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Vol 11. No. 5

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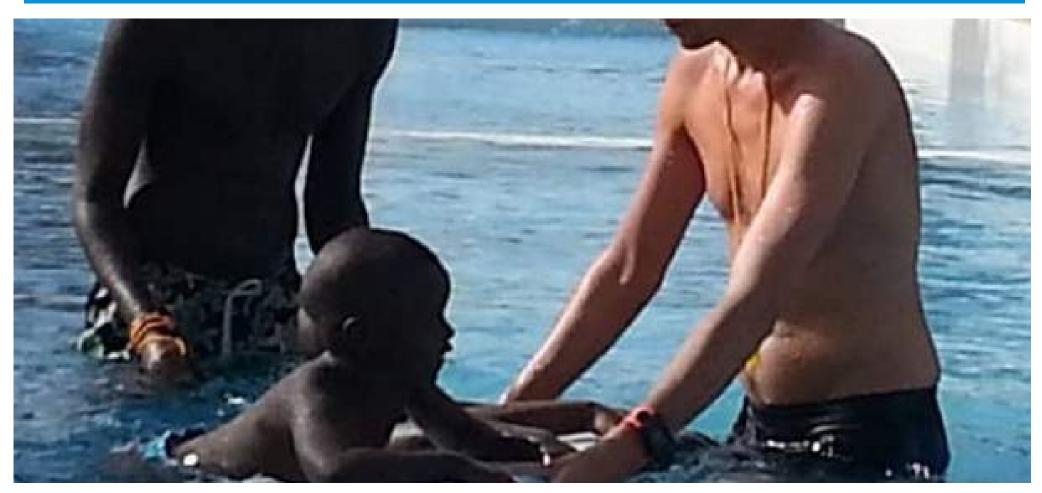


L-R: Mr Ademola Adebise, MD, Wema Bank Plc; Mr Chu Moaning, Consular General, People's Republic of China in Lagos; Chief Diana Chen, Chairman, GAC Motor; Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State; Dr Chinyere Almona, DG Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and Mr Linus Idahosa, Vice President, CIG Group during the GAC Motor G-Style showroom grand opening and unveiling of the All New GS4 Crossover SUV held at the GAC Motor office, Victoria Island, Lagos on Thursday, July 7, 2022.



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## SAFETY



# Some Tips On How to Swim

on't swim alone. Always go swimming with one other person who is a strong swimmer, if not several other people. An area with a lifeguard is usually the best place to swim.

Don't start out swimming in moving water. If you're learning to swim in an ocean or river, you'll need to be more aware of the motion of the water. If you must learn to swim this way, try to make sure you're with someone who knows what he or she is doing, and be sure to read the step about getting out of a riptide or a rushing river

Use proper safety gear until you have enough water experience and are reasonably comfortable in the water. Stay within a depth you can handle. When you're first learning how to swim, don't venture into water that's too deep for you to stand in. That way, if something goes amiss, you can simply stand up and breathe.

Avoid swimming during inclement weather conditions. Swimming in a light rain shower should be fine, but if you see or hear a storm approaching, get out of the water immediately. This rule is to be followed regardless of how well you can swim.

Don't swim in water that's too cold. Moving your limbs to paddle can become suddenly difficult if you're in frigid water.

Get used to floating. When you're in the water, hold on to the side of the pool or a dock, and let your legs float out behind you - they should lift easily if you let them. But, for some people, they like to sink to the bottom, while your upper body floats. Don't worry; just retry the method again. Practice doing this on your stomach and on your back, until you're used to letting half of your body float.

Try floating on your back or your stomach as soon as you're ready. Stay in a shallow depth so that you can simply stand up if it's not working out. It might feel weird to have water around your ears while your nose

and mouth are in the air, but you'll get used to it. For extra stability, put out your arms at a right angle so that your body is in a "T" shape. When floating for the first time, you can try taking a deep breath and then floating. If your lungs are full of air, your body will float for sure. Do this until you're more experienced.

Don't panic. Always remember that you have a fallback if you're in an

unmanageable depth or you simply can't move your limbs - floating on your back. Don't flail around or start breathing quickly if you can't swim; simply lie back as flat as you can, and let the water carry you while you regain your composure.

A good tip for floating on your back is to hold your breath and have lungs full of air. Another good tip is to stick your stomach out.

-Https://www.wikihow.com/Swim

### FRSC, Army To Sustain Collaboration

ederal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and Nigerian Army (NA) have restated their commitment to ensuring safety on roads and reducing crashes.

The commitment was renewed during a study visit by Junior Course 1 Students of FRSC Command and Staff College, Udi, Enugu State to 2 Brigade, Nigerian Army Headquarters in Uyo, recently.

The Commandant, FRSC, Command

and Staff College, Assistant Corps Marshall Chidibere Nkwonta, lauded the army for maintaining healthy partnership with FRSC over the years, stressing that, there must be continuous collaboration to make the state and country safe for citizens.

He said: "We are very grateful for this grand reception and I am confident I can always trust the Nigerian Army because anytime they are called upon, they are there for us", he said.

Earlier, the Commander, 2 Brigade, Nigerian Army, Brig.-Gen. Abubakar Wase, thanked FRSC for their efforts at ensuring crash-free roads in the country.

He said Nigerian Army would continue to demonstrate good partnership with sister agencies across the country, with FRSC as one of them, assuring security agencies that the army would always respond when called upon.

#### Computerised Vehicle Inspection Improves Safety, Says Obayendo

he Group Managing Director of Temple Group Limited, Mr. Segun Obayendo, has said that computerised vehicle inspection is a veritable means of improving road safety.

He, therefore, urged motorists to embrace the newly-introduced computerised inspections, stressing that it has proven to deliver accurate roadworthiness status of vehicles to reduce carnages and improve safety of motorists and other road users.

Obsvendo stated this, at the week

Obayendo stated this, at the weekend, after receiving the award for "Best Road Transport Technology Provider of the Year" at the maiden edition of the National Transport Technology Conference & Exhibition gala/awards night, organised by the Nigeria Transport Commissioners' Forum.

Obayendo, while receiving the award from the Corp Marshal of the Federal

Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi, thanked the organisers of the conference for pulling together stakeholders from the Federal Ministry of Transportation and its parastatals, as well as experts in transport technology and modal transportation within and outside the country, to brainstorm on topical issues concerning the present and future of the industry in Nigeria.

### **NEWS**

### HEDA Sues Sanwo-Olu, AG, Speaker Over Parking Law



ollowing the controversy over the validity of Lagos State Parking Authority Law as against the 1999 constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria (as a mended), the Human & Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre) has dragged the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the Attorney -General of Lagos, Moyosore Onigbanjo and the Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly, Mudashiru Ajayi Obasa, to the High court of Lagos Holden in

Ikeja Judicial Division.

In a suit, ID/5927GCM/2022, the Claimant (The incorporated Trustees of HEDA Resource Center) prays the

court to repeal the law Lagos State Parking Authority Law, Law of Lagos State Ch. L50, Volume 6, which is inconsistent with the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

#### 'We Are Relying On Julius Berger For Improved Transport Network'

agos State Governor, Babajide Olusola Sanwoolu has said that the country's engineering construction leader, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc is helping the state government to actualise its dream for a better transportation network for Lagos

He spoke in Lagos weekend at the completion of the first Pile Cast on the Lagos Opebi-Maryland Link Road bridge through his Special Adviser on Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Aramide Adeyoye.

According to the governor, "...what

Julius Berger is doing here is not unexpected. They are known for good quality work. Like the Commissioner for Transportation will always say, what we have here is a collaboration between the Ministry of Works and Lands and Housing.

#### Pregnant Texas Driver Argues Fetus Is Passenger After Carpool Fine

randy Bottone, 32 years old and 34 weeks pregnant, has vowed to go to court after she was pulled over in Dallas and handed a penalty by a police officer last month.

She was driving in a lane reserved for vehicles carrying at least two people a fact she did not dispute.

But Bottone told a police officer that her unborn child was a person in the eyes of the law, as the United States Supreme Court had days earlier reversed decades-standing federal law guaranteeing women access to abortion.

"He said, 'Is there somebody else in the car?" Bottone told CNN recently.

"I pointed at my stomach and I was like, 'Right here," she recalled. When the policeman said that being pregnant "doesn't count" as the two persons must be "outside the body," Bottone insisted that "this is a baby."

The Texas criminal code, like that of many conservative states, recognizes a fetus as a "person," but this does not appear to apply for laws regulating transportation.

Even before Roe v Wade was overturned last month, a new Texas law had banned almost all abortions after six weeks before many women even know they are pregnant.

### Revive Refineries, Remove Subsidy To Stem Corruption, NACCIMA Tells FG

ational President of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA), John Udeagbala, has

again called on the Federal Government, to urgently rehabilitate the nation's refineries and remove subsidy payment on petroleum products, to stem the massive corruption in the sector.He also expressed sadness on what he described, as endemic insecurity and poor infrastructure in Nigeria's business environment.

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### **EDITORIAL**

### **Apply Caution While Driving In The Rain**

t is raining heavily in many parts of the Lcountry, and causing serious havoc like floods, buildings collapse, disruption of plans etc.

Aside these, motorists are not finding it funny. Though some roads are being completely taken over by flood when it rains heavily, some others are still passable.

caution on the part of drivers. This is the time to be very very cautious and observant raining.

We have witnessed in recent times of cars

during or immediately after heavy downpours. Many have resulted to deaths in different parts of the nation.

It was not surprising therefore when the Kano command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) recently kilometres to 30 viewed with caution. advised motorists to buy kilometres good tyres and ensure that the lightning kilometres to 20 motorists in this system in their vehicles are working properly. Hence, it calls for Zubairu Mato, FSRC traffic crashes." sector commander in In a related advisory, extreme caution in this the state, gave the the Sector Commander, season of rains. caution recently in FCT Command, FRSC, Reduced speed, good Kano.

must ensure that their vehicles are in good condition and drive with being swept away as a utmost care to avoid He said that drivers etc are all very

rainy season.

Mato noted.

Mr Samuel Ochi, also quality tyres, good while driving when it is He stressed that drivers advised drivers to adopt quality screen wipers, the "common sense good screens, good speed limits" when they auto lighting system, drive in the rain.

result of flooded roads road traffic crashes, should apply caution to important.

especially during the avoid the hazards of the wet season. Ochi said "When the rain is that the essence of the heavy, the roads are national patrol very slippery and embarked on by the visibility is dull," Mr command was for the public to know that "Motorists need to driving in the rain is an drive between 20 issue that must be

on As government highways while 10 officials advise kilometres in built up regards, drivers also areas so as to avoid road have the obligation to continue to apply

good braking system

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## TYRE WATCH











### Rainy Season: FRSC Advises Motorists To Buy Good Tyres

s rainfall intensifies, the Kano command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has advised motorists to buy good tyres and ensure that the lightning system in their vehicles are working properly.

Zubairu Mato, FSRC sector commander in the state, gave the caution recently in Kano.

He stressed that drivers must ensure that their vehicles are in good condition and drive with utmost care to avoid road traffic crashes, especially during the rainy season.

"When the rain is heavy, the roads are very slippery and visibility is dull," Mr Mato noted.

"Motorists need to drive between 20 kilometres to 30 kilometres on highways while 10 kilometres to 20



kilometres in built up areas so as to avoid road traffic crashes."

The Road Safety chief urged motorists to be mindful of potholes and pedestrians crossing the roads. He further explained that FRSC would go round motor parks and sensitise commercial drivers to desist

from excessive speeding and dangerous driving on highways to avert road traffic mishap.

### Manufacturers Getting To Grips With Airless Tyres

irless tyres that never go flat or need to be inflated: It's a decades-long dream that manufacturers hope to turn into a reality soon, but for truck drivers first.

The challenges that the technology faces were put on display at a Goodyear test track in Luxembourg, where a group of journalists put a Tesla equipped with airless tyres through its paces.

Instead of being filled with air, the tyres have a web of spokes that keep the wheels firm and give them a seethrough look.

The thin layer of rubber gripping the asphalt has a gargantuan physical challenge to meet: supporting the weight of the car and absorbing shocks as well as standard pneumatic tyres for thousands and thousands of kilometres.

That challenge is being overcome: the tyre's rubber and plastic structure resisted the huge stress as the car banked into the track's tight turns.

The ride is smooth but the grip is not as good as on conventional tyres and they are noisier.

The tyres were tested for 120,000 kilometres (75,000 miles) at speeds of up to 160 kph in both scorching temperatures as well as snow, said Michael Rachita, who heads up Goodyear's efforts to develop airless tyres.

"The most obvious advantage is that it's puncture proof," said Rachita.

"It will never run flat, you could drive over any nail and expect not to lose performance," he added.



Rachita said airless tyres will also be maintenance free for drivers as they will never need to check and adjust air pressure.

He said a second generation of airless tyres that are lighter, quieter and roll better are in the works.

Michelin has released the Tweel, but it is for construction vehicles rather than cars where

the demands in terms of driving performance are much greater.

The French firm has also unveiled the Uptis which it is developing with US car manufacturer General Motors, and which it hopes can make the jump from auto shows to showrooms next year.

Its researchers are working on a cocktail of fibreglass and resin to hold the rubber onto the honeycomb structure of the new tyre.

But Michelin's CEO Florent Menegaux doesn't expect airless tyres to squeeze out regular tyres anytime soon.

"We're going continue to have air tyres for several decades," he said.

### The Infinity Tyres Advantage

#### **Tyres**

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improved fuel economy and reduced

Enhanced durability and excellent

on-road handling for a smooth and

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## **ENERGY**

### **NOGASA** Cries Out Over Persistent Fuel Queues



Chairman of NOGASA, Bennett Okorie, and other Executive members during the NEC meeting in Abuja

By Ignatius Ushie

atural Oil and Gas Suppliers' Association of Nigeria (NOGASA) has announced plans to take the growing crisis facing the petroleum industry, which has resulted in acute scarcity, high cost of diesel and Petroleum Motor Spirit (PMS) otherwise known as fuel to President Muhammadu Buhari.

In a communique read to journalists by the National President of NOGASA, Mr. Benneth Korie, at the 2nd annual National Executive Council (NEC) of NOGASA, and Stakeholders meeting in Abuja, it was resolved to seek an audience with Mr. President.

Mr. Korie reeled out a number of interventions required to save the downstream subsector of the nation's oil and gas industry from total collapse, these interventions which includes but not limited to the following, are rebuilding and revitalizing the Nigeria's four refineries, special interventions through provision of dollars to petrol importers by CBN, streamlining taxes to avoid multiple taxation by Federal Inland Revenue Services (FIRS), establishment of Energy Bank through an Act of the National Assembly, among others.

According to him, "NEC/Delegate and stakeholders resolves as follows: That the association should pay a courtesy visit to the president of Federal Republic of Nigeria to outline some of the issues below and the way forward.

"Association urge the national assembly to review the policy of taxation (i.e. VAT) as it affects petroleum product supply and distribution chain

"The association urge the national assembly to enact a law for establishment of energy bank for easy transaction in petroleum products and other gas sector.

"That federal government of Nigeria should fix the four(4) refineries in Nigeria in a view to reduce the dependency on importation of refine product, to ease the high cost of petroleum product Nigeria.

"That the association through its business arm should be given all necessary assistance by CBN to import AGO and other products into the country at competitive price.

"The association appeal to FIRS to ensure that suppliers are given a tax relief to avert multiple taxation and refund where necessary. The association appealed to FIRS to use their discretion to apply relief on petroleum product.

"The association urge MNDPR to use NOGASA as the umbellera body of Oil and Gas associations in Nigeria. "Government should encourage establishment of modular and private

refineries such as Dangote,

Watersmith", Okorie stated.

#### Ardova Targets Higher Returns In 3 Years, Records N1.60B Profit In Q1 2022

he Board and Management of Ardova Plc, says with its continuous increase in capital expenditure to facilitate strategic expansion, it expects to see higher returns within a three year window. This was even as the company announced that its profit before tax (PBT) appreciated by 37 per cent to N1.60 billion in the first quarter (Q1) of 2022 from N1.17 billion reported in Q1 2021.

The company also announced N192.47billion revenue for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of nearly 6

per cent over N181.66 billion reported the prior year, thus closed the 2021 financial year with N1.54 billion profit as against N2.06 billion reported in 2020 full year result and accounts.

### **Reps Faults NESREA Over Alleged** N1.25bn Extra-budgetary Expenditure

Committee on Public Accounts has faulted authorities of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Agency (NESREA) over alleged extra-budgetary

ouse of Representatives expenditure of N1.25 billion in 2019. The committee, chaired by Mr. Busayo Oluwole Oke, maintained that the money was expended in breach of laid down rules and regulations.

#### Preline Limited Takes Over Eterna Plc, Eyes LPG Sector

Tigeria's indigenous integrated energy company, Eterna Plc, has stated its commitment to make solid investment in Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

The company also plans to grow its retail footprints in the country as part of its effort to provide energy solutions in efficient and innovative ways, while continuing the trajectory of its 5-year strategic plans.

The Company at its 29th Annual General Meeting, AGM, in Lagos, assured its shareholders of improving performance and returns

on their investment in the years ahead.

The AGM is the first after the emergence of the new majority core investor, Preline Limited. Preline Limited acquired 60.98% stake in the Company, making it the largest and majority shareholder.



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### **AVIATION**



# ValueJet Set For Operations

alueJet has received the first two purchased aircraft, both aircraft (CRJ-900) with registration 5N-BXS and 5N-BXT arrived at 16:00 GMT and 16:10 GMT respectively at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport recently.

Speaking on the aviation landscape and the opportunities in the industry, the Chairman, ValueJet Kunle Soname, highlighted Nigeria's role in driving global trade as an African carrier. He said "Despite all the existing challenges in the industry, Nigeria and Africa is well poised to drive economic growth with an effective aviation sector. ValueJet is a dream Airline that is gradually being positioned to efficiently facilitate growth opportunities across geographies".

Captain Omololu Majekodunmi, Managing Director - ValueJet, expressed his excitement on the arrival activities and stated - "This is one of the many defining steps in ValueJet's anticipated milestones. Performance, safety, and comfort informed the choice of our aircraft selection. With a track record of safety, ValueJet will deploy these aircraft for regional flight services once we have completed all mandatory processes and secured AOC approvals".

According to the Head of Business Program, Temitope Ajijola - "ValueJet's vision is ambitious. We see a world where everybody can fly. Our aim is to add value from the very first flight once we are set for

business operations. Currently, only about 5% of Nigeria's population can afford a flight ticket according to available statistics and ValueJet is

looking to increase this number significantly through creative fare pricing".

Now in Lagos, both aircraft took off

from Spain where the livery branding, maintenance, and acceptance were completed. The arrival of the third aircraft is anticipated in the nearest future.

### Air Peace Breaks Into Chinese Market

ir Peace has recorded full load factor of 240 passengers on its inaugural flight from the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Lagos to Guangzhou, China.

This was also as the airline disclosed plans to code-share with Asian carriers to distribute passengers to other destinations outside Guangzhou, China.

The airline operated the flight with one of its flagship aircract, Boeing B777 aircraft.

Speaking during the inaugural flight, Air Peace Chief Operating Officer, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Olajide said the airline added the China destination and Asia to its network of continents, with the commencement of initial one-weekly flight to Guangzhou-China.

Olajide said the Chinese airspace is not new to the carrier, as it had successfully operated several evacuation/special flights to the country at different times in the past, especially in 2020, during the COVID-19 lockdown.

"So, we're going into China, not as newcomers, but as an airline that is technically and operationally acclimatised with the Chinese terrain. "The flying public, especially those that fly the Guangzhou route, should expect best-in-class flight experience, which is characteristic of the Air Peace brand. We're not stopping with Guangzhou- India is next and Israel is in the works," she said.

#### Nigeria-US routes get Delta's Premium Select cabin

he United States mega carrier, Delta Air Lines, says effective this July, its new and top-rated cabin, Premium Select, will be available "consistently" on its flights between Lagos and the United States. The Vice President for Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and India at Delta Air Lines, Nicolas Ferri, made the disclosure in an interview with *The PUNCH*.

According to him, the Delta Premium Select cabin has been retrofitted on the carrier's Airbus A330-200 deployed on the Lagos-Atlanta and Lagos-New York routes but it will become "consistently available" on the routes effective this summer.

According to her, also planned for subsequent launch are Malabo in Equatorial Guinea and Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, stressing that Air Peace would continue to grow its route network as well as modernise its fleet strategically.

#### Aviation amazon, Victoria Shin-Aba bows out graciously

or 35 years on the bounce, Mrs Victoria Bamidele Shin-Aba lived and breathed aviation. Her entry and subsequent growth through the ranks in Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) to the peak, is almost one of divine arrangement and uncommon courage.

In September 2014, Shin-Aba scored a first when FAAN management appointed her as the first female Regional General Manager (South West)/Airport Manager, Murtala Muhammed International Airport and was subsequently elevated to the rank of a General Manager, Airfield Operations, a position she held till her retirement.

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# **AVIATION**

### Ogun Cargo Airport May Kick Off December

he Gateway Agro Cargo International Airport may start flight operations in December, and full commercial services, early 2023.

The ambitious project, sitting on 5000 hectares of land in the agrarian and industrial hub of the South-west region, promises to receive the first set of flights, processing facilities, ancillary private investments and services by year-end.

State Commissioner of Information and Strategy, Abdulwaheed Odusile, said the intentional facility was unique given the pace of project execution, quality of delivery, its public-private sector-driven investment initiative and the waiting markets to serve.

Odusile, on the tour of the facility, noted that the Governor Dapo Abiodun administration made a commitment to complete all



abandoned projects insofar they

would yield the greatest good for the

greatest number of people in the state.

### OAL Calls For New National Space Policy



L-R: Chief of Staff to the Minister of Aviation; Abuja Bureau Chief of Transport Day newspaper, Mr. Ignatius Ushie; DG of National Automotive Design and Development Council, Mr. Jelani Aliyu; Editor, Transport Day, Mr. Frank Kintum; Abia State Commissioner of Transport, Chief Godwill Uche Nwanoruo; and the representative of the Nigerian Shippers' Council, Mr. Christian Chimezie at the 9th Nigeria Annual Transport Lecture (Organised by Transport Day newspaper), held at Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, recently

(OAL), has emphasised that ▲ Nigeria needs to articulate a new national space policy. According to the firm, the current national space policy will elapse in 2025.

firm, Olisa Agbakoba Legal Addressing the media over the issue, programme involves the Associate Partner and head, Public Sector Practice Group, OAL, Mr. Collins Okeke, explained that the current focus of the space

development of Earth observation and communication satellites.

He said: "Nigeria has since launched six satellites namely: NigeriaSat-1

(2003), NigComSat-1 (2007), NigeriaSat-2 (2011), Nigeriasat-X (2011), NigComSat-1R (2011) and NigeriaEduSat-1 (2017).

"The success of these programmes should signify that the Nigeria Space Policy has been successful; however, as the country moves closer to its 2025 policy deadline, there is more left undone.

"One of the cardinal objectives of the space policy was to establish a fullcapacity rocket launch facility in Nigeria. What Nigeria has, despite having barely three years left of its policy's lifestyle, is a rocket testing facility.

"While this is not just a Nigerian problem but an African endemic, Nigeria has as much potential as other top African space-faring nations and may miss out on the opportunity. Hinged on this is also the promise of launching Nigeria's first astronaut by 2015. In 2016, Nigeria made a new commitment of sending an astronaut to space by 2030."

### Airlines Urges Use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel

Torld airlines have called on governments to urgently put in place large-scale incentives to rapidly expand the use of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) as the sector pursues its commitment to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The airlines, under the aegis of the

International Air Transport Association (IATA), said to fulfil aviation's net-zero commitment, current estimates are for SAF to account for 65 per cent of aviation's carbon mitigation in 2050. That would require an annual production capacity of 449 billion litres.

Already, investments are in place to expand SAF yearly production from

the current 125 million litres to five billion by 2025. With effective government incentives, production could reach 30 billion litres by 2030, which would be a tipping point for SAF production and utilisation.

Stakeholders in the local sector said the slow but steady shift from jet fuel to sustainable fuel should interest both the operators and the

government, though Nigeria has no structure in place yet and risk being left behind.

Already more than 38 countries have SAF-specific policies that clear the way for the market to develop. Taking their cue from these policy measures, airlines have entered into \$17 billion of forward-purchasing agreements for SAF.

### **AUTO**

#### Suzuki Motors, Automedics Collaborate To Train Female Auto Technicians In Nigeria

lobally, the automotive industry is known to be male-dominated. Despite improvements over the years, the gender difference in the industry calls for more proactive measures to increase the representation of women.

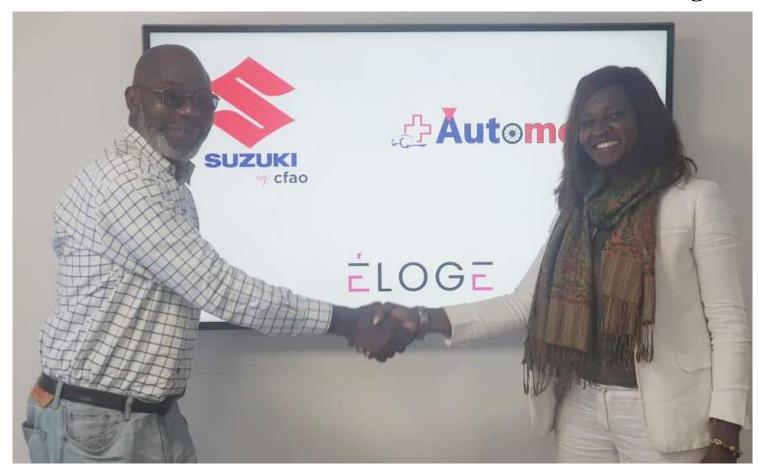
Hence, it was a welcome development when recently, Suzuki by CFAO Nigeria and Automedics Limited entered a strategic partnership with the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to kick off the Suzuki EmpowerHer(SEH) program.

The SEH program aims to empower women in the automotive industry by providing free training to those who lack the financial means but have the desire to start and build careers as technicians.

During the signing of the memorandum of understanding that heralded the new partnership, which seeks to bridge the gender gap and create greater diversity in the automotive industry, Aissatou Diouf, general manager, Suzuki by CFAO expressed her appreciation to the Automedics team for offering value to the girl child and shared her delight to support the on-going work in her capacity.

Also alluding to the fact that there is room for growth for women in the automotive industry and high-profile positions in society, Diouf said she was interested in making a positive impact.

According to her, "Women are



R-L: Aissatou Diouf, general manager of CFAO Suzuki Nigeria Limited in a warm hand shake with Kunle Shonaike, chief executive officer of Automedics Nigeria Limited after both companies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) recently to train female auto technicians in the country

hardworking and resilient and can add as much value as their male counterparts. The problem is that most times they do not have the channels to perform, but once given a platform, they own it. They do it in the way they can because men and women are different".

Speaking on the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion for automotive businesses, Kunle Shonaike, chief executive officer, Automedics Limited, said he was passionate about training more women to operate successfully in the industry because he believes in their capabilities.

"When it comes to the girl child, I am very passionate about the topic, and I have trained several women that are operating in the automotive industry, especially here in Nigeria. Some are running their workshops privately, and some are heading workshops for some organizations. At Automedics,

when we have female students, I take them under my wings because I want them to be better. I believe women can do practically anything that men can do".

The CEO, who has decades of practice experience in the United States and who is reputedly known to create equal and fair opportunities for women shared his optimism about the new relationship with Suzuki by CFAO.

### IGP Bans Spy Number Plates Nationwide

he Inspector-General of Police, Usman Baba, has ordered a total ban on all use of Police SPY Vehicle Number Plates by vehicle owners across the states of the federation without exception.

This was contained in a statement by Force Public Relations Officer, Olumuyiwa Adejobi, recently.

The statement was titled, 'Internal security: IGP bans use of spy number plates nationwide ... Directs reversal to original registered number plates, seizure of SPY plates'.

The statement read, "This is irrespective of whether it is authorised, or not, as all authorizations are hereby revoked indefinitely.

"This order is necessary to forestall the continuous disregard for traffic rules and regulations and other extant laws guiding road use by individuals hiding under the privileges of SPY police number plates. "The IGP has therefore directed that police officers and officers of other security agencies attached to VIPs who use the SPY number plates should ensure prompt compliance with this directive or risk being arrested for violation of the order.

"Meanwhile, the IGP has directed Commissioners of Police in the 36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, as well as their supervisory Assistant Inspectors General of Police, to give full effect to the directives as contained above.

"The IGP specifically directed the AIGs and CPs to ensure that all SPY number plates currently in use are confiscated henceforth but the owners of such vehicles should not be arrested unless they are police officers or officers of other security agencies on escort duties.

"The IGP however warned that while

carrying out these assignments, officers must ensure the rights and privileges of citizens are respected in line with the laws of the land and in accordance with international best practices.

"Other security agencies and members of the public are enjoined to cooperate with the Police in this regard as the moves are aimed at strengthening our internal security."

#### Spy Number Plate Ban: FRSC Commends IGP

ban of SPY number plates and immediate reversal to the original registered number plates issued by the Inspector General of Police, IGP Usman Alkali, the Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Corps Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi has commended the bold step and further directed Commanding Officers of the Corps across the nation to join hands

with the Police Force to enforce the order

In a statement by Bisi Kazeem, the Corps Public Education Officer, the Corps Marshal also directed Commanding Officers to ensure that no stone is left unturned in the enforcement of this very order.

According to him, road users who also parade faded number plates should endeavour to replace them

with new ones so as to avoid impounding their vehicles.

Oyeyemi further ordered full force and immediate impoundment of private vehicles that are using commercial number plates

He reiterated the implications of the continues use of faded and other unauthorized vehicle number plates to national security.

### **AUTO**

#### 'GAC Motor Offers More Than Car Sales', Signs MOU With Wema Bank

he Chairman of CIG Motors, authorized distributors of GAC vehicles in Nigeria, Chief Diana Chen, has stated that her company offers more than vehicles sales, as it provides absolute after-sales services, backed by genuine spare parts.

She made this assertion recently when the Lagos State governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu, commissioned the new ultra-modern GAC G-Styled showroom on Victoria Island, Lagos.

According to Chief Chen, GAC also offers technical training to Nigerian technicians and engineers by way of technology transfer via its nation-wide dealerships.

She added that "we are so proud to open our showroom and workshop, and we plan to open five of such facilities across the country".

The Auto boss who was named Nigeria Auto CEO of the year recently, explained that with the opening of the G-Style showroom, the company is offering the G-Elite, G-Star and G-Family packages to different segments of the society which comes with numerous benefits.

The governor, who was visibly impressed with the drive of the company in Nigeria, stated that "Chief Diana Chen (Chairman of CIG Motors, franchise holder of GAC in Nigeria) is doing a great job".

Sanwo-Olu expressed delight in the fact that GAC and Lagos state government have entered into a partnership to build an auto assembly plant which he expects to be commissioned this year in Ogba area of the state.

The governor also unveiled the newly improved award winning GS4 Crossover SUV, which is a very popular model on Nigerian roads.

General Manager of CIG Motors, Jubril Arogundade, explained that the GS4 which is in its second generation, comes with ample leg room, three driving modes, amazing comfort and fuel economy as well as seamless navigation system.

Earlier, the governor was conducted on a tour of the newly rebuilt state of the art GAC workshop which is located right behind the ultra-modern showroom and equipped with different sections such as Express maintenance, general repair, four wheel

alignment, spray booth, metal repair, polishing and body mechanical.

The company had earlier signed a memorandum of Understanding

with Wema bank, as the bank undertakes to finance another batch of 1000 GAC units. The event was graced by top government functionaries, diplomatic corps and

captains of industries.

GAC vehicles, coming mainly as sedans and Sports Utility Vehicles (SUV), have been widely accepted and being used across the country.



L-R: Mr Ademola Adebise, MD, Wema Bank Plc; Mr Chu Moaning, Consular General, People's Republic of China in Lagos; Chief Diana Chen, Chairman, GAC Motor; Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State; Dr Chinyere Almona, DG, Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and Mr Linus Idahosa, Vice President, CIG Group during the GAC Motor G-Style showroom grand opening and unveiling of the All New GS4 Crossover SUV held at the GAC Motor office, Victoria Island, Lagos on Thursday, July 7, 2022.



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### UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, INSTITUTES

### MASPAN Alerts On New Piracy Threat On Ships

he Maritime Security Providers Association of Nigeria (MASPAN) has raised the alarm of a new piracy threat on ships called cyber piracy.

MASPAN President, Emmanuel Maiguwa said the first significant cyber piracy was recorded in 2019 on ships sailing to New York, which raised concern about the ability of pirates to control critical functions of the vessel through the web. He noted that while technologies are critical to shipping, they are, however, making ships vulnerable to cyber-attack by pirates and terrorists. "Ships have become more advanced in machinery performance monitoring, operations, onboard training, navigation and management. What this means for ships is; Engine/oil temperature, consumption etc. can be monitored and controlled from both onboard and ashore. So are valves, containers, crew training, navigation and chart corrections. Interestingly, vessels' cargo/container tracking systems give the hacker all the information about the cargo. While these technologies



Willister of Transport, Muazu Sambo

are critical to shipping, they make ships vulnerable to cyber-attack by pirates and terrorists.

MWUN withdraws from COMUTA

Maritime Workers' Union of Nigeria, MWUN, has withdrawn from the Council of Maritime **Transport Unions** and Association, COMTUA, over alleged breach of the provisions of h Memorandum of Understanding, MoU.

Other key members of the association, Maritime Workers' Union of Nigeria, MWUN, Nigerian Association of

Road Transport, NARTO, Association of Maritime Truck Owners, AMATO, and Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria, RTEAN, have, consequently, withdrawn their memberships of the body.

MWUN had, in a letter to the Nigerian Ports Authority, NPA, signed by its Secretary General, Felix Akingboye, informed the NPA Managing Director, Mohammed Koko, of the development.

The union said: "I am directed to inform you that Maritime Workers' Union of Nigeria, MWUN, has withdrawn from the Council of Maritime Transport Unions and Association, COMTUA.

"We are constrained to take our exit from the Council due to the continuous breach of the provisions of the Council's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by members especially the national Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW."

While listing the primary objectives of the Council, the Union lamented that the NURTW had constantly breached this well-stated understanding.

#### ASUU Strike: Railway Workers To Join NLC Protest

By Cliffsimeon Akalonu



he Nigerian Railway Workers, under the aegis of the Nigeria Union of Railway Workers (NUR), has strongly condemned the lackadaisical attitude of the federal government to end the lingering faceoff between it and the Unions of Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education, and Research Institutions especially on the government's " no work-no pay " policy on the striking workers of the universities and other tertiary institutions.

The Union has therefore appealed to the federal government to meet up with the legitimate charter of demands of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), with no further delay and save the nation's education sector from total collapse.

In a press statement signed by the President General, NUR, Comr. Innocent Luka Ajiji and the Secretary General, Comr. 'Segun Esan, the union

stated that, the federal government should be responsible enough to end the ongoing ASUU strike and rescue millions of Nigerian schooling youths, who are majorly the children of the working class and poor masses from ruins and tempestuous engagements, having being at home for the past five months, busy doing absolutely nothing. "The federal government should always remember that an idle hand is the devil's workshop".

Most importantly, according to the union, the federal government should adopt the

preferred salary payment platform in place of IPPIS as proposed by the striking university lecturers, and also do all that is necessary for the infrastructural development of the nation's ivory towers.

"The federal government should adopt global best practice by shelving its grandstanding and allowing the ivory towers to research and think for it on how the education sector and the country in general can be developed. It is neither modern nor acceptable anywhere in the



President General, NUR, Comrade Innocent Luka Ajiji

world that government thinks for its ivory towers other than implement policies that will bring prosperity and improved liveability to the citizenry.

"However, the entire workers of Nigerian Railway Corporation are fully mobilized and on ground to give credence to the planned 1-day national protest of the Nigeria Labour Congress on the demands of the education sector and other issues of interest to the Congress".

# NURTW Launches Operation Get Your PVC

he National Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW, has directed its members in all the 36 states including the Federal Capital Territory, FCT, Abuja, to as matter of urgency ensure that they all get their Permanent Voters Card, PVC.

The union in a statement titled, GET YOUR PVC, signed by its president, Alhaji Tajudeen Ibikunle Baruwa, directed all the state chairmen to ensure that all the union members in their respective States get their PVC to enable them to exercise their franchise in 2023 general elections.

The statement read: "the union plays very important role in the nation's electoral process being in partnership with Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC.

It is, therefore, imperative that members of the union should participate actively and effectively in electing credible leaders that will determine the fate of teeming members of the union particularly and the entire nation generally.

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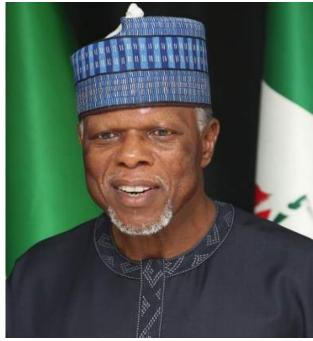
### **NEWS**

### Half Year: Onne Port Customs Collects N115.2b Revenue

omptroller Auwal Mohammed has commended Port Users' compliance as the Nigeria Customs Service, Port Harcourt Area II Command Onne Port records a total of N115.264.159.921.12 from January to June 2022.

According to a statement made available to Transport Day and signed by Customs PRO Area II Command, Onne Port Rivers State, Ifeoma Onuigbo Ojekwu (Superintendent of Customs), "the 2022 half year collection shows a remarkable difference from the N78b collected in the first half of 2021 and N46.6b collected in same period of 2020.

"Further comparison indicates 147 percent increase above the 2020 collection and 47 percent increase above 2021 figure showing differences of N37,097,079,630.91 and N68,597,503,002.82 for 2021 and 2020 respectively.



Comptroller General of Customs, Col. Hammed Alli (Rtd.)

"Under Comptroller Auwal Mohammed, the Customs Area Controller (CAC), the Command's revenue collection showed upward progression on monthly basis resulting in the cumulative differences recorded for the three years".

It was revealed that in the first half of 2022, the Command made 28 seizures comprising of nine containers valued at N531,386,166.78 (Duty Paid Value). This half year's number of seizures is higher than 20 number made between January and June 2021.

Amongst the seized items were machetes brought

into the country without end user certificate, military wears,

vegetable oil, whisky, soap and used clothing. Other seizures recorded include used tyres, foreign parboiled rice, tomato paste, used vehicle parts and other items either classified as prohibited or for which duty payment were being evaded.

On export, the Command stated that a total of 876,775.60Metric Tonnes with \$495,384,221.99 free on board (FOB) value translating into N203,969,499,562.18 and Nigeria Export Supervision Scheme (NESS) value of N1, 075,060,914.52 were processed through the command in the period under review.

"The above export figures are over 150 percent increase in value to that of first half 2021. The 2022 export statistics shows an improvement on the 2021 figures which is a fallout of CAC Auwal Mohammed trade facilitation strategies".

### I'll Bring My Experience To Bear In MNDA - Sharon Ikeazor By Ignatius Ushie

he Hon. Minister of State, Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, Sharon Ikeazor (Esq.) has stated that she would bring the experiences she garnered in the course of her service to the nation from various establishments to bear in the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs.

This was contained in a statement made available to Transport Day in Abuja. The Minister of State, who was redeployed from the Ministry of Environment, stated this while being received in the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs in Abuja.

According to her, "My coming to Niger Delta is like home coming, when we talk about environmental degradation, community development; it is the Niger Delta region, the experience I had in the Ministry of Environment, I'll bring into the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs".

She expressed gratitude to the President for the opportunity granted her to head the Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate, adding that the job was most fulfilling as she was able to impact lives of the senior citizens

"I was assigned to another Ministry that their work impact on the lives of the whole Nigeria, the whole world, the environment we depend on, the air we breathe, food we eat...that was another fulfilling work", she added.



The newly appointed Minister of State, MNDA, Sharon Ikeazor with the Permanent Secretary, MNDA, Engr. Olufunso Olusesan Adebiyi FNSE during her reception ceremony in the Ministry

Ikeazor further pledged her unflinching support to actualizing the mandate and vision of the Ministry for the good of Nigerians and the Niger Deltans within the short period in office.

# Drug Use Killed About 500,000 People In 2019-NDLEA

bout 500,000 people were killed in 2019 due to drug use. This figure was disclosed by the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer Of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Retd), OFR in Apapa, Lagos today.

Represented by the Area Commander of the Apapa Area Special Command of the agency, Mr. Ameh Analegwu, Marwa stated that according to the World Drug Report 2021 "drug use killed almost half a million people in 2019, while drug use disorders resulted in 18 million years of healthy life lost, mostly due to opioids.

"Serious and often lethal illnesses are more common among drug users, particularly those who inject drugs, many of whom are living with HIV



L-R: Navy Commander M.N Dalhatu; CSI S.O Adewunmi; Lt. Col B.I Amajuoyi; and NDLEA Commander Mr. Ameh Analegwu, at the event

and Hepatitis C.".

At the event which was held to mark the UN Day Against Drug Abuse And Illicit Drug Trafficking 2022, Themed "Addressing Drug Challenges In Health And

Humanitarian Crises", the NDLEA boss revealed that "the drug abuse health challenge came to the fore in 2021 as the human family was recovering from the COVID-19

"The concerns raised by the World Drug Report 2021 were not farfetched because here in Nigeria, we are beginning to see similar patterns from the findings of the National Drug Use and Health Survey 2018. The survey recorded an estimated 376,000 high-risk drug users in the country, of which 1 in every 5 injects drugs.

"And with a total of 80,000 People Who Inject Drugs (PWID), the risk of the spread of HIV, Hepatitis C and other

blood-borne diseases was high and this in turn raises the stake of a public health crisis. Hence, there was no questioning the rationale of treatment for drug users".

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### PHOTO NEWS



R-L: Newly appointed Minister of Transportation, Muazu Jaji Sambo; President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR; Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Mr. Boss Mustapha; Member, Representing Hong/Gombi Federal Constituency, Hon. Yusuf Buba; and Director General, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Bashir Jamoh; during a Sallah homage visit to the President in Daura, Katsina State.



L-R: Jubril Arogundade, GM Commercial and Group Communication, GAC Motors; Mr. Wole Ajimisinmi, ED, Wema Bank Plc; Chief Diana Chen, Chairman, GAC Motor and Mr Obinna Oluge, GM, After Sales during the MOU Auto Finance signing at the opening ceremony of GAC Motor G-Style showroom and unveiling of the All New GS4 Crossover SUV held at the GAC Motor office, Victoria Island, Lagos on Thursday, July 7, 2022. Photo Lamidi Bamidele

# RAILWAYS

### Railway Police Arrest 13 Suspected Vandals

n its effort to combat railway vandalism, the Railway Police Command has arrested 13 suspected railway vandals in the months of May and June.

The suspects are Abubakar Ayuba, 22, Musa Ibrahim, 17, Umar Bello, 18, Samaila Rabiu, 18 and Yahaya Abubakar, 18. According to Railway police boss Yetunde Longe, operatives of the Railway Police Command, on May 12, upon credible tipoff by a group of Civilian Joint Task Force, arrested five suspected vandals in Abakwa axis of Kaduna State.

The suspects were intercepted while removing and vandalising rail irons of the Abakwa old rail line with a gas cylinder.

She added that the Minna Division of the Railway Police Command also arrested three persons with 220 Pandrol clips.

She said "Another three suspects were similarly arrested for vandalism of standard gauge rail Pandrol clips property of the Nigeria Railway Corporation (NRC)/Chinese Civil Engineering Construction Company (CCECC).

"The suspects, Benedict Matthew, 20, Ismalia Ibrahim, 18, and Abdullahi Iliyasu, 20, were arrested on June 17. "Exhibits recovered from them include: ten sacks of vandalised

include: ten sacks of vandalised standard gauge rail pandrol clip Irons, measuring scale, and hammer."

"The suspects Abdulrazak abubakar, Khamisu Abba, Abdulganiyu Abubakar were arrested at kilometer 735, along Korota Village, Maikunkele Beji section.

"The Kafanchan Railway Police Division upon credible information also intercepted a truck loaded with vandalised railway iron rails tucked away in a bush at Unguwar Yawa Village, Zango Kataf Local Council of Kaduna State.

"The truck marked BCH-933 XA, belonging to a Cement Company was loaded with ninety-six pieces of standard gauge rail irons.

"One suspect has been arrested in connection to the incident while investigations have been heightened



to apprehend other accomplices at large."

"In Abeokuta, at Alagada village axis, two men, Idowu Abiodun and David Titus both 24 years old were apprehended by men of the Abeokuta division, while vandalising rail tracks upon an information by a member of the village. Railway pandrol clips were recovered from the suspects as exhibits. The suspects have however been charged to court."

Longe stressed the importance of

Citizen-Police Partnership and Community Policing in securing life and property.

She added that no stone would be left unturned in the war against Railway vandalism as perpetrators arrested would be made to face the wrath of the law to its full extent.

#### Trains To Be Equipped With LIDAR Scanning Technology

K-based train operator Northern is set to equip its fleet of 345 trains with light detection and radar (LIDAR) scanning technology in a bid to make journeys safer and efficient. The train company will install horizon-scanning cameras on trains to identify infrastructure defects, environmental threats and other maintenance issues.

According to a company statement, these cameras leverage the same LIDAR process that was used by US space agency NASA to map the surface of the moon.

### Customs Building Delaying Completion Of Standard Gauge Rail Link to Apapa-Saraki

By Salome Columba

he Federal Government has announced that it will actualise the linking of Lagos-Ibadan standard gauge rail line to the Apapa port by the end of this month.

Then Minister of State for Transportation, Senator Gbemisola Saraki, disclosed this in Lagos recently, noting that a Customs building housing a radio-active scanner had been obstructing the complete extension of the rail track to the port quay.

She spoke while addressing journalists after an inspection of the affected building at the APM Terminals in the Apapa port.

She said, "By the end of this month, we want to ensure that the removal of this Customs facility which is on the rail track is resolved. The goal is to have this track operational by the end of this month."

#### Hitachi To Deploy Digital Signalling Tech

Rolling stock manufacturer Hitachi Rail has secured a contract from SNCF Réseau for the delivery of digital signalling infrastructure to upgrade the railway network in France.

Under the framework agreement, the company will develop and install a new generation of wayside European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS) Radio Block Centres (RBC).

The RBC Argos deployment is anticipated to significantly enhance the capacity of the rail network besides improving the regularity of trains. This equipment will be installed over the coming few years.

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### **NEWS**

#### UNILAG, Nord Auto Agree To Set Up Training, Assembly Facility On Campus



L-R: Non-Executive Director, Nord Automobile, Mrs Shola Bola-Audu; University of Lagos Registrar, Barr. Oladejo Azeez; Vice- Chancellor, University of Lagos, Prof. Oluwatoyin Ogundipe; Chief Executive Officer, Nord Automobile, Mr. Oluwatobi Ajayi; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Developmental Services, University of Lagos, Prof. Ayodele Atsenuwa; and University of Lagos, Librarian, Prof. Yetunde Zendi, during the signing of MOU between the university of Lagos management team and Nord Automobile in Lagos

he University of Lagos as the university and Nord automobile company have signed a Memorandum of Agreement for practical training of willing and qualified students of the school in the act of assembling of cars, repair, service and maintenance of automobiles.

Speaking at the MOA signing ceremony which held recently at UNILAG, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Oluwatoyin Ogundipe, said it was the first time such type of collaboration between the university and an automobile company in Nigeria would be sealed.

He described it as a Triple Elite Model by bringing the government, the industry and university together.

"What we are doing today is innovation Triple Elite Model in which we are bringing the industry to the campus. This should be the first time this type of thing will be happening in the university in Africa.

This will be a great opportunity for our students in different departments to contribute to the development of automobile in Nigeria."

According to him, education has gone beyond dishing out theory to the students, adding that there is an absolute need for the practical application of the studies "so that our students will be able to do their IT in and outside the university. Whatever they are able to learn, they will apply it in other areas.

"This can give rise to the evolution of having a department of automobile engineering in the University of Lagos."

Prof Ogundipe stated that the university had in abundance experts in relevant departments to support the project in the area of research and cognitive development.

He commended the Nord team for the initiative and congratulated the university's council, members of staff and students as well as all the stakeholders associated with UNILAG for the feat and past achievements

The Chief Executive of Nord Motors, Mr Oluwatobi Ajayi, said the initiative could be the beginning of industrial revolution in Nigeria, where students would not only see how vehicles are made but be part of the production process.

"By this time in two months, you will be seeing a beautiful showroom and a working assembly plant on the UNILAG campus."

He stressed that Nigerians need to show the world that "we are not just consumers of good things but creators of good things."

Ajayi said having worked in some of the biggest auto industries in the world before starting the Nord company, he felt compelled to give the best to the country and allow willing young Nigerians to get the practical experience about auto making and business.

"Our vehicles are of international standard but 40 per cent lower in prices than what is sold elsewhere," he said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Development Services) at UNILAG, Prof. Ayodele Atsenuwa, had earlier given the background of the project.

She recalled having the CEO of Nord Motors, Mr Ajayi, as one of the judges at an innovative engineering event with potential investors at the UNILAG last year, where he expressed interest in the quality of presentations that the students who pitched.

According to her, "From there, we started to talk. We said we would like our students studying mechanical engineering to come as interns to Nord Motors to have hands-on experience.

"Nord in its reply said if we do not mind they could put up a work station on our campus to enable the students to learn practically the business of automobile.

"We have put together a Memorandum of Agreement with details of how we will partner Nord Motors to the benefit of the faculty and the students.

"Under the agreement, we have the following objects: to facilitate and develop a platform for willing and qualified students of UNILAG in the act of manufacturing and assembling of cars in conjunction with Nord Motors; create a skill development drive of resolving unemployment crisis among youths that are employable to develop a career way with Nord Motors; to create a situation

where UNILAG can play in the value chain in the car manufacturing business in Nigeria; to create an opportunity to train at least 15 students annually in the University of Lagos to study and acquire automobile skills at no cost; to provide automobile services, maintenance at the UNILAG for the staff and students at discounted prices, among other things."

She expressed optimism that the project will be a major step towards achieving university-industry collaboration for the benefit of the country.



### **NEWS**

#### **European Union Sets New Requirements For Inbound Air Shipments**

rom 1 March 2023, all freight forwarders, air carriers, express couriers, and postal operators transporting goods to or through the European Union (EU) (including Norway and Switzerland) will be required to submit advance cargo information in the form of a complete Entry Summary Declaration (ENS), under the second phase of the EU's new customs pre-arrival security and safety programme **Import** Control System 2 (ICS2) Release 2.

Economic operators involved in handling, sending, shipping and transporting cargo, express or postal consignments to or

via the EU by air have to comply with new advance data reporting requirements for pre-loading and prearrival customs risk assessments.

By collecting data about all goods entering the EU prior to their loading and arrival, ICS2 supports effective risk-based customs controls while facilitating free flow of legitimate



trade across the EU's external borders. ICS2 will simplify the movement of goods between customs offices at the first point of entry and final destination in the EU. For economic operators, ICS2 will streamline requests for additional information and pre-departure risk screening by customs authorities.

In addition to air carriers' ENS filing responsibilities under the multiple

filing regime of Release 2, freight forwarders, express couriers, and postal operators will also be legally responsible for providing data. They either have to share it with the air carriers, who will then complete the ENS filing requirements, or submit the data directly to ICS2. Postal operators and express couriers, who have previously been declaring partial information

regarding inbound shipments (under ICS2 Phase 1), will now also be required to coordinate with their air carrier to submit all required data.

Those in the air transport sector who are currently filing advance cargo information into Import Control System (ICS) will have to gradually start filing this data into ICS2 during the operational roll-out of Release 2.

Economic operators are strongly advised to prepare in advance for Release 2, in order to avoid the risk of delays and non-compliance.

### MG HS Move To Take Market Share

ccording to Anurag Shah, General Manager, Stallion MG Automobiles Ltd., official representatives of the British brand Morris Garages brand in Nigeria, MG HS' is being accepted gradually in Nigeria.

Shah stated, "Auto enthusiasts are discovering that MG HS is not only value for money, when compared with its competitors in terms of safety,

styling, interior design and equipment, the car comes with more either in number or sophistication and quality."

Evidently, MG HS recorded 5-star rating, the highest from European New Car Assessment Programme (EuroNCAP).

Featuring a rugged build from high tensile steel, the HS is equipped with 6 airbags, Hill Start Assist Control, Blind Spot Detection, Lane Changing Warning, and more.

"While the engineers behind the MG HS did not attempt to reinvent the wheel," Stallion MG Automobiles' GM explained, "they successfully stocked to the four-letter word- MORE, while adding modern and futuristic features that empowers HS to effectively undercut its rivals.

#### Mevron Partners TVS To Empower Bikers, Trikers

evron has announced a partnership with TVS, an affordable motorcycle and tricycle manufacturing company to give prospective and current Mevron bikers and trikers in sub-Saharan Africa, including Nigeria, access to the two-wheeled and three-wheeled vehicles.

Representatives of the two giant organisations Mr. Olawale Lasisi, Founder and CEO of Mevron

and Varinder Jha, the Regional Business Head of TVS jointly announced the partnership at a colourful ceremony in Ilorin recently.

The partnership according to the duo would reduce the barriers to owning a motorcycle and tricycle in Africa and empower bikers and trikers to become their own boss within a short time.

The multiple ownership methods are also designed to suit bikers and

trikers with diverse budgets and goals, allowing Mevron trikers and bikers who were previously unable to afford or finance their own vehicle to become their own boss.

Speaking on the partnership, Mr. Varinder Jha, the Regional Business Head of TVS said that with TVS, anyone that passes the application process can get a brand new two or three wheel vehicle and begin to ride on Mevron within five days.

# Sanwo-Olu Presents GAC Vehicles To 13 Teachers

agos State Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has presented GAC car gifts to 13 teachers in Lagos. The governor also opened the newly-built containerised modular classroom block in Vetland Junior Grammar School, Agege.

Sanwo-Olu described the event as a fulfilment of his promise to replicate facilities at the new Elemoro Comprehensive Junior Secondary School in Ibeju-Lekki, across all education districts in the state.

The containerised modular school building comprises nine regular classrooms, three laboratories and four staff rooms, all solar- powered. The pupils, 620 in all, also have the opportunity to learn remotely.

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# MARITIME

### I Will Prioritize Infrastructure Development-Sambo

By Ignatius Ushie

igeria's new Minister of Transportation, Mr. Mu'azu Sambo has said he will pursue the development agenda of President Muhammadu Buhari in the transportation sector of the country.

Mu'azu who made this disclosure at the handover ceremony by the former Minister of State for Transportation, Senator Gbemisola Saraki recently in Abuja, said the ministry was home considering his past experiences and hopes to do his best with collaboration and cooperation from members of staff at the ministry.

According to him, "I am here for a very short time. I am coming with an open mind; there is nothing under the sun you won't hear when you move into a place." The best thing is to lead the people with an open mind", adding, "I want you to embrace me and give me all the support.

On the outgoing Minister of State, he said, "I wish we could work with my sister (Saraki) but I have a brother, one good one goes and another one comes.

"We will do our best and leave the rest to humanity and posterity to judge." he said.

Earlier, the outgoing minster of State, Senator Gbemisola Saraki while handing over, thanked the staff of the Ministry and urged them to support the new ministers.

"The team you have here are exceptionally hardworking, very quick to learn and have been exceptionally focused in ensuring to serve and assist the ministers in any and every capacity.

"I am sure that they will continue to do that as you take over the reign of



Former Minister of State, Transport. Sen. Gbemi Saraki; Hon. Minister of Transport, Alhaji. Mu'azu Sambo; Minister of state, Transport, Prince Ademola Adegoroye; and Permanent Secretary, Transport, Dr. Magdaline Ajani at the handing over ceremony in Abuja, recently.

the ministry, adding, "The Ministry of Transport is one of the focal points of Mr. President's agenda, looking at the issue of infrastructure.

"I am sure and have no doubt in my

mind that the good legacy that have been started in 2015 will continue. "If there is anyway I can be of assistance to both of you, you know where I am," Saraki stated.

Present at the brief ceremony were the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Magdalin Ajani and management staff of the Ministry.

### MSN Seeks Deployment Of Personnel To Combat Waterway Accident

he Merchant Sail Navy (MSN), a reserve marine formation, has urged states and federal governments to deploy personnel of the outfit on voluntary assistance to jetties across the country. The Commander General of MSN, Capt. JohnLinus Okoronkwo, who disclosed this in a statement, stated that deploying sail navy officials to jetties would help to reduce accidents on waterways, adding that this is one of the objectives of the body.

This offer comes after several boat accidents on waterways across the country leading to several deaths.

According to Okoronkwo, the Merchant Sail Navy could be of help in such situations by assisting government agencies; including patrolling and issuing safety apparatus (life jackets and life vests) to the boat passengers.

"The Merchant Sail Navy shall regulate the safety apparatus to ensure when to change expired items. We shall take records through the manifest as data collection, including the next of kin information of the boat passengers in case of emergency as well as provide vital information to the

Nigerian security forces relating to security challenges on the sea.

"The Merchant Sail Navy needs an emergency rescue speedboat for our divers unit, a beat station at the waterfront (jetty) and the support of the government in achieving this goal," the statement read.

Okoronkwo argued that apart from

making Nigeria a safe place for her citizens, deploying the merchant sail navy to jetties will also reduce the rate of unemployment in the country.

#### Ship Owners Task Minister On CVFF

he Ship Owners Association of Nigeria (SOAN) has urged the newly appointed Minister of Transportation, Alhaji Mu'azu Jaji Sambo to immediately commence procedure for the disbursement of the \$350m Cabotage Vessel Financing Fund (CVFF).

Speaking exclusively with kadecommunicationng, President

of SOAN, Dr. MkGeorge Onyung explained that if the Minister will not commence procedure to disburse the CVFF, then he should make legislative effort to cancel the fund.

According to Dr. Onyung, "The Minister of Transportation, Alhaji Mu'azu Jaji Sambo should as a matter of fact disburse the CVFF now or cancel the fund".

### **Decarbonisation Strategy Roundtables Launched**

he IMO-Norway GreenVoyage2050 project has launched a series of roundtables on the creation of National Action Plans (NAPs) to address GHG emissions from shipping, with the first event held in collaboration with the Government of Kenya on 12 July. NAPs are an important part of efforts to reduce GHG emissions in the maritime sector. IMO has encouraged countries to develop and submit their plans This will help countries to achieve the emission reduction goals set out in IMO's initial GHG strategy.

# MARITIME

### 10 Years After, Clearing Agents Slam Nigeria's Auto Policy

learing agents under the aegis of the Association of Nigerian Licensed Customs Agents (ANLCA) have labeled Nigeria's National Automotive Policy, also known as Auto Policy a scam, stating that since its introduction in 2013, the country can barely produce an ordinary radiator while few are smiling to the banks under the guise of being local assemblers and manufacturers.

In a statement issued recently by the Acting President of ANLCA, Dr Kayode Farinto to felicitate Muslims over the celebration of this year's Eid-El Kabir, the Customs brokerage association also said that the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has become unprofessional due to loose regulation of the Service by the Ministry of Finance.

According to ANLCA, "Professional colleagues, on behalf of the National Executive Committee of our great Association and myself, we Felicitate with our Muslims brothers and sisters on this occasion of Eid El Kabir celebration. Congratulations to all of us.

"This year's celebration, even though solemn, attest to the fact that Nigeria, our Nation is going through lots of

security challenge s as a result of Intelligen ce and security collapse, hence we advice u r members to be security conscious during and after the Sallah celebratio

"We as trade facilitator s will

continue to do our best to ensure that more revenue is generated into the federation account, as part of our nation building. However, we are using the opportunity to appeal to the Federal Government to revisit many issues that can touch the lives of many Nigerian grassroots. The following issues need reviewing:



"The age limit on imported vehicles needs to be reviewed to at least 15 years from the current 12 years.

"The entire Auto policy is a scam that has continued to enrich few individual Nigerians at the detriment of our economy. With the introduction in the last 10 years or more, we have been unable to produce ordinary radiator, meanwhile, few are smiling to the banks with our money under the guise of being local Assemblers and manufacturers. It is high time we revised this policy.

"The Federal Government needs to have consistent policy in the maritime industry. This trial by Error of the government must be stopped forthwith. Just when we thought there is Eureka in the transportation ministry, the government decided to change the minister and bring a new person that will start learning and commencing visitation in the next three months. We are stagnant and not really moving forward with this retrogresive steps every time.and it is encouraging Neocolonialism.

"The Federal Government in line with international best practices needs to re-organise and re-orientate the management of the Nigeria Customs service from the present moribund one. The present one has continually brought confusion to the trading community with her high handedness that lacks control and checks to the extent that the Federal Ministry of Finance has lost her supervisory role; hence the high level of non professionalism of the service to the nation.

# FG Working With Private Sector For National Shipping Line By Ignatius Ushie ....hosts 16th Maritime Seminar For Judges

he Federal government in its bid to retrieve and re-jig the shipping industry through job creation for its nationals, may be considering the establishment of a national shipping line.

Speaking at the 16th International Maritime Seminar for Judges organized by the Nigerian Shippers Council (NSC) a parastatal under the the Federal Ministry of Transportation in collaboration with the National Judicial Institute (NJI) in Abuja, the Minister of state for Transportation, Sen. Gbemisola Saraki said it was important for Nigeria to take charge of the shipping activities within the country in order to reap fully the economic benefits of the maritime sector.

The Minister who was Represented by the Director of Procurement, Useni Adamu, stated that the essence of the seminar is for capacity building in the maritime industry.

According to her, "It is a common knowledge that most of our maritime transportation is conducted by foreign ship owners, thereby limiting the economic benefits accruable to the nation and the sub-region in areas such as creation of jobs, freight and insurance earnings etc."

The Minister explained that "It is in the above regard that the development of a national fleet becomes imperative. The present administration is looking into ways of encouraging the establishment of a private sector-driven national shipping line to ensure maximum exploitation of the potentials in our maritime industry, adding that "A Ministerial Committee has been working on this important initiative and I look forward to having their concrete recommendations for immediate implementation", she stated.

Earlier, while welcoming Judges of Federal High Court, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of Sierra Leone and the Representatives of Supreme Court Judges from Ghana, Kenya and other West African countries, Saraki

explained the need for continues collaboration and engagement with the judiciary in ensuring smooth development of the maritime sector. In her words, "My Lords, the lacuna created by the low penetration level in Maritime Law at the undergraduate levels of our Universities, coupled with the fast pace of development in international trade, exerts a lot of strain on our judicial officers some of whom are confronted with this special area of the law for the first time when Admiralty matters are brought before their courts for adjudication.

"It is therefore commendable that this seminar has created a veritable forum where prominent jurists and legal luminaries come together to rub minds on how to enhance the competitiveness and economic viability of our maritime industry, not only through the capacity building of the judicial officers, but indeed also in tackling some of the crucial issues on the front burner of maritime discourse both locally and globally". In his Address, the Acting Chief Justice of Nigeria, (CJN) Justice Olukayode Ariwoola said "In light of the foregoing, this Seminar is designed among other things to acquaint participants with emerging trends in the sphere of Admiralty Law and the challenges that digitalization and globalization may throw up on the adjudication of admiralty matters".

In his vote of thanks,, the Executive Secretary of NSC, Hon. Emmanuel Jime said "the task of organizing and maintaining a high quality event like this, is understandably, not an easy one. It requires enormous commitment, sacrifice, dedication and patriotic duty and responsibility.

#### **Court Of Appeal President Lauds Jamoh's Commitment To Admiralty Matters**

Justice Monica Dongban-Mensem, President of The Courts of Appeal has commended Dr. Bashir Jamoh, Director General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) for his exemplary leadership role in advancing the cause of adjudication and mediation in admiralty matters. Speaking at the recently held Nigeria Shippers Council (NSC)

seminar for judges in Abuja, Justice Dongban-Mensem said Dr Jamoh is contributing immensely to keeping judicial officers abreast with relevant knowledge to handle maritime matters.

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