



Federal Ministry of Justice

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW THURSDAY MAY 9, 2019

ESCHEW PREJUDICIAL PUBLIC ANALYSIS, TRIBUNAL WARNS LAWYERS - THISDAY PG.1&6, DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.1&6, PUNCH PG.16

The Presidential Election Petition Tribunal in Abuja on Wednesday warned lawyers, the media, litigants and members of the public from analysing its proceedings in the public until it delivers its judgment. The tribunal has also fixed May 15 for a pre-hearing session on the petition filed by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and its presidential candidate in the 2019 general election, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar.

SENATE SLAMS GOVS OVER LG FUNDS, SUPPORTS COUNCIL AUTONOMY - THISDAY PG.6

The Senate, Wednesday adopted a motion asking relevant stakeholders including state Houses of Assembly and the presidency to expedite action on financial autonomy for all the 774 Local Government Councils in the country, frowning on alleged mismanagement of state/local government joint accounts by state governors. This was sequel to the adoption of a motion moved by Senator Sabi Abdullahi (Niger North), over the new financial guidelines issued by Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) on Monday.

NO MORE PRISON SENTENCES FOR PETTY CRIMES, LAGOS CJ DECLARES - THISDAY PG.10

The Chief Judge of Lagos State, Justice Opeyemi Oke, has said petty offenders will no longer get prison sentences effective from June 3. Speaking at the presentation of the two practice directions, the ACJL Practice Direction and Restorative Justice Practice Direction, Oke said there would henceforth, be a speedy resolution of criminal cases to ensure an effective justice system.

FG DRAGS IOCS TO APPEAL COURT OVER UNDECLARED CRUDE OIL SHIPMENTS - THISDAY PG.45, NATION PG.5

The federal government Wednesday filed two appeals against the judgments of Justice Mojisola Olatoregun of the Federal High Court in Lagos dismissing the suits it filed against two International Oil Companies (IOCs), Nigeria Agip Oil Company Limited and Brasoil Oil Services Company Nigeria, for under-declaring the volume of crude oil it shipped between January 2011 and December 2013. Justice Olatoregun had earlier yesterday held that the federal government did not back its allegations against the oil companies with sufficient evidence.

FG'S FINAL FORFEITURE SUIT AGAINST PATIENCE JONATHAN'S \$5.7M, N2.4BN ADJOURNED TILL MAY 24 - THISDAY PG.12, DAILY TRUST PG.6, NATION PG.5 PUNCH PG.38

A Lagos Federal High Court in Lagos Wednesday further adjourned hearing on a suit by the federal government seeking the final forfeiture of the sum of \$5.7 million and N2.421,953, 522.71 linked to former First Lady, Patience Jonathan, till May 24. The court presided over by Justice Cecilia Mojisola Olatoregun, had on April 26, 2017, ordered the temporary forfeiture of the monies, sequel to an ex-parte application by the Economic Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), an order which was affirmed by both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

ORTOM URGES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO PASS NATIONAL OPEN-GRAZING PROHIBITION LAW - THISDAY PG.45

The Governor of Benue State, Mr. Samuel Ortom, has called on the incoming ninth National Assembly to pass a National Open Grazing Prohibition and Ranches Establishment bills as a way to stop the ongoing Fulani herdsmen attacks from becoming a national barrier. Ortom made this call while delivering the Maiden Public Lecture of the Professor Miriam Ikejiani Clark organised by the Political Science Department of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

APPEAL COURT FIXES THURSDAY FOR JUDGMENT ON OSUN GUBER POLL - THISDAY PG.11, DAILY TRUST PG.6, NATION PG.7, PUNCH PG.19

The Court of Appeal sitting in Abuja has fixed today for judgment in the Osun State governorship election. In a hearing notice issued yesterday, the court said it would hear the appeal filed by the Governor of the state, Gboyega Oyetola, against candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Senator Ademola Adeleke, by 9a.m.

BUHARI INAUGURATES N/EAST COMMISSION BOARD - DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.41, PUNCH PG.

President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday inaugurated the governing board of the newly established North East Development Commission (NEDC) to fast track the rebuilding of the region ravaged by the Boko Haram insurgency. The board chaired by retired Major General Paul Tarfa was inaugurated at the council chamber of the State House, Abuja, before the commencement of the Federal Executive Council (FEC) meeting.

HEDA TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NFIU'S DIRECTIVE ON LG FUNDS - DAILY TRUST PG.6, PUNCH PG.10

An anti-corruption group, the Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre), yesterday said the move by the Nigeria Intelligence Financial Unit (NFIU) to bar state governments from meddling with local government funds would curb institutionalized corruption. The NFIU had earlier in the week issued fresh guidelines banning banks, public officers and other stakeholders from tampering with statutory allocations of Local Governments from the Federation Account.

YOU ARE NOT ABOVE THE LAW, EFCC REPLIES SARAKI - DAILY TRUST PG.7, NATION PG.9, PUNCH PG.10

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) yesterday said Senate President Bukola Saraki is not above the law or investigation by the anti-graft agency. A statement from acting EFCC spokesperson Tony

Orilade said the former Governor of Kwara state and senate president has no need to worry as long as he has no skeletons in his cupboard.

MONEY LAUNDERING: KWARA OFFICIALS REMANDED IN EFCC CUSTODY - DAILY TRUST PG.10, NATION PG.41

Four officials of the Kwara State Government accused of N20.3 million money laundering by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission were yesterday returned to the custody of the anti-graft agency pending ruling on their bail applications at a later date. EFCC had last week arraigned Abubakar Ishiak (Permanent Secretary Government House), Shina Akorede (Director of Finance and Administration), Rasaq Momonu (Controller Finance and Accounts) and Hafeez Yusuf (Cashier) all of government house before a Federal High Court sitting in Ilorin, the state capital.

COURT OPENS HEARING TODAY IN SUIT QUERYING ATIKU'S CLAIM TO BE NIGERIAN - NATION PG.7

A Federal High Court in Abuja will today open hearing in a suit querying former vice president Atiku Abubakar's claim to being a Nigerian by birth. The suit, before Justice Inyang Ekwo, seeks a pronouncement to the effect that Atiku was not qualified to contest the February 23 presidential election as the candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

EFCC SCORECARD: 315 CONVICTIONS SECURED, 350 PROPERTIES SEIZED IN ONE YEAR - NATION PG.7

The Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Ibrahim Magu, yesterday presented the agency's scored for last year. He said the commission secured 315 convictions and recovered N236.16 billion worth of assets in 2018. Besides, Magu also said that huge cash of different denominations were seized from politicians and their associates during the just-concluded general elections.

GODFATHERISM: SOUTHWEST GROUP URGES BUHARI TO CALL EL-RUFAI TO ORDER - THE NATION PG.8

President Muhammadu Buhari has been urged to call Kaduna State Governor Nasir El-Rufai to order over his comments on how to end

godfatherism in Lagos State. The Ogun State Chapter of Omoluwabi Movement, a socio-cultural group with Southwest focus, made the appeal yesterday in a statement issued in Abeokuta. The group described the report credited to el-Rufai “as a mere idles talk of a frustrated political expansionist”.

OYO COURTS TO GIVE PREFERENCE TO EFCC CASES - CJ - PUNCH PG.6

The Chief Judge of Oyo State, Justice Munta Abimbola, has said the state judiciary would give special attention to cases filed by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission. The chief judge gave the pledge on Wednesday in his office in Ibadan when the Zonal Head of the EFCC in Ibadan, Mr Friday Ebelo, led a team of officers of the commission to pay him a courtesy visit.

THUGS ATTACK NLC PROTESTERS MEMBERS DURING ANTI-NGIGE PROTEST - PUNCH PG.16

The Wednesday planned protest against the Minister of Labour and Employment, Dr Chris Ngige, by the Nigeria Labour Congress and the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas members, turned violent as the workers were attacked and shot at by suspected thugs on a street leading to Ngige’s house in Abuja. Nine of the protesters were injured with three of them in critical condition. They were taken to the National Hospital in Abuja where they were receiving treatment. The workers accused Ngige of hiring the thugs that attacked them.

FIRM APPROACHES APPEAL COURT, EFCC AS HERITAGE BANK ATTEMPTS TAKEOVER OF HIP TV - PUNCH PG.12

Smooth Promotions Limited, owner of music channel, *HIP TV*, and organiser of the Headies Awards, has approached the Court of Appeal after the Federal High Court, Abuja, granted a motion ex parte filed by Heritage Bank Plc to acquire the firm over a purported N668m debt. Smooth Promotions has also petitioned the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, accusing Heritage Bank of manipulating its bank account and levying excess charges on the firm to the tune of N185m.