



## Federal Ministry of Justice

### **DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2019**

#### **32 PRISONERS FREED IN EDO - DAILY TRUST PG.6**

The inmates were freed by the State Presidential Committee on Prisons Reforms and Decongestion. FCT Chief Judge and chairman of the committee, Justice Ishaq Bello, said the inmates could not pay their fines.

#### **NATION ELECTIONS: JUSTICE BULKACHUWA WARNS TRIBUNAL MEMBERS - DAILY TRUST PG.3, PG.8**

The President of the Court of Appeal (PCA), Justice Zainab Bulkachuwa has vowed to deal with any member of the election petitions tribunal found wanting in the discharge of their duties. Justice Bulkachuwa made this declaration during the induction programme for justice of the Court of Appeal and members of the election petitions tribunals in Abuja yesterday.

#### **FAYOSE'S TRIAL: I LIED TO EFCC TO HELP A FRIEND, SAYS LEBANESE CONTRACTOR - PUNCH PG.39, NATION PG.8**

The N2.2bn fraud trial of former Ekiti State Governor Ayodele Fayose progressed on Wednesday with the prosecution fielding four additional witnesses. Among the four witnesses were three Lebanese - Goshen Joseph; Joseph Mechleb and Maroun Mechleb - who are working in Nigeria as building and construction engineers.

#### **ROWDY SESSION IN SENATE OVER 'MILITARIZATION OF ELECTIONS' - DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.1&6, PUNCH PG.9, THISDAY PG.6, SUN PG.6**

There was rowdiness on the floor of the Senate yesterday over the alleged militarization of the 2019 elections as lawmakers from APC and PDP engaged in hot exchanges. In a motion on the matter, Dino Melaye (PDP, Kogi) and seven other PDP senators alleged that the entire

electoral process was militarized and that the electoral umpire was inconsistent with the laws of the land.

### **KANU: COURT STRIKES OUT CASE AGAINST ABARIBE, FANI KAYODE - DAILY TRUST PG.3**

A Federal High Court in Abuja has struck out a case against Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe and former Aviation Minister, Femi Fani-Kayode over the disappearance of the leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), Nnamdi Kanu. Justice John Tsoho dismissed the suit on grounds of lack of diligent prosecution following the absence of the lawyer who filed the matter.

### **HUSBAND KILLING: JUDGE'S ABSENCE STALLS MARYAM SANDA'S TRIAL - DAILY TRUST PG.3**

The absence of the trial judge has stalled further proceedings in the murder case against Maryam Sanda, who was accused of killing her husband, Bilyaminu Bello. Maryam is being tried before an FCT High Court in Maitama for allegedly killing Bello, a nephew of former PDP Chairman, Alhaji Bello Halliru Muhammad.

### **COURT TO HEAR CONTEMPT SUIT AGAINST OSHIOMOLE APRIL 3 - DAILY TRUST PG.8**

An FCT High Court in Bwari has fixed April 3 for hearing in a contempt suit filed against the national chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Adams Oshiomole and the party. The plaintiff, Daniel Nwafor, the chairman of the APC in Imo state, instituted the suit following alleged disobedience of the court judgment which recognized him as the authentic chairman of the party in the state.

### **BUHARI REJECTS CLIMATE CHANGE BILL, 4 OTHERS - DAILY TRUST PG.8, NATION PG.10, SUN PG.8**

President Muhammadu Buhari has declined assent to five bills forwarded to him by the National Assembly. The president, in five different letters written to the Senate, gave reasons for withholding assent to the bill. The rejected bills are the Nigerian Film Commission Bill 2018, Climate Change Bill 2018, Immigration (Amendment) Bill

2018, Chartered Institute of Pension Practitioners of Nigeria Bill 2018, and the Digital Rights and Freedom Bill, 2018

**PDP DRAGS JUSTICE INYANG TO NJC OVER HALTING OF BAUCHI GUBER RESULT COLLATION - DAILY TRUST PG.16, THISDAY PG.1&6, THISDAY PG.8, SUN PG.7**

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has petitioned the National judicial Council (NJC) over what it termed violation of the Constitution and Electoral Act by Justice Ekwo Inyang of the Federal High Court, Abuja. The party said Justice Inyang presided over a matter that ought to have been handled by an election petition tribunal, as created by the provisions of the Nigerian laws.

**PRESIDENCY SPANKS PDP FOR THREATENING TO STOP BUHARI - NATION PG.1&6, THISDAY PG.1&6, SUN PG.6&7**

Leaders of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) are threatening to stop with a court's order President Muhammadu Buhari's inauguration until the determination of the petition challenging the President's victory in the February 23 election. The Presidency has dismissed the threat as "unserious" and dared the PDP to launch its legal battle.

**ALLEGED ICPC PROBE: YAR'ADUA FOUNDATION DENIES OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY - NATION PG.8**

The Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation yesterday denied ownership of an asset linked with it by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission as part of the seizure of assets worth N4.8 billion. The Director-General of Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation, Jacqueline W. Farris made the clarification in a statement in Abuja.

**COURT REJECTS REQUEST TO STOP ANNOUNCEMENT OF RIVERS ELECTION RESULTS - PUNCH PG.8**

The Federal High Court in Abuja on Wednesday rejected a request by the African Action Congress and three of its members for an order of interim injunction stopping the Independent National Electoral Commission from going ahead with the collation and announcement of the results of the March 9, 2019 Governorship and state Houses of Assembly elections in Rivers State. Instead of granting the ex parte

application, Justice Inyang Ekwo ordered the plaintiffs to put the respondents on notice by serving the papers filed on them.

### **PRINCEWILL ASKS INEC TO CANCEL RIVERS GOV POLL, APOLOGISE - PUNCH PG.24**

The Director, Strategic Communications of Tonye Cole Campaign Organisation, Tonye Princewill, has called on the Independent National Electoral Commission to cancel the governorship election in Rivers State and start the process afresh. In the alternative, he said pending the resolution of all legal matters, the commission could announce the results so far collated per local government area; up to the point the electoral process was suspended.

### **COURT ORDERS ARREST OF BAYELSA POLITICIAN, TWO OTHERS OVER ABDUCTION OF DCP OKUNOLA - THISDAY PG.10, SUN PG.5**

Justice Okon Abang of the Federal High Court in Abuja Wednesday ordered the arrest of a top Bayelsa State politician, Hon. Israel Sunny Goli, and two others over their alleged complicity in February 24 abduction of Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Kola Okunlola, in Bayelsa State. Justice Abang's order was sequel to an oral application made for their arrest by counsel to the Nigeria Police Force.

### **ICPC DOCKS ABIA DEPUTY SPEAKER OVER N54M FRAUD - SUN PG.5**

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has dragged the Deputy Speaker of the Abia State House of Assembly, Dr. Cosmos Chukwudi Ndukwe, to court for corrupt enrichment. Ndukwe, who was arraigned before Justice C.C. Thomas Adiele at the Abia State High Court, Umuahia, allegedly used his position as a public officer for self-gratification and corrupt enrichment to the tune of N54, 610,000.

### **NDLEA UNCOVERS ANOTHER DRUG FACTORY IN ENUGU - SUN PG.11**

Enugu state Command of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has uncovered an illicit drug factory manufacturing methamphetamine. State Commander, Adeyemi Adeofe, who paraded three suspects after addressing newsmen at the agency's headquarters

in Enugu, yesterday, disclosed that the first two were arrested with 100 kilogramme of ephedrine, last Saturday.

**N104.8M FRAUD: ICPC KICKS AGAINST 'NO CASE SUBMISSION' BY EX-SEC DG - SUN PG.38**

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), has asked the court to overrule a No-Case Submission filed by the suspended Director-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Mounir Gwarzo, and former Executive Commissioner, Zakawanu Garuba. In an amended charge filed before Justice Hussaini Baba Yusuf of the Federal Capital Territory High Court 4, sitting in Maitama, Abuja, according to the spokesperson of the Commission, Mrs Rasheedat Okoduwa, the prosecuting counsel, Raheem Adesina, asked the defendants to explain the issue of severance package benefits that were paid to Gwarzo