal Capital City would be properly monitored and asked their owners to take proper possession as they would be held responsible for any security breach in such places.

Malam Bello also directed the security agents to also restrict the activities of scavengers to dumpsites and arrest any of them found roaming around the city.

He announced that the FCT Judiciary has already assigned five magistrates who are expected to man five mobile courts to deal with all such problems.

The minister also said commercial sex workers when arrested would be taken to the Rehabilitation Centre in Lugbe for skills acquisition in order to be more useful to themselves and the society.

Malam Bello also directed the FCT Police Commissioner and the FCT Director of DSS to immediately meet with the graded traditional rulers in the FCT as well as the chairmen of the six area councils to strengthen collaboration and fine-tune ways of getting useful intelligence from the grassroots.

2017 Hajj: Board bans proxy payment, bulk form purchase

By Taiwo Adeniyi

The Federal Capital Territory Muslims Pilgrims Welfare Board has said it will not entertain payment by proxy and bulk purchase of forms for the exercise by individuals.

The board also said it is set to commence the registration of intending pilgrims for the 2017 hajj from Monday January 16, across the six area councils of the territory.

A statement from the board's spokesperson, Muhammad Lawal Aliyu, said intending pilgrims who wish to perform the pilgrimage through the board are to present a bank draft of minimum of N1 million payable to the FCT Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Board, Abuja.

He said they would also need their international passport to book for a seat.

Similarly, all intending pilgrims must be guaranteed

by the chief imam of their area council or a traditional ruler or a senior civil servant of not less than grade level 12 as contained in the guidelines for the registration of the 2017 intending pilgrims by the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON).

Muhammad Lawal said intending female pilgrims would only be registered with their male guide (*Muhrim*) in line with the Saudi Arabian government regulations.

Similarly, the board has introduced measures to ensure proficiency and guard against fraud in this year's hajj exercise.

The measures, according to the board, are aimed at ensuring transparency in the sales of the 2017 hajj forms and ensuring that intending pilgrims from the territory get the best service in the history of hajj operations in the FCT.

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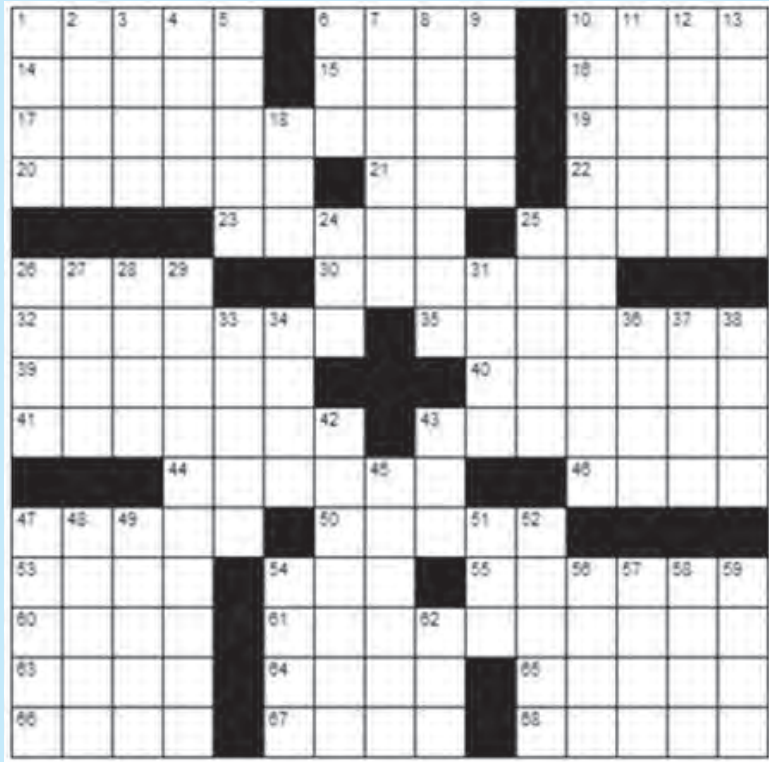
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S/N	NAME OF COMPANY	RC NO	DATE OF INCORPORATION	ADDRESS	PROPOSED CEO	DIRECTORS
1.	Dolphin Insurance Brokers Ltd	1326677	5 th April, 2016	23b, Suez Crescent, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja	Mr. Solomon Adeoye Oyebade	Daiyabu Mohammed, Ibrahim Mohammed, Shehu Abubakar, Nasiru Koguna, Solomon Adeoye Oyebade
2.	Hafaz Insurance Brokers Ltd	652192	3 rd May, 2006	Plot 2, Daid House, Block J, Limca/Cowbell Way, Isolo, Lagos.	Mr. Yekini, Abiodun Alao	Yekini Abiodun Alao, Babatunde Salawudeen, Titilayo Lediju
3.	Merchant hall Insurance Brokers Ltd	1259560	7 th May, 2015	No 9, Abdou Diouf Street, Asokoro Abuja	Mr. Clifford Osuji Ejigini	Barr. Clifford Osuji Ejigini, Uloma Uwaoma Ibe, Adedayo Adeoye, Dr. Paddy Njoku
4.	Metro Risks Insurance Brokers Ltd	1047429	4 th July, 2012	2, Waico Street, Water Resources, behind UBA Plc, Effurun /Sapele Road, Effurun Warri, Delta State.	Mr. Komi Benjamin Erere	Emmanuel Okechuku Achusim, Komi Benjamin Erere
5.	Giant Strides Insurance Brokers Ltd	685424	20 th March, 2007	10, C Close 712 Road, Festac Town, Lagos.	Mrs. Scholastica Uche Manufor	Joyce Ndidiamaka Modilim, Scholastica Uche Manufor, Patrick Modilim, Olumide Mabawonku, Samuel Okunsebor, Segun Omoregie
6.	Magnetic Insurance Brokers Ltd	924516	1 st December, 2010	No 1, Christ Embassy Close, Thomas Estate, Ajah-Lekki, Lagos	Mr. Akanbi Ferdinand Charles Adetokunbo	Chief Adefarati Tunde, Felix Akanbi, Lady Akanbi Deborah, Akanbi Ferdinand Charles Adetokunbo
7.	Nino-Kay Insurance Brokers Ltd	702298	3 rd August, 2007	Suite H-48, B/W Roads 3 & 4 Ikota Shopping Complex, VGC, Lekki, Lagos.	Mr. Ugo Alexius Chinenyeze	Charles I. Nsirim, Ugoh Alexius Chinenyeze, Charles Orji

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MANAGEMENT**

(475)

EASY CROSSWORD >>



ACROSS

- 1. A piece of information
- 6. Shower alternative
- 10. Conceal
- 14. A kind of macaw
- 15. Hairdo
- 16. Dwarf buffalo
- 17. Greatly pleasing
- 19. Flows
- 20. Highly seasoned fatty sausage
- 21. Belief
- 22. A climbing plant
- 23. Not together
- 25. Floral leaf
- 26. Cap
- 30. Besmirches
- 32. Inshore
- 35. Commemoration
- 39. Wicker material
- 40. Evening event
- 41. Honorable
- 43. Final
- 44. Environment
- 46. Stare
- 47. Delicacy
- 50. Close-knit group
- 53. Stop
- 54. Aye
- 55. Wears away
- 60. Decorative case

DOWN

- 1. Fathers
- 2. District
- 3. Gangly
- 4. Murre
- 5. Lava
- 6. Louisville Slugger
- 7. Aver
- 8. Members of a governing board
- 9. Low, flat land
- 10. Reaping
- 11. Eskimo
- 12. An Italian woman of rank
- 13. Artist's workstand
- 18. Pelvis
- 24. American Sign Language
- 25. Earlier in time
- 26. Unit of land
- 27. Jacket
- 28. Arithmetic
- 29. Appraisal
- 31. Church alcove
- 33. Implied
- 34. A Freudian stage
- 36. Diva's solo
- 37. Chick's sound
- 38. Not there
- 42. Permit
- 43. Clunker
- 45. A Christian celebration
- 47. Not here
- 48. Deserved
- 49. Avoid
- 51. Regulation (abbrev.)
- 52. Jagged
- 54. Wail
- 56. 1 1 1 1
- 57. A soft return in tennis
- 58. Feudal worker
- 59. Celebrity
- 62. Request

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (474)



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

749

Solution to Sudoku 748

			6	3					2	1	9	6	3	8	7	4	5
9		4	7						5	4	6	1	9	7	8	3	2
					4	2			8	7	3	5	4	2	6	9	1
5			8					7	1	9	2	7	8	3	4	5	6
	6	2			8				7	6	4	9	5	1	3	2	8
					5	6			3	5	8	2	6	4	1	7	9
4	5		7		1				9	8	5	3	7	6	2	1	4
1			3		6	5			6	3	1	4	2	9	5	8	7
	8		1	5			4		4	2	7	8	1	5	9	6	3

SNAPSHOT >>

Horse 'cries', breaks down at his beloved owner's funeral



Head slumped, whining and sighing, this horse appears to be crying at his owner's funeral. Grieving friends and family of Wagner de Lima Figueiredo, 34, filmed his horse as the animal laid his head on his owner's coffin (above) as if he was mourning. Sereno the horse was taken to the funeral by Wagner's brother, Wando de Lima, on Tuesday in Paraiba, north east Brazil. The two had a very close relationship, according to those who knew them. Thousands have been moved by the farewell from the horse and have shared the story online. Mr de Lima said: "This horse was everything to Wagner, it was as if the horse knew what was happening and wanted to say goodbye." Mr Figueireda died in a motorcycle accident on New Year's Day after losing control of his bike while riding along a beach front in the city.

Photo: Caters News Agency

SIGN LANGUAGE >>



■ Silly name for a hotel business! Photo location: Gulangyu, China. Spotted by: Marko Aamunkajo.

Culled from english.com



NATIONAL HOSPITAL ABUJA

(Established by Act No. 36 of 1999)

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for recruitment at the National Hospital, Abuja for the under listed posts:

1. Consultants:

- 1.1 Consultant; Anaesthesia
- 1.2 Consultant; Paediatrics (Cardiology)
- 1.3 Consultant; Chemical Pathology
- 1.4 Consultant; Urology
- 1.5 Consultant; Clinical Microbiologist

Qualification: Candidates must possess MBBS, NYSC Discharge or Exemption Certificate, current registration/practicing licence with Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria, Fellowship of the National Post-Graduate Medical College of Nigeria or its equivalent in the relevant specialty.

2. Residency Training Posts (Tenured Positions):

- i) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Anaesthesia
- ii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of General Surgery
- iii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Orthopaedics
- iv) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- v) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Ophthalmology
- vi) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of ENT
- vii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Dental & Maxillofacial
- viii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Oncology/Radiotherapy
- ix) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Radiology
- x) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Nuclear Medicine
- xi) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Internal Medicine
- xii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Psychiatry
- xiii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Family Medicine
- xiv) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Paediatrics
- xv) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Chemical Pathology
- xvi) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Histopathology
- xvii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Microbiology
- xviii) Junior Resident Doctors in the Department of Haematology

Qualifications: Candidates must possess:

- a) MBBS Certificate;
- b) NYSC Discharge Certificate or Certificate of Exemption;
- c) Certificate of Registration/Practicing Licence of the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria;
- d) Pass in the Primary Fellowship Examination of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria or its equivalent in the relevant specialty, within the past 4 years.

3. Nursing Officers II (Peri Operative):

Qualifications:

- a) Candidates must possess RN;
- b) NYSC Discharge Certificate or Certificate of Exemption;
- c) Post-basic Certificate in Peri Operative Nursing, Cardiothoracic/Intensive Care Nursing.
- d) Current registration and practicing licence of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN); and have,
- e) Not less than 2 years cognate experience

Interested candidates with relevant qualifications should forward their applications with their detailed Curriculum Vitae to:

**The Chief Medical Director
National Hospital
Plot 132 Central District (Phase II)
P. M. B. 425 Garki
Abuja**

The applications should be submitted not later than **Six Weeks** from the date of this advertisement. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview.

(Sgd)
Management



Federal Government of Nigeria Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development FGN/IFAD assisted Value Chain Development Programme

Invitation to Tender

Loan No :- 868NG
Bid No : ITT/VCDP/NCB/WKS/2017/01
Bid Issue Date :- 9th January 2017
Bid Opening Date :- 9th February 2017

1. This Specific Procurement Notice (SPN) follows the publication of the General Procurement Notice GPN for this Programme, which appeared in the UN Development Business Issue No 533-10/15 dated 20th October 2015.

2. The Federal Government of Nigeria is implementing a six years FGN/IFAD assisted Value Chain Development Programme (FGN/IFAD VCDP) in the six States of Anambra, Benue, Ebonyi, Ogun, Niger and Taraba and five Local Government Areas each in all the States. The Programme aim is to directly improve the livelihoods of approximately 53,480 households (45,000 smallholder farmers, 7,680 small scale processors and 800 marketers) and to benefit indirectly approximately 22,000 households. The primary and secondary target groups include but not limited to poor rural households engaged in the cassava and rice value chains and downstream stakeholders. Of importance are processors linked to a large number of the primary target groups. Farmers and Processing Organisations are to be strengthened to sustainably manage the marketing infrastructures supported by the Programme.

3. The National Programme Management Unit (NPMU), Value Chain Development Programme invites sealed bids from prospective bidders for the construction of Agro Processing Infrastructure in Taraba State. The number and identification of lots comprising the Tender as well as the required Bid security are:

Lots	Item	Nos	Project Description	Location	Bid Security
1	i	1 unit	Construction of Rice mill	Tella Cluster, Tella LGA	At least one million naira (₦1,000,000)
	ii	1 unit	Construction of Par-boiling shed and drying slab	Tella Cluster, Tella LGA	
2		1 unit	Construction of Briquette Shed	Tella Cluster, Tella LGA	Ditto
3		1 unit	Warehouse	Tella Cluster, Tella LGA	Ditto
4	i	1 unit	Construction of Rice mill	Wukari Cluster, Wukari LGA	At least one million naira (₦1,000,000)
	ii	1 unit	Construction of Par-boiling shed and drying slab	Wukari Cluster, Wukari LGA	
5		1 unit	Warehouse	Wukari Cluster, Wukari LGA	Ditto
6		1 unit	Construction of Briquette Shed	Wukari Cluster, Wukari LGA	Ditto
7		1 unit	Cassava Mill (Chips)	Koppi Cluster, Gassol LGA	Ditto

4. Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid Opening and must be accompanied by security for each lot as indicated above.

5. Bidders may bid for one or more lots. Unconditional discounts offered will be considered in bid evaluation.

6. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure specified in the IFAD procurement guidelines 2010 which is available in the IFAD website International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) "Project Procurement Guidelines edition 2010" on the Fund's website at <http://www.ifad.org/en/projects-and-operations/procurement/resources-for-borrowers/policies-procedures/>

7. Complete set of bidding documents for any of the lots may be purchased at the Office addresses below upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Fifteen thousand Naira only (N15,000.00) for the initial Lot and Ten thousand only (N10,000.00) for any additional Lot(s). Payments are to be in certified bank drafts in favour of FGN/IFAD Value Chain Development Programme.

- 1) National Programme Coordinator,
National Programme Management Unit (NPMU), Value Chain Development Programme,
3B Lake Kariba Close, Off Mississippi Street, Near Belgium Embassy, Maitama, Abuja-Nigeria
E-Mail: vcdpnmpu@gmail.com
OR
- 2) State Programme Coordinator,
Taraba State IFAD Assisted VCDP, TADP Old Office Complex, Along Wukari Road, Jalingo, Taraba State
Email: tarabasvcdp@yahoo.com

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the same addresses. The instructions to bidders and general conditions of contract contained in the bidding documents comply with the Federal Government of Nigeria Standard Bidding Documents SBD for the procurement of Works.

8.0 Bids shall be delivered/submitted only at the :-

Taraba State VCDP Project Management Unit at the office address above (Address 2)
Taraba State IFAD Assisted VCDP, TADP Old Office Complex, Along Wukari Road, Jalingo, Taraba State
Latest by 12 noon local time on 9th February, 2017. Please note that late bids and electronic bid submission will not be entertained.

9.0 Bids will be opened only at the same address:-

Taraba State IFAD Assisted VCDP, TADP Old Office Complex, Along Wukari Road, Jalingo, Taraba State
at **12 noon local time** on the same date 9th February 2017 and in the presence of bidders representatives who choose to attend.

(Signed)
Management
FGN/IFAD Value Chain Development Programme.
3B, Lake Kariba Close, Maitama, Abuja

EVERYDAY TECHNOLOGY

with Prof. Foluso **Ladeinde**

State University of New York, Stony Brook, USA

foluso.ladeinde@gmail.com



Nipping China's semiconductor manufacturing ambition in the bud

It's a familiar story in the evolution of technology in China: start at the bottom rung of the ladder in a particular technology, come up with a humongous vision to compete and lead, diligently develop workable plans that could be used to realize the vision, pump in "billions" of people and dollars into the plans, follow through with the plans by hook or crook, and persistently work the plans independent of adversity.

In most of these technology areas, the US has always been the leader and the incumbent to beat. This has been the case for the aerospace industry, the computer industry, and, to some extent, the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry. The Chinese semiconductor (SC) industry - the industry that manufactures computer chips, amongst other highly sensitive national security-related products - may also be going through a similar path. A decade or so ago, China had essentially zero portfolio in the SC industry. The country did not have a single domestic manufacturer among the top 10 biggest computer chip makers, with US companies dominating the list. Moreover, Chinese homegrown chips accounted for less than one-tenth of the local demand. In 2013, China spent more money importing chips than it did importing oil.

China's motivations in upping its SC portfolio include reducing its dependence on foreign technology, especially in the face of the back-and-forth on cyber espionage with the US. In mid-2015, it was reported that China was investing as much as \$161 billion over 10 years to develop chips. China's success in the endeavor will not only limit the amount of imported SCs; in the long run, China could actually start exporting the stuff. Thus, current industry leaders - which are mostly in the US - have a good reason to be nervous, since everything in China is big: China could mass produce computer chips, with the capability to export them to many countries of the world. In Asia tech landscape, this could be déjà vu all over again, as South Korea and Taiwan used a similar strategy in the 1980s to accelerate the rise of Samsung Electronics and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing. (Less than 12 percent of the sales from either of these two countries come from its domestic home market.)

The foreign SC industry leaders are making some preemptive moves to make conditions favorable for China to do business with them. Ian King of Bloomberg (25 June 2015) notes that, "Even the most advanced companies in the \$300 billion chip business are spending more cash and sharing more technology so they can keep hawking their wares in China. Qualcomm, the world's biggest maker of mobile processors and modems, paid a \$975 million fine in February to settle a Chinese antitrust investigation; it also reduced the fees it charges Chinese phone makers to use its chips. Qualcomm has announced a \$150 million China investment fund,

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promised to set up a joint venture to design server chips in the mountainous southwestern province of Guizhou, and teamed with Chinese companies. It has agreed to outsource some production to Shanghai-based Semiconductor Manufacturing International."

Intel, who realized 20 percent of its \$56 billion annual revenue in 2015 from China, has committed more than \$3 billion since September 2015 to upgrade its Chinese plants and invest in Chinese-government-run mobile chipmakers. As King states, Intel has managed to avoid roadblocks from Chinese regulators, as has NXP - the Dutch SC company who realized 49% of its 2014 sales from China - which, through a joint venture with Datang Telecom Technology, has become China's biggest supplier of chips used in cars and trucks.

It is not difficult to imagine that foreign chip makers like Qualcomm, Intel, and NXP, will do okay in China only as long as China needs them. When this equilibrium changes and China can handle the tech challenges on its own, the companies will most likely be shown the way back home. As King notes, the foreign chipmakers' advantage is experience in building and operating the factories that drive the business. "A state-of-the-art plant costs more than \$5 billion to build and equip and can become obsolete in as little as five years." Until Chinese companies can match the technology and designs of foreign partners, they'll need help. Thus, when China eventually perfects the chip-making technology, the foreign companies will most likely be hit with China's protectionist stick, and eventually be sent packing.

The prospect described in the foregoing might as well form a basis for the US government's decision to block China's efforts to acquire SC manufacturing companies from the West. In particular, a report out last Friday, 6 January 2017, recommends that steps be taken to defend US's dominance of high-end SC market against a potentially stiff Chinese challenge. A crucial factor is the fact that semiconductors are key to national defense. The report urged policy-makers to "respond forcefully" if Chinese economic policies, such as subsidies aimed at building Chinese expertise in semiconductors, "limit the access of U.S. companies or thwart U.S. exports."

We are not responsible for set-top boxes' activation hiccups - Pinnacle

By Zakariyya Adaramola

One of the licensed signal distributors in the TV Digital Switch over process, Pinnacle Communications Limited, has said it is not responsible for set-top boxes' activation hiccups experienced by some residents of Abuja.

The Abuja digital television platform was switched on three weeks ago at the Pinnacle Broadcast Centre by President Muhammad Buhari, who was represented by Vice President Yemi Osibanjo.

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) had given Nigeria up to June 20 to switch off its analogue TV broadcast. The Abuja switch on ceremony therefore signaled the gradual phase-out of analogue TV in the country. However, controversy has been trailing the activation of some of the set-top boxes

that were used after the hitch-free Digital Switch Over (DSO). But Pinnacle Communications Limited, the signal distributor in charge of Abuja, said at the weekend that it was not the company making or activating the set-top boxes.

It said in a statement: "It is on record that the contract to produce and supply set-top boxes were awarded to about seven different companies by the Emeka Mba's led National Broadcasting Commission (Pinnacle Communications not included) and these companies were saddled with the activation of the set up boxes which experienced some hiccups after the switch-on. "During the commissioning of the Pinnacle Broadcast Centre by President Muhammadu Buhari who was represented by Vice President, Yemi Osinbanjo, he lauded the successful launch of the pilot scheme in Jos in April,

which he said has clearly demonstrated the gains of digitization, stressing that the development has encouraged indigenous companies to invest in manufacturing of Set-Top-Boxes (STBs).

"Pinnacle Communications was quite visible in the process that culminated to Digital Switch Over (DSO) from analogue to digital terrestrial TV broadcasting in Abuja on account of being a major player in the setting up of the Abuja platform at the Pinnacle Broadcast Centre, Mpape but it was not in charge of the set up boxes that experienced activation problems".

But to ensure that the hitches regarding the activation of the set top boxes were nip in the bud, the NBC on its Facebook page directed Abuja TV viewers to send their decoder unique ID as SMS to 09099966669, adding that it regrets any inconvenience the hitches might have caused the viewers.

LG introduces deep learning technology at CES



■ LG robot vacuum cleaner

By Zakariyya Adaramola

LG Electronics (LG) says it has delivered an unparalleled convenience into the home with deep learning technology unveiled at CES 2017 at the weekend.

LG deep learning technology will allow home appliances to better understand their users by gathering and studying customers' lifestyle patterns over time, according to the electronics manufacturer.

This process never ends and improves over time to provide customers with new solutions to everyday problems, it said in a statement at the weekend.

Song Dae-hyun, President of LG

Electronics and Home Appliance & Air Solutions Company said: "Using multiple sensors and LG's deep learning technology, LG's newest robot vacuum cleaner will recognize objects around the room and react accordingly.

By capturing surface images of the room, the intelligent cleaner remembers obstacles and learns to avoid them over time. It even recognizes electrical wires and slippers so they don't end up jamming the roller brush and requiring human extraction assistance.

LG robot vacuum can tell the difference between a human and a chair and asks the obstructing person to kindly move

out of the way whereas it will simply manoeuvre around a chair.

"Deep learning technology is the next phase in the evolution of smart appliances, and as an industry leader, we have the responsibility of being an early mover. But even more important than what appliances are capable of will be how companies behave when entrusted with data. At LG, we believe performance and convenience do not mean having to sacrifice security and privacy. They can and should exist simultaneously."

LG's advanced deep learning appliances were displayed at CES 2017 in Las Vegas, USA from Jan. 5-8.



**NIGERIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
JODHPUR NATIONAL UNIVERSITY,
RAJASTHAN, INDIA
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Date: 4th - JAN - 2017

The Executive Governor of Kano State,
Dr Abdullahi Umar Ganduje,
(Khadimul Islam).

Your Excellency Sir,

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Please accept our sincere appreciation for the tremendous supports on behalf of 154 post graduate Students of Jodhpur National University India; we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you for your overwhelming contribution up to the conclusion of our studies.

You have been the best Governor of Kano state since it was established, and we will never forget your commitments and hard work. Sir, we are overwhelmed and will always support this administration of yours due to the immense contribution you have been giving to us and our studies despite the hardship in the country. Sir, you are indeed a hero and father to us and Kano state in general, thank you so much for your enthusiastic contribution.

Lastly, it will be a paramount important and privilege to us and our families if your Excellency accept our request to distribute our Certificates collected just of recent from our school to us.

We have no doubt that it would not have been the success of our studies without your indefatigable effort your Excellency, our father, our mentor, accept our prayers for success in your future political ambitions.

God bless Kano State.

Best regards:

Nabil Isyaku Muaz

President.

ALL CORRESPONDENTS TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY NSAJNU KANO CHAPTER
PATRONS: GOVERNOR.DR. ABDULLAHI UMAR GANDUJE(KHADIMUL ISLAM), USMAN USMAN ALHAJI,
HRH. MUHAMMADU SUNUSI II (EMIR OF KANO),ALHAJI ABDULLAHI ABBAS(APC CHAIMAN KANO)



PROPERTY

By Mustapha Suleiman & Mulikatu Mukaila

The provision of affordable housing has continued to be a challenge for a populous country such as Nigeria. In order to address the myriads of challenges mitigating against effective housing delivery in Nigeria, successive administrations have put in place different measures to make houses affordable and available to Nigerians.

But despite these efforts, houses have been out of reach for most Nigerians and the deficit is put at about 17 million, which is on the high side as per international standard.

The constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has placed high premium on housing for citizens. However, the rapid rate of population has led to a housing deficit presently put at about 17 million units.

Stakeholders are of the opinion that housing and human settlement sector requires a quick turnaround which should not be left to the government alone. They called for the active participation and engagement of the private sector to meet up with the required number of houses desirable for the populace.

Another worrisome issue is the dearth of local skilled artisans and craftsmen in the building and construction industry resulting in extra labour cost, sub standards labour output, influx of foreign expertise/craftsmen of which stakeholders have enjoined government to jumpstart a scheme of construction skills, train the trainer programme to bridge gaps in the standards of housing delivery and curb the incessant rate of building collapses.

Experts in different fora have also called on the Federal Government to actively engage organized society such as shelter Afrique, UN HABITAT, African Urban Age amongst others to facilitate housing delivery in the area of finance and technical facilities, bearing in mind that by 2025, more than 60% of Nigerians will live in cities and will make the desired revolution in the housing sector quickly achievable.

Aside the demand of shelter by Nigerians, the job creation potential of the housing / construction sector is also of paramount importance to both government and people. The housing sector, experts said, is vibrant due to the high demand for housing and hence a huge avenue for the job creation.

A real estate consultant Barrister Festus Adebayo told Daily Trust that there



■ A property in Abuja

Photo: Felix Onigbinde

2017: Experts chart ways for affordable housing delivery

were a lot of challenges in the sector last year which the Minister of Power, Works and Housing Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola should tackle head-on in the year 2017.

He noted that, though, the housing budget is bigger than last year but frightening problems of infrastructures affecting the housing sector may not be enough to solve them.

He cautioned the Federal Ministry of Housing not to independently embark on building of houses, but rather create a conducive environment, emulate policies that would make the private sector to do that.

He said: "When the private sector is involved and a conducive environment is there, necessary laws that will encourage housing development, I can assure you that the job will be easy for us to do. Ministry of Housing should abstain from building housing directly, the worst they can do is to instruct Federal Housing Authorities (FHA) to deliver these houses where it can be competing with the private sector. Fashola should think of how they can engage developers with infrastructure because without infrastructure for estate developers, they

will all be building substandard houses, above all the prices of the houses may not be affordable to the majority of Nigerians."

He said by the time developers add the cost of infrastructure, the cost of land, and the cost of building approval, at the end, the cost of the houses may not be affordable.

He also called for the constitution of the board of Federal Mortgage Bank Nigeria (FMBN), saying, "Since the coming in of Fashola, we don't have the board of FMBN, and the Managing Director has been working in acting capacity, they need to recapitalize and restructure FMBN, as these will make it deliver its mandates."

Adebayo also called for synergy between Federal FMPW&H, Federal Ministry of Finance and other strategic financial stakeholders to make mortgage and housing delivery less cumbersome.

"Somehow there is no relationship between them. The Federal Government should make the Federal Ministry of Housing and Federal Ministry of Finance work together, mortgage is under the Federal Ministry of Finance, NMRC is

also under Federal Ministry of Finance. In 2017 the president should ensure that those establishments that have to do with housing and the Federal Ministry of Housing should work together for the betterment of the nation," he said.

He said the year 2017 should be a year of action for Fashola, saying "we want to be seeing the beneficiaries of affordable houses. We have had enough of diversionary policies."

Also, Aliyu Wamakko Oroji, Deputy President Real Estate Developers Association of Nigeria (REDAN) said the developers and the entire population are in need of infrastructures to make housing delivery cheaper.

He said: "There should be long time mortgages for houses, may be 50 or 25 years so that one will be paying as they rent and the house is yours, this is exactly what the government is trying to do at least everyone can afford a house that you can rent. If you can afford a house to rent, that means you can afford a house, because so many people are paying rent of different category now if you share that your rent into monthly, you will know how much you are paying."

N40tn mortgage needed to address housing shortage

By Mustapha Suleiman

The Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) has said the country needs over N40tr in mortgage finance to address the present housing shortage.

The bank, in a document, noted that the mortgage finance must be affordable to have the desired effect.

According to the bank, home ownership rate in the country is currently at about 25 per cent, a ratio it considers low compared with figures from countries with entrenched mortgage markets.

The banks stated, "The building and construction sector, inclusive of housing,

contributes a mere 1.62 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product, a dismal figure compared to contributions ranging from between 30-40 per cent to 60-80 per cent in emerging and developed economies, respectively.

"The mortgage sector contributes less than one per cent to the GDP compared to what obtains in other countries such as the USA, with 63 per cent; Britain, 64 per cent; Germany, 55 per cent; Thailand, 15 per cent; South Africa, 20 per cent, India, five per cent and Ghana, three per cent."

The FMBN noted that 36 per cent of the Nigerian population currently reside

in cities with the rural-urban migration as high as five per cent per annum, putting great demand on urban housing.

The bank added that while the country's housing deficit had been put in the region of 14 to 17 million units, with 72 to 102 million Nigerians without access to decent housing, mortgage loans and advances by banks were still insignificant due to their long-term nature compared to the short-term nature of bank's liabilities.

The President, Mortgage Bankers Association of Nigeria and Chief Executive Officer of Homebase Mortgage Bank Limited, Dr. Femi Johnson,

however said, that rather than thinking of mortgage financing, stakeholders should focus on making houses available by increasing the housing stock.

He said, "The houses don't even exist; we need to find money to build these houses first. When an investor brings his money to build houses, depending on if he is on a short or long-term investment, because if he is a short-term investor, he wants to sell and take his money out, but if he's a long-term investor, that money for construction is the same that is converted to mortgages and people pay over a long period before the investor exits eventually."

“We introduced ‘sack your landlord’ scheme for tenants to-rent-to-own-properties”

By Mustapha Suleiman

Tell us about your property endeavour?

Even though we have our head office in Lagos, we’ve just launched our housing units in Abuja. We have terraces in Jahi district, Abuja and we have eight units and have same in Lagos. In Lagos, we are located in Lekki Phase two and we have 160 units there.

When did you start real estate business?

We have been in business for 11 years now.

Now that you are in Abuja. What kind of housing are we looking at in terms of class?

I would not like to categorize our properties as low or medium. They are units of terraces and in Lagos we have something close to that, but I am sure we will eventually come to building middle and low income houses in no distant time. What we have here is just like a reference point. By the time we fully start I am certain we will take care of middle and low income earners. People always ask me where we have sold and this is why we are creating reference points.

How would you compare your housing projects in Lagos and Abuja in terms of structure and models?

When it comes to taste and style, what we are giving out is high taste apartments commensurate to Abuja and Lagos. Like I said, what we have in Lagos is classified as for medium and high class but we will do an all-encompassing job soon.

How is your payment like especially in the face of dwindling economy?

We are very considerate, and we have different payment plans that are flexible enough for prospective clients. You can do an outright payment or we make reservations with N99,999 that’s approximately N100,000 and we will now give you 60 day grace period to come up with initial payment and that’s around 20 to 30 percent of cost price. And the

Debo Adejana is the Managing Director /CEO of Lagos based, Realty Point Limited. In this interview, he compares Lagos and Abuja property mart.

remaining 70percent you can spread to over 36 months. In Lagos, we have rent to own program. You will be required to pay initial payment of 20 to 30 percent and will move in, after which we will now spread the remaining payment over minimum of 10 years and maximum of 15 years.

Can you tell us how many houses you have both in Lagos and Abuja?

In Lagos we have 160 different apartments, ranging from studios, one, two and three bedroom floors. Then in Abuja we have four bedroom duplex, terrace duplex and boy’s quarters

What are the options you are exploring to get housing to other parts of Nigeria?

We have established our presence in Lagos and Abuja and we are certainly thinking of other areas like Port Harcourt. We definitely know that other parts of Nigeria require this solution for shelter that we have and we are doing all we can to cover as many as possible locations. We are all aware how expensive rent is in major cities in Nigeria, you see people paying over a million for 3 bedroom flats and all that and that’s why we came up with the “sack your landlord” policy that allows you to rent to own.

What are the challenges that you face in Abuja that are not in Lagos or vice versa?

Well in Abuja the regulatory framework, approvals and documentation is a lot more transparent and well known to the developers and it takes less time. But in Lagos, it is very cumbersome, even though there have been a lot of regulations to make it easier, yet, it isn’t there yet. A lot of developers submit applications and move to site before these papers are even sorted. And real estate is very sensitive to timeline as any time spent outside of your timeline will cost you more financial burden.



■ Debo Adejana

You know we might have borrowed money from a bank and all that and issues around investors. Off takers are also expectant and we must deliver because projects are anchored on them. In Abuja, I think the major issue is that cost of finishing is higher, because in Lagos we have access to the ports and we get things cheaper than we would here which increases our overall development cost and inadvertently price in the long run. On the mainland we tend to pay less because of the nature of the soil same with Abuja. But on the mainland, we have a lot of issues around soil texture and nature. So, when we do our foundation, we spend more on the island in order to make it solid. Both markets have their own peculiarities. In Abuja, I am

not saying what labour wage is in Abuja but in Lagos they are readily available. The major challenge on that is just the quality of service. We usually get more guys to work for us from neighboring countries. And we bring in expatriates also should a client want high quality work.

As a developer, how have you been able to maintain high quality standard on your buildings?

As a company, we don’t compromise on quality as it is even the bedrock of our service delivery. We do not do trade off between quality and cost. We focus on our area of strength which is being developers and we have clear cut standards that our workers or anyone to be engaged must meet or probably exceed before we

engage them. They are usually best of hands. We always look out for technical competence, ability, experience, and as well as certifications those are the four major things you must meet before you are engaged and we don’t circumvent them on any condition. You must have also displayed significant experience in the sector.

What is your take on patronizing made in Nigeria goods for building in order to grow the economy?

Well on that there are a lot of factors; sometimes clients make certain demands that are not available in the local market but on other projects we get to make comparative analysis, look at cost and availability and then we make a decision on what to go for per time.

Graffiti on public walls, FCTA to sanction perpetrators

By Mulikatu Mukaila

Officials of the FCT Administration have apprehended six persons for engaging in act of graffiti on the walls of public buildings and infrastructure around the Federal Capital City, Abuja.

The six persons apprehended

were caught in the act and would be made to face the full wrath of the law because the Administration would not allow the defacing of the Federal Capital City.

It must be noted that Abuja remains the window through which the world sees Nigeria and therefore, must be maintained with high sense of

commitment and responsibility.

The Administration warns that security agents are now maintaining 24-hour surveillance to ensure that those engaging in the act of graffiti and the likes are promptly apprehended.

It may be recalled that the FCT Administration had recently

embarked on massive cleanup of such writings to give the city a face-lift.

The Chief Security Officer to the FCT Minister, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Ahmed Rasheed revealed that the apprehended suspects are now with the security agents and would soon be made to face the full wrath of the law.



LABOUR

United Labour Congress (ULC) not faction of NLC - Ajaero

General Secretary of National Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE), Comrade Joe Ajaero and the President of National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) Igwe Achese, recently formed a labour centre, the United Labour Congress (ULC). Ajaero, the first president of the centre, speaks with some group of journalists in Abuja on the plan to get ULC registered.

By Mustapha Suleiman

With the launch of United Labour Congress (ULC), there will be three labour centres in the country: the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC), and the ULC; if eventually registered; what is the future of labour movement in Nigeria with three labour centres?

Pre-1978, there were four labour centres in Nigeria, including the United Labour Congress. Then, it was United Nigeria Labour Congress, and Obasanjo came, they tried labour leaders, banned so many of them, people like Wahab Goodluck, the prominent labour leaders from participating in labour movement. With that dictatorial muscle, they brought everybody together and you must belong to a single labour centre. It is not the culture of Nigeria labour movement to have a single labour centre but for the military. That is the last feature of the military dictatorship in the labour movement, the issue of having one labour centre. The military forced everybody together. Now the thing played up again in '88 when we had the democrats and the progressives, trying to split, but because we were still under military dictatorship, the atmosphere for them to have their separate centres, based on their ideological persuasion was not there. So, at the end of the day it took some years; people came up to say o'kay, let us come together.

Incidentally, the same Obasanjo came again around 2002/2003 and saw that under democratic environment you cannot compel people to remain in one room even if they don't want to be there. You looked back at Section 40 of Nigerian Constitution which says you have the right to form and belong to any trade union of your choice, religion or political affiliation and it is in exercise of that that the TUC was registered. Incidentally, TUC was registered as the first labour centre with the number 001. NLC doesn't have a registration number today, up till now. If somebody is telling you about registration or no registration, they have not done that. If it is all about receiving licence or certificate after the amendment of plural labour centres, they don't have that. Let nobody deceive himself, TUC is 001 and there is no 002 as at today. In as much as I wouldn't want to get into



■ Joe Ajaero

controversy, the atmosphere has been opened for people to belong to labour centres with some criteria; which is to avoid mush-rooming of labour centres. They now get some conditions including that there must be twelve industrial unions before you can apply for registration and part of the last features required for you to register is that you must have a conference where you adopt a constitution, where you adopt a name and where you elect officers. These things should be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour and the same Labour Act made it clear that after this you can start operating as a labour centre including collection of dues. Now in exercise of this, that is what we are trying to do. We are not fighting anybody, we did not attack anybody, and we would not attack anybody. That is the origin of it. So I am saying that for the fact that we have three doesn't mean we cannot have four and if we had four in 1978, when we didn't have these number of companies, these number of unions, and these number of workers, the tendency for us to have more is now, if it will serve our purpose.

Many are of the opinion that with the pluralisation of labour movement in Nigeria, workers would suffer more?

I don't think so. That is why I stated that there were four from the beginning. So why now pluralise? Pluralise to what? Today, what we have is three, they have not been pluralised. Even these three cannot even finish addressing the problems of the workers. Since the unfortunate thing that happened in NLC in the last two years, I will tell you that nobody from my own group has the NLC attended to their problems, nobody, whether when we were picketing Ikeja or whatever, it is internal here. So, for you to now appropriate to yourself a power to attend to our problems when our problems are not being addressed, we will now have to look for a way of solving our problems and this is important. So I don't think it is pluralisation but there is room independently for mergers and acquisition. If in the course we are registered and we are not doing well we will be swallowed by a stronger centre or we have an arrangement with other centres to be one but not by compulsion.

Why do you think that this is the right time for you to come up with another centre?

I think we should stop being fixated. The solution to the crisis is what has happened. We have sat down, we

thought in various ways about it. How do we do this? We resolved to forget about it. We discovered that even the people we are equally operating with will not agree on any of those issues we have decided jointly. We discovered that on daily bases, it is either they are sending Police, or EFCC or whatever to you to say you did this, or arranging some people from their own sector to send petition against you. That level of undermining you when you are together or when you want to be together does not help any matter. I want to tell you today that if me and Igwe are with the NLC, Ayuba can't make a statement, he will not function. I am not trying to boast. And now the lull in the labour movement would have been attributed to internal wrangling. Let me repeat it. If I attend a meeting, he is there, I am there, Igwe is there, and we are all there with him, of course, we know him more than the people working with him now, on daily bases we may be carrying chairs and whatever. That will be a big disgrace to the movement. I have tried to apply this policy of staying away even after the conference. He can't mobilize more than me to have taken over the secretariat, but it appears people still don't understand that we don't want the collapse of the labour movement. I can't see the current move as a way of undermining the labour movement.

Do you have the required numbers of affiliate trade unions based on the extant labour law and have you met all the necessary procedures for registration?

I want you to leave that. If we are 11 unions and we want to register and the law says 12, they will not register us. Get this right because I know why I am saying this. If I know that it is 12 and I am going there with 11, you can see the foolishness on my part. It then means no one will listen to me. That is why I say we have to de-emphasize that area. But I am telling you, more than 12 unions left from the NLC, and I am telling you that unions from the TUC and unions that are not affiliated to any for now are into this. This is not a faction of NLC, there are unions from TUC, there are unions that are not affiliated to NLC and TUC and there are those unions from the NLC that pulled out, which I can count up to 12 or more. They now come together, to have a kind of mega arrangement to form this centre.

Mine workers union seeks more funds for sector

By Mulikatu Mukaila

The Nigerian Union of Mines Workers has called on the administration of President Muhammadu Buhari to 'fulfill the promise it made to support the private sector-led development of the mining

sector by making available funds to be administered as loans to the miners' in order to cushion the funds need for the sector's development.

President of the Union, Comrade Hamza Mohammed who made the call in his New Year message to miners

and stakeholders across the country congratulated members of the union on a successful 2016 saying that the 2017 prospects of the sector remains bright despite the challenges of economic recession.

Hamza said if the Buhari

administration provides loans as promised, it will sustain the efforts it has made to diversify the economy through the mining sector. According to him, providing financial support for the private sector in mining will develop the private sector enterprises and

make them grow to become big Nigerian companies, thereby creating large-scale employment opportunities.

"This will therefore lead to large scale development of the economic potentials of the Nigeria mining sector," he added.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FEDERAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

PLOT 245 SAMUEL ADEMULEGUN STREET CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, ABUJA
2017/2018 BILATERAL EDUCATION AGREEMENT (BEA)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS INTERVIEW

The Honourable Minister of Education (HME), **Mallam Adamu Adamu**, hereby invites interested and qualified Nigerians to participate in the 2017/2018 **Nomination** Interview for Bilateral Education Agreement (BEA) Scholarship Award for:

- Undergraduate (UG) studies tenable in Russia, Morocco, Algeria, Serbia, Hungary, Egypt, Turkey, Cuba, Ukraine, Japan, and**
- Postgraduate (PG) studies tenable in Russia (for those whose first degrees were obtained from Russia), China, Hungary, Serbia, Turkey, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, e.t.c.**

2.0 All qualified candidates are advised to:

- Visit Federal Ministry of Education's website www.education.gov.ng and click on **READ MORE** on Federal Scholarship Board ICON on the Home Page;
- Read Guidelines and then Complete the Application Form online
- Print the completed Application Form
- Submit two sets of the Printed Application Forms at the venue of the interview as scheduled below.

NOTE/Warning: Double Entries will be disqualified!

3.0 FIELDS OF STUDY

- Undergraduate level - Engineering, Geology, Agriculture, Sciences, Mathematics, Languages, Environmental Sciences, Sports, Law, Social Sciences, Biotechnology, Architecture, Medicine (very limited), etc; and
- Postgraduate level (Masters Degree and Ph.D) in all fields.

4.0 CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

A. UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP: All applicants for undergraduate degree courses must possess a minimum qualification of **Five (5) Distinctions (As & Bs)** in the Senior Secondary School Certificate, **WAEC** (May/June) only in the subjects relevant to their fields of study including **English Language and Mathematics**. Certificates should not be more than Two (2) years old (**2015 & 2016**). Age limit is from 18 to 20 years.

B. POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP: All applicants must hold a First Degree with at least 2nd Class Upper Division. The applicants who are previous recipients of Foreign Awards must have completed at least **two (2) years** post qualification or employment practice in Nigeria. All applicants must have completed N.Y.S.C. Age limit is 35 years for Masters and 40 years for Ph.D.

NOTE (For all Applicants):

- Since the BEA countries are non-English speaking, applicants should be prepared to undertake a mandatory one year foreign language of the country of choice which will be the standard medium of instruction; and
- All applicants for Hungarian Scholarship must visit the website: www.stipenumhungaricum.hu before 10th February 2017.

Complete the application form online

- Print the completed form and bring to the venue in addition to 2.0 above.

5.0 VENUE OF INTERVIEW: All eligible applicants are to report for interview at the venues scheduled for their **respective Zones of origin for**

proper identification. Two sets of completed application forms should be submitted at the various interview centres with the following attachments:

- Two sets of Photocopies of Educational Certificates and Testimonials of previous schools attended with the **originals for sighting**;
- Only one certificate is accepted i.e WAEC of May/June;
- Two copies of Birth certificate from National Population Commission;
- State of Origin/LGA certificate duly signed, stamped and dated;
- Four (4) coloured passport sized photographs on white background; and
- Postgraduate applicants will be required to submit Academic transcripts and NYSC certificates.

2017/2018 BEA INTERVIEW VENUES AND DATES FROM FEBRUARY 13TH TO 17TH 2017

S/N	ZONE/ VENUE	MONDAY FEBRUARY 13 TH	TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14 TH	WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15 TH	THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16 TH	FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17 TH
1.	NORTH - WEST, KASU MAIN CAMPUS KADUNA	SONOTO & ZAMFARA STATES	KANO & KEBBI STATES	JIGAWA & KATSINA STATES	KADUNA STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT
2.	NORTH - EAST FGGC, JALINGO TARABA	BORNO & YOBE STATES	BAUCHI & GOMBE STATES	ADAMAWA STATE	TARABA STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT
3.	NORTH-CENTRAL CROWTHER MEMORIAL COLLEGE- LOKOJA	BENUE & FCT STATES	NIGER & PLATEAU STATES	KWARA & NASARAWA STATES	KOGI STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT
4.	SOUTH - WEST, SCHOOL OF SCIENCE OKEBOLA IBADAN	ONDO & OSUN STATES	LAGOS & OGUN STATES	EKITI STATE	OYO STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT
5.	SOUTH - SOUTH FED. COE TECH PERM SITE ALONG ASABA - JIBUSA RD ASABA	CROSS RIVERS & RIVERS STATES	AKWA IBOM & BAYELSA STATES	EDO STATE	DELTA STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT
6.	SOUTH - EAST LAW FACULTY EBONYI STATE UNIVERSITY EBONYI	ANAMBRA STATE	IMO STATE	ABIA & ENUGU STATES	EBONYI STATE	COLLATION OF RESULT

NB: Candidates **nominated** by the Board **will be required** to submit the following:

- Authenticated copies of academic certificates;
- Data page of current International passport,;
- Specified Medical Reports from Government Hospitals; and
- Police clearance certificate where necessary.

TIME : 9.00 A.M DAILY

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS PARTICULAR APPLICATION DOES NOT ATTRACT ANY PROCESSING FEE. THEREFORE, BEWARE OF FRAUDSTERS!

SIGNED:

DR. FOLASADE YEMI-ESAN
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DAILY TRUST

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2x 1 col N9,000	N15,000
2 x 2 col N18,000	N27,000
3 x 2 col N 28,000	N 42,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby notified that **Dr. Iyke Samuel Enemuo** died on the 22/8/2014 and has since been buried. His wife Mrs. Stella Ucheonye Enemuo is his next of kin. The general public should take note.

OLUWADAMILARE

I, **OLUSEYI IYIOLA OLUWADARE** wish to change the Family Surname from **ODEKUNLE to OLUWADAMILARE** therefore the following changes apply:

- From **TOLULOPE ILERIOLOUWA ODEKUNLE to TOLULOPE ILERIOLOUWA OLUWADAMILARE**
- From **AANUOLUWAPO TEMILOLUWA ODEKUNLE to AANUOLUWAPO TEMILOLUWA OLUWADAMILARE**
- From **OREOLUWA OLUWATIMILEHIN ODEKUNLE to OREOLUWA OLUWATIMILEHIN OLUWADAMILARE**
- From **IBUKUNOLUWA OLUSEYI ODEKUNLE to IBUKUNOLUWA OLUSEYI OLUWADAMILARE**
- From **OMOTAYO AYOBAMI ODEKUNLE to OMOTAYO AYOBAMI OLUWADAMILARE**
- From **MRS ABIODUN ADUKE ODEKUNLE to MRS ABIODUN ADUKE OLUWADAMILARE.**

All former documents bearing each of the above names remain valid. General public should please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME

<p>MONSURAT I, formerly known as MONSURAT BUKOLA ABDULRASAQ EDUN, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS MONSURAT BUKOLA ABDULRASAQ BARUBA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>USMAN I, formerly known as GABRIEL AARON, now wish to be known and addressed as USMAN AARON. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>OBIALOR I, formerly known as MISS ABIGAIL OBIALOR, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS ABIGAIL OBIALOR OKECHUKWU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>OLUWADAMILARE I, formerly known as OLUSEYI IYIOLA ODEKUNLE, now wish to be known and addressed as OLUSEYI IYIOLA OLUWADAMILARE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>
<p>FARIDA I, formerly known as FARIDA IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and addressed as ALIYU FARIDA IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>IDRIS I formerly known as DALHATU DAUDA IDRIS, now wish to be known and addressed IDRIS DAUDA DALHATU. All former documents remain valid. Keystone Bank, First Bank and general public should please take note.</p>	<p>ISREAL I, formerly known and addressed as ILOH OLUSEGUN JOSEPH. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mr. ISREAL OLUWASEGUN JOSEPH. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>AYODEJI I, formerly known and addressed as OLUWADAMILARE AYODEJI AKINOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as DAMILARE AYODEJI AKINOLA. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>ADEDIRAN I, formerly known and addressed as FANIYI AMINAT FOLAKEMI. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs ADEDIRAN AMINAT FOLAKEMI. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>CORNELIUS I, formerly known and addressed as CORNELIUS NELSON OFFIONG. Now wish to be known and addressed as CORNELIUS NYONG OFFIONG. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>ISMAIL I, formerly known and addressed as AJIBOYE SEKINAT BUKOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ISMAIL SEKINAT BUKOLA. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>OMOLADE I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADELAJA OMOLADE ADESHOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs TAIWO OMOLADE ADESHOLA. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>OCHE I, formerly known and addressed as ABAH JAMES. Now wish to be known and addressed as OCHE JAMES. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>OMOBOLANLE I, formerly known and addressed as OPE OMOBOLANLE NOHEEMOT. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs OPE OMOBOLANLE NOIMOT. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>MFONOBONG I, formerly known and addressed as RITA MFONOBONG ABAK. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs RITA MFONOBONG DURO-BELLO. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>ISMILA I, formerly known and addressed as AJIBOLA IDAYATU AGBEKE. Now wish to be known and addressed as ISMILA IDAYATU AJIBOLA. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH That my date of birth was wrongly written as 15th day of April, 1988 instead of 14th day of June, 1985. That my correct date of birth is 14th day of June, 1985. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>EDET I, formerly known and addressed as AKAM GLORIA CHINONYEREM. Now wish to be known and addressed as EDET GLORIA CHINONYEREM. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>MODINAT I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OLAIYA MODINAT ABOSEDE. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs LAWAL MODINAT ABOSEDE. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>OLUWATOSIN I, formerly known and addressed as OLUWATOSIN OLABENJO OMOBOLAJI. Now wish to be known and addressed as OLUWATOSIN OLABENJO. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>ADEDOTUN I, formerly known and addressed as FASHINA AKEEM DOTUN. Now wish to be known and addressed as FASH ADEDOTUN HAKEEM. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>JAMES I, formerly known and addressed as HUNJA JAMES MONDAY. Now wish to be known and addressed as SEYON JAMES MONDAY. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>POPOOLA CORRECTION OF NAME That my name was wrongly written as POPOOLA TOYIN ISEOLUWA instead of POPOOLA TOYIN ISEOLU. That my correct name is POPOOLA TOYIN ISEOLU. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>ASHIRU I formerly known as IBRAHIM A. ASHIRU now wish to be known and addressed as ASHIRU ALHAJI IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p>
<p>GBESEMEHAN I, formerly known and addressed as TOVIWAZON JOHN OKE. Now wish to be known and addressed as GBESEMEHAN OKE. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>HUMUL-KHAIR I, formerly known and addressed as OJIKUTU HUMUL-KHAIR OYINKANSOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as OJIKUTU-SHODIPE HUMUL-KHAIR OYINKANSOLA. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>UMAR I formerly known as UMAR ABDULKADIR now wish to be known and addressed as UMAR ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p>	<p>LAWAN I formerly known as LAWAN HARUNA INDABAWA and my mistaken date of birth is 12-2-1971 now wish to be known and addressed as LAWAN MOHAMMED HARUNA. And my corrected date of birth is 17-2-1972. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p>
<p>SAMUEL I, formerly known and addressed as OGAH SAMUEL. Now wish to be known and addressed as UBE SAMUEL OGBOLO. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>TITILAYO I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ILORI TOLANI CHRISTIANA. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs KARIM TITILAYO TOBI. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>ABAS I formerly known as MUSA RABIU now wish to be known and addressed as A B A S ABDULSALAM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p>	<p>UMAR I formerly known as AISHA LAWALI MOHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA UMAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p>
<p>MOHAMMED I formerly known as MUHAMMED AUWAL IBRAHIM now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED AUWAL. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>BUKAR I formerly known as BUKAR ABDULLAHI USMAN now wish to be known and addressed as BUKAR ABDULLAHI. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>HASSAN I formerly known as MUSA HASSAN now wish to be known and addressed as MUSA HASSAN SANI. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>MARYAM I formerly known as MARYAM ABBA TIJJANI now wish to be known and addressed as MARYAM TIJJANI SANI. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>MOHAMMED I formerly known as ZAKARIYA HASSAN now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED HASSAN. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.</p>	<p>OKORIE I formerly known as OGBONNA NNENNAYA, now wish to be known and addressed as OKORIE NNENNAYA. All former documents remain valid. The general public should please take note.</p>	<p>KARI I, formerly known and addressed as TIMOTI KARI, now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULRAHMAN KARI PENI. All former documents remain valid. General public, First Bank and Kebbi State Ministry of Animal, Health, Husbandry and Fisheries should take note please.</p>	<p>AGABA I, formerly known as CHRISTOPHER ELIZABETH EKWOK, now wish to be known and addressed as AGABA ELIZABETH EKWOK. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>

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	Sort Code: 215082101	Sort Code: 221081552	Sort Code: 011084060	Sort Code: 033080013	Sort Code: 058083231

Requirement for Change of Name
Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

CHANGE OF NAME

JANET
I, formerly known and called **EKOJA JANET ARUH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ALO JANET OKEKENI**. All documents remain valid. The general public should please take note.

BAAJON
I, formerly known as **DANJUMA MANASSEH BAAJO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BAAJON DANJUMA**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should please take note.

ABUBAKAR
I formerly known as **KALTUM HARUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINA ABUBAKAR MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

GANNA
I formerly known as **MOHAMMED MAFRE** now wish to be known and addressed as **BABA GANNA MODU KYARI**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

PETER
I formerly known as **DAWA JAMES WADA** now wish to be known and addressed as **PETER PAUL**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

BUKAR
I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR LAWAN GAJIRAM** now wish to be known and addressed as **BUKAR GREMA**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

BLESSING
I, formerly known as **BLESSING YAKUBU MUSA MBAKIYE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BLESSING YAKUBU MUSA**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should please take note.

AONDOAKAA
I, formerly known as **AONDOAKAA DENEN JAMES**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AONDOAKAA DENNIS JAMES**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

FATOLU
I formerly known as **FATOLU OLUWADAMILARE** now wish to be known and addressed as **FATOLU OLUWADAMILARE ISRAEL**. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.

TIJJANI
I formerly known as **ALHAJI TIJJANI MODU GAIDAM** now wish to be known and addressed as **TIJJANI MODU**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column.

AND whereas the person whose address(es) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION" of personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that the said LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Gusau, Zamfara State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:-

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT
LABBO SHEHU OF FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE GUSAU ZAMFARA STATE WHO DIED AT F.M.C. GUSAU ON 25 th MAY, 2016	MURTALA LABBO C/O. SABON FEGI AREA TUDUN KOSAU GUSAU ZAMFARA STATE SON OF THE SAID DECEASED

Dated this6th.....day of January, 2017

PROBATE REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE

Signed
KABIRU UMARU
PROBATE REGISTRAR

ENOCH
I formerly known as **ENOCHI CHRISTOPHER**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ENOCH CHRISTOPHER**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should please take note.

ISHAK
I, formerly known as **SURAJO ISHAQ**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ISHAK SURAJO ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. First bank and general public should take note.

SISHA
I formerly known as **AISHA MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **SISHA MODU KACHALLA**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

BULAMA
I formerly known as **BULAMA MASTAFA MUNAMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BULAMA MASTAFA**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

KABIR
I, formerly known as **KAIR MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **KABIR MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. U.B.A and General public should take note.

MARYAM
I, formerly known as **DAHIRU MAIRO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM DAHIRU**. All former documents remain valid. All authorities concerned and the general public to note.

MODU
I formerly known as **MADU THLAMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MODU THOMAS**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

BABA
I formerly known as **MAMMADU ABBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BABA BULAU**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

MOHAMMED
I, formerly known as **MOHAMMED ALHAJI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ALHAJI ALI**. All former documents remain valid. All authorities concerned and the general public to note.

RACHEAL
I, formerly known as **RACHEAL ELISHA BAKO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **RACHEAL ELISHA**. All former documents remain valid. First Bank P L C and General Public Should take note.

ALIYU
I formerly known as **ALIYU HUSSAINI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU HUSSAINI MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid, former D.O.B 28th June, 1983 now Date of Birth 28th June, 1986. And general public should please take note.

KAUMI
I formerly known as **DARMAN ALHAJI KAUMI** now wish to be known and addressed as **KAUMI ABDULRAHMAN**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant and Certificate of occupancy with file no **CON/COM/81/106** situated at **Gunduwawa in Gezawa Local Government Kano** bearing the name of **ABDULGANIYU AHMED**. All effort to trace the letter of Grant and Certificate proved abortive. Members of the general public to note if found kindly return to the nearest police station.

RIMAMTATSAB
I, formerly known as **PAUL T. ISHAKU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **RIMAMTATSAB PAUL ISHAKU**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should please take note.

SOMTERIMAM
I, formerly known as **JOY KAPUTEN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SOMTERIMAM JOY KAPUTEN**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should please take note.

BAKURA
I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED** now wish to be known as **BAKURA UMARA**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

KALTUM
I formerly known as **KALTUM MOHAMMED SALE** called and addressed as **KALTUM MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

This is to notify the General Public that the following people are the members of board of Trustees of International Center for Rural and Urban Development.

1. Mr Kwada Tsala Tizhe	Chairman
2. Mrs Mary Allasoka	Member
3. Mr John Kwada Tizhe	Member
4. Ms Mercy Kalep Filli	Secretary
5. Mr Musa Kwada Tizhe	Member

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To initiate and execute poverty reduction projects aimed at empowering all concerned through skills acquisition programmes for capacity building and self reliance through appropriate rural technology.
 - To serve as a centre for advocacy, networking and collaboration with institutions sharing similar objectives.
 - To promote gender research methodology by utilizing a gender perspective in research, in areas of health, education, agriculture and Rural Development.
- Any objection to this notice should be addressed to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission Nigeria within 28 days of this publication.

SIGNED
Mercy Kalep Filli
Secretary

RAHMAN
I, formerly known as **AMINU JUMOKE**, now wish to be known and called **ABDUL RAHMAN RUKAYAT TEMITOPE**. All former documents remain valid, General public should please take note.

UGWUANYI
I, formerly known as **EPHRAIM CHIBUZO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **UGWUANYI CHRISTOPHER**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note.

ADAM
I formerly known as **ADAM MALLAM BURA** now wish to be known as **ADAM MALLAM**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

FALMATA
I formerly known as **KUNDILIRAM ALHAJI UMARA** now wish to be known as **FALMATA UMARA**. All former documents and credentials remain valid, general public should please take note.

UMAR
I, formerly known as **SALEH MOHAMMED**, now wish to be called **UMAR IDRIS USMAN**. All authority concerned and general public should take note.

BABA
I formerly known as **BABA MALA LAWAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **BABA MALA LAWAN**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

BABA
I formerly known as **MODU GEIDAM ALHAJI** now wish to be known and addressed **BABA KURA MODU**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

ABDULKARIM
I formerly known as **ABDULMUMINU ABDULLAHI JALO** now wish to be known as **ABDULKARIM ABDULLAHI JALO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original of Letter of Grant of plot No.262 file no. Res/ 2000/262 situated at cotton genrery in Kumbotso Local Government, Kano bearing the name of Aminu Yusuf kera. As a result of fire incident at Sabo Gari market, Kano. All effort to trace the letter of grant provide abortive to note, if found return to the nearest police station

YUNUSA
I formerly known as **ADEYEYE DARE JOSHUA** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUNUSA ABDULRASAQ**. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.

ABBA
I formerly known as **ABBA FARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABBA SAJE**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

HARUNA
I formerly known as **HARUNA BIU** now wish to be known as **HARUNA ABBA LIMAN**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

MOHAMMED
I formerly known as **ALHAJI MOHAMMED IBRAHIM** now wish to be known as **ALHAJI MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

GARBA
I formerly known as **DANIEL PETER** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU GARBA MUSA**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

YA'RUKAIYA
I formerly known as **YAGANA KADAI** now wish to be known and addressed as: **YA'RUKAIYA KADAI**, all former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

USMAN
I formerly known as **AISHATU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known as **AISHATU USMAN (MRS)**. All former documents remain valid, UBA BANK and general public should please take note.

MAKINTA
I formerly known as **ADAMU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MAKINTA BA'ALE**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original of Certificate Occupancy plot no. 581/Res/92/4547 Situated at Dorayi Babba Gwale Local Government Kano State, belonging to Murtala Salisu Umar. All effort to trace the said document proved abortive the general public and authority concern should take note. If found please return to the nearest police station.

MALA
I formerly known as **BABA MALA DIGMA** now wish to be known as: **MALA DIMARI**, all former documents remain valid, general public should take note.

IBRAHIM
I formerly known as **ANNA MICHAEL** now wish to be known as: **RUBECA IBRAHIM** all former documents remain valid, general public should take note.

TIJJANI
I formerly known as **ALI TIJJANI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI TIJJANI LUMAMI**. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.

HUSSAINI
I formerly known as **DAUDA ADAMU** now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA HUSSAINI ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

ALI
I formerly known as **MOHAMMED IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI IBRAHIM**, all former documents remain valid general public should take note

USMAN
I was formerly known as **ALHAJI SHEHU** now wish to be known and called as **USMAN ISMAIL**. All my former documents remain valid general public should please take note

MOHAMMED
I formerly known as **MOHAMMED A. IDRIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ARDO IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

ALI
I formerly known as **ALIYU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI BUKAR**. All former documents bearing former names remain valid, general public should please take note.

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

CHANGE OF NAME

OGUCHE
I, formerly known as AYEBE AUGUSTINE BENEDICT, now wish to be known and addressed as OGUCHE AUGUSTINE BENEDICT. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

DAVID
I formerly known as PEACE OMECHE AUGUSTINE now wish to be known and addressed as PEACE OMECHE DAVID EKELE. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

PIUS
I PIUS GARBA was born on 15 October 1965 not 11 November 1985 which mistakenly stated before. All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

USHAU
I formerly known as ADO TOFA now wish to be called and addressed as USHAU ALMU All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

BOWELS OF FAITH ASSEMBLY
The general public is hereby notified that the above named church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under PART "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No 1 of 1990.
TRUSTEES ARE:
1. Pastor Martins Abu - General Overseer/ Founder
2. Sister Christy Abu - Member
3. Bro. Isaiah Ehizebue - Secretary
4. Bro. Olugbega Awe
5. Bro. Nmaju Igbani - Treasury
AIMS AND OBJECTIVE
1. To propagate the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ
2. To set the Light of the Gospel in the heart of Men who dwell in darkness.
3. To take the divine presence of God to the entire world.
4. To Liberate Men everywhere from satanic and demonic oppression via the word of faith.
Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission , Plot 420 Tigris Crescent , off Aguiyi Ironsi street Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication.
Signed
Pastor Martins Abu
General Overseer/Founder

JONAH
I formerly known as DUX CHRISTABEL OKOUKONI now wish to be known and addressed as JONAH CHRISTABEL TERRY. All former documents remain valid, the general public should please take note.

COMFORT.
I formerly known and addressed as MISS COMFORT NYIBIAM now wish to be known and addressed as MRS COMFORT ABUGHUL. All former documents remained valid. The constituted authorities and general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD
I formerly known as AMINA RABIU now wish to be called and addressed as AMINA MUHAMMAD IYA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

LIBBA
I formerly known as LIBBA GADAFI DANIEL now wish to be called and addressed as LIBBA DANIEL All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

AKPA
RECONCILIATION OF NAME. I want to formerly declare to the constituted authorities and general public that, AKPA BLESSING and OKPANACHI BLESSING referred to one and the same person and should be treated same in all dealings. Kindly taken note.

OKEKE
I formerly known as EZISIJOY UKAMAKA now wish to be known as MRS OKEKE JOY UKAMAKA. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note.

YAYA
I formerly known as YA'U M YAHAYA now wish to be called and addressed as YA'U M YAYA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

NASIRU
I formerly known as NASURU DAIYABU ABDULLAHI now wish to be called and addressed as NASIRU DAYYABU ABDULLAHI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to notify the general public the loss of Land Ownership Documents:- On 05 January, 2017 at about 1250hrs, one ALHAJI MOHAMMED KRAMI "M" of Bulabulin Ngaranam ward, Maiduguri, came to Department of Operations, state Headquarters, Maiduguri and reported that, his Land Ownership document 50 by 100 Full plot NO. 17 & 19 located at said Bulabulin Ngaranam ward, discovered missing during Boko Haram attack in the year 2014.
TAKEN: The complainant was advice to go to court of law to swear to an affidavit to enable him secure replacement from the issuing authority. Concerned Authorities and general public should please take note

ADAM
I formerly known as AISHA ADAM AL- KASSAM now wish to be called and addressed as AISHA ADAM ALKASIM All former documents remain valid Authorities to note

KAMALU
I formerly known as JAMILU SANI now wish to be called and addressed as KAMALU AHMAD All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

SALISU
I formerly known as SALISU AHMAD MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as AHMAD SALISU GASHUA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

AMUTA
I formerly known as AMUTA PATRICK OFUNNEAMAKA now wish to be called and addressed as AMUTA PATRICK OFUNNEAMAKA IKECHUKWU All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public Loss of Documents on 03rd January, 2016 at about 1350hrs, one HAJJA ZAINAB DAGAZAU MOHAMMED 'F' of Hausari ward Maiduguri came to the State Intelligence Bureau, Nigeria Police SHQ Maiduguri and reported that on the 10/11/2014 at about 1350hrs while on transit along Hausari area, She discovered that her Certificate of Occupancy of Plot NO.LP/NE/19/2 of about 1.399 and right of Occupancy NO.NE/2492 along Damboa Road Maiduguri was missing and they said property was assigned to ALHAJI TIJJANI DAGAZAU was missing. All effort made to trace the said Document proved abortive, hence his report. Concerned Authorities and general public should please take note.

YAHYA
I formerly known as ABDUL MALIK YUSUF now wish to be called and addressed as IMAM MALIK YAHYA HARANDE All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

MARUFAT
I formerly known as MARUFAT ABDULLAHI now wish to be called and addressed as RAJI MARUFAT All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

HASSAN
I formerly known as HASSAN MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as HASSAN MAMMAN All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

TIMOTHY
I formerly known as ODUOLA AYOKUNMI OLUWAFEMI now wish to be called and addressed as ODUOLA TIMOTHY AYOKUNMI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

ABUBAKAR
I formerly known as ABUBAKAR ISA 19/5/1988 now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR ISA MUHAMMED 19/5/1986 former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

SAFIYYA
I formerly known as SAFIYYA YUSUF ALI now wish to be called and addressed as SAFIYYA ALI YUSUF All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

ONYILOKWU
I formerly known as OCHIFE UGBO MARY now wish to be called and addressed as ONYILOKWU MARY UGBO All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

BASHIR
I formerly known as BASHIR IDRIS YAKUBU now wish to be called and addressed as BASHIR LAWAN All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

SARKIN
I formerly known and addressed as SANI MUHAMMADU now wish to be known and addressed as SARKIN FAWA MUHAMMADU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

RAHINA
I formerly known and addressed as ZAINAB UMAR now wish to be known and addressed as RAHINA MUSA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

IBRAHIM
I formerly known as IBRAHIM DANYARO now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM DANYARO KARAYE All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

HAMZA
I formerly known as BABATUNDE SIKIRU SALIU now wish to be called and addressed as HAMZA SALIHU IBRAHIM All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

AUWALU
I formerly known as AUWAL SHEHU now wish to be called and addressed as AUWALU SALISU All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

MOHAMMED
I formerly known as GARBA S GARGAWA now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMED MALAM GARBA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

SHAMSU
I formerly known as IBRAHIM SHAMSU RABO now wish to be called and addressed as SHAMSU IBRAHIM All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

MURTALA
I formerly known as MURTALA KABIRU now wish to be called and addressed as MURTALA KABIRU YAKASAI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

ADAMU
I formerly known as ADAMU UMAR DUKKU now wish to be called and addressed as ADAMU UMAR BARDE All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

ISAH
I formerly known as YAKUBU SANI now wish to be called and addressed as ISAH ABDULLAHI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

BALA
I formerly known and addressed as BALA MUHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as BALA AHMED. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

SAHABI
I formerly known and addressed as ALHAJI SAHABI DAN UDU now wish to be known and addressed as ALHAJI SAHABI MOHAMMADU DAN UDA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

MURTALA
I formerly known as MURTALA MUHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as MURTALA MUHAMMED SANI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

JAMILA
I formerly known as JAMILA BALA JIBRIL now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILA BALA MOHD All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

FATIMA
I formerly known as HAJARA YAHAYA now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMA YAHAYA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

BELLO
I formerly known as MURTALA BELLO now wish to be called and addressed as MURTALA BELLO RONI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

AHMAD
I formerly known and addressed as JAMILU AHMAD now wish to be known and addressed as JAMILU AHMAD AGADASTAWA. All former documents remain valid. Skye Bank should please to take note.

CHUKWUMA
I formerly known and addressed as CHUKWUMA FELICIA with date of birth 7/8/1991 now wish to be known and addressed as CHUKWUMA FELICIA UJU with date of birth 22nd August, 1970. All former documents remain valid. Sokoto State Polytechnic and general public should please to take note.

SADIYA
I formerly known as HALIMA ADAMU KOLIYO now wish to be called and addressed as SADIYA ADAMU KOLIYO All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

MUHAMMADU
I formerly known as SALISU DIKKO AHMED now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMADU DIKKO AHMED SALISU All former documents remain valid Authorities to note

BALKISU
I formerly known as BALKISU OYERONKE SULEMAN now wish to be called and addressed as BALKISU OYERONKE ABDULRAHMAN All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

DZAKWA
I formerly known as YUNANA MODA now wish to be called and addressed as DZAKWA MODA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

GBOGBODE
I formerly known and addressed as GBOGBODE ADETOLA ADEBIMPE now wish to be known and addressed as GBOGBODE ADETOLA ADEKEMI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

JOHN
I formerly known and addressed as JOHN ODEBODE ADIKWU now wish to be known and addressed as JOHN ADIKWU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

FATIMA
I formerly known as SAMIRA DAUDA now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMA DAUDA ABDULRASHID All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

TIJJANI
I formerly known as AHMAD TIJJANI MODIBBO now wish to be called and addressed as AHMAD TIJJANI MUHAMMAD All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

YAKUBU
I formerly known as HALINA STELLA now wish to be called and addressed as YAKUBU STELLA All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

DAHOD
I, formerly known as DAHOOD BISOLA RUKAYAT now wish to be known and addressed as DAHOOD RUKAYAT OLANIPEKUN. All documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

MUHAMMAD
I formerly known and addressed as HAUWA'U MUHAMMAD GADAR ZAIMA now wish to be known and addressed as HAUWA'U MUHAMMAD GELE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

UMMAR
I formerly known and addressed as MOHAMMADU SHUMEKA now wish to be known and addressed as UMMAR MUHAMMADU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

MUSA
I formerly known as HUSSAINI MUSA WAZIRI now wish to be called and addressed as MUSA WAZIRI All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

TEMENBU
I formerly known as JAPHET TEMENBU GAJERE now wish to be called and addressed as MRS TEMENBU MBASITTI PHARIS All former documents remain valid Authorities concern to note

LADAN
I formerly known and addressed as UMMARU LADAN now wish to be known and addressed as UMMARU LADAN SAGO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please to take note.

PEACE
I formerly known and addressed as JEOMA NWOYE now wish to be known and addressed as JEOMA PEACE NWOYE and my date of birth remains 24th November, 1992 not 28th November, 1992. All former documents remain valid. Diamond Bank, concerned authority and general public should please to take note.

SULEIMAN
I, formerly known as SUNDAY A. ANDY, now wish to be known and called SULEIMAN ADAMU ANDY. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

ABDU
I, formerly known as UMAR ABDU, now wish to be known and called ABDU DALHATU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.



JOB VACANCY

Job Title: Procurement/Logistics and Administrative Coordinator

Location: Abuja Nigeria **Job Family: Property/Logistics**

Duration: 1 year **Level: C2**

REPORTING LINES:
Post holder reports to: Business Support Manager
Staff reporting to this post: Two or more staff

Oxfam is a confederation of 17 affiliates committed to creating a just world without poverty by working with others to find lasting solutions to injustice and suffering. In Nigeria Oxfam saves lives by providing humanitarian response, builds sustainable livelihoods, transforms attitudes about women's rights and promotes more active citizens, and a more accountable state and private sector adopting a rights-based approach.

JOB PURPOSE
To play a leading role in support to the procurement within the country office and partners alike in meeting internal and external procurement and supply value chain for effective and efficient programme delivery, coordinating Oxfam's programme activities relating to Supply and Logistics both in Abuja, Kebbi and Adamawa. 'Supply and Logistics' refers to a broad set of operational and support activities related to requirements such as planning, procurement and delivery of materials and services, management of fleet and transport.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Overall management and implementation of country logistics / supply policy ensuring that authority and procedures are adhered to and followed, to promote and integrate their best practice into the Country programmes.
- Monitor actions agreed by management in their monthly, quarterly management reports and flag exceptional issues arising from this analysis with country and line management.
- To ensure the development and maintenance of a database of appropriate suppliers, equipment and specifications able to supply Oxfam programmes and to share and promote this information with staff, partners and other technical staff by reviewing the quality and accuracy of asset and stock verifications.
- In conjunction with the BSM develop capacity building, succession plans and related staff development activities.
- To carry an appropriate risk assessment aim to strengthen the compliance and plan to overcome weaknesses of country logistics operations
- Support staff in the country to monitor and comply with the restricted funding from day to day appropriate use of checklist that monitors programme, finance and logistics requirements.
- Develop procurement plan, monitor implementation and update regularly.
- Develop and agree priorities for assuring quality and respecting donor requirements.
- Review & sample contract project documentation to ensure that key documentation such as proposals, contracts, amendments, reports, budgets, spend reports and other grant management documentation is complete, accurate and in line with Oxfam's standard.

Qualification, Skills And Competence:

Essential

- Highest level of personal integrity and accountability
- Master's degree in procurement, logistics, business management or its equivalent.
- At least five years experience in procurement/logistics and working with institutional donors environments.
- At least two years working experience in a supervisory position.
- Strong understanding of best practice on logistics, financial systems, policies, and procedures.
- An understanding and experience of auditing techniques and tools.
- Good grasp of institutional donor requirements.
- Proven experience of managing funds from institutional donors such as EU, ECHO, OFDA, DFID.
- Experience of capacity building in relation to procurement/logistics development and administration as well as coaching and mentoring skills.
- Strong project management and presentation skills.
- Experience and ability to contribute to cross-departmental projects.
- Proven knowledge and experience of computerised contract and logistics systems as well as advanced Excel skills.
- Demonstrable experience with tender and consortium bid budget development and financial management.
- Ability to delegate, coach and develop staff.
- Ability to manage competing priorities and produce consistent high level outputs.
- Good analytical, reporting and financial skills.
- Excellent communication & interpersonal skills.
- Ability to identify, prioritise and recommend actions to mitigate risk.

Desirable


- Knowledge of West African local laws related to finance.
- Proven skills in motivating multi cultural and multi sectoral teams.
- Awareness of gender equity principles, commitment and interest in developing these within Oxfam.

How to apply:
All interested persons should send an application letter and CV not later than Friday 20th January, 2017 to oxfamgnigeria@oxfam.org.uk with the position title as the subject of your email. Only applications sent in the required format will be considered and only short listed candidates will be contacted.

We highly recommend applying before the deadline; applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Visit our website at www.oxfamnigeriajobs.org for full job profile.

**OXFAM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ORGANISATION;
QUALIFIED FEMALE CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.**



FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ZARIA

PMB 1041 ZARIA, KADUNA STATE

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE YEAR 2016 CAPITAL PROJECT

The College is desirous of undertaking a pre-qualification and tender exercise for the Year 2016 Capital project. Consequently, the College wishes to invite reputable Contractors/Companies to submit technical and financial bids for the construction of 1,500 capacity lecture theatre.

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL BID REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, potential Contractors/Companies are required to submit all the under listed verifiable documents:

- Evidence of Company registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) and evidence of memorandum of understanding (MOU) in case of joint ventures to include names of Directors and shareholders.
- Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three years (2014-2016).
- Company's Audited Account for the last three years duly stamp by registered Auditors (2014-2016) specifying the annual turnover
- Evidence of compliance with Pension Reform Act, 2014 by inclusion of clearance Certificate from National Pension Commission (PENCOM).
- Evidence of compliance Certificate with Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Amendment Act by inclusion of Compliance Certificate from ITF.
- Evidence of registration on Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) National data base of Contractors, Consultant and service providers by inclusion of Interim Registration Report (IRR).
- Evidence of Financial Capability and Banking support (Bank Reference from a reputable Bank).
- Verifiable evidence of similar jobs successfully executed or being executed within the last three (3) years, indicating type, cost, location and evidence of award and completion Certificate.
- List of names of key personnel to be involved in the project stating their qualification, year of cognate

experience and professional registration where applicable (Enclose photocopy of credentials).

- Evidence of fulfillment of the obligation to Social Security Contribution of Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) by inclusion of compliance Certificate.
- Original Bank Statement for the past 12 months.
- Original Copies of the documents would be requested to be made available for sighting whenever required.
- The documents are to be arranged in the above order.

SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER DOCUMENTS

The pre-qualification and tender documents should be submitted sealed and clearly marked "Pre-qualification and tender document for the 2016 capital project and deposited in the Office of the Registrar, Federal College of Education, Zaria to reach him within Six (6) weeks of this publication latest by 12:00noon on 20th February, 2017 with the payment of ₦60, 000.00 (Sixty Thousand Naira only) non refundable tender fee.

Note:

- All pre-qualification documents shall be rendered in English and spiral bound.
- Fake/suspicious documents attract disqualification and maybe handed over to the appropriate government agencies for necessary action.
- This advertisement shall NOT be construed as a commitment on the part of the College authority NOR shall it entitle any contractor/Company to make any claim or seek indemnity from the College.
- Only submissions made before 12:00 noon on 20th February, 2017 shall be entertained.

Signed
Mal. Danlami Saidu
Head, Procurement

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

CHANGE OF NAME

ABU MUSLIM
I, formerly known as ABDULRAHMAN ADAMU (ABU MUSLIM), now wish to be known and called ABDULRAHMAN ADAMU (ABU MUSLIM) AL-IFIRQI. All former documents remain valid. First Bank of Nig Plc, Central Bank of Nig. and General public to please take note.

USMAN
I, formerly known as USMAN NDAFAH SULEIMAN, now wish to be called and addressed as USMAN NDAFAH. All former documents remain valid. Skye Bank and general public should please take note.

USEN
I formerly known as MESHACK GIMBA now wish to be known as USEN I GIMBA. All former documents remain valid. First Bank, Unity Bank PLC, Railway co-operation and general public to please take note

YUSUF
I formerly known as AISHATU YUNUSA Now wish to be known as MARY YUSUF ALI All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

ABUBAKAR
I, formerly known as ANKA MOHAMMED, now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR MOHAMMADU ANKA my date of birth was wrongly written as 1/1/1954 correct date of birth is 1/1/1955 all former documents remain valid, and general public should please take note.

BEATRICE
I, formerly known as BEATRICE SALISU, now wish to be called and addressed as BEATRICE NYEH. All former documents remain valid. Eco Bank, Union Bank and general public should please take note.

NNEKA
I formerly known as OKEH NNEKA BLESSING Now wish to be known as OKEH NNEKA ANTHONIA All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

USMAN
I formerly known as ALI S. KUDU Now wish to be known as ALI USMAN WAZIRI All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

VICTORIA
I, formerly known as VICTORIA GOMIR WAKJISSA, now wish to be called and addressed as VICTORIA HARUNA TONGKEN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UMAR
I, formerly known as UMMARU ABDULLAHI; UMMARU ABDULLAHI AMINU; UMAR ABDULLAHI MANSIR; UMAR ABDULLAHI; UAMR ABDULLAHI KATSINA; now wish to be known and called UMAR ABDULLAHI KATSINA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

CHARLES
I formerly known as CHARLES PWAMBODI Now wish to be known as CHARLES PAUL PWAVODI Born on the 4 - 4 - 1990 not on the 4 - 7 - 1984 All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

ABDULRAHMAN
I formerly known: ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED Now wish to be known as: ABDULRAHMAN MUHAMMED All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

DAVIES
I, FEMI-AINA DAVID OLUWAFEMI wish to depose that I am also known as FEMI AINA OLUWAFEMI AND DAVIES AINA FEMI. All other documents remain valid. Diamond Bank and the general public to take note.

YAKUBU
I formerly known as MARYAM SALEH YAKUBU Now wish to be known as MARYAM YAKUBU MUSA All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

ADAMS
I formerly known as ABSOLOM A.U ADAMS Now wish to be known as AMOS ADAMS ABSOLOM All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

JAMES
I formerly known as RUTH M. BWALA Now wish to be known as HELEN JAMES All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

ADAMU
I formerly known as BABAYO HARUNA Now wish to be known as ADAMU HARUNA All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

SALE
I formerly known as SALE BAPPA BELLO Now wish to be known as SALE BAPPA All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned, and general public to please take note.

PUBLIC NOTICE
GIDAUNIYAR JIHAR KATSINA
(KATSINA STATE DEVELOPMENT FUND)

This is to inform the General Public that the above named Organisation intends to apply for replacement and appointment of additional Trustees under Part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

The Trustees being replaced are:

[1] Gen. Muhammadu Buhari (Rtd), GCFR (Former Board of Trustees Chairman)	-	Voluntarily Retired
[2] Late Dr. Garba Ja Abdulkadir, OFR (Sarkin Sudan Katsina)	-	Deceased
[3] Late Dr. Muhammad Tukur Usman, OFR (Zannuwa Santurakin Katsina)	-	Deceased
[4] Late Alhaji Abdul Far	-	Deceased
[5] Late Ambassador Tanimu Saulawa, FPSN, F. Pharm	-	Deceased

The approved additional Trustees are as follows:

- Alhaji Sani Zangon Daura, OFR (Danmasanin Daura)
- Malam Isma'ila Isa, OFR, mni
- Alhaji Sa'idu Bardo, CON
- Malam Ahmad Muhammad Bawa
- Hajia Saudatu Shehu Mahdi, MFR

Any objection to the replacement and appointment of the above Trustees should be forwarded to:
The Registrar,
Corporate Affairs Commission,
Plot 420 Tigris Crescent,
Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street,
Maitama.
P.M.B. 198, Garki - Abuja.
Not later than 28 days of this publication.

Executive Secretary

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column.

AND whereas the person whose address(es) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION" of personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that the said LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Gusau, Zamfara State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:-

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANTS
BELLO ABDULLAHI OF FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS ZAMFARA STATE COMMAND WHO DIED AT USMAN DANFODIO TEACHING HOSPITAL SOKOTO ON 27 th OCTOBER, 2016	1. ALIYU ABDULLAHI 2. A'ISHA BELLO C/O. TUDUN WADA AREA GUSAU ZAMFARA STATE BROTHER AND WIDOW OF THE SAID DECEASED

Dated this4th.....day of January, 2017

PROBATE REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE

Signed
KABIRU UMARU
PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

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SCHEDULE:-

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT
DSP. GARBA KANE MOHAMMED OF NIGERIA POLICE FORCE GUSAU ZAMFARA STATE COMMAND WHO DIED AT USMAN DANFODIO TEACHING HOSPITAL SOKOTO ON 9 th FEB. 2016	HABIBU SHEHU C/O. BUKKUYUM TOWN BUKKUYUM L.G.A ZAMFARA STATE SON OF THE SAID DECEASED

Dated this5th.....day of January, 2017

PROBATE REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE

Signed
KABIRU UMARU
PROBATE REGISTRAR



INSIDE

POLITICS

PoliQuote

"He (Ayodele Fayose) is the architect of the leadership crisis rocking our party (PDP) in the South West and at the national level. Let all our elders, leaders, and true sons and daughters in Yorubaland ignore his doomsday predictions and come together in unity and encourage the efforts of Buhari's government." - **Senator Buruji Kashamu**

Buhari's real change will manifest this year — APC national secretary

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Wakili, Bauchi APC trade words over suspension

From Balarabe Alkassim, Bauchi

The senator representing Bauchi South, Senator Ali Wakili and the leadership of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in his Tafawa Balewa Local Government council are trading words over his alleged suspension from the party.

The party leadership in Lere North ward, in a letter dated January 8 and addressed to the local government party chairman, which was signed by Markus Silas and endorsed by 20 other executives, stated that they forwarded the complaint seeking to suspend the senator from the party.

They alleged that the senator had committed "series of offences inimical to the progress of the party."

According to the letter, "It has come to our notice that Senator Ali Wakili has been organising several political meetings in his house and other places outside the party office, with a view to factionalizing the APC in Lere North ward and Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area of Bauchi State."

The senator, however, in a statement alleged that he was aware of plans by some

officials of the APC to expel him and other elected members from the party.

The statement, signed by his Senior Legislative Aide, Mohammed Ladan Ahmed, alleged that the move had the backing of the state leadership of the party and the Bauchi State government.

He said that the meeting to remove him was allegedly held at the residence of the acting Bauchi South APC Zonal Vice Chairman, Murtala Ibrahim Kundum, and was also attended by the recently removed Tafawa Balewa APC party chairman, Mijinyawa Hardo.

"The move, which has the tacit connivance of the state government, is hinged on the premise that the removed APC chairman, together with Dan Malikin Boto, would be provided with adequate security details by the state government to storm Bununu town, headquarters of Tafawa Balewa local government area and announce the purported expulsion of the distinguished senator and Honourable Aminu Tukur, member representing Lere/Bula in the state House Of Assembly.

"We want to alert members of the public of the continued onslaught to diminish

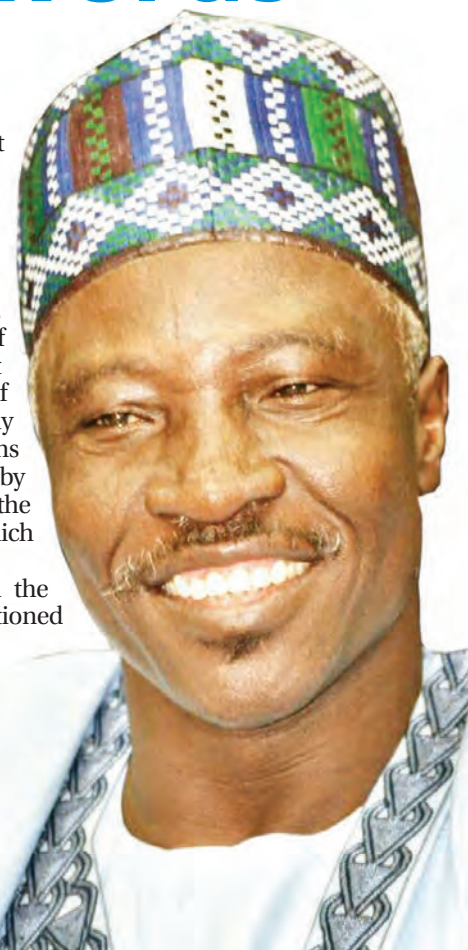
Senator Ali Wakili and distract him from providing effective representation, not only to the people of Bauchi South but to the entire Nigerian state," the statement said.

But debunking the allegation, the state publicity secretary of the APC, Auwal Jalla said that the state leadership heard of the suspension but would say anything since the allegations leveled against the senator by his ward leaders are against the constitution of the party which attract sanctions.

"Any member who breached the constitution must be sanctioned accordingly," he said.

However, calls made to the Special Assistant to Bauchi State governor, Comrade Sabo Mohammed, did not go through.

■ Senator Ali Wakili



Niger East legislators absent at interface with constituents

From Ahmed Tahir Ajobe, Minna

Members of the National Assembly and their state assembly counterparts from Zone B in Niger East senatorial district were absent at the Citizens Engagement Forum organized by the Community Action for Popular Participation (CAPP) at the weekend, in Minna.

The forum, which was organized in conjunction with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), was aimed at providing opportunity for citizens from the zone to interface with their legislators to discuss common problems and ways of addressing them.

They were also expected to avail the participants, drawn

from the nine local government areas within the zone, their stewardship since assuming office.

However, at the forum which was held yesterday, out the four House of Representatives members from the zone, only that of Suleja/Gurara/Tafa federal constituency, Abubakar Lado Suleja, was present.

The senator representing the district, David Umaru, was conspicuously absent.

Also absent from the programme were nine members of the state House of Assembly from the zone and representatives of all political parties in the state, with the exception of that of the All Progressives Congress (APC).

Participants and

organizers of the event expressed concern over the absence of the elected representatives from the forum, which was expected to deepen democracy and provide the electorate an opportunity to hold their leaders accountable.

The Country Director, Search for Common Ground, Mr Chom Bagu, who was also the chairman of the occasion, urged citizens and civil society to unite against bad leadership by holding political office holders accountable to the people.

The state UNDP coordinator, Malam Baba Wachiko, called for continuous interface between citizens and elected leaders for constructive dialogue on how to move their respective areas forward.

Why we cleared Sheriff as PDP chairman – Umar Ardo

From Andrew Agbese, Kaduna

A chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Dr. Umar Ardo, has explained why the PDP cleared Senator Ali Modu Sheriff for national chairmanship in 2015 because he proved to them that he did not form the Boko Haram group.

Sheriff had been accused of forming and sponsoring the sect when he was governor of Borno.

Ardo, who contested for the governorship ticket of the PDP in Adamawa State in 2015, said in a statement, yesterday, that he had to speak on the matter following his engagement on a recent online platform on the same issue.

"I asked Sen. Modu Sheriff this question point blank at the heat of his campaign to be the national chairman of the PDP when I had a one-on-one meeting with him in May, last year.

"His answer to me was that he didn't (form the Boko Haram). To buttress his position, he left me and went somewhere in his house and shortly returned with three documents and handed them

over to me. One was a 'Report of the Post Mortem Committee on the Sectarian Crises in Kano, Bauchi, Yobe and Borno States,' constituted by the then National Security Adviser, as directed by the Nigerian president.

"The report was dated 27th August, 2009. The other document was the 'Report of the Implementation Committee of the Government White Paper on the Boko Haram Insurgency in Borno State' dated 9th November, 2009. The third one was titled 'The 2009 Sectarian Crisis in Borno State' written by Sen. Ali Modu Sheriff himself in September 2011," he said.

Ardo said having carefully read through the first two documents and discountenancing the third document, written by Sheriff himself, the facts contained in those he read, and the personalities involved, showed that Sheriff did not create the Boko Haram as it is currently composited.

"In fact, from the committee's report and the White Paper, Sen. Sheriff was commended for the steps his government took to stem Islamic insurgency in the state," he said.

INTERVIEW/NEWS >>

By Hamza Idris

Many Nigerians said they never thought of passing through serious economic challenges under Buhari. What should they expect from the APC-led national government this year?

Generally speaking, the year 2016 recorded global economic recession which affected most countries, especially petroleum producing countries like Nigeria. This was due to gross decline in prices of crude oil which adversely affected our revenue generation. Secondly, we had our peculiar problems like restiveness in the Niger Delta which affected oil production and export. We also had hiccups in early preparation and passage of the 2016 budget. And of course, the general security challenges across the country was quite capital intensive on the lean resources.

However, government had before the end of the year 2016, introduced laudable programmes to improve the lives of Nigerians. The Central Bank of Nigeria had last year supported production of local rice, soya beans and other crops with N23 billion. The bank's Anchor Borrowers Programme targeted promotion of rice, maize, wheat, cotton, yam, cassava, ginger, palm oil and cocoa among others through cooperative societies and organizations.

In line with its campaign promise, you will appreciate that the President Buhari administration has commenced the payment of N5, 000 social investment programme to indigent Nigerians. Similarly, the N-power and the soft loan programme of N10,000 to N100,000 to artisans, market women and others will soon commence to promote small and medium scale enterprises. The Central Bank of Nigeria said it has earmarked N220 billion to promote micro, small and medium enterprises

Buhari's real change will manifest this year – APC national secretary

Alhaji Maimala Buni is the National Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC). In this interview, he admitted that 2016 will go down memory lane as an economically challenging year for the government and the citizenry. He, however, predicted that the President Muhammadu Buhari-led administration had cleared many impediments and that 2017 will herald a new dawn, full of economic prosperity and improved life for the citizenry. Excerpts:

among Nigerians.

And clearly, we heard it from the horse's mouth when President Muhammadu Buhari in his New Year message to the nation, said the change anticipated by Nigerians will manifest in 2017. He had promised that local content and local businesses will be the driving force of the economy in 2017. This means that local entrepreneurs will be empowered for wealth creation. It also suggests that there would be massive job creation for the youth in 2017. These are huge investments that are currently undergoing gestation and their benefits will be glaring in 2017.

The frosty relationship between the executive and legislative arms of government in 2016 did not only delay the passage of the 2016 budget, but also polarized the two arms of government in which your party has the majority. What measures has APC taken to avoid a repeat this year?

I think for anyone to hold this view in 2017 is to say the least that such a person is not in tune with national development. There have been improved understanding and working relationship between the two arms of government, and especially among members of our party. The party has continued to build bridges among its members. This step has produced better understanding and fellowship among our members for government to succeed and improve the lives of Nigerians.

I want to assure



■ Maimala Buni

you that the president and the legislators have great respect and understanding for one another. They have over this period of time indicated commitment to work collectively to rebuild the country. The leaderships of the two chambers of the National Assembly have consistently assured on their commitment to the Buhari administration to build a strong, united, peaceful and economically prosperous nation. I wish to assure you, too, that the relationship and support will continue to blossom, grow and wax stronger in the collective interest of the nation.

There are reports that a new political party comprising of chieftains from APC and other political parties is springing up to give APC a good fight in 2019. Are you not worried?

Let me educate you on this. Looking at Nigeria's current political life, APC remains the leading political party with the

strong followership and its irresistible wind of change is sweeping across the

nation. Therefore, it will amount to political suicide to contemplate leaving APC for another political party. Let me also add that the 16 years of misrule and colossal damage done to the nation has eroded people's trust and confidence in other political parties and their actors.

Forget about the ranting of the opposition, the true picture is that Nigerians appreciate the efforts of the APC government towards rescuing the country from an imminent and total collapse. The selfless service and commitment of the Buhari administration to revamping all sectors

of country is becoming noticeable in less than two years, compared to the 16 years of maladministration in the country. Nigeria has under this government reclaimed its lost glory at the regional, continental and international scenes.

This explains why the President and APC received a vote of confidence from Nigerians in the Kogi, Ondo and Edo state elections. The party enjoyed overwhelming support with landslide victories to defeat sitting governors in Kogi and Ondo states, while the party retained its seat in Edo State.

I think this speaks for itself; it is evident that APC still enjoys massive support from Nigerians and will beat any party any time. Therefore, there is no any threat from any existing or imaginary political party in Nigeria to our great party, the APC.

Rivers PDP condemns dismissal of 6 police officers


From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

The Rivers State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), yesterday described the dismissal of six police officers attached to Governor Nyesom Wike as "the height of injustice."


The chairman of the party, Bro. Felix Obuah, in a statement issued in Port Harcourt, said the alleged humiliation of the six police officers, which was beamed on national television, clearly showed

that the police authorities acted the script of the All Progressives Congress (APC), which, he said, was not favoured by the outcome of the December 20, 2016 Rivers re-run election. Bro. Obuah further berated the police for allowing itself to be used in what he called "a show of shame."

The party accused the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) of "insulting the sensibilities of Nigerians over his remark that the dismissed police officers were engaged in professional misconduct."



NEITI
Nigeria Extractive Industries
Transparency Initiative



THE PRESIDENCY

INVITATION TO TENDER

PREAMBLE:

1. The Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) is inviting interested, reputable and competent companies with proven record to tender for the supply of the following goods:

Lot Number	Description of Items	Quantity
Lot 1	Supply of Laptops	25 pcs
Lot 2	Supply & Installation of Office Furniture (Tables & Chairs)	
	i. Office Tables	20 pcs
	ii. Office Chairs	30 pcs

2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB).

3. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

- Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).
- Current Tax Clearance Certificate.
- Valid/Current Certificate issued by the National Pension Commission as evidence of compliance with Pension Reform Act (PRA) 2004 as amended.
- Evidence of registration on the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) National Database of Contractors, Consultants and Service providers.
- Current and Valid Certificate issued by the Industrial Training Fund as evidence of compliance with (ITF) Act (Amended) 2011.
- For Lot 1 evidence of registration with Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria

4. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Financial Capability: Company Audited Accounts/Financial Statement for the last three (3) years, viz., 2013, 2014 and 2015, to demonstrate the financial capability of the Bidder in terms of profitability and adequate working capital.
- Verifiable list of similar supplies/jobs successfully delivered/completed in the last three years including letters of contract award or job completion certificate (Please provide contact address of the clients).
- A sworn affidavit obtained from a court of competent jurisdiction confirming that all information, presented and attached are true and correct of the company and that no officer of NEITI is a former or present Director, Shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder.
- Documents to be submitted in fulfillment of the mandatory and other requirements should be arranged in the order listed above.
- Tender documents should be paginated with table of contents indicating the pages on which items are to be found.

5. COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

- A complete set of Standard Bidding Document in English Language in a CD ROM may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Ten Thousand Naira Only (N10, 000.00) per LOT through the REMITA Platform in favor of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI)**. Receipt should be collected from the Accounts Department on successful payment and presented to the Procurement unit for collection of the tender documents.
- Interested/eligible bidder may obtain further information from and obtain bidding documents between the hours of 9.00a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday, except on public holidays at Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) at 4th Floor, Murjanatu House, 1, Zambezi Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama-Abuja.

6. SUBMISSION OF BIDS:

- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **12 Noon on Monday, 20th February, 2017**. Bids via electronic means will not be allowed. **Late bids will be rejected.**
- Bids must be submitted in separate sealed envelopes, duly marking the envelopes as "ORIGINAL" and "COPY." These envelopes containing the original and the copies shall then be enclosed in one single envelope clearly marked as appropriate e.g "LOT-1 Supply of Laptops" OR LOT-2 Supply & Installation of Office furniture (Tables & Chairs)" delivered & addressed to: The Executive Secretary, Attention: Procurement: Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), 4th Floor, Murjanatu House, No.1,Zambezi Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama-Abuja.

7. CLOSING AND OPENING OF BIDS:

Bids will be opened immediately after submission deadline by **12.15 Noon on Monday, 20th February, 2017** in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the NEITI Conference Room, 4th Floor, Murjanatu House, No.1, Zambezi Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama-Abuja.

Signed
The Executive Secretary



AROUND THE WORLD

UNITED STATES

Trump accepts U.S. intelligence on Russia hacking

President-elect Donald Trump accepts the U.S. intelligence community's conclusion that Russia engaged in cyber-attacks aimed at disrupting the presidential election and may take actions in response, his incoming chief of staff said on Sunday.

Reince Priebus, the former Republican National Committee chairman, said Trump understands that Moscow was behind the intrusions into the Democratic Party organizations. "He accepts the fact that this particular case was entities in Russia so that's not the issue," Priebus said on "Fox News

Sunday." Priebus' comments marked a major shift. Trump has repeatedly dismissed claims that the Russians were trying to help him, arguing that those charges are the product of his political opponents trying to undermine his victory.

In a statement on Friday after receiving his intelligence briefing, Trump did not refer specifically to Russia's role in the presidential campaign. Priebus said Trump plans to order the intelligence community to make recommendations as to what should be done. Depending on those recommendations, "actions may be taken," he said

EUROPE

20 dead as icy spell grips Europe

Icy temperatures across Europe have left more than 20 people dead and blanketed even the Greek islands and southern Italy in snow. Italy saw ferries and flights cancelled and schools in the south are expected to close on Monday.

Turkey has also been badly affected. The Bosphorus was closed to shipping as a heavy snowstorm hit Istanbul.

At least 10 people died of cold in Poland. Night temperatures in Russia plunged to minus 30C.

Normally milder Greece has witnessed temperatures of

minus 15C in the north where an Afghan migrant died of cold last week and roads were closed.

In Athens, the temperature failed to rise above 0C and several of the islands were covered in snow.

Some of the Greek islands are home to thousands of migrants and many are being moved to temporary housing and heated tents. Homeless hostels in Italy are opening their doors day and night as the weather was blamed for the deaths of seven people, five of them living out in the open.

SEYCHELLES

First president Mancham dies at 77

Seychelles' founding president James Mancham, who spent only a year in office before being ousted in a coup, died Sunday aged 77, his nephew and staff said. The former politician and lawyer, who spent his years in retirement writing several books and promoting his island nation, was found dead at home.

"This morning his wife told us that Mr Mancham was not moving and we did the necessary to get him transported to hospital," one of his security guards Philippe Figaro told AFP.

"Doctors confirmed he was dead," said the former president's nephew Derick

Pothin. Mancham, who initially opposed the Indian Ocean archipelago's breakaway from British rule, won the country's first election by a small margin in 1976. A year later he was overthrown in a bloodless coup by his prime minister, France-Albert Rene, while he was attending a Commonwealth conference in London. Rene set up a one-party socialist state.

In 1981 South African mercenaries led by notorious British soldier-for-hire in Africa Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare planned a coup to return the pro-Western Mancham to power.

IRAQ

Suicide attacks rock Baghdad killing at least 20

Suicide bombings at two marketplaces in eastern Baghdad killed at least 20 people - the latest in a spate of attacks in the Iraqi capital that have left dozens dead in recent days.

In the first blast claimed by Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the attacker drove an explosives-rigged car into a vegetable market in the mainly Shia district of Jamila and detonated it, killing at least 13 people, police said.

A suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest blew himself up a few hours later at a market in the mostly Shia district of Baladiyat, killing another seven people.

Both attacks wounded at least 50 people. ISIL claimed the first attack in an online statement saying the bomber had targeted "a gathering of Shias" in Jamila.

Jamila is the main wholesale vegetable market in Baghdad and lies in Sadr City, which has been repeatedly targeted.

YEMEN

68 killed in battles near strategic strait

At least 68 fighters have been killed in two days of fierce battles between Yemeni forces and Shiite Huthi rebels near the strategic Bab al-Mandab strait, military officials said Sunday.

Government forces

launched on Saturday an assault to recapture the coastal Dhubab district, just 30 kilometres (20 miles) north of Bab al-Mandab which links the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

Since then at least 55 Huthis have been killed in fighting

and 72 others wounded, military and medical sources said.

Clashes since Saturday have also killed 13 loyalists forces, including an army general, Brigadier-General Abdul Aziz al-Majidi, a loyalist commander, told AFP.



■ Iraqis inspect the site of an attack at Baghdad's main vegetable market yesterday. A suicide bomber blew up a car at the entrance of the market, killing at least 11 people and wounding dozens, security officials and medics said Photo: AFP

UNITED KINGDOM

UK will have 'control over borders' after Brexit - PM

Prime Minister Theresa May insisted on Sunday that Britain will have "control over our borders" after Brexit, suggesting she would be prepared to quit Europe's trading zone to achieve it. "The referendum vote was a vote for us to... bring control into our immigration system.

I'm clear that is part of what we need to deliver," she told Sky News in an interview.

"We will be able to have control over our borders, of our laws." German leader Angela Merkel has warned Britain will not be able to remain in the EU's single market while "cherry picking"

the terms - including over the free movement of labour. May on Sunday appeared to suggest she would be willing to quit the trade zone. "Often people talk in terms of, somehow we're leaving the EU but we still want to keep bits of membership of the EU," she said.

SYRIA

Bomb kills dozens in northern city of Azaz

A fuel truck exploded in the busy centre of a rebel-held town near Syria's border with Turkey on Saturday killing dozens of people and wounding dozens more. The blast struck near a bustling market and in front of a courthouse in Azaz killing at least 48 people - a death toll expected to rise, the

UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. Rami Abdurrahman, the head of the Observatory, said the explosion was caused by a rigged fuel tanker, which explains the large blast and high death toll. Syria's nearly six-year war has created a patchwork of areas of control across the country, and Azaz is a

major stronghold of the Turkish-backed Free Syrian Army (FSA). About 14 of the dead were rebel fighters or courthouse guards.

Images shared online showed a huge plume of black smoke rising above the chaotic market and sounds of gunfire echoing in the background as onlookers gathered around the site.

FRANCE

24,000 cyber-attacks thwarted in 2016

France says it was the subject of 24,000 cyber-attacks against defence targets last year. Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said such attacks were doubling every year and this year's presidential elections could be targeted. He said it would be "naive" to think France was immune to the type of cyber-campaign that targeted the US election, which has been blamed on Russia. Mr Le Drian is overseeing an overhaul of France's cyber-security operations. Cyber-attacks in France have increased substantially in the last three years and have become a serious threat to the country's infrastructure, Mr Le Drian said.

IVORY COAST

Unrest: Calm reported after two-day mutiny

A rebellion in Ivory Coast over soldiers' pay appears to have passed.

Residents and correspondents in the second city, Bouake, described calm on the streets - a day after troops briefly seized the defence minister. The rebellion had spread from there to other cities, including the commercial hub, Abidjan, but that city, too, is now quiet.

A deal was struck between the mutinous soldiers and the government on Saturday, though details are scant.

The mutiny began in Bouake early on Friday with soldiers firing rocket-launchers.

ISRAEL

Four dead in Jerusalem lorry attack

Four people have been killed in Jerusalem by a Palestinian who rammed a lorry into a group of soldiers, in what police say was a terrorist attack. Three women and one man, all in their twenties, were killed and at least 13 more were wounded, police said. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the attacker, who was shot dead by soldiers, was a suspected supporter of so-called Islamic State. The prime minister's office gave no details on what led to the finding. Israel's police chief, Roni Alsheich said the attacker, who has been identified by police, was a Palestinian from East Jerusalem.



THE GOVERNMENT OF KADUNA STATE

KADUNA STATE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AGENCY(KADFAMA)

Vacancies

The Kaduna State Facilities Management Agency (KADFAMA) has a mandate to ensure the effective management and maintenance of assets owned and controlled by the Kaduna State Government.

The agency is hereby inviting interested persons to apply for the positions listed below;

	Position	Requirements
a.	Assistant Director, Internal Audit	Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or relevant discipline. MBA or other post-graduate degrees are desirable. Ten (10) years at a senior level in auditing and/or accounting functions in the relevant Industry.
b.	Assistant Director, Legal Adviser (Secretary)	LLB & LLM with at least ten (10) years post-call and cognate experience in Facilities Management, Land and Property Law.
c.	Principal Executive Officer, Public Affairs	Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication or any other relevant degree in Social Sciences. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
d.	Assistant Director, Mechanical & Electrical Maintenance & Operations	Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Services or its' equivalent in relevant disciplines. Ten (10) years post qualification experience is desirable.
e.	Principal Mechanical & Electrical Maintenance & Operations Officer	Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Services or its' equivalent in relevant disciplines. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
f.	Assistant Director, Building/ Ground Maintenance	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Ten (10) years post qualification experience. Master's Degree or higher qualifications are desirable.
g.	Principal Building Maintenance Officer	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience, Master's Degree or higher qualifications are desirable.
h.	Principal Landscaping & Ground Maintenance Officer	Bachelor's degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience, Master's degree or higher qualifications are desirable.
i.	Assistant Director, Monitoring & Quality Control	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Masters in Project Management is an added Advantage. Ten (10) years' experience of post qualification experience.
j.	Principal Project Monitoring Officer	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
k.	Principal Quality Control Officer	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience. Master's degree or higher qualifications are desirable.
l.	Assistant Director, Enforcement	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Master's Degree or higher qualifications are desirable. Ten (10) years post qualification experience.
m.	Principal Enforcement/ Compliance Officer	Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
n.	Principal Occupational Health & Safety Officer	Bachelor's degree or its equivalent in relevant discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience. Master's degree or higher qualifications are highly desirable.
o.	Assistant Director, Procurement	Bachelor's Degree in Supply Chain/ or Economics/ or Finance/ or Operations/ Engineering or a related area, with a Master's Degree, preferably. Ten (10) years post qualification experience.
p.	Assistant Director, Admin & Finance	University Degree in Accounting/ or Financial Management. A Master's Degree will be an advantage. Ten (10) years post qualification experience.
q.	Principal Administration Officer	University Degree in Business or Public Administration. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
r.	Principal Executive Officer, Finance & Admin	University Degree in Accounting or Financial Management. A Master's Degree will be an added advantage. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
s.	Assistant Director, IT/Asset Management	University Degree in Engineering, Architecture, Asset/ Management or Science discipline. A Master's degree/ MBA or equivalent will be an added advantage. Ten (10) years post qualification experience.
t.	Position: - Principal IT Maintenance Officer	University Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
u.	Principal Asset Data Processing Officer	University Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related discipline. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.
v.	Principal Estate Officer	University degree in Building Engineering, Facilities Maintenance, Estate Management or Science discipline. A Master's degree will be an Advantage. Seven (7) years post qualification experience.

SUBMISSION:

Applicants should forward an application letter which should be accompanied with copies of detailed Curriculum Vitae, relevant academic and professional certificates, passport photographs, and other relevant supporting documents.

All applications should be clearly marked "Application for position (As captured in (2a–2v) and addressed to: -

**THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
KADUNA STATE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AGENCY,
SIR KASHIM IBRAHIM HOUSE,
KADUNA.**

All applications should be submitted not later than 23rd January 2017 by 12-noon prompt.

NOTE

- I. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited.
- II. The Kaduna State Government is indemnified of any responsibility to any and all the applicants as this advertisement does not constitute a binding agreement with any applicant.
- III. The Kaduna State Government is not bound to employ any of the applicants.
- IV. All remuneration are in accordance with civil service terms and conditions of engagement.
- V. Applicants with Third Class Degrees and below may not bother to apply.
- VI. Applicants with Relevant Professional Registrations stand a better chance of being considered.

Signed

ARC. (DR.) IBRAHIM HAMZA *mnia*
DIRECTOR GENERAL
KADUNA STATE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AGENCY.



**FEDERAL UNIVERSITY LOKOJA
(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR)**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS
FOR THE 2015 TETFUND NORMAL INTERVENTION PROJECTS
FOR PROGRAMME UPGRADE**

1.0: INTRODUCTION

The Management of the Federal University Lokoja invites interested and reputable Suppliers with relevant experience and good track record for pre-qualification exercise for its Year 2015 TETFund Normal Intervention projects for Programme Upgrade as listed below:

LOT No.	DESCRIPTION OF WORK
1	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment for Chemistry Department
2	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment for Geology Department
3	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment for Biological Sciences' Department
4	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment for Physics Department
5	Procurement of Computers, Printers, Photocopiers and other Accessories for Mathematical and Computer Science Departments
6	Procurement of Computers, Software and other Accessories for Geography and Economics Departments

2.0: PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for pre-qualification, interested and competent suppliers must submit the following:

- i. Certificate of Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission.
- ii. Evidence of Current Tax Clearance.
- iii. Company Audited Account for the last 3 years i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- iv. VAT registration certificate and evidence of remittance to FIRS.
- v. Evidence of compliance with Pension Reform Act, 2004.
- vi. Evidence of compliance with ITF Amended Act 2011.
- vii. Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers (NDCCSP) provided by the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP).
- viii. Original copies of documents listed in item (i-vii) for sighting during the opening session which is scheduled for Monday February 20, 2017 at 12.30pm.
- ix. Evidence of Experience with similar jobs in the last three years. This should include the scope/volume of work and the amount, which should be verifiable.
- x. Evidence of financial capability to handle the job and bank support.
- xi. Company profile including names and technical qualification(s) and experience(s) of key personnel.

3.0: SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

The completed pre-qualification documents should be enclosed in an envelope, sealed and marked "PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS FOR and addressed to:

**The Registrar
Federal University,
Lokoja.**

4.0: The completed pre-qualification documents should be deposited in the Tenders Box situated in the Office of the Registrar, Federal University, Lokoja on or before 12 noon of Monday February 20, 2017.

5.0: The submitted pre-qualification documents will be opened on Monday February 20, 2017 at 12.30pm in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend, at the Conference room, Adankolo campus, behind Specialist Hospital, Lokoja.

6.0: This is not an invitation to tender, full tendering procedure shall be applied only to bidders that have been pre-qualified and found capable of project delivery.

7.0: Please note that not more than one (1) job shall be given to each Supplier.

8.0: Tenderers should also note that only pre-qualified companies would be invited to submit financial bids. The Management of Federal University Lokoja reserves the right to reject any or all the submissions that do not meet up with the requirements as specified above.

9.0: The advertisement for the submission of the technical bid shall neither be construed to be a commitment on the part of the University, nor shall it entitle any company to make any claim whatsoever and/or seek any indemnity from the University by virtue of any response to the said advertisement.

Signed
Habiba A. Adeiza (Mrs.)
REGISTRAR

VACANCY**ADVERTISEMENT FOR SENIOR POSITIONS**

A reputable and fast growing Microfinance bank in one of the prominent northern states is restructuring and expanding its operations with emphasis on non-interest financial services. It therefore intends to employ and place competent persons in the following positions:

Managing Director/CEO:

Suitable person must have a first degree or HND in Business Management, Economics or Accountancy. A post graduate degree or certificate in a relevant field will confer added advantage. Candidate must have been in a similar or very senior position in the industry with total cognate working experience not below seven years and at least three impeccable referees.

Head of Operations**Head, Credit and Marketing:**

Candidates for positions 2 and 3 must possess a minimum of a first degree or HND in Business Management, Economics, Accountancy or the social sciences and have worked in similar or next to the positions in the industry. A minimum of 5 years cognate experience and three good references are necessary.

Internal Auditor:

Candidate must possess minimum of first degree or HND in Accountancy and have worked for a minimum of 3 years as internal auditor or accountant in a reputable financial organization or accountancy firm. References from three impeccable sources are also necessary.

Remuneration for all the positions will be very attractive and negotiable against agreed KPI's. All interested applicants should apply by sending an application and comprehensive resume not later than 23rd January, 2017 to the email address below:

vacanciesforseniorpositions@gmail.com

Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for **interview on 28th January, 2017.**



OPINION

e-mail opinion@dailytrust.com

Wole Olaoye
wole.olayoye@gmail.com

Banishing the 'Kabiyesi' syndrome

It has become part of our national character to deify temporary tenants of power. We isolate them from the people to ensure that the only way they can know what is going on is to ask those who have formed a cabal around them.

At every level of governance you find elected officials who came from among the people but suddenly no longer recognise the people and their pains, hopes and aspirations.

I call it the 'Kabiyesi' syndrome - the transmogrification of an elected person into a pseudo royalty as if his position was hereditary like that of the authentic royal father. The word 'kabiyesi' means "no one dares question you", and it is respectfully used for royal fathers in Yorubaland.

That is the real thing, not this fake one where lizards insist on being called dragons. The real kabiyesis are close to the people, these fake ones merely use the people as ladder to ascend to power. But I digress.

So, the leader falls into a trap from which only Providence can extricate him. He starts having messianic complex. I have seen this play out over and over again at the local, state and federal levels that I wonder if those leaders were never prepared for the high position they occupied to the extent that they had to encounter empirically verifiable reality about the problems facing the people from sycophantic third parties.

Take the last two presidents we had, Olusegun Obasanjo and Goodluck Jonathan, for example. Both gentlemen would probably have performed better if they had made personal efforts to remain in touch with the people's sensibilities. But they were caged in, isolated from the same people who voted them into power. They were virtually deified by the truth-benders who somehow managed to assume the role of puppeteer while playing political vassal.

In the case of Obasanjo, the messianic complex was so ingrained that he couldn't imagine what would become of Nigeria after him; hence the ill-fated third term attempt. For a man whose presidency had started on a reform note and who tried in the first four years to make a difference in various sectors of national life, his second term was an exercise in self-demystification and unparalleled vindictiveness.

When he waxes lyrical about credible leadership today, one cannot but succumb to a wry guffaw wondering what might have been if some human beings had themselves taken the counsel they now freely ventilate. Jonathan may not have been a great reformer but he did concede defeat when he lost the elections and that is his major qualification for being accepted in decent society today.

But for the 'kabiyesi' syndrome, many things would have been done differently by the federal administration which came in waving a flag of change. We simply cannot continue doing things the same old way and expect to get a different set of results. And we must dispassionately evaluate the actions of our leaders so as to help them to succeed. I concede that the current government has

mounted the most serious anti-corruption war in three decades. Whatever nay-sayers and prominent thieves say, we would have been worse off without the current anti-corruption effort.

But in terms of style, Buhari has to change gear as I have had cause to counsel in an earlier piece. The president is being turned into a national monument that is viewed only a couple of celebratory times a year. Why must he be hemmed in as if he's being 'protected' from the people? We have had half a dozen tragic occurrences in the last one year at which the president ought to have made even a symbolic appearance to assure the people that he has their back. Any PR expert worthy of his hire would tell you that a million video clips of the leader may not have the effect of one single public appearance to reassure the people.

And what about touching base with the ordinary people outside the official canopy of poverty alleviation schemes at which the president makes his speech and takes a dignified exit? Whatever became of unannounced on-the-spot assessment of projects by the president to keep ministers on their toes? Why wouldn't the president show up in Wuse market unannounced and simply touch base with the people?

And talking about doing things differently, why would we wait for the only runway of the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport to become a tyre-burster before making fire brigade arrangements for planes to divert to Kaduna from March 2017 so that the Abuja runway can be fixed? Even in these lean times, we could first have built a second runway within the last one year and then close down the faulty one for repairs. I wish the government well with the Kaduna arrangement, but I wish we had been more proactive in line with the Change mantra.

There are many federal parastatals without boards, 18 months after the new government came in. We are not saving money by not constituting boards; we are stunting the capacity of affected parastatals to deliver as per mandate. Lethargy should not be mistaken for sure-footedness.

President Buhari should not allow himself to be turned into a political 'kabiyesi'. No issue involving human lives should be too small for the president to wade into. A president should be holding the hands of survivors of natural or communal tragedies; he should be a presence in the consciousness of every appointed official because he can spring a surprise at any time.

This is 2017. We hope to see a more dynamic President Buhari going forward.

He must not fail. And if I seem to be presumptuously counselling you, O President, it is not that I hate you, but I don't love my country less.

Congrats, Ghana

Congratulations on the inauguration of President Nana Akufo-Addo as President of Ghana, even if some of the paragraphs in his speech were pinched from former American presidents. A-f-r-i-c-a!

Nigeria: A nation so blessed, but so cursed

By **Olaekan Waheed Adigun**

It is New Year again. As usual, many Christians went to Church on New Year Eve to receive prophecies for the incoming year about what it may bring. There were prophecies like "APC will face crisis"; "A new party will be formed by politician"; "A popular politician will signal his intention to run for the presidency in 2019" etcetera which drive many Nigerians to great excitement. Not all these "prophecy" are entirely negative or clownish as some of the above appear to be. Some prophecies deal with the future greatness of Nigeria and the fact that it will be blessed with good leaders. The excitements and the mad rush to hear these statements show how religious many people are!

While it is not entirely bad to believe these prophecies, we must understand that, as a nation, God has blessed us so much that we can't ask for more blessings. He has done His part; we only need to do ours. "Over Religiousness" or "Over Prayers" seen in many Nigerians today will not force His Hands to do our biddings. We must do our parts too.

Though, I enjoy reading the English novelist, Eric Arthur Blair (popularly known as George Orwell), I have never been a fan of English novels partly because of their over glorification of English culture or because of the boredom they bring to me then as a student of Literature-in-English. The only novel I still read apart from those of George Orwell, is Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe.

Reading the novel, for perhaps the eight time, some days ago still struck me much about Nigeria and its abundant natural resources. I asked myself how a nation can be so blessed and yet appear so cursed at the same time. Are people poor because of lack of resources? If we had these much resources in abundance, why is there so much poverty, disease and hunger in the land? A Columbia University economist, conducting a research in Latin America in the 1950s, gave a strange answer (in paraphrase): people are not poor because of lack of resources, they are poor because they are ignorant of the abundance that surrounds them!

For those who haven't read Robinson Crusoe, it is the story of an adventure undertaken by a young man whose father wanted to become a lawyer and manage his estate but chose to travel abroad by sea. His father warned him against such, 'At sea you will only find trouble and unhappiness.' And in truth, when he sailed with his two friends, what happened were what his father had said.

On one of his sails to Guinea

"to collect Africans to work" as slaves on their farms, they suffered a shipwreck leaving his two friends dead and Crusoe barely escaping with his life to spend over 28 years on a strange island.

On the island, his constant companions were his Bible, a dog, two cats, his flock and all that nature could provide for human survival. Though the island contained all that he needed to survive, Crusoe must go out to hunt for animals, else he will go hungry.

Like Crusoe's island, God has blessed Nigeria with all it needed to achieve self-sufficiency and become one of world's greatest powers. But unlike Crusoe, Nigeria and Nigerians expect God to, after doing so much, come and help us refine our oil; transform our cassava to garri; produce petrol from petroleum; and in some cases we pray to God to come and help us clean our dirty rooms!

Though Crusoe believed in God's protection, he knew he can't be the only one on the island. He never parted with his tools and ammunitions at any time else he became the victim when attacked by beasts or man eating savages. He probably understood the Arabian proverb "Trust in God, but tie your camel." Nigeria is a sovereign state, we need a good security apparatus to conquer internal and external attacks. God Himself is known as "The Lord of the Hosts." Prayers alone will not defeat Boko Haram; looting monies meant for arms to fight Boko Haram is not only a sin against man, but also against God!

Crusoe knows that God has supplied his needs on the island, he knows he has to save for the future. He understood the fact that his gunpowder (a key resource) will sooner or later run out. He started rearing goats "for meat and milk." It is never God's fault that we refused to save for the rainy day while we made huge sums from oil boom. It is not God's fault that we loot the monies meant for repairs of our refineries. It is not God's fault that we didn't explore other resources that nature has provided for us through diversification. God has supplied our needs according to His riches in glory truly, but there is a part we also must play in accessing these riches!

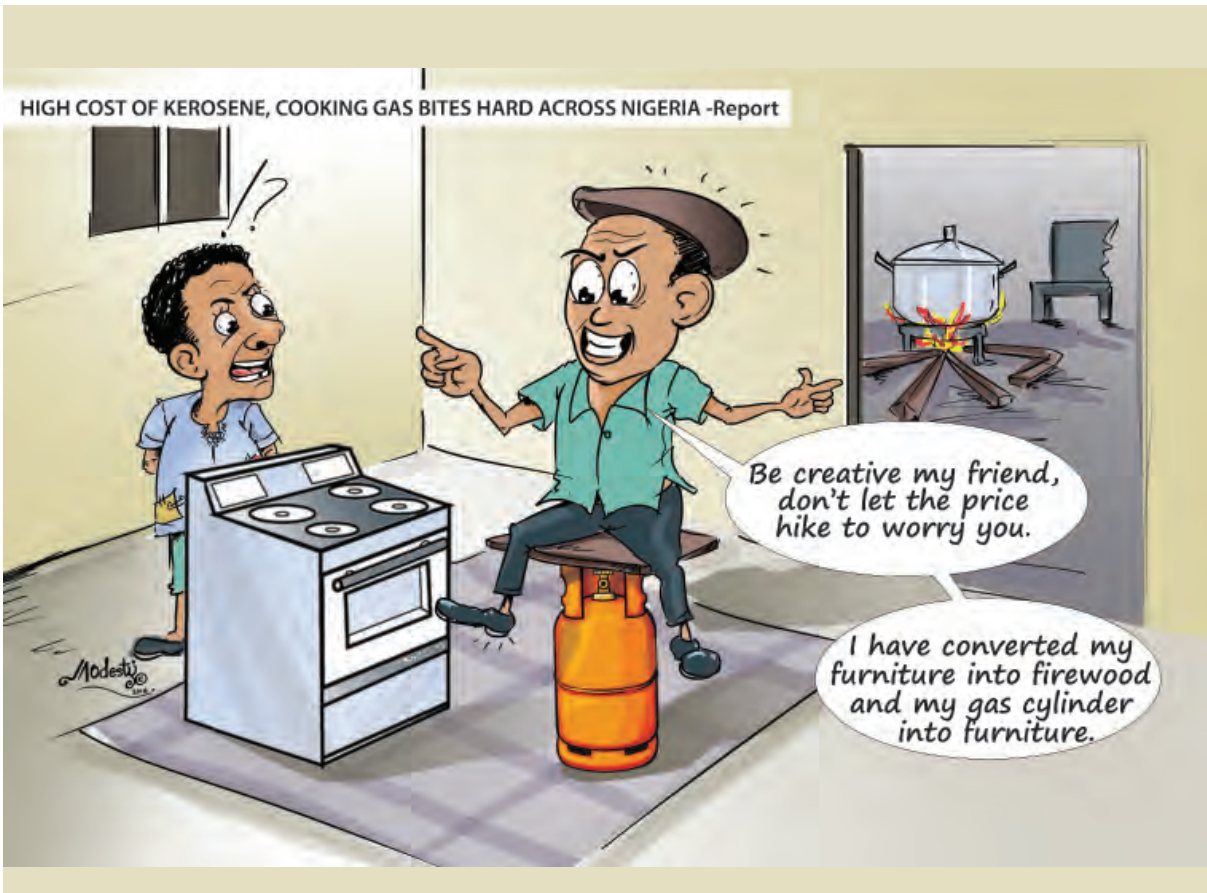
We must realize that He has done so much for us and there is no reason why we should cry or suffer. If the nation is poor, it is because we have refused to see the abundance He has deposited in our nation (like Crusoe's island) as a result of our collective blindness. This won't change by being just religious!

Adigun wrote this piece from Lagos.

Letter to the Editor

e-mail letters@dailytrust.com text 08131800030

CARTOON by UKEOMA MODESTUS



Re: Toro wants less talk, more action on NFF Audit

I read with keen interest Alhaji Sani Toro's stands on the above mentioned title on page 45 of the Daily Trust Newspapers dated December, 20, 2016. Our sports authorities, therefore must change with the Federal Government policy (as there should no business as usual) in our football. We all need to help President Buhari administration by being change agents. It is not where you are in sport but how patriotic and committed you can involve to let change comes from you.

Change established from the top echelon is called legislated change. Our sport authorities therefore, must fall in line with the Federal Government Change Agenda. Transparency, accountability and absolute dedication are the key words. We need to shape sport in this country positively to meet the yawning and aspiration of essence of sport. This requires robust action and commitment morally and patriotically.

For FIFA, the world governing football to withheld all development funds for NFF (Nigeria) for lack of proper documentation of \$802,000 out of \$1.1m is disgraceful, unseating and disgusting. And for the players of our female National Football Team (The Super Falcons) to embark on protest before they were paid their bonuses and allowances says much about sport administration in Nigeria. For sport to develop in this country, people of integrity, patriotic and selflessness with wealth of experience must speak out. To face out the menace, people who love sport can change the rot.

Rahman S. Olawoyin, Abuja.

Hope, as FG rolls out social investment programme

It is consoling that for the first time in Nigeria's history that the federal government has succeeded in articulating a social programme to cater for the needs of the most vulnerable and less privileged in our midst.

The commencement of payment of N5000 monthly stipend to the poorest and most vulnerable in our society through the Conditional Cash Transfer signposts the determination of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration to help cushion the effects of the present harsh economic situation.

To effectively implement the Social Investment Programme, the federal government spread it into four parts which include the home grown school feeding programme that targets 5.5 Million primary school pupils in all the states in Nigeria.

The Second is a job-creation programme aimed at training 500,000 university graduates who will be deployed to work in their local communities as teachers, agricultural extension workers and health support workers.

The third scheme is the Conditional Cash Transfer programme where one million care givers will receive a monthly stipend of N5,000 over a two year

period.

It is worthy of note that this particular programme has commenced in nine states of the federation and the remaining states will in no distant time benefit.

The fourth in the series is the Enterprise Promotion Programme which is a loan scheme to be handled by the Bank of Industry. The programme will cater for about 1.66 million people made up of market women, traders, and artisans, small and medium entrepreneurs and youth that will receive amounts ranging from N10,000 to N 100,000 as loans to boost their business activities.

The N-Power Programme for unemployed Nigerian graduates and non-graduates has since commenced in June 2016. It is expected that the programme will create a pool of 100,000 software developers, hardware service professionals, animators, graphic artists, building service professionals and other artisans.

The N-Power Programme is designed to help young Nigerians to acquire and develop lifelong skills to become solution providers in their various localities and neighbourhoods.

From the foregoing, it obvious that the federal government has a clear-cut policy to tackle extreme poverty in a multi-dimensional way. It is also clear that the Buhari administration is the first to design a holistic programme aimed at empowering the most vulnerable and needy in Nigeria.

The sincerity and good intentions of the federal government under President Muhammadu Buhari are also evident in the key strategic infrastructural projects being executed across the country.

In the South East for example the Enugu-Onitsha expressway, Second Niger Bridge, Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway, Ninth Mile Corner-Makurdi road are presently being attended to, unlike in the past when rhetoric dominated the atmosphere.

It is pertinent to establish the fact that the President Muhammadu Buhari administration is focused on rebuilding Nigeria's dilapidated infrastructure and empowering the youths and unemployed to have a new lease of life. His programmes towards achieving these goals are unambiguous, verifiable and systematic.

Chukwudi Enekeuchi, Abuja.

Kano deserves better from Buhari

It has always been well documented that Kano state is the political base of President Muhammadu Buhari. On numerous occasions, the President himself had acknowledged the significance of Kano state to his ascendancy in politics.

Our passion and commitment to the cause of President Buhari is unmatched anywhere in the country including his home state of Katsina. The love we have demonstrated to the president is unprecedented in the political history of this great nation. We remain resolute and firm in our conviction that President Buhari is the answer to our problems of insecurity, corruption, economic decline and immorality.

Our support for the president still remains intact. In spite of our unflinching support to the president, there is a growing feeling of frustration among the people in the state, people are beginning to ask questions bordering on the president's inability to visit the state in spite of the fact that so many things had happened that ordinarily should have warranted the visit especially the high profile incidences of fire outbreaks at Kasuwar Kurmi, Singer Market and Sabon Gari market separately. The President had visited so many states

in the country except Kano state. We are appealing to the president to put Kano state on his priority list in terms of dividends of democracy because of the massive votes we have given the president during the 2015 general election.

We have many dams in the state, therefore the federal government should explore the possibility of utilising those dams for massive irrigation activities in order to compliment government's efforts towards diversifying the country's economy. The federal government should equally assist the state government with financial and technical supports to accelerate our Independent Power Project (IPP) so that our industries in Sharada and Challawa could be resuscitated.

These requests if granted would go a very long way in checkmating the nagging problems of unemployment and many vices in the state because majority of the youths who are directly affected could be engaged in many activities that could shape their lives to become more productive to the society. Lastly, it should be understood that Kano people will forever remain loyal to President Muhammadu Buhari under all circumstances.

Bashir Shehu Yusuf, Gezawa, Kano State.

Text us on 08131800030 & 08112661608



The death of Abdulkadir Kure

The tragic death of the former governor of Niger State Engr. Abdulkadir Kure is painful. He will be remembered for his generosity, humility and good character. His legacy includes rural electrification, IBB University, General Hospital, Bida etc. May Allah forgive him and reward

him with paradise.
Mohammed Bagudu, Minna, 08104843725.

Re: E-Governance for good governance

That technology is one of the viable tools we can use to fight corruption in Nigeria's civil service, is not just the truth but a proven fact. Developed

countries rely strictly on this system to maintain morals and states in Nigeria should as a matter of urgency emulate Sokoto state in this regard.

Iyagi Peter, Abuja, 07039205546.

Re: 52 jailed in Kano over car racing

An appeal to *Daily Trust* to kindly publish the names in full of all those

convicted over the Kano car racing so that as to be in public domain in case, if one of them want to contest any political office in Nigeria, the offence has disqualified him as ex-convict. That would be consequence of the offence not the sentence of six months in jail or fine of just N10,000.

Abdullah Muhammad, Abuja, 08035971450.

EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent,
Off Solomon Lar Way, Utako
District, Abuja

Punish 'ghost worker' perpetrators

The Federal Government recently revealed that its payroll has been rid of 50,000 non-existent workers, saving the nation a huge sum of N200 billion. The ghost workers were discovered during an audit exercise of its payroll carried out by the Efficiency Unit of the Federal Ministry of Finance between February and November 2016. This disclosure was made by the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Media and Publicity Malam Garba Shehu.

Giving details of how the ghost workers' syndicate has been collecting salaries in the payroll of various government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) for years, Shehu said that eleven members of the syndicate perpetrating the crime have been arrested and handed over to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for prosecution. Following the discovery and removal of the ghost names from its payroll, government has saved N13 billion monthly since February 2016. This is in addition to another N1.1billion saved from ghost names in monthly pension bills.

The presidency explained that when the audit committee was constituted in February 2016, the monthly wage bill of federal civil servants was N151billion, excluding pensions. However, the audit exercise which was organized to fight graft in the public service has helped to crash the monthly salary bill down to N138billion. Similarly, the monthly pension bill which before the audit was N15.5billion has equally been reduced to N14.4billion. The incidence of non-existent workers is a racket that has remained intractable for years. It has defied attempts by different regimes to rid government payrolls at the federal, state and local government levels of the public service of the scam. The racket involves mutual connivance between criminally-minded civil servants and their collaborators among bank workers.

Huge sums of money are lost monthly by government to the menace of ghost workers. It is so endemic that some MDAs in the past were indicted of the same graft and other sharp practices they have a statutory mandate to forestall. For instance, an audit carried out in all MDAs in 2013 revealed that the Budget Office of the Federation topped the list of government agencies harboring names of ghost workers, with 77.33 percent of the total staff on its payroll being non-existent. In that audit report, the Budget Office was closely followed by the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) as agencies with huge number of non-existent workers.

While the list of non-existent staff on government payroll usually consists of names of workers who have resigned, retired or died, all of which should not have remained on the payroll; other names are criminally added. To perfect the on-going war against corruption which is the core thrust of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration, government is encouraged to take full advantage of modern information and communication technology to make its payrolls fool-proof in all its MDAs. The use of Bank Verification Number (BVN) and the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) applications should be strengthened and improved upon for the payment of workers' salaries. More so, this should be important to a government that needs every earned kobo in an economic recession.

All the MDAs that have not enrolled in to the IPPIS should be compelled to do so in order to completely rid the public service of ghost workers. States and local governments in the country are equally advised to adopt the IPPIS application for the payment of workers' salaries. There is need for MDAs to keep a regularly updated record of staff who have either been disengaged, retired or have died. Ghost workers' racketeering has refused to stop because no offender found guilty has ever been convicted. While we call on the federal government to make staff auditing a routine exercise, we urge relevant prosecuting agencies to ensure that perpetrators of the crime are prosecuted and punished accordingly if only to deter potential offenders.



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It's time once again time to celebrate life. On the occasion of my 56th birthday in Ilorin yesterday it was amazing to discover that my written reflections over a number of good governance issues could now pass for a 500-page book; Reflections On Good Governance and Democracy. One of the recurring notorious is additive road accidents. I wrote four articles on the road carnage, sorry road terrorism. This is understandable as a regular traveller who covers thousands of kilometers in a week.

Birthday is about celebration of life. It's time we pause a bit about those who have died due to increasing number of road accidents. It could have been worse. Many thanks to the safety activism championed by the Federal Road Safety Commission ably led by the FRSC Corps Marshal, Boboye Oyeyemi. In my reflection in Daily Trust of 26th May 2008, I pointed out that Nigeria is a nation of permanent mourners because of permanent grief caused by serial road accidents which indiscriminately claim lives in thousands and incapacitating many. In the same year, 46 Nigerian soldiers summarily got perished along Bauchi-Potiskum "road" on their ways back to their respective homes. That was after they had survived peace keeping operation in Darfur, Sudan (where they gallantly served under the auspices of UN peace keeping operation). Since 2008 I wrote the article; many Nigerians have been sent to early graves via roads! No thanks to "accidents" which are better seen as incidents since they have become addictive. According to the Oxford dictionary, accident is defined as happenings "unexpected" or "unplanned". Addictive accidents in Nigeria are sadly expected and even planned. There is nothing "accidental" for 46 soldiers who had survived deadly peace keeping operation only to unacceptably perish on road going home. A visit to the web-site of National Road Safety Commission reveals human tragedies and miseries of varying proportions reduced to some miserable statistics.

Many had died as road tankers repeatedly overturned and caught fire along Lagos-Ibadan expressway. It is a common knowledge that along intercity roads, as many as dozens were killed in lorries packed full of traders and domestic animals.

Nigeria is the only oil producing country I know where "Lorries" are packed with humans and animals together not fleeing a tornado or war zone. In Nigeria most adults know somebody killed

Issa Aremu, mni
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Time to put an end to road terrorism

or maimed in road related accidents. Nigerian Journal of Surgical research shows that 70 per cent of all admissions into one emergency medical centre are due to road accidents. Our cities compete with notorious Iraqi cities in tanker explosions albeit, without declaration of war! NTA once reported complete shutdown of Ilorin- Jebba road because two tankers collided. The tape showed burnt vehicles and the attendant human wastage. The casualties are all inclusive. The late statesman Chief Sunday Awoniyi died of road related "accidents" (again only in Nigeria can a statesman be so vulnerable). The greatest African writer and story teller, Chinua Achebe almost died on road accident some years back.

Even road safety officials have lost their lives on the roads. In an article entitled "FRSC - Road Governance, Please" on 25th of July 2011, I once narrated the tragic story of Lepzem Wubang a good friend of mine. He was an Assistant Commandant of Road Safety Commission and together a participant of 2005 Senior Course 27 at the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Kuru Jos. His project was on the danger of Nights Travels. Lepzem eventually died on same road accident three years ago after our graduation between Jos and Bauchi. I dedicate this year's birthday to the memory of my dear friend, the late former Minister of Labour and Productivity, James Ocholi a Senior Advocate of Nigeria his lovely wife and son who perished along Abuja-Kaduna road in an accident early last year. Obaloluwa KEKE is a staff of the Kwara sport ministry.

Many had died as road tankers repeatedly overturned and caught fire along Lagos-Ibadan expressway. It is a common knowledge that along intercity roads, as many as dozens were killed in lorries packed full of traders and domestic animals

I agree with Mr. Boboye Oyeyemi that if appropriate safety measures were adopted by the motorists most of the crashes are avoidable. Unlike HIV/AIDS, road "accidents" have cure; which include good roads, trained drivers and safety awareness, prevention and punishment. Nigeria should treat road accidents as security issues, since accidents kill as much as insurgency

Since I met him two years ago during my cycling exercise I came home, my interest in cycling had been rekindled. Sadly Obaloluwa has since been bed ridden with multiple fractures in a road accident in which three died and he is the lone survivor. May Allah heal his wounds for him to resume cycling as I also dedicate my celebration to him. By the time we add, unreported road carnage perpetrated by Okada/ motorcycle riders, Nigeria is better described as a Republic of accidents. It's time Nigeria put an end to this serial road terrorism.

"Accidents", road accidents in particular kill Nigerians as much as the Boko Haram terrorists and HIV/ AIDS. The FRSC Corps Marshal, Boboye Oyeyemi, disclosed just last week that total of 12,077 road crashes were recorded across the country in 2015. About 20,000 people have been killed in the Boko Haram insurgency in northeast Nigeria, according to a World Bank report.

I agree with Mr. Boboye Oyeyemi that if appropriate safety measures were adopted by the motorists most of the crashes are avoidable. Unlike HIV/AIDS, road "accidents" have cure; which include good roads, trained drivers and safety awareness, prevention and punishment. Nigeria should treat road accidents as security issues, since accidents kill as much as insurgency.



SPORT

Liverpool held by Plymouth

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Musa, Ndidi impress Ranieri

The performances of Nigerian stars, Ahmed Musa and Wilfred Ndidi in Leicester City's 2-1 victory over Everton in Saturday's English FA Cup third round clash at Goodison left veteran manager Claudio Ranieri impressed.

Musa netted both of Leicester's goals while Ndidi, who was making his debut on Saturday, produced a solid display in the heart of midfield as the Foxes came from a goal down to complete an important victory.

The Leicester City manager was duly impressed with his Nigerian charges and took the time to

praise the duo for their sterling performances.

"Musa was excellent. I've watched him recently and I think he is starting to understand English football better.

"Ndidi only trained two days with us, but he showed strong character and personality. A great

performance," Ranieri said.

Ndidi, who arrived from Belgian club KRC Genk, refused to accept the plaudits as he instead focused on an overall impressive team display.

"I don't want to focus on my performance because for me, it is always about the team".

Igbinovia, Abamu make Team Nigeria's AJC list

By Orkula Shaagee @shagcy

Team Nigeria yesterday named its contingent to the 2017 ITF/CAT African Junior Championship Zonal Qualifiers scheduled to hold in Lome Togo from January 11th - 21st, with Wilson Igbinovia making the list.

Igbinovia, who is on his first invitation to national camp, sealed his place in the team that will be defending the top place finish by Nigeria at the last edition held in Abuja almost a year ago.

Other players that will be in the 15-nation tournament alongside the quartet of Oyinlomo Quadri, Marylove Edward, Michael Osewa and David Dariwaye, who were named earlier at the camping in Ekiti facilitated by NTF 1st vice-president, Yemi Owoseni are

Matthew Abamu, Michael Ayoola, Saminu Abubakar, Tosin Asogba, Omolade Aderemi, Omolayo Bamidele and Rebecca Peters.

"It has been a very good preparation for us; Ekiti has been an ideal place as there was no distraction. The courts and hotel are just a minute walk. The atmosphere is just perfect for us to have a great outing in Lome," Nigeria's coach, Mohammed Ubale said after the team rounded off training with a light physical exercise Sunday evening.

Ubale added that the target for the team is to finish top of the medals table despite the fact that the tournament is taking a new format with the introduction of team event.

The team is scheduled to move to Lagos Monday from where they will depart for Lome today.



■ Novak Djokovic lifts the trophy after defeating Andy Murray to win the Qatar Open trophy on Saturday

Stationery Stores plan resurgence

The Chairman, Lagos-based Stationery Stores FC Ltd., Tilewa Adebajo, has said that the club planned to establish a world class academy as part of efforts for its resurgence.

Adebajo made the revelation in an interview yesterday in Lagos while speaking on the plans to revive the club formerly regarded as the "Pride of Lagos".

He noted that the club was expected to come back to the Nigerian football scene in a big way with encouragements from the supporters club.

"We have a world class football academy in the making now. The academy will be based in Olashore School in Iloko, Ijesha, Osun, where they will be provided with excellent

academic background.

"We are also in partnerships with Supreme Academy in Ghana and Aspire Academy in Qatar for technical support. We want to use that opportunity to develop quality U-15 footballers.

"The players from this academy will not only be for Nigeria, but will have the opportunity to play for any club of their choice anywhere in Africa and the world.

"This is what we have been looking at, an academy that will develop the right product needed for a quality side like Stationery Stores," he said.

Adebajo said that Stationery Stores would be competing in some championships in 2017, and that the club was ready to evolve a new way of

sustaining its emergence.

"Lagosians should watch out for Stationery Stores in the Lagos Challenge Cup which will be the first major championships this season.

"Lagosians will also see a lot of changes in the brand new team this time around. We have also proposed to play a novelty match during the commemoration of Lagos State at 50.

"The history of Lagos will not be complete without mentioning Stationery Stores as the state's darling team. We will make a requisition to the government to play Asante Kotoko of Ghana.

"We will recall our players from academies for this match to be part of the historic event," he said.

Adebajo said that Stationery Stores would be organised in a more structured manner to allow for innovations and financial independence.

"We have been in consultations with the supporters club and ex-players. What we have done is to register our supporters under a Trust in conjunction with Sandlanders Group Worldwide.

"What that translates to is to give authenticity to the supporters club so that they will be organised in a structured manner and give a lot of what we are talking about in form of support.

"We can now use that to leverage on our challenges. Right now, the key challenge we are facing is financial support and we have been looking for credible sponsors," he said. (NAN)

Hawkins second as Mo Farah struggles in Edinburgh

Great Britain's Callum Hawkins was beaten into second by USA's Leonard Korir in a dramatic sprint finish at the Great Edinburgh Cross Country.

Two-time double Olympic champion Sir Mo Farah struggled on the Holyrood Park course, finishing in seventh.

Turkey's Yasemin Can, representing Europe, won the women's race, while Britain's Harriet Knowles-Jones claimed the junior women's title.

Captain Laura Muir anchored Britain to victory in the 4x1km mixed relay.

Hawkins, 24, led for most of the men's race until he was passed in the final 15m by Kenyan-born Korir, who won in a time of 24 minutes three seconds.

"I put everything in to dropping him but he was the stronger man at the end," the Scot told BBC Sport.

Newly knighted Farah, 33, finished 46 seconds adrift of Korir, with 2016 champion Garrett Heath of the

United States in sixth.

"It was a hard day at the office," Farah told BBC Sport. "I'm a little bit behind where I would usually be at this stage of the season."

"But I'm not panicking this early on in the year - I've got to get ready for London 2017."

With Farah out of contention early on in the 8km race, Hawkins took the initiative to break clear with Korir and Heath, before the latter faded.

Hawkins, who finished ninth in the marathon at last summer's Olympics

in Rio, repeatedly tried to drop Korir on the small rises around the course and appeared to have a winning gap coming into the final straight.

But Korir, who finished 14th in the 10,000m final in Rio, won by Farah, had the greater kick in the final sprint to surge past the Scot and claim the title.

"I was really tired at the end and he just wouldn't leave me alone," joked Hawkins, who will run in the marathon at this summer's World Championships in London.

Chelsea recall Ake from Bournemouth loan

Chelsea have recalled defender Nathan Ake early from his season-long loan at Bournemouth with immediate effect.

Dutchman Ake, 21, joined the Cherries on loan last June, and has scored three times in 12 games for them this season.

On Saturday, Bournemouth boss Eddie Howe said losing Ake would be "a huge blow".

Howe added: "He's done so well. It is easier said than done to say we are going to go and recruit a player of a similar stature to Nathan."

"With Simon Francis' suspension and Marc Pugh's injury and now Nathan going back, our



■ Nathan Ake

defensive resources are certainly stretched."

Ake did not feature in Bournemouth's FA Cup third round defeat at Millwall on Saturday so will therefore not be cup tied and available for Chelsea's fixtures in the competition.

ABS players undergo medicals

From Dotun Omisakin, Lagos

Players of newly promoted Nigeria Professional Football League side Abubakar Bukola Saraki (ABS) Ilorin FC, have undergone medicals ahead of 2016/2017 Nigeria Professional Football League (NPFL) season which kicks off on 14th January 2017.

The medical was conducted under the close supervision of the club's team doctor, Olusegun Osasona.

According to Dr. Osasona the medical was conducted in line with the club's readiness to align with international best practices and as provided by the League Management Company (LMC) condition for registration.

"The players underwent tests such as heart, electrocardiograph, cardiovascular system, ECG, Echocardiography, Musculoskeletal system among others," Dr. Osasona said.

Speaking after his medical, Lukman Karatu said he is delighted to have scaled through the medical procedures.

"It is a wonderful experience for me, if I see any of what have gone through here anywhere in the world in the future it won't be a new thing to me. ABS has exposed to me to an International best practice," Karatu said.

Ighalo decides this week on China move

Watford striker Odion Ighalo will decide this week whether he will follow fellow Nigeria star Mikel Obi and take the "crazy money" China now offers.

Top sources have informed AfricanFootball.com that there is now a renewed interest in the striker, who has long been linked with a big-money transfer from the Far East.

Media reports have suggested he could well partner Carlos Tevez at Shanghai Shensua after Watford rejected a 38 million pounds bid for the striker from Shanghai SIPG last year. Shanghai Shensua have now made Tevez the highest paid player in the world on a weekly wage of 615,000 pounds.

"Yes, it's a possibility he could move to China," one top source disclosed to AfricanFootball.com

"There should be an update in this regard this week."



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE

Federal Secretariat Phase II, Shehu Shagari Way, Central Business District, Abuja

INVITATION FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL BIDS FOR THE EXECUTION OF 2016 CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, in furtherance of its statutory mandate, intends to re-advertise and undertake the execution of capital projects under works, in line with the approved budget for the 2016 Financial Year. To this end, the Ministry, in accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2007 hereby invites qualified firms to obtain bids for specific projects as follows:

Lot 1 Construction of a Cultural Industry Centre in Badagry, Lagos State.

Lot 2 Construction of a Cultural Industry Centre in Edo State.

Lot 3 Construction of a Cultural Industry Centre in Adamawa State.

Lot 4 Construction renovation of structures at the Federal Government Press (FGP) Lagos State.

TENDERS QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENT

Prospective Bidders are Expected to Submit the Following Basic Requirements:

- Detailed Company Profile
- Evidence of registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) (Certificate of Incorporation and Article of Association).
- Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three consecutive years (2013, 2014 and 2015) by inclusion of the photocopy.
- Evidence of registration on the National Database of Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by inclusion of Registration Certificate or Interim Registration Report (IRR).
- Company's Audited Account for the last three years (2013 2014 and 2015 by inclusion of the photocopy
- Evidence of compliance with the Pensions Reform Act, 2004 by inclusion of certificate of compliance from the National Pension Commission.
- Evidence of compliance with the Industrial Training Funds (ITF) Amendment Act 2011 by inclusion of certificate of compliance from the Industrial Training Funds (ITF).
- Evidence of registration with the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria where applicable by inclusion of photocopy of registration certificate.
- Evidence of compliance with contribution in the Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund
- Evidence of possession of adequate qualified personnel to perform the obligation of the procurement contracts by inclusion of photocopies of CVs, academic and professional certificates for Works and Services.
- Evidence of registration with the relevant professional regulatory bodies (for Works and Services).
- Evidence of similar projects executed in the past including letter or awards completion certificate etc.
- Evidence of Financial Capability and support from Bank where applicable.

n. Current Sworn Affidavit:

- Of not being in receivership, the subject of any form of insolvency bankruptcy proceedings or subject of any winding-up petition or proceedings.
- Disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture or Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in your

company

iii. Of not having any Director' who has been convicted in any country for any criminal offence.

o. Confirmation that all information presented in your bid are true and correct.

p. Evidence of possession of experience as a contractor supplier or consultant in projects of similar nature and complexity by inclusion of verifiable letters or contract award and job completion certificates (to comply with this requirement jobs, quoted should be at least 20% completed for on-going projects and accompanied with the interim certificates.

q. Evidence of possession of adequate qualified personnel to perform the obligation of the procurement contracts by inclusion of photocopies of CVs academic and professional certificates (for Works and Services).

r. Evidence of registrations with the relevant professional regulatory bodies (for Works and Services).

s. Evidence of similar projects executed in the past including letter of awards, completion certificate etc.

t. Evidence of Financial Capability and support from Bank where applicable.

u. Bid must be in English Language and signed by an official authorized to bind to the bidder to contract.

COLLECTION OF TENDERS DOCUMENTS

Interested and competent bidders are requested to collect the bid documents from the address below upon the presentation of evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of N20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Naira) only for each Lots at the Cash Office, Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, Block E, 10th Floor Federal Secretariat Phase II. Bidders who had earlier collected bids for the above projects (Lots 1-4) and are still interested in bid collection are exempted from this payment.

SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

One original and five photocopies (hard and soft copies) of both technical and financial bids should be packaged separately in two different envelopes sealed and clearly labeled "Technical Bid" & "Financial Bid" with the company's name indicated at the back of the envelopes. Both envelopes should be enclosed in a third envelope marked with "Tender for (Specify the Lot and description)" at the top right hand corner and the company's name indicated at the reverse side of the envelope, and addressed to;

**The Secretary,
Ministerial Tenders Board,
Federal Ministry of Information and Culture,
Block E, Room 214, 2nd Floor
Federal Secretariat Phase II, Shehu Shagari Way,
Central Business District, Abuja.**

TENDER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All submissions must be registered at the Procurement Tenders Secretariat, Block E 2nd Floor, Room 214, Federal Secretariat Phase II, Shehu Shagari Way, Central Business District Abuja and thereafter dropped in the appropriate tenders box provided for that purpose on or before 12:00 noon, Monday 20th February, 2017. Tenders submitted after will not be accepted.

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THE MONDAY
COLUMN

with Mahmud Jega
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New dawn of plagiarism

I could not find a more elegantly written but poorly timed tribute at the weekend than All Progressives Congress [APC] National Leader Asiwaju Bola Tinubu's congratulatory message to Ghana's new President Nana Dankwa Akufo-Addo and his Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia, on the occasion of their inauguration last Saturday. Tinubu said, "The people of Ghana have chosen right. Akufo-Addo is a seasoned administrator, diplomat and hails from a strong political family in Ghana. With him at the helm, Ghana is poised for greater heights. He has been in government before as Foreign Affairs Minister and comes prepared for the office he has sought for two times unsuccessfully... Indeed, it's a new dawn for Ghana."

A new dawn for the old art of plagiarism is more like it. Within minutes of his being sworn into office, President Nana Akufo-Addo broke the Olympic record for plagiarism when, in his inaugural speech, he lifted whole sections from US President Bill Clinton's 1993 inaugural speech as well as from US President George W. Bush's 2001 inaugural speech. The first annoying thing is that President Akufo-Addo reversed the order of American presidents when he copied Bush's speech before Clinton's even though Clinton was US President No 42 while Bush Junior was No 43. I don't think Americans will like that very much.

The new president inspiringly told Ghanaians, "I ask you to be citizens. Citizens, not spectators. Citizens, not subjects. Responsible citizens building communities of service and a nation of character." It soon transpired that George W. Bush said 14 years ago, "I ask you to be citizens: citizens, not spectators; citizens, not subjects; responsible citizens building communities of service and a nation of character." Disregarding the long tradition of political hostility between the Bush and Clinton families, President Akufo-Addo then quoted a passage once uttered by Bill Clinton. He said, "Though our challenges are fearsome, so are our strengths. Ghanaians have ever been a restless, questing, hopeful people. And we must bring to our task today the vision and will of those who came before us." It turned out that Bill Clinton had said in 1993, "Though our challenges are fearsome, so are

our strengths. Americans have ever been a restless, questing, hopeful people. And we must bring to our task today the vision and will of those who came before us." The only thing he changed was to substitute the word "Americans" with "Ghanaians."

When tech-savvy young Ghanaians quickly discovered the goof and went about spreading it on the World Wide Web, the first thing that annoyed me was why an African leader should simultaneously find both an American Democrat and an American Republican's speeches to be inspiring. Their political philosophies are supposed to be different, unless where lordling it over other countries is concerned. An American Democrat is one who has faith in public institutions to solve problems while a Republican has more faith in the private sector and civil society groups. I expected President Akufo-Addo to agree with only one of these mutually irreconcilable philosophies and not to be inspired by both of them to the point of plagiarising both.

Even if the new Ghanaian president is a social and economic conservative, I wish he had found a more consistent ideologue to plagiarise than Bush Junior. This is because, during the protracted legal tussle that accompanied the US' 2000AD election, Bush Junior and his Democratic rival Al Gore completely reversed philosophical positions in the fight over recount and dimple chards in Florida ballots, according to TIME magazine's writer Nancy Gibbs. She pointed out that Bush, who campaigned on the basis of having faith in people, now insisted that electronic counting was better than manual recount whereas Al Gore, who campaigned as a champion of technological solutions to problems, turned around and demanded manual recount of electronic votes.

Mixed up philosophies aside, many Africans were wondering at the weekend where this veteran Ghanaian politician has been that he did not learn a recent lesson from Nigeria. My own generation of Nigerians was taught in primary school that Ghana is the closest thing to Nigeria. In fact one teacher told us that "the opposite of tall is short; the opposite of water is fire; the opposite of Nigeria is Ghana." Any pupil or student who plagiarises this line does so at his peril. I am only

saying here that I expect Ghanaian teachers also taught their students how close Nigeria is to Ghana so that they pay attention to happenings in Nigeria.

Mr. Akufo-Ado must have missed that lesson. Where was he when his Nigerian counterpart President Muhammadu Buhari suffered serious embarrassment when a passage of his Change Begins With Me speech was lifted without attribution from an old President Obama speech? When you think about it, Buhari's case was better because it was not his inaugural speech. He had already been president for a year, has a very busy schedule and could not possibly write or even properly check all his speeches, so it was easier to shift the blame to an unnamed speechwriter. While I do not expect a ruler to write every speech that he delivers, I certainly expect him to pay very serious attention to his inaugural speech. First impression is very important, even in matters of love and romance. Akufo-Ado had one month between his election and his inauguration. That's seven hundred and twenty hours, and he could not find four or five hours among those to devote to his speech. What will happen now that he is president and he has much more to do than he had in the last one month?

Come to think of it; why do African rulers rely so much on speechwriters? For that matter, speechwriters that will not simply add "As President Bill Clinton once said" before copying an entire passage? Instead of hurrying off to an event and collecting a prepared speech just before mounting the rostrum, I think it is better if a leader sits down for a briefing first about what the event is all about. He can then deliver an impromptu speech highlighting only the essentials and tying it all up with his administration's general program of rule. Since a minister or other agency head will also speak at the same event, he can leave the details to them. The president does not have to be the one laboriously reeling out statistics, most of them inaccurate anyway.

My other fear for President Akufo-Ado is, if he could not get his inaugural speech right, what else can he possibly get right? A man who did not find time to vet his inaugural speech is unlikely to have found the time to vet his program of rule very carefully. If his administration gets off to a slow take off, I hope he will not spend the next one year blaming former President John Dramani Mahama for a poor transition. Was it old man Mahama, a man judged by all Africa to be a complete gentleman, that told him to leave his inaugural speech to rookie speechwriters and not to go through it before reading it? Let us just pray that our Ghanaian brothers and sisters have not entered a One Chance taxi with this man.

SPORT REPORT >>

Hawkins second as Mo Farah struggles in Edinburgh → P 47

Dimitrov beats Nishikori to take Brisbane title



■ Grigor Dimitrov

Grigor Dimitrov claimed his first title in over two years as he beat Kei Nishikori 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 to win the Brisbane International.

The world number 17 took one hour and 48 minutes to beat Nishikori, who is ranked fifth in the world.

Dimitrov, 25, won the first set quickly before Japan's Nishikori won four consecutive games to level the match.

The Bulgarian then broke Nishikori in the final set - despite tweaking his ankle - to secure the title.

Liverpool held by Plymouth



■ Daniel Sturridge

Liverpool were held to a goalless draw by Plymouth Argyle in the FA Cup third round and face a trip to Home Park to contest a replay.

Jürgen Klopp made 10 changes, with only Emre Can surviving from the team that drew 2-2 with Sunderland on Jan. 2. The hosts dominated possession and play throughout the first half without creating any real openings or making a breakthrough against the promotion-chasing League Two side.

That pattern continued into the second half and Liverpool were forced to introduce first Daniel Sturridge, then Roberto Firmino and Adam Lallana but were still unable to find a way past their opponents.