



Federal Ministry of Justice

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW TUESDAY MARCH 12, 2019

I WILL BUILD MUTUAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH 9TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - BUHARI - PUNCH PG.9, NATION PG.4, THISDAY PG.6, SUN PG.10

President Muhammadu Buhari has said that he would build a mutual working relationship with the 9th National Assembly. The President, who spoke in Daura, Katsina State, on Monday, noted that such a relationship would smoothen governance and particularly improve the budgetary process in the country. He added that one thing he hoped to achieve quickly with the next legislature was to return the budgetary process to the January-December fiscal cycle.

MTN CHIEF FAULTS AGF ON \$2B TAX DEMAND - NATION PG.1&6, THISDAY PG.34

MTN Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rob Shutter yesterday faulted the demand for \$2 billion cash by the Office of the Attorney-General of the Federation (OAGF). It accused AGF Abubakar Malami, of “playing games” over the demand for the cash, which the government said was in tax arrears from the telecoms giant. Shutter spoke at a conference call where MTN’s 2018 annual results were presented to the country’s executives and stakeholders.

PDP ALLEGES FRAUD AS INEC DECLARES SIX STATES’ GOVERNORSHIP POLL INCONCLUSIVE - PUNCH PG.2

The Independent National Electoral Commission on Monday continued its declaration of results of the governorship and state Houses of Assembly elections conducted across the country on Saturday. But for the first time since 1999 that the nation embraced democracy, INEC declared governorship poll in six states inconclusive. The states affected are Kano, Sokoto, Benue, Bauchi, Adamawa and Plateau.

SOLDIERS STOPPED US FROM MONITORING RIVERS POLLS – EU OBSERVERS - PUNCH PG.7, DAILY TRUST PG.3, THISDAY PG.1&6, SUN PG.39

The European Union Observation Mission to Nigeria says soldiers barred them from monitoring elections in Rivers State. The observers made the allegation in their preliminary report in Abuja on Monday. Addressing journalists, the Chief Observer, Maria Arena, noted that they came to Nigeria on the invitation of INEC to monitor the elections and make recommendations.

EX-SKYE BANK CHAIR, AYENI, OTHERS PLEAD NOT GUILTY TO FRESH CHARGES - PUNCH PG.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission on Thursday arraigned a former Chairman of the defunct Skye Bank Plc (now Polaris Bank), Mr. Tunde Ayeni, and others on charges of money laundering involving alleged fraudulent withdrawal of funds running into billions of naira from the bank's suspense account. He was arraigned before the Federal High Court in Abuja alongside a former Managing Director of Skye Bank, Timothy Oguntayo, and two companies, Control Dredging Company and Royaltex Paramount Ventures Limited.

ASUU CHAIR'S SEX-FOR-MARKS CASE TAKES NEW TWIST - PUNCH PG.42

The sex harassment claim leading to the suspension of the Chairman of the Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, and branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, Dr Monday Igbafen, by the institution has taken a new twist with the family of the woman allegedly sexually harassed by the lecturer demanding an apology from the school. The AAU in its February 13, 2019 News Bulletin announced the suspension of the philosophy lecturer after he was accused of gross misconduct bordering on sexual harassment and threats of marks for sex allegedly targeted against Itohan Okhihie in 2011. However, Igbafen vehemently denied the allegations, insisting he was being blackmailed by the authorities over his stand against some alleged shady deals in the school.

CCT DEFERS RULING ON ONNOGHEN'S OBJECTIONS INDEFINITELY, ORDERS DAY-TO-DAY TRIAL - PUNCH PG.43, DAILY TRUST PG.3, NATION PG.7, THISDAY PG.8, SUN PG.5

The Code of Conduct Tribunal on Monday adjourned indefinitely its rulings on two separate motions filed by the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen, to challenge the tribunal's jurisdiction to entertain the charges of non-declaration of assets preferred against him by the Federal Government. The Chairman of the CCT, Danladi Umar, said the rulings on the motions would be delivered along with the final judgement on the case at the end of trial.

INEC OMITTS OKOROCHA FROM SENATORS-ELECT LIST - PUNCH PG.7, THISDAY PG.11, SUN PG.40

Imo State Governor Rochas Okorocha is not listed by the Independent National Electoral Commission among the senators-elect that will receive their certificates of return on Thursday. Okorocha won in the February 23 Imo West senatorial elections on the platform of the All Progressives Congress. Investigations by our correspondent in Abuja on Monday revealed that the new senators would receive their certificates of return at the International Conference Centre, Abuja.

2019 ELECTIONS: WE NOTICED VOTE-BUYING, VIOLENCE, MILITARISATION, SAY FOREIGN OBSERVERS - PUNCH PG.9, NATION PG.4

A joint international observation mission by the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute has said it discovered various electoral malpractices and crimes in the 2019 general elections. The IRI/NDI electoral observers particularly identified vote-buying and electoral violence as some of the setbacks in the conduct of the exercise in various parts of Nigeria.

ASARI DOKUBO ALLEGES THREAT TO LIFE AS SOLDIERS VISIT HOME - PUNCH PG.24

Prominent Niger Delta agitator, Asari Dokubo, has claimed his life is no longer safe and that he and his family members are living in fear. The

54-year-old Dokubo raised the alarm after soldiers allegedly invaded his home on Monday morning in Obuama community in the Degema Local Government Area of Rivers State. He said though he would not flee his house, he feared there could be more visits by soldiers.

LAGOS-APAPA GRIDLOCK: COURT DECIDES FALANA'S CASE AGAINST FG MAY 6 - PUNCH PG.10, NATION PG.42

The Federal High Court in Lagos has fixed May 6 to give judgment in a lawsuit filed by human rights lawyer, Mr Femi Falana (SAN), seeking to compel the Federal Government to fix the Oshodi-Apapa Expressway and end the intractable gridlock on the road. Justice Muslim Hassan fixed the judgment date after taking final addresses from the parties. Falana is, in the suit, urging the court to declare that packing of tankers and trailers on the overhead bridges in Lagos was illegal and constituted a threat to the citizens' fundamental right to life.

PROSECUTION WITNESS ABSENCE STALLS EX-IGP EHINDERO'S TRIAL - DAILY TRUST PG.3

The trial of former Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Sunday Ehindero has been stalled following the absence of the prosecution witness. Ehindero was arraigned on a 10-count charge by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) along with a former Commissioner of Police in charge of Budget at the Force Headquarters, John Obaniyi, over an alleged N16.4 million fraud before an FCT High Court in Apo.

EFCC ARRAIGNS MAN FOR ALLEGED N3M THEFT - NATION PG.10, PUNCH PG.4

The Ibadan zonal office of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) yesterday arraigned Mr. Ibraheem Adesina Adeyemi on a one-count charge of stealing. The accused was brought before Justice Ladiran Akintola of the Oyo State High Court, Ibadan. The charge preferred against the accused reads: "That you Ibraheem Adesina Adeyemi, male, in April 2016 or thereabout, in Ibadan, within the jurisdiction of this honourable court, with intent to defraud, did convert to your personal use the sum of N3, 000,000.00 (Three Million Naira only), property of Alhaji Kamoru Atilola, which he gave to you in

trust for keep and thereby committed an offence.”Adeyemi pleaded not guilty.

US RETURNEE CHARGED WITH N22.6M CAR DEAL FRAUD - NATION PG.42

A United States-based businessman, Busayo Afolami, who allegedly defrauded two men of N22.6 million, was Monday brought before an Igbosere Chief Magistrates’ Court in Lagos. Afolami, 39, was accused by the police of obtaining N22.6 million from two men under the pretext of importing vehicles for them. The defendant was arraigned before Mrs. Folashade Botoku on a six-count charge of conspiracy, threat to life and fraud.

CONSIDER CITIZENS’ INTEREST IN DECIDING ELECTION MATTERS, ACTING CJN TELLS JUDGES - THISDAY PG.10

The acting Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Justice Tanko Muhammad, yesterday appealed to judges in the country to protect the interest and rights of the citizens as they adjudicate on various matters that may arise from the 2019 general election. Muhammad made the appeal at the opening ceremony of the 2019 refresher course for judges and Kadis held at the National Judicial Institute (NJI) in Abuja.