



Federal Ministry of Justice

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2019

BUHARI, ATIKU: WE'LL ACCEPT OUTCOME OF CREDIBLE POLLS - DAILY TRUST PG.1&5, NATION PG.1&2, SUN PG.39

President Muhammadu Buhari of the All Progressives Congress (APC) and former Vice President Atiku Abubakar of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has agreed to accept the outcome of free, fair and credible elections. Buhari, Atiku and other candidates in the February 16 presidential election also pledged to ensure that the polls are conducted peacefully while signing a peace accord at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in Abuja yesterday.

MALAMI DIRECTS INEC TO POSTPONE ELECTIONS IN ZAMFARA - THISDAY PG.11, NATION AND PUNCH.

The Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mr. Abubakar Malami (SAN), has directed the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to postpone elections in Zamfara State to enable the All Progressives Congress (APC) field candidates for the 2019 elections. This is coming as Chief Mike Ozekhome (SAN), has described the directive as an act of desperation, and advised INEC to reject it.

He said his decision was predicated on the judgment of the state High Court in suit No ZMS/GS/52/2018 between Sanusi Liman Dan-Alhaji and 37 others Vs APC and 144 others; and Appeal No: CA/S/23/2019. In a three-page letter dated February 13, 2019 and addressed to INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, Malami told the commission that the directive was sequel to Section 38 and 39 of the Electoral Amendment Act 2010.

CCT ORDERS ONNOGHEN'S ARREST - DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.2, SUN PG.6

The Code of Conduct Tribunal (CCT) yesterday ordered the arrest of the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Walter Onnoghen. The tribunal chairman, Danladi Umar, said the Inspector General of Police (IGP) and other law enforcement agencies are directed to arrest Onnoghen and bring him to the tribunal on Friday for arraignment over alleged non-declaration of assets.

ONNOGHEN ASKS APPEAL COURT TO STOP HIS ARREST - PUNCH PG.7

The suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen, on Wednesday, asked the Appeal Court in Abuja to stop his arrest. Onnoghen, who faulted the Code of Conduct Tribunal's decision to arrest him, based his argument on 11 grounds. The suspended CJN said his decision to be absent from the CCT was not in disobedience to any order as no order to compel his attendance was served on him.

EFCC TO APPEAL RULING ON BENUE'S ACCOUNT - DAILY TRUST PG.3, THISDAY PG.51

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) yesterday said it would appeal a Federal High Court judgment on the freezing of Benue State account by the anti-graft agency. A statement from acting EFCC spokesman, Tony Orilade yesterday said having reviewed the judgment of Justice Mobolaji Olajuwon of the Federal High Court sitting in Makurdi, Benue State, which awarded N50million damages against the Commission and N25million each against UBA and Fidelity Bank in favour of the state government, the Commission will appeal the ruling.

NJC FORMS FRESH PANEL OVER ONNOGHEN, MOHAMMED - DAILY TRUST PG.3

The National Judicial Council (NJC) has constituted a new investigative panel to further deliberate on the preliminary assessment of an earlier panel in the petitions against the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Justice Walter Onnoghen and the acting CJN, Justice Tanko Mohammed. The NJC yesterday received the recommendation of the

initial panel constituted to look into the responses of Justice Onnoghen and Mohammed. It, however, decided to probe further into the allegations against the two most senior justices.

GEN. ALKALI: COURT GRANTS BAIL TO REMAINING 7 SUSPECTS - DAILY TRUST PG.7

Justice Daniel Longji of Plateau State High Court has granted bail to the remaining seven suspects charged with various offences in connection with the killing of the former Chief of Administration, Army Headquarters, late Major-General Idris Alkali (rtd). The court had in December granted bail to 20 of the suspects. The suspects had been standing trial on a five count charge of criminal conspiracy, culpable homicide, failure to give information to security agents on the crime, unlawful assembly for the purpose of committing an offence, and resisting the search for Alkali.

N577M CONTRACT: BABACHIR, 3 OTHERS GET N50M BAIL - DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.8, PUNCH PG.10, THURSDAY PG.11, SUN PG.4

Former Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Babachir Lawal and three others arraigned with him have been granted bail in the sum of N50 million each. They were arraigned on Tuesday on a 10-count charge of conspiracy and fraud before an FCT High Court in Maitama. Others arraigned along with him are Hamidu David Lawal, Suleiman Abubakar, Apeh John Monday and two companies, Rholavision Engineering Ltd and Josmon Technologies Ltd.

NJC ISSUES FRESH QUERY TO ACTING CJN - NATION PG.2

ACTING Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad was yesterday given seven days by the National Judicial Council (NJC) to respond within seven days, to a fresh petition written against him by the Action People's Party (APP). The directive came two days after suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN) Justice Walter Onnoghen got a seven-day ultimatum from the Council to respond to a fresh petition against him by the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC). Both Justices had up till last Monday to respond to petitions earlier filed against them.

SENIOR LAWYERS DISAGREE OVER CCT'S ORDER - NATION PG.7

THE bench warrant issued yesterday by the Code of Conduct Tribunal (CCT) Chairman Danladi Umar for the arrest of suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN) Walter Onnoghen has become the subject of arguments by senior lawyers. They are divided over the propriety of the CCT chair ordering the law officer's arrest at a time his matter was pending before the National Judicial Council (NJC) and at the Court of Appeal.

There is anxiety in political circles over the composition of some of the international observer missions deployed in the country for the general elections. The presidential election is slated for Saturday. The popular thinking is that former President Olusegun Obasanjo may have been influential to the composition and emergence of some of the chairmen of some of the observer groups.

CUPP FIXES PROTEST FOR FRIDAY AS CCT ORDERS ONNOGHEN'S ARREST - PUNCH PG.7, THISDAY PG.8

The Code of Conduct Tribunal on Wednesday ordered the police and the Department of State Services to arrest the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen, and produce him before it on Friday. But Onnoghen hurriedly headed for the Appeal Court in Abuja on Wednesday and asked the court to stop his arrest as ordered by the CCT.

BUY VOTES, GO TO JAIL, EFCC WARNS POLITICIANS - THISDAY PG.52, SUN PG.4

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has threatened to arrest and prosecute any politician who engages in vote-buying in any part of the country. The Acting Chairman of the EFCC, Ibrahim Magu, was quoted as handing down the warning in a statement by the Acting Head, Media and Publicity, Tony Orilade, in Abuja, yesterday. He announced a special reward to Nigerians who would volunteer information on those buying or encouraging vote-buying during the polls.