

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2019

WE'RE READY FOR POLLS, DECLARES INEC CHAIR YAKUBU - NATION PG. 5, DAILY TRUST PG. 6

The Chairman of Independent National Electoral Commission, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, declared yesterday that the commission was ready for the election. Addressing a press conference alongside the Inspector-General of Police IGP), Mr. Muhammed Adamu, in Abuja yesterday, he said that all arrangements had been made for the commencement of the elections. Speaking on the readiness of INEC for the elections, Yakubu said the commission had concluded the movement of personnel and materials ahead of the polls.

REVEALED: HOW ALEX BADEH'S KILLERS PLOTTED HIS DEATH - NATION PG.18

Detectives from the Inspector General of Police Intelligence Response Team (IRT) have revealed that the killers of the former Chief of Defence Staff, Air Vice-Marshal Alex Badeh, used a Dane gun. Air Vice-Marshal Badeh was killed on December 18 last year by hoodlums who attacked his convoy on the Keffi- Kaduna Expressway while he was returning from his farm on the border between Nasarawa State and the Federal Capital Territory. The revelation is coming on the heels of the arrest of four additional suspects believed to have taken active roles in the murder, including an informant identified simply as Maube.

INEC OKAYS ZAMFARA APC FOR POLLS - DAILY TRUST PG. 6, PUNCH PG. 8

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) yesterday said candidates of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Zamfara State can now participate in the National Assembly, governorship and state House

of Assembly elections. INEC National Commissioner and Chairman Information and Voter Education Committee, Festus Okoye, said this in a statement.

PDP DRAGS BUHARI, APC, INEC, AGF ARMY, OTHERS TO COURT OVER BUHARI'S ORDER - THISDAY PG. 14

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), has charged President Muhammadu Buhari, the All Progressives Congress (APC), the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Nigeria Army, the Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) and the Nigeria Police to court over the President Muhammadu Buhari's order to the military to deal ruthlessly with ballot boxes snatchers. Buhari had during the APC caucus meeting in Abuja last Monday said, "Anybody who decides to snatch ballot boxes or lead thugs to disturb it (elections) maybe that would be the last unlawful action he would take. I have directed the police and the military to be ruthless".

MAINA: STOP MY PERSECUTION; ENSURE ENFORCEMENT OF COURT ORDER EFCC - PUNCH PG. 53

The Chairman of the Presidential Task Force on Pension Reform, Mallam Abdulrasheed Maina has called on human rights organizations to intervene in the case between him and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in ensuring that his long protracted and unjust persecution since December 2012 is brought to an end. Maina spoke through his Media Aide, Aliyu Musa, explaning that the decision to involve the human rights Organisations was based on the its recognition that they fight just course.

\$875M MALABU FRAUD: LONDON COURT OKAYS FG'S SUIT AGAINST US BANK - PUNCH PG. 7

A High Court in London has granted permission to Nigeria to proceed with its case against an American bank JPMorgan Chase accused of enabling the misappropriation of state funds totalling \$875m over the Oil Prospecting License, OPL 245. The Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mr Abubakar Malami (SAN), said this on Friday in

a statement by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Mr Salihu Isah.

UK URGES INEC TO BE IMPARTIAL - PUNCH PG. 8

The United Kingdom has urged the Independent National Electoral Commission to be impartial during the general elections. In a broadcast aired on Friday on the verified Twitter handle of the British High Commission in Nigeria, @UKinNigeria, the British High Commissioner to the country, Ms Catriona Laing, asked Nigerians not to be discouraged to vote again due to the postponement of the elections.

VOTE-BUYING: EFCC WARNS BANKS, BUREAU DE CHANGE OPERATORS - PUNCH PG. 12

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission on Friday warned commercial banks and operators of bureau de change in Benue State against changing dollars and transferring large sums of money for politicians and their agents. The zonal head, Makurdi zonal office of the anti-graft agency, Johnson Babalola, who gave the warning during a meeting with officials of commercial banks and operators of bureau de change in Makurdi, said the EFCC was aware of the movement of large sums of money all around the state.

I GOT N25,000 AFTER KILLING BADEH - SUSPECT - PUNCH PG. 30

One of the five suspected killers of the ex-Chief of Defence Staff, Air Vice Marshal Alex Badeh, has revealed his role in the murder. The suspect, 25-year-old Shuaibu Rabi, a native of Bade area of Kaduna State, said he got N25,000 out of the money they stole from the late Badeh's car. The former CDS was ambushed and killed on December 18, 2018, along Abuja-Keffi Expressway by some gunmen on the way from his farm. Badeh's driver was also shot and his friend, who was also in the vehicle, was kidnapped by the gang.