



Federal Ministry of Justice

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2019

TRIBUNAL GRANTS BUHARI, APC ACCESS TO ELECTION MATERIALS - DAILY TRUST PG.5, SUN PG.12, NATION PG.1, 6&7

Presidential Election Petitions Tribunal (PEPT) sitting at the Court of Appeal, Abuja has granted leave to President Muhammadu Buhari and the All Progressives Congress (APC) to inspect materials used for the February 23 presidential election. A three-member panel of justices presided by Justice Abdul Aboki on Thursday unanimously granted the application brought separately by both President Buhari and the APC.

OKOROCHA TO INEC: RELEASE MY CERTIFICATE OF RETURN - DAILY TRUST PG.13

Governor Rochas Okorocha of Imo State who claims to have won the Senate seat on the platform of APC, yesterday, called on INEC to release his certificate of return to enable him celebrate like other senators-elect. Okorocha, who granted interview to journalists in Abuja, accused the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Imo State of playing the script of those planning to deny him the opportunity to become one of the presiding officers in the National Assembly.

OFFA ROBBERY: COURT ADJOURNS CASE FOR SECURITY REASON - DAILY TRUST PG.4, THISDAY PG.48, NATION PG.42, PUNCH PG.3

A Kwara State High Court sitting in Ilorin yesterday adjourned resumed trial of Offa robbery suspects, citing security reports. The presiding judge, Justice Halimat Salman, said: "reports reaching us are not favourable for the continuation of the case today. I don't have anything doing, but the court had to rise for the case to continue tomorrow (today).

MULTINATIONAL TROOPS KILL 33 BOKO HARAM FIGHTERS - DAILY TRUST PG.3

The Headquarters Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) Nd'jemena, the Chad Republic has said troops on Operation Yancin Tafki killed 33 Boko Haram fighters in Arege, Borno state. A statement from the spokesperson of MNJTF Colonel Timothy Atigha said troops from Sector 4 attacked Boko Haram assets in Arege, killing scores of terrorists in the process.

COURT STOPS ADAMAWA GUBER SUPPLEMENTARY ELECTION - DAILY TRUST PG.6

An Adamawa State High Court in Yola has issued an injunction restraining the Independent Electoral Commission from conducting the supplementary election scheduled for March 23. The suit was filed by the candidate of the Movement for Restoration and Defence of Democracy (MRDD), Eric The man, over the missing of the party's logo on the ballot papers.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS STILL HIGH IN NIGERIA, SAYS AMNESTY - THISDAY PG.10

Global human rights organisation, Amnesty International, has raised concern over the inability of the federal government to hold those involved in human rights violation accountable. In a statement by the Media Manager of Amnesty International Nigeria, Isa Sanusi, the group decried what it described as pervasive violence against women.

WHISTLEBLOWER ALLEGES THREAT TO LIFE OVER WAEC CERTIFICATE OF KWARA GOVERNOR-ELECT - THISDAY PG.16

A whistleblower, Adekunle Oluwafemi Abraham, who exposed and instituted a court case on the authenticity of West African Examination Council (WAEC) certificate of the Kwara State All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate in the last general election, Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq, has alleged that his life is being threatened by unknown people. Abraham, however, said he did it in line with the President Muhammadu Buhari administration's commitment to war against corruption.

GROUPS URGE EFCC TO PROBE GANDUJE OVER FRESH WITHDRAWAL OF N235M FOR VOTE BUYING - THISDAY PG.50

Kano State Civil Society Groups yesterday called on the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to probe the state Governor, Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, for allegedly withdrawing N235, 500,000, from the state government treasury ahead of the supplementary election due in nine days' time. But in a swift reaction, the state Commissioner for Local Government, Murtala Sule Garo, described the allegation as politically-motivated to dent the government image, stressing that the fund was part of budgetary allocations meant for the capital projects in the state.

INEC WEIGHS FOUR OPTIONS ON RIVERS POLLS TODAY - NATION PG.6&7

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), the African Action Congress (AAC), the All Progressives Congress (APC) and other parties will today know their fate on the stalemated governorship poll in Rivers State. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has summoned a meeting of its management to receive and consider the report of a fact-finding team it sent to the Southsouth state.

I DIDN'T INTERROGATE AKINGBOLA, SAYS EFCC'S WITNESS - NATION PG.5, THISDAY PG.16

A chief inspector at the defunct Intercontinental Bank Plc, Abdulraheem Jimoh, yesterday told the Federal High Court in Lagos that he did not interrogate the bank's Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer Dr Erastus Akingbola during his investigation. Under cross-examination by defence counsel Chief Wole Olanipekun (SAN) during Akingbola's trial before Justice Mojisola Olatoregun, Jimoh, the second prosecution witness, said he relied on records of suspicious transactions.

COURT ADJOURNS FRANCIS ATUCHE, OJO'S N125BN FRAUD TRIAL - PUNCH PG.3

The Federal High Court in Lagos adjourned till Friday, March 15, for further hearing in the N125bn fraud trial of a former managing director

of the defunct Bank PHB Plc, Francis Atuche. Atuche is facing 45 counts alongside a former executive director of the defunct Spring Bank Plc, Charles Ojo.

9TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: DEFT MOVES BEGIN OVER SENATE PRESIDENCY - PUNCH PG.2

Some All Progressives Congress senators-elect on Thursday cautioned resident Muhammadu Buhari and the leadership of the party against sitting on the fence on the issue of the principal officers of the National Assembly. The APC has a majority of 65 senators in the ninth Senate compared to 37 Peoples Democratic Party's members. In the House of Representatives poll, the APC won 211 seats, while the PDP clinched 111 seats.

ALLEGED FRAUD: COUNSEL'S ABSENCE STALLS SHEMA'S TRIAL - PUNCH PG.23

The trial of a former governor of Katsina State, Ibrahim Shema, at the state high court for alleged fraud while in office was on Thursday stalled by the absence of his counsel. The defence counsels, led by a former President of Nigerian Bar Association, Joseph Daudu, were reported to be at another trial involving Shema at the Court of Appeal in Kaduna.