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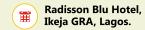
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### NIGERIA TRANSPORT LECTURE

**Enquiries - 0913 351 7720** 

Thursday May 23, 2024



9:00am

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How I Intend To Run NIMASA As DG-Mobereola

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WAAS Opens May 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> At Landmark Centre, Lagos

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CFAO's Pedigree,
Toyota's Quality,
Others, Facilitates
Delivery Of Customer
Satisfaction-Toyota
By CFAO MD,
Boye Ajayi
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L.R: Regional Sales Manager of CFAO Yamaha Motor Nigeria Ltd, Northern Nigeria, Ladi Doy; Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation/Marine and Blue Economy, Olufemi Michael Oloruntola; Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola; Managing Director, CFAO Yamaha Motor Nigeria Limited, Sylvia Jones-Omlenyi; Business Head, Marine, CFAO Yamaha Motor Nigeria Ltd, Alademodi Adeola; and Head of Marketing, CFAO Mobility, Funmi Abiola....when the Yamaha team paid a courtesy visit to the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, in Abuja recently



# **SAFETY**

# WEST AFRICA AUTOMOTIVE SHOW MAY 14TH-16TH 2024 LANDMARK CENTRE, LAGOS, NIGERIA

Staying alert involves paying attention to your surroundings, including road signs, speed limits, traffic signals, and the behaviour of other road users. Developing good driving habits and avoiding dangerous situations are critical for defensive driving. Here are some ways to stay alert and focused while driving:

Pay attention to road signs and signals: Directional signs, speed limit markers, and traffic signals provide essential information about the road and help you navigate safely. Make it a habit to notice and follow these signs as you drive.

Regularly check your mirrors: Periodically checking your rearview and side mirrors gives you a comprehensive view of the conditions around your vehicle. This habit allows you to detect potential hazards early and react accordingly.

Be aware of other road users: Pay attention to the behavior of other

### **Staying Alert While Driving**



drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians, and anticipate their actions. This proactive approach helps you respond effectively to any unexpected situations.

**Drive well-rested:** Fatigue significantly impairs your ability to stay alert and react quickly to potential hazards. Make sure you are well-rested before hitting the road, and take regular breaks on long journeys.

Avoid driving under the influence: Alcohol and drugs impair your judgment, reaction time, and ability to stay focused. Never drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and consider alternative transportation options if necessary.

Stay engaged with your driving: Active mental engagement helps keep your mind alert. Continuously scan the road ahead, check your mirrors, and anticipate potential issues to stay focused and prepared for any situation. Staying alert is a critical component of defensive driving. By remaining vigilant and focused on the road, you can identify potential hazards and respond effectively to ensure a safe and secure driving experience. Keep in mind that your safety and the safety of others on the road depend on your ability to stay alert and make responsible decisions while driving.

### Lagos Govt. Announce Hot Lines For Road Traffic

he Lagos State Ministry of Transportation has announced dedicated phone hotlines aimed at facilitating public feedback and complaints regarding the activities of the Ministry and its Officials.

Recognizing the importance of fostering transparency, accountability, and responsiveness in governance, the phone numbers will provide citizens with a direct channel to express their concerns, report grievances, and provide valuable feedback on transportation-related matters.

Members of the public are encouraged to utilize this service responsibly by providing accurate information and details when lodging complaints or sharing feedback.

The Ministry assures the public of its commitment to addressing all inquiries and complaints promptly and effectively.

The hotline numbers for lodging complaints and providing feedback are as follows: 0902000900 or 09020004000.





### **NIGERIA TRANSPORT LECTURE**





Radisson Blu Hotel, Ikeja GRA, Lagos.



9:00am

#### **Enquiries - 0913 351 7720**

#### CONTACT US @

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### **EDITORIAL**

#### Commendable Move By FRSC To Halt Passenger Transportation By Trailers

enerally, transportation is defined as the movement of passengers and goods from one point, described as the origin to another point, described as the destination.

Passenger transportation is different from freight transportation in the sense that their characteristics differ irrespective of the mode deployed.

In rail transportation, coaches are used to convey passengers, while wagons and tankers are used to convey dry and wet cargo respectively. In the same vein, in air transportation, passenger planes are different from cargo planes. Even when cargoes are conveyed with passenger planes, they are kept in a separate compartment. Same thing applies to road transportation.

However, in Nigeria, for too long, drivers of articulated vehicles meant to carry cargo, have consistently been seen conveying passengers on top of their cargo.

This practice is common in the Northern part of the country, where some passengers are seen perching on top of trailers, probably because of cheaper.

Unfortunately, this has led to the death of some many passengers whenever these trailers are involved in any form of Road Traffic Crashes (RTC).

In August 2017, scores of people were killed in a RTC involving a trailer along Sheme-Yankara road in Katsina. Only last month, 10 persons were killed and 48 injured in a RTC along Abuja-Kaduna expressway.

It is against this background that we commend the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) for setting up a Joint Task Force to arrest and prosecute offenders involved in the use of trailers to convey passengers.

The JTF were directed to embark on effective special patrol operations as well as conduct Mobile Court operations on the commissioned route. They are to also ensure immediate prosecution of apprehended offenders.

Also noting that the road mode of transportation remains largely unregulated, we call on the Federal Ministry of Transport to ensure that the proposed National Land Transport Policy addresses this issue comprehensively.

#### **Ports Access Roads Should Be In Good Condition**

ecently, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) declared zero tolerance for all forms of impediments on the port access roads. This was sequel to the unscheduled visit of the Managing Director of NPA, Mohammed Bello-Koko, to the Tin Can port access road.

During the visit, Bello Koko said, "our zero tolerance for all forms of impediments to free flow of traffic is no fluke. We are poised to consolidate on the gains we have recorded first in Apapa and now Tin can.

"Ports access roads are international corridors, which means traffic gridlock along such sensitive road networks apart from negating port productivity is an international embarrassment that requires the synergy of all stakeholders to tackle sustainably."

Ports access roads are very important to the successful operations of the ports, especially in a country like Nigeria that is largely import dependent in so many sectors of the economy.

For a very long time, the Apapa road was a no-go area, as lorries and tankers took over the roads. Going into Apapa was a nightmare for years.

While there seems to be some respite on the Apapa

end, the Tin can end of the port access road is still nothing to write about as motorists still pass through very tough times navigating.

Though the Lagos state government has repeatedly stated its resolve to bring back normalcy on that axis, the relief always seems to be temporal, as the country continue to record wastage of man hour, fuel and other economic costs.

Aside the main ports in Lagos and other states, government should also ensure that the dry points established in different parts of the country have smooth access roads.



Ayo Adedoyin - Chairman

Frank Kintum - Editor Barr. Dickson Yakubu, **Ignatius Ushie** - Assistant Editor **Abimbola Kintum Ph.D.** 

Commander David Ofem Rtd

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### **LOGISTICS TERMS**

### Defining Green Logistics: Terminology Explained-Maersk (2)



Climate neutral: Similar to carbon neutral, the term 'climate neutral' refers to neutrality of emissions, in which greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere are equal to the removal of CO2 emissions from the atmosphere. Unlike carbon neutral, climate neutral refers to all greenhouse gases, not only carbon dioxide.

**Direct emissions:** Direct emissions, or direct greenhouse gas emissions, are emissions that come from sources that are owned or controlled by the reporting entity. Direct emissions can also be referred to as Scope 1 emissions.

**E-fuel:** Also known as Electrofuel, efuels are manufactured using captured carbon dioxide and fuelled by renewable electricity sources like wind or solar power. E-methanol is an example of an e-fuel.

Environmental, Social, and Governance: Also known as ESG, this refers to the corporate management of environmental and social impacts. ESG data can include but is not limited to data such as employee engagement surveys, carbon emissions, water consumption, and demographic makeup of senior leadership.

Indirect emissions: Indirect

emissions are greenhouse gas emissions that result from a reporting entity but are derived from sources owned by other entities. Indirect emissions can occur through the use of purchased electricity for operations, or emissions produced by the transportation of goods for a company. Indirect emissions are Scope 2 and 3 emissions.

**Methane:** A primary component of natural gas and biogas, methane is a greenhouse gas that can be converted into liquid form and used as a fuel.

**Methanol:** A type of alcohol that can be used as fuel for automobiles, ships, fuel cells, and stoves.

Net zero: According to the Science Based Targets initiative, net zero is the reduction of scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions to zero, or a residual level that is consistent with reaching net zero emissions at the global or industry level in eligible pathways to keep global warming within 1.5 degrees.

Offsetting: Similar to carbon offsets, offsetting or climate offsetting, refers to the reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to compensate for emissions elsewhere. Offsetting refers to all greenhouse gases, and not only carbon dioxide.

**Scope 1:** Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions, coming from sources that are owned or controlled by an organ isation or company.

**Scope 2:** Scope 2, indirect emissions, are from purchased energy to aid in the manufacturing and operations of a company's workflow.

**Scope 3:** Scope 3 emissions are also indirect emissions, as they are generated from a third party within a company's supply chain, such as fuel burned by a logistics provider.

Sustainable Development Goals: Commonly referred to as SDGs, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals are 17 goals to reach the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Adopted by all the United Nations' member nations in 2015 the SDGs address everything from world hunger to climate change.

**Technology readiness scale:** Also known as a technology readiness level (or TRS/TRL) the scale of 1-9 indicates the maturity of technology, with 1 at the lowest and 9 at the most ready. Level 1 would indicate the research stage, while level 9 would refer to operation.

Well to tank emissions: Also known as upstream emissions, well to tank emissions are the greenhouse gas emissions that are released into the atmosphere from the production, processing, and delivery of a fuel or energy source.

Well to wake: Sometimes referred to as well to wheel, this term goes one step further than well to tank to describe the emissions that take place from the extraction of fuel to the end of its use cycle. For example, from the extraction of biodiesel to its final stage of combustion.

### **TYRE WATCH**

# **SON Moves Against Tyre Stuffing, Evacuates Substandard Tyres From Warehouses**



he Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has seized fake and substandard tyres, as well as solar batteries worth several billions of Naira in Lagos.

The SON says it has evacuated the substandard products from the warehouses located in various markets in Lagos State as part of efforts to rid the country of unwholesome products.

Briefing newsmen in Lagos, SON Director General, Dr. Ifeanyi Okeke, said the tyres were damaged because of the act of stuffing them into one another in containers for shipment.

The Director, Inspectorate and Compliance Department who represented the DG, Mr. Pius Manji, during the raids said the evacuation exercise was to ensure that the tyres do not find their ways into the nation's market, adding that products have been tested but failed the critical parameters as a result of stuffing.

"The act of stuffing tyres into one another instead of bringing it in different containers has rendered the tyres dead on arrival into the country. "If they are to bring 2,000 tyres in one container, they will now have the opportunity to bring in 8,000 tyres

and in doing that, this compromises the quality of the tyres."

According to him, "The tyres are made of wires and carbon and the test reviewed that the textile strength of the tyres have been compromised so they are no more fit for use and this is why we are going to destroy them. They may look nice in the eyes, but we rely on scientific investigation and analysis."

The SON boss also explained that solar batteries seized were fakes from known brands.

"These solar batteries are very expensive, so consumers must have value for the money. The world is going fossil energy, we will discourage anything that will hinder Nigerians from getting it right", he added.

#### **CFAO Equipment Offers Techking Specialised Tyres**

s i d e distributorship and selling of a u t o m o b i l e s l i k e Kinglong Buses, JCB Equipment, Toyota Forklifts etc, CFAO Equipment, a subsidiary of CFAO Mobility in Nigeria, also markets the TechKing tyres, which are specialized tyres.

The offerings of TechKing tyres include Mix Road tyres, Off Road

tyres and Loader tyres among others, suitable for wet and muddy road.

TechKing also comes with mining tyres which improves operating rate with stable performance. This is



because of it customised compound for tread with better cut resistance, and mesh heat releasing groove design.

The mining tyre also comes with longer service life as a result of big block design for better wearing resistance, and block bridge design for stronger structural stability.

Also, CFAO offers the TechKing port tyres with extra sidewall protection, longer service life, better turning operation and good heat releasing performance.

### **TYRE WATCH**

# Qualities Of A Good Tyre

he right set of tyres can elevate your vehicle's performance. But, a set of mismatched tyres can hinder the performance of the best machines. Your vehicle runs on its tyres and it's the tyres that endure the bad road conditions. That's why it's of paramount importance that your bike tyres or car tyres should be of the best quality, advises Ceat.

How do you judge a tyre's quality?

Here are some factors you need to keep in mind while taking that decision. Let's start on the surface.

#### The Tread

The tread pattern of the tyre can tell you a lot about the quality of the tyres. Different compound combinations are used during the manufacturing of the tyre. These determine the various traits of a tyre. Such as: Gripping capability, Longevity, Resistance to punctures, Wear rate, Rolling resistance, Comfort, Ride and handling.



#### The Usage

Different tyre treads and compounds are used for specific terrains. These enable the tyre to sustain different weather and road conditions.

### • A good quality tyre has the following features:

It enhances your safety while driving by adding stability to the ride

A well-designed tread pattern that lends the tyres impressive traction on the road An excellent wet and dry handling ability

#### High braking efficiency

A good wet grip, which is only possible when there are proper channels on the tyre tread for water evacuation. These channels help water evade easily and avoid skidding.

- Fuel-saving is an attribute of a good quality tyre. Generally, <u>car</u> <u>tyres</u> with low rolling friction are able to aid in higher fuel efficiency of a vehicle.
- Good quality tyres have a **long life.** Tyres with the right mix of soft and hard compounds last long. Their wearing rate is gradual.
- Low noise is an attribute of a good quality tyre. The tread pattern of a tyre decides the amount of noise you will be hearing inside the car. Radial tyres are built considering the aerodynamics and result in low rolling noise.
- Good quality tyres display **high-speed stability and efficient control.**

Besides quality, how do you decide which tyre to go for?

The selection of the tyre also depends on your driving habits. Suppose you are someone who enjoys speeding (within the legal limit, we hope). Then, you should consult a professional from a tyre shop who can help you choose the right tyre based on your needs.

# The Infinity Tyres Advantage

#### **Passenger Tyres**

Characterized by rigid tread blocks for better control.

Higher tyre life with ultimate dry and wet grip makes it nearly unbeatable.

Comprehensive range and brand of tyres for Passenger Car:

#### **SUV**

Enhances on-road and off-road stability and protects from cuts and stone drilling. Light Truck Tyres Specifically designed for light

commercial vehicles:

Mini-buses

 $4\times4$ 

Vans

Capable of carrying heavier loads. Enhance efficiency with features like



improved fuel economy and reduced rate of tyre wear. Enhanced durability and excellent onroad handling for a smooth and comfortable ride.

#### **Truck & Bus Tyres**

High mileage.

Improves fuel efficiency.

Regular tread wear and low rolling resistance.

Designed to better cope with rough surfaces and mitigate rolling Noises.

#### **OTR Tyres**

Ideal for severe heavy duty applications. Perfect for port operations.

Used for mining and heavy construction equipment.

#### **Agricultural Tyres**

Ultimate in strength and performance. A comprehensive range.

#### **Industrial Tyres**

A comprehensive range.
Consistent and reliable operation.
Pirelli, Yokohama and Ceat are
exclusively are exclusively represented
by Infinity Tyres Limited in Nigeria.
The company also distributes other
brands.

...More details on www.infinitytyres.com

### **MARITIME**

#### Zero Waste: APM Terminals Apapa Recycles Used Lubricants, Discarded PPEs

n keeping with its resolve to help the environment, APM Terminals, Apapa Lagos has commenced the recycling of used lubricants and discarded Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as boiler suits and reflective jackets.

According to the company, it is doing this in partnership with Kevron Consulting, certified by the relevant authority in Lagos State. The company made the announcement to commemorate the International Day of Zero Waste celebration, March 30.

Health and Safety Manager, Felix Ugwuagbo said, "We understand the need to monitor the disposal of our used lubricants after their use.

We do not want to contribute to environmental degradation and have our used lubes end up in the waterways, clogging the drains or further used for transportation contributing to air pollution.

"We are partnering with Kevron



Consulting in this regard. Now our used lubricants are safely evacuated from the terminal, treated and then recycled into other purposes or in some cases, safely disposed of. Same applies to our discarded PPEs."

Terminal Manager, Steen Knudsen,

said, "The ESG Strategy of the AP-Moller Maersk Group, of which we are a part, is to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. This means reducing our environmental footprint on solid waste which contribute to these gas emissions."

### **WACT Commissions Container Freight Station At Onne Port**

PM Terminals' West Africa Container Terminal (WACT) has officially commissioned its new Container Freight Station (CFS) at Onne Port, Rivers State.

According to the company, this feat brings it a step closer towards its strategic vision of becoming the 'gateway to Eastern Nigeria and beyond', offering a comprehensive suite of logistics solutions to empower Nigerian businesses and further boost efficiency and access.

Managing Director of WACT, Jeethu Jose, said the facility will act as a central hub for various trade-related activities, including interaction with regulatory authorities and seamlessly connect businesses in Eastern Nigeria to the global marketplace and vice versa.

It will also support streamlined processes for import and export operations and reduce time and cost for customers.

He said expertly crafted solutions at the CFS are designed to expedite the movement of key Nigerian commodities like agro products and solid minerals, ensuring Just-in-Time (JIT) service delivery through efficient stuffing and swift transfers to the port. He added that the new facility will offer warehousing service for both import and export cargo across diverse sectors.

"The CFS will serve as a one-stopshop where all our customers can consolidate their exports. The facility will aid the Nigerian government's drive to promote export and generate forex, which will be beneficial to the country and the economy," Jose said. WACT Commercial Manager, Ismaila Badjie, who described the facility as the first of its kind in Onne Port, said, "The Container Freight Station has a lot of benefits to the customer. It is cost effective and also ensures that there is as little as possible in terms of waste of time. The facility will help the customers in the non-oil exports. This facility will also continue to support and ensure that natural produce are available abroad, and will directly or indirectly aid creation of jobs."

Also speaking, the Customs Area Controller, Port Harcourt II Area Command of the Nigeria Customs Service, Comptroller Baba Imam, congratulated WACT for the facility and for its milestone achievements at the port.

### **MARITIME**

### How I Intend To Run NIMASA As DG-Mobereola

he newly appointed Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dayo Mobereola has held his first official address on his assumption of duty.

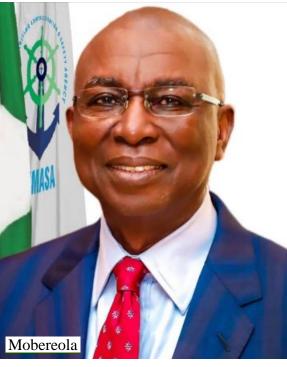
Mobereola, who is a former boss of the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA), stated at the agency's Victoria Island, Lagos office that the management under his leadership will build a purpose driven organisation, while also prioritising effective communication at all levels to enhance innovation, collaboration and synergy.

According to the DG, the agency under his leadership would prioritize safety, security, efficiency, environmental sustainability amongst others.

He said "We must strive to foster innovation and excellence in everything we do. The maritime industry is constantly evolving, driven by technological advancements, changing market dynamics, and evolving regulatory frameworks. As leaders in the sector, we must embrace innovation, adapt change, and continuously seek ways to enhance the efficiency, competitiveness, and resilience of our maritime operations.

"I do not doubt that every individual within our organization has the potential to achieve greatness; we will therefore, ensure that we build a purpose-driven organisation by investing in our staff, processes, and the entire system to achieve our mandate. I aim to foster an environment of innovation, collaboration and synergy, creating an atmosphere that encourages the development of our employees' skills, talents, and creativity.

He also used the opportunity to express



gratitude to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR for entrusting him with the responsibility of steering the affairs of the agency.

"I extend my heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for entrusting me with this crucial responsibility. I am highly aware of the immense trust and confidence the

President placed in me. It is with great enthusiasm and a sense of purpose that I step into this position, fully committed to steering our organisation toward greater heights, while upholding the highest standards of integrity, diligence, and service to our nation", he said.

The NIMASA DG also thanked the Hon. Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, CON, for his guidance throughout the appointment process, and expressed readiness to work with the Minister in achieving the objectives of the Ministry for the sector.

On March 11, 2024, President Bola Tinubu approved the appointment of Dr. Dayo Mobereola to serve as the DG of NIMASA for a renewable term of four years.

Dr. Mobereola holds a Ph.D. and an M.Sc in Transport Economics from the University of Wales, United Kingdom. He is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Transport, England, and a fellow of the same institute in Nigeria. He was the Managing Director of LAMATA from 2003 to 2015 and the Commissioner for Transportation in Lagos State from 2015 to 2016.

# Commissioner, LASWA Host Interactive Session With Boat Operators

he General Manager and Management team of Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) recently engaged in a roundtable discussion together with the Commissioner of Transportation, Hon. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation, Mr. Olawale Musa, alongside Private Boat Operators on the Lagos Inland waterways.

The primary focus of the discussions was to foster partnerships and ease of business for boat operators and commuters alike utilizing the Lagos Inland waterways.

During the discussion, the Commissioner actively listened to the concerns raised by the boat operators, taking note of their needs and demands.

The operators highlighted various challenges encountered on the waterways, such as wreckages, excessive taxation, insufficient jetties, the necessity for government subsidies, and the imperative for waterways cleanup to prevent hazards.

### **MARITIME**

### NPA Declares Zero Tolerance On Lagos Port Access Roads

he Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), has declared zero tolerance for all forms of impediments on the port access roads. The Managing Director of NPA, Mohammed Bello-Koko, said in a Press Release that this was to consolidate on the gains recorded in the clearance of illegal check/extortion points and shanties resulting in traffic gridlock on Tincan Island Port access road.

Bello Koko said, "our zero tolerance for all forms of impediments to free flow of traffic is no fluke. We are poised to consolidate on the gains we have recorded first in Apapa and now Tincan.

"We are grateful to the Minister of Marine & Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola and the Lagos State

Governor, Babajide Sanwo-olu, for the tremendous support we have received in this regard.

"Ports access roads are international corridors, which means traffic



gridlock along such sensitive road networks apart from negating port productivity is an international embarrassment that requires the synergy of all stakeholders to tackle sustainably. "Although the causes of the gridlock are rooted in factors external to NPA, we have a duty as the gateway to the national economy to take the front line role in tackling this menace."

According to the NPA boss who paid an on the spot assessment visit to the Mile2- Tin-Can Island road, disclosed that it will begin desilting and evacuation of debris on the port access road.

"Although I have directed our relevant in-house department to commence desilting of the drainages and clearance of the refuse, we will enlist the cooperation and intensify synergy with Lagos State Waste Management Authority

(LAWMA) and the Federal Ministry of Works under whose purview waste and road management resides to arrest the ugly trend."

### Oyetola Supports MOWCA's Move On Maritime Bank

inister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola has restated Nigeria's commitment to MOWCA's leadership and the Regional Maritime Development Bank being promoted by the Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA).

Speaking in Abuja recently when he received the Secretary General of MOWCA, Dr Paul Adalikwu, Oyetola identified the bank as an important catalyst for maritime development to finance platforms and infrastructures for economic growth.

He commended the initiative of a

MOWCA workshop for prevention of waterways accidents slated for Libreville, Gabon later in the year and expressed interest in having similar programmes brought to Nigeria to promote waterways safety.

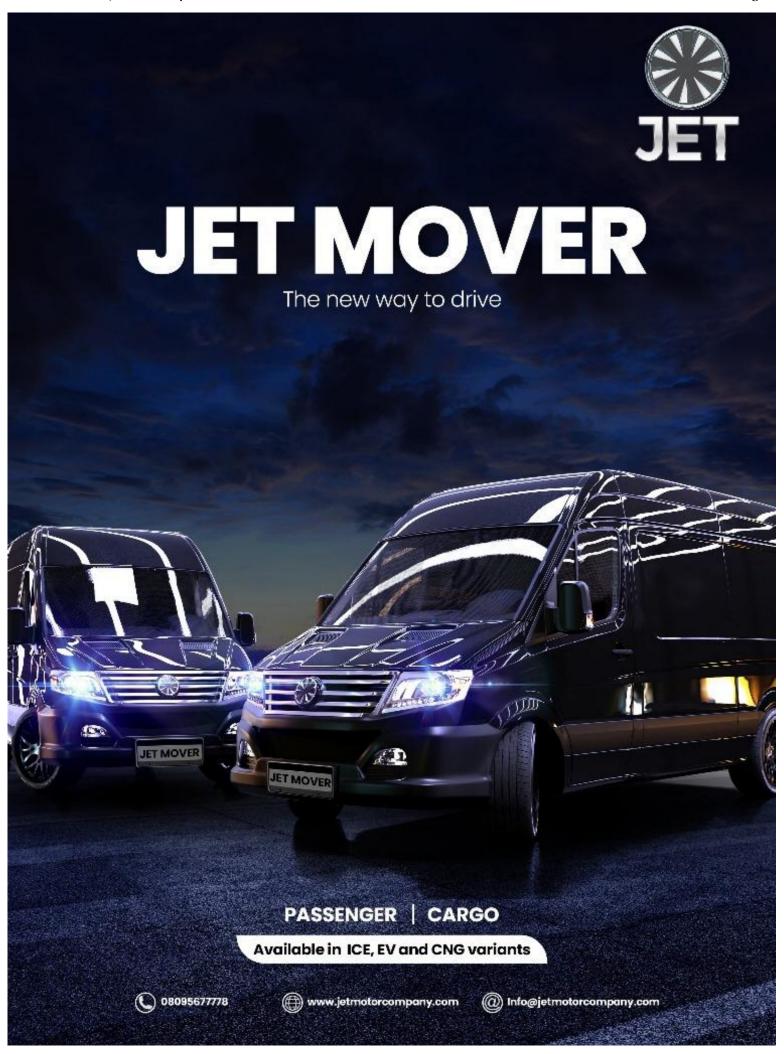
The minister who urged all MOWCA member countries to contribute their quotas in ensuring that the maritime bank is adequately financed, added that Nigeria will be transparent in the nomination of qualified persons to fill the allotted positions to the country including the post of President and Managing Director of the bank.

Speaking earlier, Adalikwu who was

on his first visit to the minister since the creation of the marine and blue economy ministry, said Nigeria's stake in regional maritime issues is expanding.

He said the bank's charter provided that a minimum of eight countries should endorse the Charter and that nine countries have so far signed up for the bank creating the grounds for easy take off.

According to him, 51% of the bank shares are reserved for member countries while 49% equity would be owned by private sector stakeholders in the project.



### **AUTO**

#### Carloha Thrills Customers With Chery Models At Ikeja City Mall

fter a successful outing at the Lagos Motor Show recently, Carloha has again thrilled visitors, customers and potential customers at the Ikeja City Mall for three days of March 15 to 17, 2024.

The three-day which featured a display of different Chery models, captivated mall-goers, offering a firsthand glimpse into the future of automotive innovation. According to Carloha, "an array of sleek and sophisticated models on display, Carloha showcased Chery's commitment to elegance, performance, and cutting-edge technology.

"From sleek sedans to versatile SUVs, the display catered to the diverse needs and preferences of modern drivers, embodying Chery's unwavering dedication to excellence."

Director of Sales and Marketing for Carloha Nigeria, Mr. Joseph Omokhapue, said "We are thrilled to have hosted such a remarkable showcase of Chery vehicles at Ikeja City Mall.

"This event exemplifies our commitment to providing our customers with unparalleled automotive



experiences, while also embracing the power of social media to connect and engage with our community."

The highlight of the event was the innovative social media challenge, inviting visitors to capture a moment with Chery's captivating display and share it across their social media

platforms.

And to make vehicle ownership easy and affordable for all customers, Carloha Nigeria offers 6 years warranty or 200,000 km, whichever comes first, and 6 years comprehensive free service for all Chery vehicles.

### FG Sets Up Committee To Implement NAIDP 2023

ollowing the approval of the new NAIDP by the Federal Government in 2023, the Nigerian Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP-2023) Implementation Committee was officially inaugurated on Thursday 28th March 2024 by the Hon. Minister, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment Dr. Doris Nkiruka Uzoka-Anite at Bank of Industry Building, Abuja.

Speaking at the Official Inauguration Ceremony, the Hon. Minister urged each member of the Committee to embrace the responsibility with a spirit of commitment and collaboration, stressing the importance of working together and leveraging on the strengths of each other. "I am deeply honoured to lead this distinguished group. Together, we have the power to make a real difference. Let us embark on this journey with

unwavering determination, and together we will turn the NAIDP vision into a thriving reality"

She said "This moment marks a significant milestone in our collective journey towards fostering growth, innovation and sustainability within Nigeria's automotive industry"

In his remarks the Director General, NADDC Mr. Joseph Osanipin expressed his profound gratitude for the initiative stating that the New Auto Policy (NAIDP-2023) was signed in the year 2023 with the soul aim of curtailing Nigeria's almost total dependence on imports of automobiles and to meet a significant proportion of its demand through domestic production of vehicles and components.

"The importance of inaugurating the committee is to see to proper implementation of the NAIDP-2023 and

to ensure that there is intergovernmental handshake in achieving the seven pillars of the policy"

The NAIDP 2023 Implementation Committee has the Hon. Minister of FMITI as the Chairperson, other members includes the Hon. Ministers of Finance, Transport and Environment. Other agencies include the Director General NADDC, the Comptroller General Nigeria Customs Service, the Executive Secretary, Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission, and the Director General, Standards Organisation of Nigeria, while members from the Private Sector include representatives of Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Nigeria Automotive Manufacturers Association and the Automotive Local Components Manufacturers Association.

### **AUTO**

#### Toyota Nigeria Hosts Finalists Of Toyota Dream Car Art Contest In Lagos

o y o t a (Nigeria) Limited, TNL, has honoured nine school children that emerged as national winners of the 2024 (17th) edition of the annual Toyota Dream Car Art contest.

According to the Managing Director of TNL, Mr Kunle Ade-Ojo, all nine drawings created by the nine winners were sent to Japan to compete with other winning drawings across the globe.

The latest national winners were celebrated and presented with top quality laptops, corporate gifts and certificates during a grand ceremony held on Saturday, 16th March, 2024, at TNL Corporate head office in Lekki, Lagos, to the admiration of their parents, Art teachers and well wishers that attended the colourful event.

Four of the winners are pupils of Corona School, Lagos, two from Abuja-based Loyola Jesuit College, two from Avi-Cenna International School, and one from Vivian-Fowler Memorial College for Girls, Lagos. All the categories this year were won by female contestants.

The competition organised for school children all over the world by Toyota Motor Corporation (TMC) Japan, in conjunction with its representatives in many countries, challenges them to draw their dream cars with an inspirational idea.

Last year, Nigeria's Oluwademilade Odumuboni, a 9-year-old boy, then from Corona School Gbagada, Lagos, won the coveted prize, beating other contestants from over 90 countries.

His drawing, titled WASTE



The Managing Director of Toyota Nigeria Limited (TNL), Mr. Kunle Ade-Ojo are glad we are doing (Second Left), with some of the winners of the Toyota Dream Car Art Contest in it so that the creativity Nigeria during a reception for the Winners in Lagos by TNL...recently in them does not

CONVERTER, with the concept of helping countries, especially African communities, in food production and ensuring clean environment, was adjudged the best globally in his age category.

All the current nine winners were invited to present their drawings and the idea behind it before receiving their prizes and certificates.

The three winners in the first category; 7 years and below, are all Corona School pupils. Wuraola Aderinsola Onaolapo (1st position), Myra Oyindamola Omokunga (2nd position), and Pemisire Zara Abayomi-John (3rd position).

For the 8-11 years category, the winners are Oluwalani Tamara Oshinubi (1st position), Sochikaima Nwizu (2nd position), and Vivian Ugooma Emeh (3rd position).

And in the third category for 12-15 years, Juditha Sree Reddyvari (1st position), Jiajia Miao (2nd position), and Ayopelumi Modupe Aboderin (3rd position) were unveiled.

TNL MD, Ade-Ojo, said the company chose to identify with the competition as part of its corporate social responsibilities by encouraging the children to develop their creativity and God-given talent.

He said, "We are doing this for the children. It is a means of developing their creativity and reminding them that anything is possible if they can dream. When they start young, it will also be part of them.

"Though it is costing us a lot of money, we are glad we are doing it so that the creativity in them does not diminish."

Ade-Ojo also commended the teachers and parents for their support, adding, "Without their support, participating in this event would not have been possible."

Responding to why all the nine winners are girls, the TNL MD said, "We have judges who pick the winning drawings based on set parameters and in a very transparent manner. Pictures are presented to them, they shortlist to narrow down the number, and the best nine are eventually picked as winners.

"Coincidentally, it just happened that they are all girls this year. Last year, a boy emerged as the global winner."

One of the parents, Mrs Opeyemi Aboderin, commended Toyota Nigeria for giving the children the opportunity to express their brilliant ideas through drawings.

She expressed gratitude to the company for the huge investment in the future of young children.

She also advised people to always encourage the youth to develop their skills and other talents.

The high point of the event was a special recognition given to the art teachers of the winning students.

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### **AUTO**

### WAAS Opens May 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> At Landmark Centre, Lagos

frica's largest a u t o m o t i v e a f t e r m a r k e t exhibition will open its doors again on May 14<sup>th</sup> with more than 250 exhibitors from around the world taking part.

Now in its fourth edition, the West Africa Automotive S h o w (WAAS) https://westafricaautomotive.com/will see upwards of 4,500 professional visitors attending the three-day trade event. The exhibition and conference, which take place at the Landmark Centre, Victoria Island, Lagos, is expanding into three exhibition halls, such has been the growth in interest.

Among the highlights will be a pavilion from China as well as an increased presence of companies

from India and Egypt. Exhibitors will also be coming from Pakistan, Malaysia, Bangladesh, UK, Italy, the Middle East, the Americas and many other countries.

The West Africa Automotive Show is the premier event for breaking into the thriving West African Automotive Market, says the show's organiser, BtoB Events.

Georgina Lloyd, Group Exhibition Manager, comments: "'West Africa Automotive Show 2024 will be back in Lagos this May, with record breaking exhibitor and visitor numbers. WAAS 2024 will be the biggest edition to date. We have expanded the show into an extra hall to accommodate the increased demand for exhibitors and visitors.

"WAAS connects suppliers, dealers, and manufacturers, creating an unparalleled networking environment exclusively tailored for West Africa's automotive industry, including auto parts and solutions. This is the ideal place to discover brand new products new to the West African markets."

Conference Chairman Luqman Mamudu, former Director at the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC) and Principal



Partner/CEO at Transtech, is finalising the Conference programme taking place on the first two days of the exhibition. "The WAAS 24 conference will highlight strategies for the West Africa automotive industry to grow its components and parts manufacturing," he says.

On the third day of the show, Automedics Africa will run training sessions on vehicle repair and maintenance.

Spare parts businesses from Asia and Europe accounted for more than half of exhibitors at last year's event with lubricants & oils, batteries, accessories, wheels & tyres and paints being other sizeable exhibitor categories.

The data from WAAS 2023 also shows that more than 1,500 attendees were importers, dealers or distributors. Auto retailers accounted for more than 700 visitors while representatives from assembly plants and fleet management were other key sectors.

Admission to the West Africa Automotive Show is free, but visitors are encouraged to pre-register at https://www.westafricaauto motive.com/pre-register/to

speed up entry on arrival.

While exhibition space is selling out, companies interested in booking a stand or looking for sponsorship opportunities should contact Miss Lloyd on Georgina.lloyd@btob-events.com or +44 (0) 2476 158101 to discuss availability and options.

### Xiaomi Launches EV Su7

hinese technology giant, Xiaomi is poised to make a significant entrance into the electric vehicle (EV) market with the launch of its first electric car, the Speed Ultra 7 (SU7).

The company's Chief Executive, Lei Jun, disclosed recently that the SU7 would be competitively priced below 500,000 yuan (\$69,186; £54,836), positioning Xiaomi to compete directly with established rivals like Tesla and BYD.

The move marks Xiaomi's foray into a highly competitive industry amid a

global slowdown in EV sales, triggering a fierce price war among manufacturers.

With its SU7 model, Xiaomi aims to leverage its existing customer base by offering a shared operating system with its smartphones, laptops, and other devices.

Xiaomi's venture into the EV market comes as no surprise given its status as the third-largest seller of smartphones worldwide, boasting a market share of approximately 12%, according to research firm Counterpoint.

# TRANSPORT DAY SPECIAL EDITION / APRIL 2024 ...the mouthpiece of transportation & logistics



CFAO's Pedigree, Toyota's Quality, Others, Facilitates Delivery Of Customer Satisfaction-Toyota By CFAO MD, Boye Ajayi



## **SPECIAL SECTION**



The Managing Director of Toyota By CFAO, Mr. Boye Ajayi, has stated that CFAO's pedigree and Toyota's quality products enables the company (Toyota By CFAO) to meet and even exceed customer expectations. He also spoke on other issues like customer service, relationship with Toyota Tsusho Corporation, among others in an interactive session with journalists in Lagos recently

Toyota By CFAO is recognized as the second official distributor of Toyota in Nigeria. Could you elaborate on the significance of this distinction and how it sets you apart from other dealerships in the region?

Our designation as an official distributor stems from our partnership with the CFAO group, a subsidiary of Toyota Tsusho Corporation. This affiliation grants us rights to distribute, sell, maintain, and repair Toyota authorized products in Nigeria. Furthermore, we have the authority to appoint agents, service centers and dealers to join our expansive distribution network. This association is significant as the CFAO group boasts the largest automotive distribution network across the continent. Notably, we play a pivotal role as a primary distributor of Toyota in 37 countries, highlighting our prominence and extensive presence in the region.

Can you provide an overview of Toyota by CFAO's journey since its establishment? What milestones or achievements have you reached thus far?

From April 2023 till now, Toyota by CFAO has undergone a remarkable journey marked by notable a chievements. We have successfully built a proficient team comprising skilled aftersales technicians, professional sales executives, and dedicated customer care personnel, all geared towards ensuring a seamless and redefined Toyota experience in Nigeria.

Our milestones include significant market penetration for a newcomer, active customer engagement, and enhanced operational efficiency. Throughout this journey, our unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional service and cultivating enduring customer relationships has been a driving force behind our success.



## **SPECIAL SECTION**

In terms of market acceptance, can you share insights into how Toyota By CFAO has been received by the Nigerian market? What steps have been taken to ensure a positive reception?

Toyota By CFAO Nigeria has been warmly embraced in the Nigerian market, leveraging the longstanding presence of CFAO in the country and the trusted reputation of Toyota globally. However, the company hasn't rested solely on these laurels; it has actively pursued strategies to ensure a positive reception. Emphasizing exemplary service and customer satisfaction, Toyota by CFAO Nigeria goes beyond mere sales to deliver tailored solutions that meet each customer's unique needs.

With direct access to Toyota and CFAO platforms Toyota By CFAO Nigeria can tap into a diverse inventory of vehicles and offer customized solutions to Nigerian customers. We are able to respond swiftly to requests for specific models, ensuring a seamless and satisfying customer experience. These efforts underscore Toyota by CFAO Nigeria's commitment to excellence and its dedication to meeting the evolving needs of the Nigerian market.

Could you detail the range of models that Toyota by CFAO offers in both the Passenger and Commercial vehicle segments? How do these offerings cater to the diverse needs of your customers?

We provide what Toyota Motor Corporation has designed specifically for the Nigerian market as a distributor. To meet the diverse needs of our clientele, we offer an extensive selection of cars that includes city, sedan, family, SUV



Crossover, 4x4, pickup, bus, and light commercial models. We guarantee that there is a Toyota car for every lifestyle, and business need with our selection, which includes the newest models renowned for their safety, fuel economy, and cutting-edge technology.

With CFAO's nationwide network, how does this extensive reach benefit Toyota by CFAO's customers in terms of accessibility, service, and support?

The expansive nationwide network of CFAO is a key asset that significantly enhances the overall customer experience for Toyota by CFAO. As we continue to build our network by leveraging existing CFAO dealerships in major hubs such as Lagos, Abuja, and Port Harcourt, along with the appointment of authorized service centers and dealers offering 2S & 3S (Sales, Service, and Spare Parts), several advantages emerge in terms of accessibility, service, and support for our valued customers.

What is the after-sales experience like for customers at Toyota by

CFAO? Do you provide genuine Toyota spare parts and what measures are in place to ensure high-quality service?

At Toyota by CFAO, our after-sales experience is characterized by high-quality service, prompt turnaround times, and an overall commitment to customer satisfaction. We proudly offer genuine Toyota spare parts and employ skilled technicians specifically trained by the manufacturer to maintain and repair Toyota vehicles, ensuring the longevity and performance of our customers' cars.

When a customer visits a Toyota by CFAO after-sales facility, what should they expect in terms of service quality, turnaround time, and overall experience?

Customers visiting a Toyota by CFAO after-sales facility can expect top-notch service quality, quick turnaround times, and an overall positive experience. Our dedicated team is committed to providing efficient and reliable service, ensuring that customers leave our facilities satisfied with the level of care and attention their vehicles receive.

Are the technicians at Toyota by

TRANSPORTDAY, APRIL 2024



## **SPECIAL SECTION**

CFAO specifically trained for the Toyota brand? How does this specialized training contribute to the quality of service provided?

Our technicians undergo specialized training focused on the intricacies of the Toyota brand. This expertise contributes significantly to the quality of service we provide, as our team is well-equipped to handle the unique specifications of

Toyota vehicles, ensuring precision and reliability in every repair and maintenance service.

Could you outline the warranty offerings that Toyota by CFAO provides to its customers? How does this demonstrate your commitment to customer satisfaction and product reliability?

Toyota By CFAO is dedicated to customer satisfaction and product reliability. Our vehicle offerings are

backed up with a 3-year warranty, which can be extended for up to 7 years showcasing our confidence in the durability and performance of Toyota vehicles. This commitment reflects our dedication to ensuring that our customers experience peace of mind and value in their vehicle ownership.

What are the unique value propositions that Toyota by CFAO brings to the market, distinguishing it from other dealerships in terms of service delivery, customer support, and overall customer experience?

Toyota by CFAO stands out for its dedication to customers exceptional

service, and surpassing expectations. Our emphasis on quality, reliability and innovation distinguishes us, providing customers with a memorable experience. One way we do this is through trade-in options.

Can you provide an update on the status of Toyota by CFAO's partnership with Toyota



TSUSHO? How does this collaboration contribute to the overall strength and credibility of your operations?

Our partnership with Toyota Tsusho Corporation remains strong and vibrant. This collaboration is integral to our operations, providing us with access to the latest technologies, product updates, and ensuring that we align with Toyota's global standards. This partnership reinforces the credibility of Toyota by CFAO as a reliable source for genuine Toyota products and services.

Does Toyota by CFAO offer financing packages to customers? How does this additional service contribute to making Toyota vehicles more accessible to a wider range of customers?

Yes, Toyota by CFAO extends financing packages to customers through the corporate lease option provided by Loxea by CFAO. This financing package not only

provides flexibility in payment structures but also aligns with the diverse financial needs of our customers, making high-quality and reliable Toyota vehicles within reach for a wider audience. As a result, this service enhances affordability, promotes widespread vehicle ownership, and contributes to a more inclusive automotive experience for our valued customers.

Looking ahead, where do you envision

Toyota by CFAO after one year, particularly in terms of market share and impact on the automotive industry in Nigeria?

Looking ahead, we envision Toyota by CFAO as a key player in the Nigerian automotive industry. Our goal is to not only increase our market share but also to contribute significantly to the growth and development of the industry. We aim to continue providing exceptional value to our customers, setting new standards for service, support, and overall customer experience.

## **NEWS**

### FRSC Moves To Tackle Use Of Trailers To Convey Passengers

he Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Dauda Ali Biu, has inaugurated a Joint Task Force to arrest and prosecute offenders involved in the use of trailers to convey passengers.

According to a Press Release signed by the Corp's spokesman, ACM Jonas Agwu, the Joint Task Force comprises of the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, State Traffic Management Agencies, and operatives of the Corps.

Others who were drafted into the Task Force include representatives of the various transport unions.

The inauguration of the JTF which is in phases commenced with the commissioning of the team to man Kaduna-Abuja expressway at Kakau Toll Gate, Kaduna State.

The Corps Marshal who was represented by the Assistant Corps Marshal, Federal Operations, ACM Zubairu Mato emphasized on the cardinal role of the Joint Task Force.



According to Biu, in the last couple of months, the highways have witnessed incidences of road traffic crashes involving trailers loaded with goods, animals and persons.

In most of these crashes, several innocent people who were seen petching on top of goods in such vehicles were killed and the commodities being conveyed also damaged extensively.

In order to reverse the ugly trend, the JTF were directed to embark on

effective special patrol operations as well as conduct Mobile Court operations on the commissioned route. They are to also ensure immediate prosecution of apprehended offenders. The exercise will be carried out across major corridors nationwide. Consequently, owners of trailers are admonished to warn their drivers against this traffic violations as the Corps will not spare anyone caught in the act.

### **SIFAX Logistics Donates Office Equipment To LASTMA**

IFAX Logistics Company Limited, a subsidiary of SIFAX Group, has donated some modern office equipment to the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA).

The equipment include two units of an air conditioner, a refrigerator, an executive office table, and a chair.

While handing over the equipment in Lagos, Basil Agboarumi, Executive Director, Corporate Affairs and Governmental Relations, SIFAX Group, said the donation was in line with the company's commitment to its robust stakeholder engagement across

all the sectors it has operations, both locally and internationally.

Agboarumi said the company also believes in the vision of LASTMA which is to ensure Lagosians enjoy logjam-free traffic in the state.

Adewale Adetayo, the General Manager, SIFAX Logistics Company Limited, also noted that the gesture was to strengthen the company's strategic partnership with LASTMA and also support the new agency's newly-appointed General Manager.

He said: "We are in the business of transportation and LASTMA is one of our key stakeholders, especially in the area of traffic management. This gesture is to further strengthen our strategic relationship with the agency and to show our support to the new GM who we believe has what it takes to reposition the agency and fulfill the vision of LASTMA."

Bakare-Oki Olalekan, General Manager, LASTMA, appreciated the company for the donation, adding that effective traffic management is foremost on his agenda and his men have been well motivated to achieve this mandate.

### **AVIATION**

### HoRs Move To Retrieve Sold NCAT's Helicopters

House of Represe ntatives has announced its resolve to recover two e 1 helicopters, Bell 206L4 BZB and Bell M2061- L4, belonging to the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology (NCAT), Zaria,



sold to private individuals.

The Chairman, House of Reps Committee on Public Assets, Ademorin Kuye, said this at the investigative hearing on the sale of the two helicopters in Abuja recently.

Kuye expressed concern over the sale of the two helicopters to private individuals when the college was left with no helicopter for training.

The committee also questioned the process leading to the sale of the helicopters as security agencies, including the Nigerian Air Force, Navy and the Police, indicated interest in purchasing them.

The three security agencies, according to various submissions, did not only indicate interest in purchasing the helicopters by writing but also visited the college but were denied the opportunity to purchase them.

Acting Rector, NCAT, Mr Shaka Imalighwe, said though he was the deputy rector of the college at the time the helicopters were sold, he was not part of the team/committee that facilitated the sales.

Imalighwe said that he took over the management of the college in an acting capacity in January 2024.

The committee said despite initial appeals to NCAT to provide certain

documents regarding the process that led to the sale of the helicopters in May 2023, they had not been able to provide it.

This, according to him, was in respect of approval of the Federal Executive Council, FEC, and the Ministry of aviation as well as newspaper publications advertising the intention to sell the helicopters.

Imalighwe told the committee that the helicopters were in service and being maintained by relevant aviation bodies when they were sold.

The acting rector of the college also confirmed to the lawmakers that, at the moment, there was no single helicopter for use by the college.

### NiMet Unveils Redesigned Website

he Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), has unveiled its new website which the agency's Director General, Chief Executive Officer, and the permanent representative of Nigeria with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Professor Charles Anosike says is "More functional, interactive, dynamic and compares with websites of Met Offices in other parts of the world."

According to NiMet, the new website which can be "accessed through nimet.gov.ng domain has been meticulously designed by our internal ICT staff from the ground up, with a primary focus of establishing a sustainable and scalable portal for the agency".

The NiMet DG said the unveiling of the website, "is part of ongoing efforts by the new management of the agency to reposition the agency for improved and effective service delivery. This is in addition to other initiatives which are in line with the Aviation sector roadmap of the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development. Special Adviser on Information Communication Technology (ICT) to DG/CEO of NiMet, Cyprian Okpalaku, said with the new website, "members of the public can effortlessly request data and monitor the progress of their requests directly through the portal. Also, the weather forecast widget has been revamped to enable partner agencies or organizations to easily integrate it into their own websites".

### **AVIATION**

#### Lagos-London Inaugural Flight: Ministers, Others Commend Air Peace

inister of Aviation Aerospace Development, Barrister Festus Keyamo, as well as his counterpart in the ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment Dr. Doris Nkiruka Uzoka-Anite, have commended Air Peace for it successful inaugural flight from Lagos to London on Saturday, March 30, 2024, with 260 passengers.

The airline, which operated a 274-seat capacity Boeing 777 for the maiden flight,

held a brief ceremony at the Muhammed International Airport (New Terminal) to celebrate the occasion.

Other dignitaries present were acting Director General of the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Captain Chris Najomo, the Chairman and CEO of United Nigeria Airlines, Professor Obiora Okonkwo, the Managing Director of the Federal Airports



Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Mrs. Olubunmi Kuku, former Director General of NCAA, Board Member of Air Peace, Benedict Adeyileka among others.

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Keyamo said the commencement of direct Lagos-London route by Air Peace would ease the pressure on naira, while the demand for foreign exchange by Nigerians and foreign airlines would reduce.

Keyamo explained that the start of the route by the airline had also compelled some mega carriers on the Lagos-

### Gulfstream G700 Gets FAA Greenlight

ulfstream's flagship G700 has finally crossed the finish line, the Savannah, Georgia-based company has announced. The 7,750-nm twinjet earned its FAA stripes after more than two years of delays largely stemming from stricter certification requirements established in the wake of the Boeing Max debacle. Amstat data shows that Gulfstream has produced 53 G700s, including an anticipated 46 bound for customers that it will soon start delivering.

Besides better range, speed, and cabin

altitude figures released in September, FAA certification also confirmed two a d d i t i o n a l per f o r m a n c e improvements: a balanced field length takeoff distance of 5,995 feet (1,827 meters) and a landing distance of 3,150 feet. The G700's Mmo of Mach 0.935 makes it the fastest in the Gulfstream fleet.

"We have successfully completed the most rigorous certification program in company history with the G700," said Mark Burns, president, Gulfstream. "I'd like to thank our world-class team

of flight test, certification, and engineering professionals, along with the many others at Gulfstream who have contributed to this accomplishment. The G700 brings a new level of performance and cabin comfort to business aviation and is doing so while meeting the highest certification standards our industry has ever seen...I am proud and excited to begin our G700 customer deliveries." Certification of the G700's shorter sibling, the G800, is expected to follow by year-end.

# FROM THE NET

# Getting Closer To Nature With Automobiles



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### **NEWS**

### Adaora Umeoji Becomes Zenith Bank's First Female MD

enith Bank Plc has formally announced Dr. Adaora Umeoji as its new Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.

This appointment was disclosed recently, in a statement signed by the company secretary, Michael Otu, which was filed with the Nigerian Exchange Limited.

Umeoji's appointment will take effect from June 1, 2024, following the expiration of office of the current GMD, Dr. Ebenezer Onyeagwu, on May 31, 2024.

Dame (Dr) Adaora Umeoji is the first female GMDCEO since the inception of the bank, and her appointment is consistent with the bank's executive transition tradition, succession plan, and strategy of grooming leaders from within," part of the statement read.

Before this appointment, Umeoji was the Deputy Managing Director of the bank since October 28, 2016, and with nearly 30 years of banking experience



of which 26 years has been with Zenith Bank.

She is an alumnus of Harvard Business School, where she attended the Advanced Management Programme.

Umeoji is also an alumnus of

Columbia Business School with a Certificate in the Global Banking Program.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Jos, a Bachelor's degree in accounting, and a first-class honours degree in law from Baze University, Abuja.

She holds a Master of Laws from the University of Salford, United Kingdom, a Master in Business Administration from the University of Calabar, and also has a doctorate in business administration from Apollos University, USA.

Umeoji also holds a Certificate in Economics for Business from the prestigious MIT Sloan School of Management, USA, and has attended

various management programmes in renowned Universities around the world including the strategic thinking and Management programme at Wharton Business School, USA.

# Why Roads Fail In Nigeria - NBRRI

he Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) has given a major reason why roads in Nigeria easily fail shortly after construction.

The Director General of NBRRI, Prof. Samson Duna, observed that the importation of sub-standard construction materials by contractors in the country, remains a major reason why roads easily fail in Nigeria.

The DG claimed that contractors flood the country with substandard materials since they are not subjected to testing. He made the assertion when he hosted the leadership of the Nigerian Highway Institution and Transportation Engineers (NHITE) recently in Abuja.

According to him, "A very important reason why our roads are failing is that we are using inferior materials that were not tested. NBRRI has one of the best laboratories in the country. For now, there is no institution, and there is no research agency that has laboratory in civil engineering equipment like that of NBRRI but these inferior materials get imported.

"NBRRI has one of the best

laboratories in the country. For now, there is no institution, there is no research agency that can best talk about laboratories in civil engineering equipment like that of NBRRI."

Also speaking, the National Chairman of NHITE, Hassan Saidu, stressed the need for collaboration in strengthening the quality of road construction in the country.

He stated "We are here to further strengthen our collaboration with NBRI in terms of handling local and international training, technical visits to project sites, career talks to schools between our team and NBRRI team."

### **NEWS**

### Julius Berger Will Deliver P/H Ring Road In 36 Months- Fubara



L-R: Region South East Project Coordinator, Chief Sam Ngbor: Managing Director, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter; Rivers State Governor, Siminalayi Fubara; and Deputy Regional Manager, Region South East, Engr Rimon Marisho during the recent joint inspection visit to the site of the ongoing Port Harcourt Ring Road project recently

Riminalayi Fubara has expressed his satisfaction with the progress of work on the ongoing Port Harcourt Ring Road project assuring the people that in 36 months, the project which he described as a Signature project of his administration will be delivered.

He spoke at the end of his inspection visit to the project site to assess the extent of work that has been achieved just as the Managing Director of Nigeria's foremost engineering construction company, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter revealed that appreciable progress has been made on the project and that the company will meet agreed completion deadline.

Speaking to news men at the end of the inspection, Governor Fubara explained that the contract for the Port Harcourt Ring Road project was the first of such agreement that he signed with the driving objective of making sure that it is delivered to Rivers people.

The Governor whose convoy drove on the stretch of the road from Airport road access through Jesuit Memorial School down to Rumuosi and Uzoba Communities before terminating the inspection tour at UTC junction said, "I think we are good considering the understanding that we have with Julius Berger."

Gov Fubara continued: "We signed off that in 36 months this project will be done and delivered, and with what we are seeing here today, they are meeting up with that target. I am satisfied. Although we have few issues. The price rate at that time and current one is not the same. However, whatever it is, I have assured them that we will give them all the necessary support to make sure that they deliver. You know this project is very important to us; it's one of the first projects that I signed off when I came in as Governor of this State. Whichever way anybody wants to look at it, for me, it is a signature project. We signed up for it and we are paying dearly for it.

"Also, it is one of the objectives of this

administration to make sure that we deliver it to our people. Thank you."

In his remarks the Managing Director of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter, who conducted the Governor round the project site said work has advanced after piling and laying of beams on the first flyover, which started on January 15, 2024, and accomplished two months after.

Richter who explained that why they have intensified work on the second Flyover with beams ready to be laid, significant strides have been achieved in laying down the road and the drains for accelerated construction.

On Julius Berger's Team at the working visit were- Managing Director, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter; Technical Assistant to the Managing Director, Engr Benjamin Bott; Project Manager, Engr Finn Drosdowski; Operations Manager, Engr Ulrich Stahl; Region South East Project Coordinator, Chief Sam Ngbor and Deputy Regional Manager, South East, Engr. Rimon Marisho.

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# **ENERGY**

### Nigerian Army Keys Into CNG Conversion For Vehicles



The Chairman of Greenville LNG, Eddy van den Broeke (left) receives the Honourable Minister of Petroleum Resources (Gas), the Rt. Hon. Ekpo Ekperikpe at the Executive Wing of Port Harcourt Airport during the Minister's visit to Greenville LNG's Gas Liquefaction Plant, Rumuji in Emohwa L.G.A Rivers State...recently

he Nigerian Army has trained eleven officers in the operation of 15 newly converted compressed natural gas vehicles.

Disclosing this recently at Bonny Cantonment of the Nigerian Army, Victoria Island, Lagos, the Commander, Corps of Supply and Transport, Maj. Gen. A.A. Adeyinka, said the conversion of the vehicles from petrol and diesel engines to CNG-powered engines would boost the operational efficiency of the force.

Adeyinka, who represented the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Taoreed Lagbaja, at the event, said the development was an initiative of President Bola Tinubu to cushion the effect of the fuel subsidy removal.

Adeyinka said the army on Tuesday had the first leg of the event in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory, where the COAS was also represented.

He said, "We are on the second leg of the start of our journey. The first part that was launched in Abuja was the stage of the conversion of the 15 vehicles to CNG compliance. Eleven of our colleagues are undergoing training, comprising the Corps of Supply and Transport as well as the Corps of

Mechanical Engineers. At our Lagos centre, we will equally be converting 15 vehicles and having 11 personnel (trained) during the conversion.

"The projects are just the first step in the long journey which the Nigerian Army has availed itself the opportunity of being assisted by the presidential initiative, to ensure that not only the operational efficiency is improved, but also that we are seen to be in compliance with all efforts to ensure that we run our business in a manner that aligns with the global environmental trends."

He added that the army would ensure that the initiative by President Tinubu "sees the light of the day."

Some of the vehicles were handed over to the Army at the Bonny Camp by the Project Director, Presidential Compressed Natural Gas Initiative, Michael Oluwagbemi.

While speaking, Oluwagbemi thanked the Army for taking the lead in the initiative by becoming the first national institution to take on the task of converting their fleets in line with the presidential initiative of energy transition in the transport sector.

Oluwagbemi said, "For us at the P-CNGi, it was a noble move to work with

the Nigerian Army as they seek to move Nigeria forward. The president recognises the most important need of a nation which is security. Energy security being a part of the overall security of the nation must consider three parameters availability, affordability and accessibility. In any of these three factors, gas is above PMS and diesel in the Nigerian energy need. Gas is widely available in the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory."

Last year, the Federal Government made known its plans to introduce one million CNG-powered vehicles by 2027.

The announcement was made by the Special Assistant to the President on Special Duties and Domestic Affairs, Toyin Subaru, during a stakeholders' meeting held at the Bank of Industry headquarters in Abuja.

As part of this initiative, Subaru disclosed that 11,500 CNG-powered buses were expected to be deployed in November.

The move, according to the FG, aimed to address transportation challenges occasioned by fuel subsidy removal and to provide a viable solution to the public.

#### **ENERGY**

### We Are Replacing Our Over 5,000km Pipelines-NNPCL



he Group Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company, Mele Kyari, has revealed that over 5,000km petroleum products pipeline network of the oil firm would be replaced in three years.

Kyari disclosed this at the 2024 edition of Society of Petroleum Engineers Oloibiri Lecture Series and Energy Forum in Abuja, recently, with the theme, 'Stability in the Energy Sector: Integrated Strategies for Infrastructure, Transportation and Security.'

He said, "The cheapest way of transporting petroleum products is by pipelines and that is why our NNPC network of pipelines is connecting almost all geopolitical zones, we have 27 stations and over 5,000km of pipelines across the country.

"However, many of them as we know, are at the point that we just have to replace them, and that is what we are doing today. We have commenced a BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) process where nearly all the pipelines will be replaced over a period of three years.

"As we do this, we are also reinforcing the ability of the current network to deliver products to our locations."

The NNPCL boss further stated that the replacement of the pipelines was

critical and would be delivered within the specified timeline.

Kyari told participants at the lecture series that the recent improvement in the security of oil assets would enable the country meet its crude oil production target for the year, adding that Nigeria currently pumps about 1.6 million barrels of crude oil daily.

He said the oil company was working hard to supply eight billion standard cubic feet of gas into the domestic market through the deployment of various gas projects.

#### Former NNPC Director Unveils Books

former Group Executive Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC), Prof. Billy Okoye, has unveiled two books: "Dynamics of Petroleum Products Marketing" and "Insight into Crude Oil Marketing" in Abuja.

At the event in Abuja, the Group Chief Executive Officer of the NNPC, Mele Kyari, stated that the writing of the books depicted the quality of human beings that have gone through the national oil company.

He recommended the book to both the local and international players, who may want to know what it takes to run the sector in a country like Nigeria.

"That's something to be proud of. So we at NNPC are indeed very proud that one of us is not only sharing knowledge that has over the years been with the rest of us, but also something that can grow for a very long time in the academic world and also in the world

over," Kyari added.

Author of the book, Okoye, who is now the Coordinator, Oil, Gas and Energy Marketing at the University of Abuja Business School, said the books aim to offer a comprehensive understanding of the intricate dynamics, the challenges, and strategies involved in marketing commodities.

He stated that the books provide insights into refining processes, pricing mechanisms, political influences, fuel subsidy issues, and the ongoing energy transition processes as well as a comprehensive framework for navigating the complexities of petroleum products marketing.

According to him, "By offering practical insights and analytical perspectives, this book aims to equip readers with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the volatile and ever-changing world of crude oil marketing".

### **RAILWAY**

### Niger State Emulates Lagos, Move To Develop Railway Network

iger State government has made a bold move to develop a railway network within the state. This is sequel to a meeting held by the State Governor, Umaru Bago, with a delegation from the China Railway Corporation in Minna, the state capital. The Governor's Special Adviser on Digital Communications, Abdul Ebbo, disclosed this in a statement posted on his X handle recently. According to the statement, during the meeting, they discussed working out a partnership to establish a railway network that would span the state's three geopolitical zones as well as Abuja.

The statement read, "Niger State Governor, Umaru Bago, hosted a delegation from the China Railway Corporation in Minna, Niger State.

"The corporation, renowned for constructing China's extensive railway network, discussed

working out a partnership to establish a railway network across three geopolitical zones in the state and Abuja.

"The meeting also delved into potential collaborations in various sectors, including agriculture, housing, and the construction of airline hangars and the Cango terminal at Bola Tinubu International Airport Minna.

"With plans to solidify the partnership, the delegation is set to draft a Concept Note and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to establish a business relationship with the state.

"The ambitious project is anticipated to be funded through the China Exim Bank, marking a significant step towards improving transportation infrastructure and economic growth in Niger State."

It would be recalled that the Minister of



Transportation, Senator Said Alkali, had challenged state Governors to emulate Lagos State by developing railway networks within their state.

The Minister gave the challenge during the inauguration of the Lagos State Red Railway Line by President Bola Tinubu.

#### Port Harcourt-Aba Rail Line To Link Two Seaports

he Federal Government says the launch of the Port Harcourt-Aba train service will take place in this month of April this year.

Minister of Transportation, Saidu Alkali, disclosed this to journalists after inspecting the reconstructed railway tracks in Port Harcourt recently. The minister also said measures were being taken to connect both Port Harcourt and Onne seaports to the Port Harcourt-Aba rail track. The launch was initially scheduled for the end of March.

Nonetheless, the Minister expressed disappointment over the delay, adding that the contractor has given assurance of the project's completion in April.

"This is my second-time visit to Port Harcourt to inspect the progress of the (Port Harcourt-Aba) railway line since assuming office as the minister of transportation.

"The contractor initially committed to a March start date, but during track inspections, they made some observations necessitating the extension of the start date to April.

"The contractor has now committed to an April launch for the Port Harcourt to Aba railway services."

"We are not satisfied with the failure of the contractor to deliver the work on the agreed deadline," he said.

### **RAILWAY**

### Africa's Biggest Freight Rail Market Set for Private Operators

frica's biggest freight rail market is on the cusp of being transformed by private operators, the head of the operator of the continent's largest rolling-stock fleet said.

The South African government is about to publish a so-called rail network statement that will propose rules for private rail participation in the hitherto state-run and operated sector, said James Holley, chief executive officer of Johannesburg-based Traxtion Africa. Those rules will be set after public consultation.

"We are all standing on the edge of the precipice. We've got to take the step," Holley said at an infrastructure conference organized by Ninety One Plc in Johannesburg. "And that starts with the network statement in April."

The document is part of a broad plan

The document is part of a broad plan spearheaded by the office of South African to fix the country's struggling ports and rail system. Its aim is to boost private participation in the industry, which until now has been run by state logistics monopoly Transnet SOC Ltd. That monopoly has been plagued by years of mismanagement and



corruption scandals resulting in the ports being some of the world's least efficient, and coal and iron railings to ports falling to multidecade lows.

Over the past five years the amount of goods and commodities transported by the state-run freight rail system has plunged to about 150 million tons from 226 million tons, the government said in the plan, the Freight Logistics Roadmap. Miners, desperate to get their goods to ports, have resorted to trucks, damaging national roads.

That, and the fact that at 23,000

kilometers (14,300 miles) South Africa accounts for 85% of Africa's rail network, is an opportunity for private operators, said Holley. While the network needs to be upgraded, that's cheaper than building new lines, he said.

South Africa's rail demand is based on the continent's biggest coal, iron ore, chrome and manganese industries as well as a busy container line that runs between the country's biggest port, Durban, and its commercial hub of Johannesburg.

#### China-Europe Express Rail Boost Logistics Company Expansion

etrans, a major player in seaport container traffic in Europe, has expanded its rail services linking the growing markets of Asia and Europe, thanks to rapid cargo transport connections from the China-Europe Express Rail project.

Martin Koubek, director of Silk Road and the CIS division of Metrans, made the remarks in a recent interview with Xinhua at its Dunajska Streda hub, not far from the Slovak capital Bratislava. Situated in the so-called European "golden triangle," the city is strategically connected to Vienna and Budapest and Bratislava.

The company, established in 1991 in Prague, now belongs to the

Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA) group based in Hamburg, Germany.

#### Landlocked Malawi Makes Rail Progress

alawi experienced substantial development and strategic positioning for the future in regards to rail development with notable highlights being, among other things, increased Regional Integration, according to the Director of Railway Services, Geoffrey Magwede.

"CEAR and Vale Logistic Limited continued their successful operation of the Nacala Corridor, with increased frequencies leading to a rise in freight traffic. This demonstrated the potential of rail transport as a more efficient and cost-effective alternative to road for regional trade. Additionally, African Rail Cooperation was registered as a new railway operator in Malawi," he says.

Magwede discloses, a total of 14,416,770.55 Tons of cargo passed through Malawi's railway network in 2023 with 13,638,260 Tons being coal and 778,510.55 Tons being general cargo.

# UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS

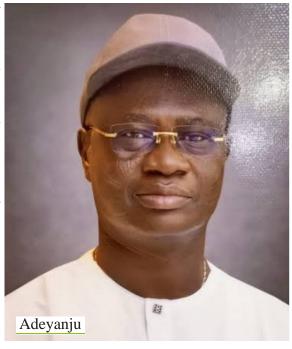
### **MWUN Congratulates New NIMASA DG**

he Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) under the leadership of Comrade Adewale Adeyanju has congratulated Dr. Dayo Mobereola, who was recently appointed Director-General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) even as the union assured him of full support and cooperation.

In a press statement signed by Comrade John Kennedy Ikemefuna, Head of Media, MWUN, the union described Dr. Mobereola as a technocrat who has acquired experiences overtime and is well grounded in the transportation sector.

According to the union, the new NIMASA helmsman has the wherewithal to navigate NIMASA.

"The leadership of the Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria is welcoming the new DG into his new designation with all hands open as he pilots the enormous affairs of NIMASA.



"The Union has had symbiotic relationships with past Directors - General of the Agency and believes that such cordial relationships will continue to wax stronger with Dr. Mobereola as it were.

"In view of this, the Union will continue to give her usual support and cooperation with continuous inhouse engagement from time to time for a mutual understanding of the maritime industry.

"Once again, the Union welcomes Dr. Mobereola as he assumes his new designation in NIMASA, and also pray that the Almighty God will give him the strength, wisdom and knowledge to have a smooth sail in piloting the affairs of the Agency" the statement read

The new DG of NIMASA who holds a PhD and Msc in Wales respectively is also a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Transport England, and a fellow of Chartered Institute of Transport in Nigeria too.

He was the former Managing Director, Lagos State Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA) from 2003-2015. And was also Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation from 2015 to 2016.

### **AFARN Lauds Govt On Payment Of Airlines Trapped Funds**

he President of the Association of Foreign Airlines and Representative in Nigeria (AFARN), Dr Kingsley Nwokoma has given kudos to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Barrister Festus Keyamo, (SAN), for the payment of a substantial part of the trapped foreign airlines funds.

Dr Nwokoma gave the applause while briefing aviation journalists at the secretariat of AFARN within NAHCO complex in Ikeja.

In an address tagged: "AFARN Applauds on Payment of Foreign Airlines Trapped Funds And Other Pertinent Issues in the Aviation Industry", the AFARN President said it was gladdening that amidst the austere period, the government has

demonstrated commitment by paying a large chunk of the funds.

He said, "The news.. is that out of USD 800 Million, a substantial percentage of the funds has been paid to the affected airline, even as the current

Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Barrister Festus Keyamo, (SAN), is making concerted efforts to ensure that Foreign carriers operating into the country are not short-changed under any guise."

#### **Lagos RTEAN Inaugurates Lagos Executives**

he Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN), in Abuja, recently inaugurated its Lagos State Executives to pilot the affairs of the association for the next four years.

Its National President, Alhaji Musa Maitakobi, who inaugurated the executives, cautioned all members of the association against violence in Lagos and other parts of the country.

Maitakobi said, "Lagos state is very important to the association and any

member found creating trouble would be dealt with."

He also expressed the association's support for the Federal Government's Renewed Hope Agenda to reform the transport sector.

In his inaugural speech, the Lagos State Chairman of RTEAN, **Oba Sulaiman Raji-Adeshina**, pledged to run an all-inclusive administration devoid of rancour.

He also promised to sanitise all motor parks against unethical conduct and criminality.

### **NEWS**

#### How We Arrested Witch Doctor, Others Linked To Car Snatching-Police

he Police have arrested a witch doctor and 25 others suspected to be linked to the snatching of 79 cars in the state.

It also confiscated a shrine believed to be used by the "juju-priest" in fortifying the criminals for their operations.

The Commissioner of Police in Rivers state, Olatunji Disu, who paraded the suspects at the Police Headquarters on Moscow Road, during the week, said Chidube, Anthony and Kelechi (a car mechanic) were major culprits in the car-snatching business, disclosing that Chidube trains his men on car snatching and he was linked to all suspects arrested while Kelechi is an expert in removing trackers.

The CP stated that most of the cars stolen were taken to Kano and Anambra states, where they sold them off, even as scraps.

The Rivers police chief said 79 cars have been linked to the suspects, adding that six of them were exconvicts.

He said the suspects use spare and



master keys to steal the vehicles convert them to commercial vehicles and drive out of town with passengers to beat security checks.

Disu said the command also arrested receivers of the vehicles, who came into town with the robbers and told them the kind of cars to be stolen.

He said: "Their witch doctor has been arrested. He tells them when is safe to go for operation. We also have a team of robbers, who follow you when you go to the bank. When you resist them, they attack and fire you. Their firearms have been recovered.

"The syndicate began operating in January 2023 and has been responsible for the theft of more than 40 cars. They all came to Port Harcourt from different states to perpetuate their criminal enterprise. Their operation sees them snatch cars or steal them from where they are parked. "The cars are then classified into those to be sold or those to be sent to a scrap yard in Mgbuka-Obosi, Onitsha, to be 'butchered' for spare parts."

#### **Lagos VIS Impounds Over 50 Vehicles in One Day**

In a concerted effort to ensure road safety and regulatory compliance, the Lagos State Vehicle Inspection Service (VIS) yesterday conducted a comprehensive enforcement operation on targeting unroadworthy vehicles across the state.

According to the State Ministry of Transportation, the operation which resulted in the seizure of over 50 rickety commercial vehicles, focused on vehicles that failed to meet the prescribed minimum roadworthiness standards as seen in it's brakes, wipers, lights, shocks and tyres, as stipulated in the State's Transport Sector Reform Law, 2018.

During the enforcement exercise which spanned various key locations

including Costain, Ikorodu road, Ojuelegba, Yaba, Oyingbo, Ikeja, and Ojodu Berger, the Vehicle Inspection Officers (VIOs) while diligently scrutinising commercial vehicles to ensure compliance with safety regulations, also enlightened the drivers on the danger embedded in non-compliance.

Debunking the popular view about the VIS's enforcement focus, which was said to target more on private vehicles, the Director, Vehicle Inspection Services, Engr. Akin- George Fashola explained that the road worthiness compliance is no respecter of particular categories of vehicles, as "it is expected to be implemented on all vehicles that ply Lagos roads", he said.



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