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Published by the Federal Capital Territory Administration

Vol. 3, 86th Edition, 1st. 12th Oct., 2025



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NEWS PG 11

Crack down on land use violations:
A bold step towards city orderliness and sustainable development

NEWS PG 4

Nigeria @ 65:
A Historical Timeline (1960–2025)

Nigeria at 65: Nigeria's economy fast recovering -President Tinubu

•You are assured of improved living - Wike tells FCT residents



By Victoria Agorom and Abano Amos

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has stated that the nation's economy is fast recovering and that the reforms his administration instituted over two years ago are delivering tangible results. The President stated this in his address to the nation marking the 65th Independence Anniversary celebration of Nigeria. The President added that his administration is working diligently to boost agricultural production and ensure food security and reduce food costs. He said that in the last two years of his administration, Nigeria has achieved major, remarkable economic milestones as a result of the implementation of sound fiscal and monetary policies. "Our administration has redirected the economy towards a more inclusive path, channelling money to fund education, healthcare, national security, agriculture, and critical

Minister of State, FCT, FCT Minister, Barrister Nyesom Wike and Managing Director, Infioquest Construction Company, Mr. Joseph Abujaode at the flag-off of the access arterial road 2 to the Fire Service Station in Kaura District.

Contd. on page 2



FCT MUSLIM PILGRIMS WELFARE BOARD, ABUJA. 2026 HAJJ

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Nigeria's economy fast recovering

Contd. from front page

economic infrastructure, such as roads, power, broadband, and social investment programmes. These initiatives will generally improve Nigerians' quality of life," President Tinubu said.

According to the President, the 65th anniversary of the nation's Independence presented an opportunity for Nigerians to reflect on the significance of the day and the country's journey to nationhood since October 1, 1960.

He, therefore, called on Nigerians to remember the sacrifices of the country's founding fathers, their devotion, and dreams of a strong, prosperous, and united Nigeria that will lead Africa and be the beacon of light to the rest of the world.

While stating that the worst is over for Nigeria, the President commended Nigerians for their endurance, support, and understanding and pledged to continue to work for the people and to justify the confidence citizens reposed in him to steer the ship of the nation.

Highlighting his administration's achievements President Tinubu stated that the country now has a record-breaking increase in non-oil revenue, a stronger foreign reserve position as well as a restored fiscal health among other major achievements.

President Tinubu specifically addressed Nigerian youths describing them as the future and the greatest assets of the country.

He urged them to continue to dream big, innovate, and to conquer saying that his administration, through policies and funding, will continue to support them to succeed.

Finally, President Tinubu said, "let all hands be on deck. Let us believe, once more, in the boundless potential of our great nation".

In his message to residents of the Federal Capital Territory, FCT Minister, Barrister Ezenwo Nyesom

Wike noted that the Independence Anniversary is a special occasion when Nigerians pay tribute to the founding fathers who laboured to birth a formidable country which today stands tall in the comity of nations, adding that It is also a celebration of brotherhood and unity, which have been woven from the loom of the country's diversity.

Speaking on the theme for this year's celebration, 'All Hands Must Be On Deck', the FCT Minister said that to ensure that the labour of the nation's founding fathers is not in vain, all residents should continue to live true to the ideals of the nation's heroes.

The Federal Capital Territory, he stated remains Nigeria's symbol of unity and nationhood, hence, residents should continue to embody the faith that Nigerian citizens are greater together. He said that the Anniversary presented an opportunity for sober reflection and stock-taking.

"This is necessary so we can look ahead with renewed hope towards a better future for the Federal Capital Territory and the nation.

"Amidst the various challenges we face as a nation, we are very optimistic that the future is brighter. We have a President who is intentional about prioritising the well-being of the citizens and has brought unprecedented development to the FCT. We must, therefore, continue to work together faithfully, to ensure that FCT's potentials and our collective aspirations are realised to the fullest," Barr. Wike said.

Barr. Wike used the occasion to express his appreciation to residents of the FCT for their unwavering support for the Renewed Hope Agenda of the President, His Excellency, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, which centres on economic growth, national security, food security, sustainable development and

infrastructure development.

To this end, the Minister stated that the FCT Administration has made determined progress in several fronts and stated that with the unflinching support of residents, his administration will continue to work to provide first-class infrastructure and public utilities as demonstrated in the completion and commissioning of strategic roads and public utilities.

"It is our firm belief that no city can be said to be a city without a good network of roads, hence our focus on road construction. Other sectors are receiving due attention as well.

"I assure you that we will continue to work to reinvigorate the economy and enhance living standards of the good people of FCT".

Residents of FCT, the Minister said have also remained intentional about living together in peace and harmony in spite of a few distractions. Consequently, the FCT he stated has become one of the most peaceful places to reside in the entire country.

"This is not only due to the security measures we have put in place, but also because of zero tolerance of residents for insecurity, and their readiness to promote peace in every part of the Territory."

On February 2026 area councils elections, the Minister called for peaceful campaigns and encouraged residents to come out en masse to vote for leaders who have their interest at heart.

Abuja Digest took to the streets of the nation's capital to sample the opinions of residents on the nation's 65th independence celebrations

According to a resident and Registrar of the National Institute for Sports, Abuja, Mr. Belmont Benson, the fact that the nation is still intact as a nation despite the challenges means that there is hope that Nigeria is still on the trajectory of greatness.

The Registrar added that there is hope for Nigeria as a nation and that Nigerians have to celebrate and thank God for Nigeria

Because Nigeria is not where it used to be but gradually moving to the promise land."

He said, "We have started asking the right questions and conversations are ongoing that will definitely lead to major reforms, although situation may seem like nothing is happening but so much is happening and the overdependence on oil money is reducing, other sectors are gradually emerging as major contributors to the GDP.

"Educationally there's a lot that has been done to grow our educational sector, although with some misgivings but on the whole our universities are emerging as forces to reckon with in the global stage. "We produce some of the best brains from our educational system but the ability to retain them in the country is a challenge but discussions are ongoing to improve and create the conducive atmosphere for them to stay."

The Registrar stated that the country has witnessed a lot of transformation since independence. The telecommunications sector he said has greatly improved with GSM technology and even artificial intelligence.

In infrastructure, agriculture, and human capital development, Benson stated that a lot has been done from Lagos to Abuja and even in the 36 states of the Federation, so much has improved and a lot is being put in place to better the lot of the citizens.

Nigeria, Beson also stated is a work in progress, saying that there is room for improvement on every side, to provide purposeful and good leadership, by ensuring strategic reforms are done constitutionally, to have more inclusive system, by pursuing the necessary socio-

political and economic reforms and to intensify in the fight against corruption.

"Nigeria at present is on the path of progress, still building on the legacies of our heroes past.

"Let all hands be on the deck as we continue to discover our place as a nation and continue to be thankful to God for having Nigeria still intact as one entity in spite of what we have gone through since independence. On the whole, let's celebrate our nation at 65," he added.

Another resident from Bwari Area Council, Mr. Sunday Samuel said, "We are celebrating Nigeria at 65, and I am proud to be a Nigerian and I believe in Nigeria.

He said that building a stronger Nigeria requires collective effort and responsibility. Samuel urged Nigerians to be more patriotic and committed to the nation, stating that more reforms in governance, education, security, youth employment, infrastructure, health care delivery and social welfare will further advance the nation.

Another resident James Adewumi, from Orozo, Abuja Municipal Area Council said that he still feels proud to be a Nigerian. Independence celebration he stated reminds him of how far the country has come.

"We have a rich culture, strong people, and a lot of potential. I celebrate October 1st with hope," Adewumi stated.

For Honourable Yekeen Popoola, Ex Chairman of the Oyo State Association of Local Government of Nigeria (ALGON) resident now in Abuja, this year's celebration provided a platform for Nigerians to honour the heroes who fought for the nation's freedom.

The Ex ALGON boss further stated, "Nigeria may not be perfect, but I believe in our youth. We just need the right leadership. Nigeria will be great."

Nigeria @65: FCTA unveils two health initiatives

By Freda Aideyan

As part of activities to mark Nigeria 65th independence anniversary, the Federal Capital Territory Administration has launched the free distribution of Mother-Baby Kits and the Abuja Breathe Fresh Air Project. During the official launch at the Asokoro District hospital in Abuja, FCT Minister of State, Dr. Mariya Mahmoud noted that the two health flagship programmes represent a holistic vision of health: protecting mothers and newborns during childbirth while safeguarding families from the dangers of household air pollution.

Mahmoud, also noted that the initiatives symbolise the administration's resolve to invest in both immediate healthcare needs and long-term environmental sustainability.

The Minister further stated that the Mother-Baby kits, contained essential medical items and consumables, that would support safe labour, delivery, and neonatal care for women and

babies across the FCT.

According to her, "No woman

the best start possible."

She, however, described the



should face childbirth without the tools and support she needs, and no child should begin life without adequate care.

"These kits reflect our deep commitment to maternal and child health and to ensuring that every mother and baby are given

Abuja Breathe Fresh Air Project, as a bold, forward-looking initiative designed to reduce indoor air pollution in vulnerable households.

Mahmoud emphasised that by replacing polluting fuels such as firewood, charcoal, and

kerosene with smart, efficient Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cookers, the administration is addressing one of the silent but deadly health risks in the homes: respiratory disease caused by smoke inhaling.

The Minister affirmed that these two transformative programmes are part of a broader transformation under the Renewed Hope Agenda.

Speaking further, Mahmoud said the administration has strengthened its workforce through improved conditions, and training investments, while infrastructure upgrades—from hospital renovations including call rooms to the establishment of a Public Health Emergency Operations Centre—have boosted efficiency and resilience.

She, therefore, used the occasion of Nigeria 65th independence anniversary to call on Nigerians to recommit themselves to building an FCT where every home is healthier, every birth is safer, and every breath is cleaner. Earlier in her welcome remarks, the Mandate Secretary FCT

Health Services and Environment Secretariat, Dr. Adedolapo Fasawe, revealed that every year, Nigeria continues to face unacceptably high rates of maternal and infant mortality. She lamented that despite progress made, too many women still lose their lives during childbirth, and too many newborns do not live to see their first birthday.

"One major reason for these preventable deaths is the lack of access to clean, safe, and essential supplies during delivery.

"The Renewed Hope Mother-Baby Kit initiative is designed to bridge that gap. Each kit contains basic but critical items needed to ensure a hygienic and safe delivery both for the mother and the child", she noted.

She reiterated the FCT Administration's, commitment under the leadership of Barr. Nyesom Wike, to investing in strategic health interventions that have direct impact on the lives of the rural people.



Editorial: Nigeria at 65 – A Nation's Strength Lies in Its Unity

Today, Nigeria celebrates 65 years of independence — six and a half decades of nationhood marked by trials, triumphs, setbacks, and remarkable resilience. This milestone is not merely a commemoration of freedom from colonial rule but a reminder of the journey we have collectively undertaken and the destiny that still lies ahead. Our story is not perfect, but it is uniquely ours: a story of people bound by diversity, challenged by history, yet continually striving for unity and progress.

Since October 1, 1960, Nigeria has faced profound challenges — political upheavals, civil war, economic downturns, insecurity, and recurring struggles with governance. Yet, in spite of these trials, we have endured. More importantly, we have grown. From the restoration of democracy in 1999 to our ever-expanding influence on the global stage through culture, sports, innovation, and entrepreneurship, Nigeria's triumphs remain testaments to the undying spirit of her people.

At the heart of this journey lies the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, which has, since its inception, been more than just the seat of government. It was conceived and designed as the epicenter of unity, the meeting point of Nigeria's many peoples, and the symbol of the country's shared destiny. Unlike any other part of the federation, the FCT carries with it a unique national mandate: to serve as the physical and symbolic heart of Nigeria, where no ethnic group claims ancestral ownership, and all are equal stakeholders.

Over the decades, Abuja has lived up to this purpose. It is in the FCT that Nigerians from every state, tribe, and faith live and interact daily, forging bonds of friendship, business, and family that transcend parochial identities. The FCT is where our nation's diversity becomes its strength — a living demonstration that coexistence is possible, and indeed necessary, for national survival.

It is also important to recognize that the FCT is home to a generation of Nigerians who can hardly trace their roots elsewhere. Many were born here, attended schools here, married here, and built their lives here. For them, Abuja is not just a place of residence — it is home in the truest sense of the word. This reality creates a special obligation for FCT residents: to safeguard and nurture the unity that Abuja represents, for in doing so, they protect the very fabric that binds Nigeria together.

As Nigeria turns 65, residents of the FCT must rededicate themselves to this responsibility. The city must not merely remain the administrative center of government; it must

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ABUJA DIGEST

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Published by the Federal Capital Territory Administration

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continue to be the moral compass of national unity. Abuja should serve as a reminder that though Nigerians hail from different backgrounds, what unites us is far stronger than what divides us. Our shared values of resilience, creativity, hospitality, and faith are the true bedrock upon which our nation is built.

Of course, challenges remain. Economic hardship, unemployment, and social discontent constantly test the bonds of our unity. But we must not forget that Nigeria's greatest strength lies in her people. It is the collective determination of ordinary Nigerians — traders, farmers, civil servants, entrepreneurs, students, and artisans — that sustains the nation. It is their belief in a better tomorrow that fuels hope, even when times are difficult.

This Independence Anniversary calls for a renewal of that hope and a recommitment to unity. Nigerians must see

beyond ethnic, religious, or regional identities and embrace the greater identity of being citizens of one nation. In particular, residents of the FCT must champion this cause, living as daily witnesses to the possibility of unity amidst diversity. By working diligently for the growth and development of the capital, they contribute directly to Nigeria's overall progress.

Indeed, the lesson of Nigeria at 65 is clear: we are stronger together than apart. Our history has shown that division brings destruction, but unity brings development. The FCT, with its unique status and demographic makeup, is best positioned to lead this example. Its residents, old and new, indigenes and settlers alike, must recognize their role as custodians of the national spirit and commit to building a capital that reflects the greatness of Nigeria.

On this day, we must remember that independence is not merely the freedom to govern ourselves; it is the responsibility to govern wisely, to live harmoniously, and to pursue progress collectively. The journey of Nigeria is far from over. Much remains to be done to build a nation that truly fulfills the aspirations of its people. But if the last 65 years have proven anything, it is that our resilience is unmatched, our diversity is a blessing, and our unity is our greatest asset.

In this spirit of collective responsibility, residents of the FCT must also lend their full support to the **Renewed Hope Agenda** of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, which seeks to revitalize the economy, strengthen security, and reposition Nigeria for sustainable growth. Equally, they should stand behind the infrastructural renewal drive of the FCT Minister, Barrister Nyesom Wike, whose efforts are already reshaping Abuja into a modern, functional, and befitting capital for Africa's largest democracy. These initiatives are not for the benefit of government alone; they directly impact the lives of residents and symbolize the broader progress of the nation. By supporting these efforts, FCT residents will be contributing not only to the transformation of their city but also to the advancement of Nigeria as a whole.

On this special day, let us celebrate our country with renewed determination to build a Nigeria that works for all. Let us embrace the spirit of tolerance, sacrifice, and service. And let us, especially the residents of the Federal Capital Territory, live up to the responsibility of being the custodians of Nigeria's unity.

DIGEST Opinion

Nigeria at 65: A Journey of Resilience, Creativity and Renewal

By Akin Ogunsakin

Today, October 1st, 2025, marks Nigeria's 65th Independence Anniversary—a moment of reflection, celebration, and renewed commitment to the ideals of unity, progress, and prosperity. From the historic lowering of the Union Jack in 1960 to the vibrant and determined nation we see today, Nigeria's journey has been one of trials, triumphs, and transformation.

Over the decades, Nigeria has weathered the storms of civil war, military rule, economic downturns, and social upheavals. Yet through resilience and unyielding spirit, her people have continued to push the boundaries of creativity and hard work. The return to democratic governance in 1999 was a defining milestone, laying the foundation for a more inclusive and participatory nationhood. As the late literary icon Chinua Achebe once noted, *"Nigeria is what it is because its leaders are not what they should*

be." That sobering reminder continues to challenge leaders to rise to the call of true service. Today, Nigeria is not only Africa's most populous country but also one of its most dynamic. Her youthful population—energetic, innovative, and globally connected—has become the driving force behind a renaissance in culture and technology. Nollywood has risen to become the world's second-largest film industry, telling authentic African stories to global audiences. Afrobeats has transformed into a cultural export, dominating global charts and placing Nigerian artists at the center of the world's music scene. Across cities from Lagos to Abuja, Port Harcourt to Kaduna, technological hubs and startups are reshaping industries, solving local problems with global impact, and putting Nigeria on the map as a hub of innovation. It is no wonder that Nobel laureate

Wole Soyinka once said, *"The greatest threat to freedom is the absence of criticism."* Today, the Nigerian youth embody that spirit, questioning, innovating, and daring to



dream.

At the helm of governance, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has embarked on bold reforms aimed at repositioning Nigeria as an economic powerhouse on the continent. From fiscal

restructuring and foreign investment drives to bold monetary policies, these initiatives are creating pathways for sustainable growth. As President Tinubu himself declared during his inauguration, *"We can no longer squander our potential or waste away our future. Now is the time for boldness."* Complementing this national agenda, the infrastructural transformation of the Federal Capital Territory under the stewardship of Barrister Nyesom Wike has redefined Abuja's landscape, enhancing connectivity, urban development, and the capital's global stature.

As Nigeria celebrates 65 years of independence, the story is not just one of past struggles but of a future full of promise. The resilience of her people, the ingenuity of her youth, and the determination of her leaders are shaping a nation on the rise. Former President Olusegun

Obasanjo once reminded Nigerians, *"No nation can develop without discipline, patriotism, and selflessness."* These words still ring true today. This journey into a brighter tomorrow demands collective effort. For Nigeria to fully realize her destiny as a beacon of progress and prosperity in Africa, every citizen must believe in the Nigerian project and join hands with government in building a stronger, more united nation. As music star Burna Boy put it, *"You can't erase what the people feel in their soul."* That passion—channeled into nation-building—will light Nigeria's path forward.

At 65, Nigeria stands tall—not because her path has been easy, but because her people refuse to give up. The road ahead is long, but with unity, faith, and hard work, the future is undeniably bright.

Happy Independence Anniversary, Nigeria!

Ogunsakin wrote from Gwagwalada



Nigeria @ 65: A Historical Timeline (1960–2025)



Prime Minister of Nigeria Abubakar Tafawa Balewa (2nd right) and Princess Alexandra (middle) Source BBC

1960 – Independence

- October 1: Nigeria gains independence from Britain, with Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa as Prime Minister.

1963 – Republic Declared

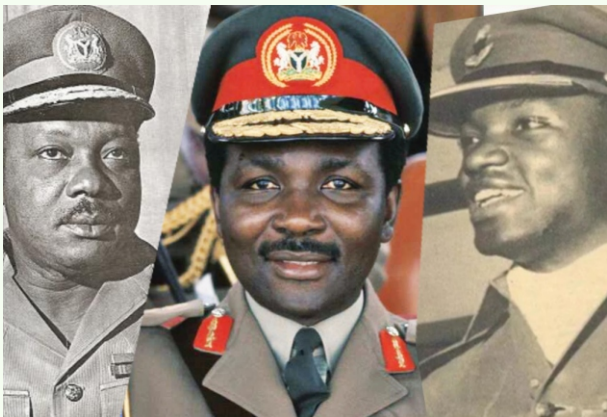
- Nigeria becomes a Federal Republic with Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe as the first President.

1966 – Military Coups

- January: First military coup.
- July: Counter-coup, General Yakubu Gowon assumes power.

1967–1970 – Nigerian Civil War

- The Biafran War erupts; ends in 1970 with Gowon's call for "No Victor, No Vanquished."



General Yakubu Gowon assumes power.

1977 – FESTAC '77

- Lagos hosts the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

1979 – Second Republic

- General Obasanjo hands over to elected President Shehu Shagari.



President Shehu Shagari elected

1983 – Military Returns

- Coup topples Shagari; General Muhammadu Buhari takes over.

1985 – Babangida Era

- General Ibrahim Babangida seizes power,

introduces structural adjustment program.



1993 – June 12 Election

- Widely regarded as Nigeria's freest election, annulled by Babangida.
- Ernest Shonekan's interim government; later overthrown by General Sani Abacha.



June 12, 1993 Presidential election won by late Moshood Abiola.

1998 – Transition Restored

- General Abacha dies; General Abdulsalami Abubakar initiates transition to democracy.



1999 – Return to Democracy

- May 29: Olusegun Obasanjo sworn in as civilian President.

2007 – Yar'Adua Presidency

- Umaru Musa Yar'Adua elected; pledges rule of law and reforms.

2010 – Jonathan Era

- President Yar'Adua passes; Goodluck Jonathan becomes President.

2014 – Africa's Largest Economy

- Nigeria rebased its GDP, overtaking South Africa.

2015 – Democratic Transfer of Power

- Muhammadu Buhari elected, marking the first time an opposition party defeats an incumbent in Nigeria.



2020 – #EndSARS Protests

- Youth-led protests against police brutality shake the nation, drawing global attention.



2023 – Tinubu Presidency

- Bola Ahmed Tinubu sworn in; embarks on bold economic reforms.

2025 – Nigeria at 65

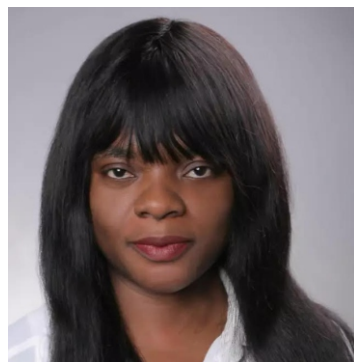
- Nigeria celebrates 65 years of independence: a nation of resilience, creativity, and innovation.





Nigeria at 65: What Nigerians love about Nigeria

As the country celebrates 65 years independence anniversary, Abuja Digest reporters Faustina Inalegwu and Courage Danladi hit the streets with a simple but silent question: What do Nigerians love about Nigeria? And everyone has a great thing to say. Here's what the beautiful Abuja residents from all walks of life said about what makes Nigeria special to them.



Mercy Atang

This is a fascinating question! Have you had the chance to meet us? Have you observed how we present ourselves to the world? The culture, the cuisine, the fashion, the people—everything about us is vibrant. We laugh heartily and without reservation, and we persist. The resilience and fighting spirit of the average Nigerian is truly remarkable.



Naomi Habakkuk

Nothing sweet me for Naija pass Owambe parties o. Goodness! I love owambe parties. For one, those parties are a combination of many great things about Nigeria— the people, the culture, the food, and our high spirits. The term "owambe" is going to be dictionary worthy soon.

You see, many good owambes take a good deal of planning and they are expensive but they are always colorful and you can't but love them.



Japheth Nuhu

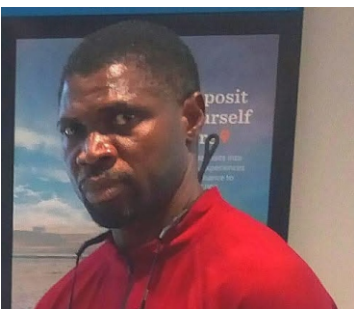
I like Nigeria because it is a land of endless opportunities and possibilities. Nigeria is one country whose true potentials I believe the world is yet to experience. I believe Nigerians are sharp, brilliant and

accommodating people. Giving the right enabling environment the world will marvel at what Nigeria will become.



Priscilla Biddam Mark

Nigerians are one of the most unique, talented and intelligent people I have ever come across (no bias), Nigerians despite the economy, we are one of the most happiest people on earth. We know how to change a thing of sorrow into a thing of joy. We are the future of the world and we are going to take over the world with our talents. We are talented in music, in art, in technology, in comedy and much more. Even those abroad always say the same thing. Watch out for us because we are coming.



Igoche Ogwiji

Honestly for me it's the people, my family, and friends that I love.

On a broader level, I cherish the nature that is of warm, fresh climate and the vegetation that beautify the environment. Other nations don't have the natural resources we enjoy and if they do have, it may be artificial or inorganic. Another thing that's good about Nigeria is the way we live together, address the elderly and relate to each other. It's very hard in the western world to see neighbours relating to each other with ease as we do. Everyone seems to be independent and indifferent to others. In most cases when you catch a glimpse of warm relationship happening at occasions or in a neighbourhood it would have been prompted by a Nigerian



Ajegena Eunice

For me, it's our hospitality and our eccentricities. Our ability to smile and be happy in our

circumstances and our hope for a better life. Our tenacity and courage is something I'm really proud of.



Orji Micah

As Nigerians we're actually very very enterprising and I think the outside world needs to meet us.

There is nowhere in Nigeria that you will go that you will not be given a place.



Innocent Assam

Against all odds Nigeria is a loveable country, after 65 years of independence nothing, absolutely nothing can separate us, we, the Nigerians cannot even separate us, we have tried severally, through ethnicity, religion, politics, tribe and even geographical zones, I have come to realise that we cannot even divide us, the unity and the togetherness, oh! my God I love that about us. The neighborliness, the respect, the festive celebrations, how we share in each others festive seasons that is massive, I love that about my country Nigeria, the people. I love the fact that Nigeria is blessed with lots of natural resources.



Jesse James

Even outside the country, Nigerians remain united. This gives a quiet assurance somewhat that you can get on a plane and go to any country of the world and find a Nigerian there who will not only make you feel welcome but will go out of their way to be of really good help. I have experienced this several times on my travels and each time it amazes me how all I need to be is a Nigerian, not Igbo, Yoruba or Hausa and once I run into another Nigerian, I will immediately feel at home.

Ezinna Ogwumah

Definitely the festive periods. Christmas in this context. I'm Igbo so as a child, that tradition of going back to the village, visiting family and friends or even when we get to



stay back in the city, that magic of how people come together. The music, food, laughter...

There's this warmth that feels deeply magical that I'll say is peculiarly Nigerian. Like a unique sense of belonging and connection.



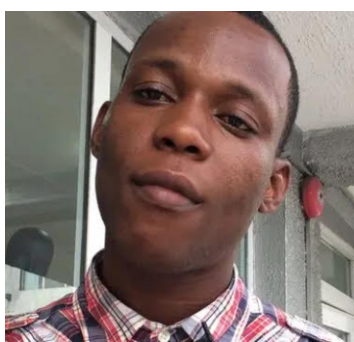
Keziah Nadoo

I love Nigeria because we make a joke out of anything. We are the realest people and can survive almost anything and still come out smiling. I know how I and my Friends constantly bash our country and fellow Nigerians but will never take that from a non-Nigerian.



Alhassan Isah

I love Nigeria because we are warm, hospitable, and endlessly creative. Despite the challenges we face, Nigerians remain some of the most hardworking, optimistic, and resourceful people in the world. We hustle with the heart, and we never stop striving.



Chinedu Ugochukwu

The weather is beautiful all year round and this is just the beginning of good things to come. The people are friendly, very welcoming. You can't beat it, it's a lovely dynamic country, every day new things are coming up, new ideas, and Abuja is a city that never sleeps.

Even in my next life, I would

love to be a Nigerian. I love my country joorrr.



Blessing Ochife

What I love about Nigeria is the freedom of speech and freedom of movement,

I love Nigeria because of the cultural diversity and heritage. I love the originality of Nigeria agriculture, organic in nature and the varieties of our food, very rich and healthy.

One of the biggest thing everyone loves about Nigeria is our love for sports, nobody will take that away from us, sports brings us together, we love sports, especially football

Mrs Anne Dikko



What I love about Nigeria is the people's zeal to survive and stay happy amidst all challenges, Nigerians find ways to make each other laugh and do all they can to cope. So, I simply love my people, Nigerians.

I love the rich cultural heritage, the music, the arts and the cuisines of Nigeria.

We are known for our resourcefulness and entrepreneurial spirit. I love the fact that Nigeria has strong sense of national identity and patriotism. I love you, I love me, that is what to love about Nigeria.

“

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country, after 65 years
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nothing, absolutely
nothing can separate
us, we, the Nigerians
cannot even separate
us, we have tried
severally, through
ethnicity, religion,
politics, tribe and even
geographical zones, I
have come to realise
that we cannot even
divide us.**

”

Celebrating **Nigeria @ 65**

A tribute to great leadership



H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR
PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA



BARR. EZENWO NYESOM WIKE CON,
HON. MINISTER, FCT

As Nigeria commemorates her 65th Independence Anniversary, I extend warm congratulations to His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, and the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Barrister Ezenwo Nyesom Wike, CON, for their exceptional leadership at this pivotal time in our nation's journey.

President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda has ushered in bold reforms and a renewed sense of purpose, laying the groundwork for sustainable economic growth, national unity, and inclusive development. His commitment to repositioning Nigeria is deeply commendable.

In the FCT, Barrister Wike's focused leadership has brought about remarkable strides in infrastructure and urban renewal. We proudly salute both leaders for their dedication to national development

Signed: Hon Chidi Amari, Chief of Staff to the FCT Minister



Infrastructural development: Wike flags off, commissions 16 projects

***Applauds President Tinubu's support *Says projects will boost employment *Tasks contractors on local content**

**By Victoria Agorom,
Wisdom Acka and
Prudence Okonna**

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT), is yet witnessing another round of record breaking flag-offs and commissioning of critical infrastructural projects, this time, for 16 days, the third in the series of such trailblazing activities by the Minister, Barrister Ezenwo Nyesom Wike, since assuming office in August 2023.

These strides by the FCT Minister, stakeholders have maintained expresses his commitment to the Abuja dream and President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda which promotes sustainable socio-economic development.

The activities which began on Thursday 18th September and will end on Thursday 16th October, 2025. Already, the Minister has successfully flagged off some of the projects including the construction of Arterial Road N1 from Wuye District to Ring Road II, construction of Northern Parkway from Ring Road II to III, construction of Access Roads ILS 02 and ILS 03 (Timipre Sylva Street) in Mabushi District.

The Minister also flagged off the construction of Arterial Road N20 (Solomon Lar Way) to (Obafemi Awolowo Way) to the Airport Express Way as well as the construction of Access Roads (Arterial Roads N11, N16, N40 and SILS 03) IN Karsana District Renewed Hope Estate.

Also the Minister has flagged off the 2nd runway Access Road to the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport which will also connect nine communities in the Tunga Madaki settlement. A 7 kilometre road project from Bill Clinton Drive to Tunga Madaki as well as an Access Arterial Road S1, traversing Ring Road 2 to the FCT Fire Station in Kaura District have also been flagged off.

Projects to be commissioned are access roads in sector center B by Dakibiyu and newly constructed roads ILS11, Esther Bali street and Kez Udeze in Mabushi District.

Speaking at the various flag-off events, the Minister assured residents of the Administration's commitment to the provision of critical infrastructure for the enhanced livelihoods for residents, adding that adequate funds have been secured to ensure smooth and timely execution of the projects.

Barr. Wike also stressed that contractors would not be left on site indefinitely without progress.

His words: "We want to assure everyone that adequate funds will be provided for the successful completion of projects. It is not our desire for contractors to remain on site

indefinitely without progress; rather, we are committed to ensuring that the necessary resources are available to deliver work on schedule."

The Minister revealed that the FCT Administration has already embarked on school renovations and health sector interventions,

transformation and will be comparable to other cities in the world.

He said: "All of us will attest to the fact that under the Renewed Hope Agenda of Mr President, we can see that the narrative has changed.

"I want to assure the residents of

cannot give excuses to President Bola Tinubu. He said his responsibility is to work hard and deliver results, and added that his approach is always to support anyone who truly wants to achieve.

Barr. Wike emphasised that his role as the Minister of the FCT

"We thank the President for his commitment and call on all residents to support these projects for the collective progress of Abuja".

Acting Head of the Civil Service of the FCTA, Nancy Nathan in her votes of thanks expressed heartfelt appreciation to



and reiterated that no sector would be left untouched. While noting that road construction was a priority, Barr. Wike allayed fears of the public that his administration is neglecting other critical sectors, stating that no sector will be left untouched, as his Administration's intervention cuts across education, health, and transportation despite the existing challenges.

His words: "Already, we have commenced renovation of schools and are expanding interventions into the health sector. No sector will be left untouched, as the Administration is determined to improve infrastructure and services across all areas".

The Minister urged contractors to ensure the utilisation of local manpower by creating jobs for the youths, while appealing to youths and residents for cooperation.

"I appeal to our youths to give their full cooperation to ensure smooth project delivery. I also urge the contracting firms to engage local manpower and create job opportunities for our people." The Minister said.

He also said that under the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, residents of Abuja can be assured that before the end of this Administration's tenure, the capital city will witness a visible

FCT that, by the grace of God, before the first tenure of Mr. President ends, Abuja will compete with most of the cities in the world. That is a bank draft I have given to you to go home with," he assured.

The Minister appreciated President Tinubu for his commitment to transforming Abuja, according to him, "Through these flag-offs, Mr. President is not only building infrastructure but also creating employment."

The Minister stated that the President's support for the FCT Administration's infrastructure development drive, as evidenced by the flag-off and commissioning of 16 vital road projects, has translated into job opportunities for Nigerians, and thanked the President for his support.

He said, "With the number of jobs we are doing in the FCT, you can see the number of people that will be engaged one way or the other. If we are using 16 days to flag off projects of different categories, then see the number of persons that will be engaged in these projects. 16 days means 16 companies being involved in these projects.

"So, Mr. President, through the provision of infrastructure, is also creating employment for our people".

Wike also made it clear that he

was to implement the President's vision, not to present him with daily complaints and demands. "I should think out of the box. Mr. President will be tired and lose confidence in me if all I bring are excuses".

The Minister stated that he is here as an agent of the President, tasked with ensuring that all of the Administration's goals for the FCT are met.

He said, "Ours is to encourage our people to make sure that everything Mr. President has outlined has to be concluded, through our support. We are here as agents to implement Mr. President's vision and his mission and what the Renewed Hope Agenda has for the people of Nigeria, and in particular, the FCT."

Barr. Wike thereafter called on staff of the FCTA to stay committed to delivering on their task and live up to their responsibilities.

"Anybody who knows me knows that my friend, my brother or my sister is the one who is committed to his or her duty. If you want to achieve, I will give you the support you need to achieve.

"If you are in transport and I see that you are committed to improving the transportation sector, I will give you the support. If you are in agriculture and I see that you are dedicated in what you are doing, I will give you the support you need."

President Tinubu for his visionary, leadership, which made the projects possible.

Describing the FCT Minister, "Mr Project," she commended him for his relentless drive in making the nation's capital as according to her, the reconstruction effort will enhance connectivity, boost social and economic interaction, and further strengthen the capital city's role as the nation's hub.

The Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) Executive Secretary, Engr. Richard Yunana Dauda in his projects overviews explained that the projects will provide essential infrastructure such as surface water drainage, box and pipe culverts, wastewater drainage systems, water supply distribution networks, street lighting, and telecommunication ducts.

These components he added are designed not only to enhance road safety and efficiency but also to support long-term urban development in line with the Abuja Master Plan.

The contractors while making public commitment to the timely completion of the projects, thanked the Minister for the confidence reposed in them and assured that the projects will be delivered in accordance with the highest standard of quality in line with the vision and expectation of the FCT Administration and



We appreciate Minister's ingenuity -AEBP Director

In a significant move aimed at bolstering public health and environmental sustainability in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), the Minister, Barrister Nyesom Wike, has approved a comprehensive plan for effective management of healthcare wastes across all hospitals within the territory. Recognising the critical need to address the challenges posed by hazardous medical waste, the initiative is set to standardise waste handling practices, ensure compliance with environmental regulations, and safeguard both human health and the ecosystem. For deeper insight into the scope, implementation strategies, and anticipated impact of this newly approved plan, in this interview with Abuja Digest reporters, Niyi Lawal and Salamatu Aminu, the Director of the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB), Engr. Osilama Braimah sheds light on the components of the waste management plan, and the long-term vision for sustainable healthcare waste management in the FCT. Excerpts:

Abuja Digest: It was reported that in August 2024, FCT Minister, Barr. Nyesom Wike signed a comprehensive plan on how to effectively manage healthcare wastes in FCT, can you provide a brief overview of this plan?

Braimah: The plan was actually approved by the Minister in August 2024, which was to handle all medical waste across the FCT because our experience during COVID-19 brought up the idea, as we found out that when you mix even a gram of healthcare waste with 10 tones of normal waste, that one gram of infectious healthcare waste will definitely infect the whole of 10 tones which can easily lead to spread of any disease and may be difficult to handle immediately. So the idea according to our Minister, is all about prevention is better than cure, because presently in FCT, we have 831 healthcare facilities which includes 45 government owned and 786 private hospitals, 16 out of the public facilities are secondary public healthcare facilities while five healthcare facilities are under the Health Secretariat and remaining are owned by the police, military other paramilitary organisations within the FCT. So you can imagine the volume of wastes that would be generated by all these facilities and if there is no proper management of such, it may lead to spread of many diseases. Therefore, the document approved by the Minister contains a comprehensive plan for waste management range from generation, segregation, transportation up to the dumpsite.

Abuja Digest: As an Agency responsible for the management of healthcare waste, what have you done to align your activities with this plan.

Braimah: We have done survey which put the estimation of medical waste generated in the FCT on a figure of 787 gram per hospital bed in a day. The survey revealed that one hospital bed will possibly generate 787 grams of healthcare waste per day. And this is so important because this will give us an overall view of the waste generation in a day and this will be added to already 900 tons of municipal waste generated in a day in FCT which translates to 110 compacting trucks that we take to the dump site every day.

And one of the reasons our Minister gave a go ahead to the plan was that healthcare waste have particular danger and if these steps are not taking to ensure that these healthcare wastes are not incinerated before they were mixed with the municipal wastes in our dump sites, the aftermath of such would be more dangerous and this is why we keep on to appreciate the ingenuity

of the Minister for the wonderful approach to ward-off any invasion of any disease in FCT. Therefore, as AEPB, we are still at work managing municipal waste, managing healthcare waste, managing sewage from healthcare facilities. For instance, during COVID-19 we jointly built a COVID center at ThisDay Dome with Healthcare Secretariat., this was done to disallow COVID wastewater from the hospitals going into our main sewer system because we still do the maintenance and it goes to treatment plant. So, we had to build safety tanks for these hospitals and then our staff have to go and evacuate routinely and at the same time engaging in waste segregation because our work starts from generation where we have to separate at source in the hospitals.



Engr. Osilama Braimah

Abuja Digest: How does the AEBP ensure compliance with healthcare waste management regulations across public and private facilities?

Braimah: We do this by creating different bags for different waste. There are coated bags for different healthcare waste stream. We have red and yellow coated bags for separate waste, containers for sharp objects, black bags and then municipal waste bags. So, this is a stream for most hospitals in the FCT and was purposely done to ensure compliance. Not only that their incinerators in most of all the hospitals like National Hospital, tertiary category, installed in 1999 and another ones also installed in 2002 and in 2008, Federal Medical centre in Jaji, Asokoro among others. And to ensure total compliance, there are also monitoring and inspection team that always on the move to ensure everyone is complying with the standard.

Abuja Digest: How is the segregation, collection, transportation and final disposal of healthcare waste managed in the FCT.

Braimah: We are actually doing this according to the Healthcare Waste Management Policy (HCWMP) by first of all doing waste separations before transportation, and we operate specialised vehicles for the transportation for disposal at Goza, dumpsite.

Meanwhile, before this HCWMP health

care waste management plan is not as effective as it should be in as much as you did not do waste separation at source in certain cases, they were still co-mingled at Goza, but with this healthcare waste management plan approved by the Minister, this is no longer the case, there'll be waste separation at the source. Besides this, the adoption of a hybrid system in the FCT has increased the authenticity of sterilised healthcare waste, because hybrid system involves installation of two incineration plants at some hospitals and then phone numbers also will be installed.

So, the plan was designed in such a way that we'll coordinate the hospitals around that particular area and they'll be mandated by law to take their waste to that particular

their cluster.

Abuja Digest: Sir, but some of these hospitals are using enclave system for their waste, how do you make it mandatory to use incinerators.

Braimah: We are aware of the fact that some hospitals have the autoclave system to disinfect the waste. However this HCWMP emphasises a complete incineration to dry the healthcare waste to ash not only the disinfection of the waste, just as you said so, definitely those ones who do not have enclave system will still contaminate the ones already enclaved if not a complete incineration, and we have made them realise this fact through FCT Health Secretariat that every hospital in the FCT must comply.

Abuja Digest: What national and international guidelines or frameworks does the HCWMP align with to forestall actions of those who derive pleasure in challenging most of the decision of the FCTA in court.

Braimah: There are relevant laws, both international laws and laws within the Federal Republic of Nigeria to guide healthcare waste management. For example, there's a 1988 law titled Harmful Waste Special Criminal Provision Act which prohibits the transport the deposition and dumping of hazardous wastes, poisonous wastes, the Environment Impact Assessment Law, the National Effluent Limitation Regulation 1991, National Environmental Protection Management of Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Regulations, 1991 and other various laws for healthcare waste management some specific to healthcare waste management for example the National Healthcare Waste Management Policy, 2013, National Healthcare Waste Management Guidelines 2013 with the National Healthcare Waste Management Plan 2013.

Abuja Digest: What agencies or international stakeholders are involved in this HCWMP.

Braimah: Of course, there are many but the Japanese International Corporation Agency (JICA) and FCT Health Secretariat were major stakeholders because they were involved all through the processes of developing and implementation of this healthcare waste management basic plan for the Federal Capital Territory before it was finalised and approved in August 2024 by Barr. Nyesom Wike.

Abuja Digest: What are you doing to ensure every stage of implementation is adhered to by all the stakeholders.

Braimah: First of all, we insisted during the study that all hospitals should have a health officer represented because the job of the health officer will be to ensure that the waste is aggregated over time and this was followed by supervision to ensure that you have that discipline and follow the instructions about which bag, red, yellow, black, which bag contains which particular waste. And their rules for the companies that will collect the waste to be prompt and effective and be properly kitted, also there is warning that, once you move the waste, it goes straight to the incineration plants. So, AEBP already have a detailed plan how this will be moved, but like I said, it requires discipline and seriousness.

Abuja Digest: Have you ever done any assessment to see whether there is compliance?

Braimah: We've gone to the hospitals, we've checked the incinerators, in some cases they're functional, some cases they are broken down but to some extent there is progress report. AEBP takes it upon itself to run these incinerators ourselves, though they are installed in hospitals, our staff run them to make sure that they are working so that hospitals can face their own work.

We are providing quality education in FCT

- Education Secretary

The educational sector under the Barrister Nyesom Wike led Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has received so much attention with several reforms ranging from schools' renovation, teachers training to provision of state-of-the-art facilities which has guaranteed conducive learning processes in the Territory. In this interview with Abuja Digest Marketing Manager, Jide Abdulazeez and reporters, Faustina Inalegwu and Gyang Dakwo, the Mandate Secretary for FCT Education Secretariat, Dr. Danlami Hayyo spoke on the activities of the Secretariat and other issues. Excerpts:

Abuja Digest: A lot has happened since the inception of this administration. Can you tell us some of the Administration's achievements as regards education sector?

Hayyo: Yes, a lot has been done in this present administration from 2023 to 2025, I believe Education Secretariat has gotten lots of achievements. The Minister consider education as one of his top most priorities because before 2023 many schools in the FCT were in very deplorable conditions, no sitting facilities, no instructional materials and even lack of training for our teachers but now from 2023 to 2025 the Minister has changed the narrative, many schools were renovated, many teachers were trained to improve through capability, many things were done, even our students received their scholarships from FCT Administration.

From 2023 till now, what was spent in this Administration cannot be compared with what had been spent in education from the creation of the FCT as the nation's capital up till now, when the Minister of FCT Barrister Ezenwo Nyesom Wike assumed office. I think it is a very good achievement for FCT Administration.

Abuja Digest: What can you say are the Minister's roles in achieving these successes?

Hayyo: If you remember, the Minister was once the Governor of Rivers State for two terms, when I was the Chairman of Basic Education in Kano State from 2019 to 2023, I visited Rivers State, when the Universal Basic Education Board (UBEB) was having its quarterly meeting.

It happened that we were able to inspect some of his projects and school rehabilitations and renovations, what I saw in Rivers State then cannot be compared to many states in the Federation. I am very sure that what the Minister spent, there is no other state governor that has spent half of what he spent on education, go to other states, there is no comparison.

In 2023 to 2024, in FCT Education Secretariat alone over 200 Billion Naira was spent on capital projects excluding recurrent expenditures, so only on capital expenditures over 200 Billion Naira was spent.

Now in 2025 the Minister has budgeted over 112 billion Naira to be spent in the Education Secretariat on renovations and establishment of new schools, go round to any state in the Federation if there is any state governor that has spent half of what the Minister of FCT has spent in education, no government in the whole Federation spent half of what the Minister has spent on education in FCT.

That is why I said if I think the Minister deserves a special recognition from the United Nations, from the Federal Government, the Presidency and even Nigeria's Governors forum, considering his huge spending on education.

Abuja digest: Talking about the

renovations of schools in the FCT can you specify how many schools has been renovated so far? And will the renovations be a continuous process?

Hayyo: The Minister, during his media chat made mention of 62 schools, so many people were amazed by challenging him, 62 schools? 'no, we don't believe it'. Presently I am telling you now that it has risen to 72 schools.

We are ready to show all of these 72 schools that were either completely renovated or the renovation is ongoing. We are ready to show anybody that is ready to see the 72 number of public schools and these public schools are cut across all the six area councils of the FCT.

And this renovation is going to be



Dr. Danlami Hayyo

continuous, why I said it is going to be continuous is because it is the first batch of our renovation exercise, about 13 schools were mentioned followed by 9, followed by 20, it means the renovations exercise is a continuous programme and you look at what was budgeted in 2025, it will show you that the renovations is a continuous exercise.

Abuja Digest: Students' performance as well as effective educational system are directly tied to teachers' efficiency. What is the Administration doing in regards to teachers training?

Hayyo: When you go to the Secondary Education, then, you go to Department of Science, Technology and Innovation schools, you will see lot of wonders, the innovations, we are not talking about theories, we are talking about practical innovations.

A teacher will draft his lesson plans, and without wasting time, the Directors of Senior Secondary Education Board will see the lesson plan, this is called innovation. If there is going to be a meeting between Principals and the Senior Secondary School Education Board, and the Secretariat at the same time, the meeting will be held here, the Principal from his table will attend the meeting while we are here attending the same meeting and everything is going well. Go to some of our schools and see innovations.

FCT schools is now leading in terms of robotics and artificial intelligence in the Federation.

Some of our schools participated in

International Robotic and Artificial Intelligence Competition, our school went to South Africa, China, Netherlands and Switzerland for an international robotic competitions, their performance was very interesting, in South Africa they were amongst the African countries that participated, they came second position, South African with its advanced technology Morocco, Egypt, they are all technologically advanced but Nigeria's FCT schools represented the country and came second.

Coming back to why FCT schools represented the country, they have done it here across the 36 states and FCT.

FCT schools became the winner that is why the FCT schools represented the whole country.

taken to ensure adequate security in FCT schools?

Hayyo: We collaborate with the Civil Defense, the main idea is to save our schools, presently we emphasise that most of our boarding schools be renovated so that we can make provision for cameras and street lights, everything will be done in order to make our students secured.

Let the learning environment be most secured so that immediately something happens the principal will easily call the Civil Defence or the nearest police station, so that is what is happening. This was initiated by the Federal Government and FCT Administration keyed into it.

Abuja Digest: Sir, parents are complaining of high cost of school fees in private schools, is that a government concern?

Hayyo: Very good, the good things about the government and Administration of FCT is that it is governed by law, if I build my company, and bought raw materials, and they are processed to finished product, does the government have the right to say you cannot sell the products at a certain price? Constitutionally Government has no right but government can subsidise to the company, so what we do is that we make provisions for good roads to various schools, what I mean is that the access roads the honourable Minister is doing now has made free movements from your home to your schools, where you will naturally spend 20 to 30 minutes to get there you will now spend 5 to 6 minutes.

Secondly, what we did in this Administration is to improve the quality of FCT schools. And because the quality of education in FCT schools have improved, many private schools are now crying, they are now complaining, that there is no patronage as before, no student because many students were now removed from private schools to public schools because of these renovations and improvements on the quality of education in the FCT.

We made mention of capacity building functional facilities and the rest, this made many parents including myself. Last week I enrolled two of my children in a public school, just to boast the confidence of our parents in our schools.

Now, Mandate Secretary of Education of FCT now believes that yes, there is quality education in public schools, which I believe no state commissioner for education will agree to enroll his children in any public school, I doubt much if there is one but I did it. This shows the FCT community that public schools are now of standard and we are providing quality education in our schools.

Abuja Digest: Does the Secretariat's school supervision involve private schools or it is limited to only public schools?

Hayyo: It cut across both the public and private schools, that is why we have the Department of Quality Assurance, even the registration and accreditation of private schools is part of our mandate.

What we normally do is that we make sure schools have the necessary standards, qualified teachers, instructional materials and good learning environment.

That is why you see that sometimes we go to supervise private schools to make sure they are in line with the standard of the FCT schools and education.

We have closed down some schools, because they did not meet the standards, in a situation whereby we discover a house is converted to private school no enough ventilation, no conducive atmosphere, no availability of toilet, we close the school until necessary provisions have been made then we can open such school.

Abuja Digest: What steps is being



FRSC Commander lauds Wike's achievements, says Abuja residents compliant to traffic rules

By Olalekan Jimoh
and Faustina Inalegwu

The Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Sector Command, Mr. Felix Therman has praised the FCT Minister, Barrister Ezenwo Nyesom Wike over his achievements in providing critical infrastructure in the Territory.

The Commander stated this in an exclusive interview with Abuja Digest in his office in Abuja and added that the Minister's strides is a testament to his passion and commitment to fulfilling the Nigeria dream of befitting capital city.

His words: "The FCT Minister is doing excellently well as far as improving our city is concerned but the residents of the city must also appreciate this by conducting themselves.

"I will not just talk as resident or stakeholder of FCT, I will also talk as someone that is doing road safety job and I have always said that FCT Minister has done wonderfully well as far as development of road infrastructure is concerned because the road infrastructure provide the foot print for the work I do."

Therman said that the Command is focused on improving traffic in the FCT and is making frantic efforts at reducing breach of traffic rules and gridlocks on Abuja roads, that majority of Abuja residents comply to traffic rules but stated that issues of ones speeding, overloading and beating of red light on traffic still persist.

To ensure efficiency in its services, the Sector Commander said that the Corps has formed collaborations with relevant stakeholders such as the FCT Directorate for Road Traffic Services, FCT Emergency Management Department and had in recent times intensified sensitisation and awareness

campaigns to road transport workers and the general public on traffic rules and regulations.

According to him, the Corps in partnership with its stakeholders is engaging public education and advocacies to reduce road crashes especially as the yuletide approaches.

"We are making arrangements to see how we can expand our outreach as far as the public education is concerned, we have already made arrangement to see how we can also do medical outreaches especially in various motor parks for drivers targeting ailments that we know will improve driving, issues that have to do with eyesight, diabetes, high blood pressure."

He stated that except for some isolated cases, the Corp is so passionate about the conduct of its officers adding that the present Corps Marshall in particular is so passionate about civility towards members of the public and professionalism in whatever assignment that is given to any officer.

"That is sacrosanct and cannot be compromised, the most important thing that make a difference is that if our staff or operatives are caught or are reported for doing anything that is not permitted by our operational guideline, the Corps does not take it lightly, currently in this Command I have cases that are ongoing, there is what we call Federal Road Safety Corp Disciplinary Panel, so we subject you to that panel".

On registration of vehicles, the FCT Sector Commander advised residents to ensure that their vehicles are properly registered stating that any vehicle that is not registered or has no number plate is a threat to the public "because that number plate is the name of the vehicle at that moment there are so many similar vehicles out there but what differentiates so many vehicles is the number plate".

"A lot of vehicles can be stolen in a state and taken to another state and they can be taken to a car stand, these car dealers can work on the vehicle change the colours, change the whole lot of things but when you are going to register it when they impute the chassis number you discover that it is a stolen vehicle it has already been reported that the vehicle has been stolen and it is registered under someone else's name. If you are not cautious you buy such vehicle, it becomes a problem."

Therman identified lack of corporations from motorists, lack of patience, in discipline, disregard to traffic rules as well as expired licences some of the challenges faced by Corps. He, particularly cautioned against the beating of traffic light saying that no one is above the law.

"In Abuja everybody is somebody, our appeal has always been that this law that we are talking about is not meant to serve a particular set of people but it is for every individual no one is exempted from its everybody is subject to law and it is the rule of law that keep all of us together, even the traffic light that we see in town is not meant for some people it is for everybody no one is exempted and that is what makes a city beautiful."

"We have a lot of our uniform men who also give a lot of excuses, for these 3 weeks that we have been working we have not listened to any excuse from anybody, we make them understand that we are supposed to be shining examples not just the FRSC but anybody that is wearing uniform."

He stated that the Corps is not relenting in its efforts at ensuring that sanity is maintained on the nation's roads particularly, the FCT as the seat of power while calling on members of the public to corporate with the organisation in order to serve them better.



Some of the participants during the World Literacy Day celebration in Abuja recently

World Literacy Day 2025: FCT ERC urges collective action on digital literacy

By Odugbo Sarah

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Education Resource Centre (ERC), has joined the rest of the world in commemorating the 2025 World Literacy Day, with a call for stronger and collective action to bridge the digital literacy gap in Nigeria and beyond.

The Director, Education Resource Centre, Dr. Neemat Daud Abdulrahim made the call during the celebration held at City Library in Abuja and noted that while digital revolution has expanded access to knowledge, it has also deepened inequalities.

She was represented by the Director of Community Services and Entrepreneurship Division, Mr. Friday Bere saying that the Centre's task is to ensure that every citizen, regardless of circumstance, has the opportunity to become not just literate, but digitally literate.

Dr. Abdulrahim highlighted some ERC ongoing initiatives aimed at bridging the gap, adding that the FCT City Library has been repositioned as a vibrant community hub providing resources, training and support for lifelong learning.

She said that the efforts include expanding digital collections, introducing basic computer and internet skills workshops, and forging partnerships with both local and international organisations to close the digital divide.

Recognising the role of young people as the future of the nation, the Director stated that digital literacy is essential for academic achievement, employability and responsible citizenship, urging parents, teachers, and community leaders to support the culture of reading, creativity, and digital exploration among children and the youth.

In her remarks, the Guest Speaker and Principal of Anglican Girls Grammar School, Apo, Mrs. Nkiruka Nwofor said that reading should lead to critical thinking that positively impact both the reader and society.

She added that no knowledge is wasted and highlighted the role of literacy in advancing education, empowerment and sustainable development, on called on students to acquire not just the basic ability to read and write, but also the skills required to navigate, understand and responsibly engage with information in an increasingly digitalised world.

According to her, reading helps shape young minds towards a better tomorrow.

ply the advice in their daily lives.

The Head of Administration, FCT ERC, Mrs. Joan Abdullahi, in her goodwill message encouraged students to continue to imbibe the culture of reading in order to share knowledge and add value to themselves.

Taking the vote of thanks, the Head of the FCT City Library, Mr. Lawrence Akumuo, appreciated everyone who contributed to the success of the programme and pledged to continue working with stakeholders to ensure that literacy both traditional and digital remains a powerful instrument for empowerment, inclusivity, and sustainable growth in the Federal Capital Territory.

The students present expressed gratitude to the organisers for bringing the programme to them, noting that the insights shared have motivated them.

The 2025 occasion featured reading and interactive sessions, a questions-and-answers section with students, goodwill messages, and cultural presentations.

Partners in progress: U.S-Nigeria story

By Udemezue Angel
and Tunika Nwabuzor

Nigeria and the United States of America (USA) have had bilateral relations dating back to when Nigeria gained independence in 1960. Nigeria is one of the most important partners to USA in Africa. The two countries have partnerships in different sectors such as crude oil trade, military, security, health and education.

Recently, the U.S. partnered with local businesses in Nigeria to improve fish farming and food security. The U.S. provided technical support and the use of technology to help improve farming activities in the country.

In the area of security, experts have warned about the growing threat of cyberattacks, which could harm the country's progress.

Despite the challenges, the U.S. and Nigeria worked

together to build strong digital defenses and share knowledge. This partnership has helped the fish farming initiative succeed, creating new opportunities for young Nigerians.

By working together, the U.S. and Nigeria showed that collaborations can lead to positive change. They pave way for a safer, more prosperous future, where individuals and economies can both thrive and grow.



FCT Minister of State, Dr. Mariya Mahmoud, left in close conversation with FCT Minister, Barrister Nyesom Wike at the flag-off of the Access Arterial Road S1 in Kaura District



FCT Minister, Barrister Nyesom Wike making his addresses at projects flag-off in Abuja earlier in the week.



Honourable Minister of State, Dr. Mariya Mahmoud on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, last week.



Crack down on land use violations:

A bold step towards city orderliness and sustainable development

By Niyi Lawal

In a decisive move to restore order and uphold the integrity of the Federal Capital Territory's (FCT) master plan, Barr. Wike's Nyesom administration has intensified a major crackdown on illegal land use and unauthorized developments across the Territory.

On September 3, 2025, the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), under Barr. Nyesom Wike unveiled stringent sanctions for unauthorised land-use conversions. Property owners who converted their originally approved residential properties into commercial or mixed-use premises without formal approval.

This exercise was being done through its Development Control Department which has been widely applauded by urban planning experts, civil society groups, and concerned residents.

These decisions were stemmed from recommendations by two ad-hoc committees inaugurated in August 2025 to address land-use violations and estate development irregularities. The committee tackling land-use conversions, chaired by the Director of Development Control, Mukhtar Galadima, identified widespread unauthorised shifts from residential to commercial use, in direct violation of the Abuja Master Plan and title conditions.

Barr. Wike reiterated that such unauthorised conversions can no longer go unchecked. He emphasised that the administration would either collect the penalties or revoke and reassign titles—and generate revenue for developmental projects either way.

Owners were therefore being given a 30-day grace period commencing September 10, 2025, to settle the fines and complete the conversion formalities. In return, they will be issued fresh statutory Right of Occupancy and Certificate of Occupancy, valid for 99 years and reflecting the updated land use.

The key fines and penalties are as follows; illegal conversion of residential properties to commercial or mixed use without FCTA approval was stated to be ₦5,000,000 (Five million

This is in addition to the conversion fee and other charges if applicable and also payable within 30 days of conveying approval; property may face enforcement actions (such as reversal of the illegal change).

The other sanctions and requirements are the Title changes: For properties illegally converted, there is the option to issue new title documents (Statutory Right of Occupancy or Certificate of Occupancy), reflecting the new use, but only on fulfilling all required conditions including

Gowon Crescent, among others.

This exercise which targets structures built on green areas, road corridors, water channels, and public utility spaces, is part of a broader campaign to reclaim the capital city from years of encroachment and disregard for zoning regulations.

Speaking to the press, the FCT Minister emphasised the administration's commitment to protecting Abuja's original urban vision—a city built on principles of order, functionality, and aesthetics.

unregulated developments often obstruct infrastructure projects, damage the environment, and pose serious risks to public safety. Flood-prone areas, in particular, have been targeted due to the increased risk of disaster when water channels are blocked by illegal structures.

"We must consider the broader public interest. These actions are not punitive—they are corrective," said Dr. Halima Yusuf, a senior urban planner. "This is about ensuring safety, sustainability, and lawful development in our nation's capital."

While some affected individuals have called for more leniency and time to regularize their properties, many residents and civic groups have expressed strong support for the initiative, urging the government to remain firm in its resolve.

"Finally, we are seeing action that prioritizes long-term urban planning over short-term gains," said Chinedu Okonkwo, spokesperson for the Abuja Urban Stakeholders Forum. "We cannot afford to let lawlessness define our city."

The FCT Administration has reaffirmed its commitment to transparency, pledging to ensure that all enforcement actions follow due legal process. Residents are being encouraged to verify their land documents, seek proper building approvals, and report violations to relevant authorities.

This bold move sets a precedent for other cities grappling with similar issues. As Abuja reclaims its urban space, the message is clear: development must follow the law, and the rule of order is non-negotiable in building a sustainable capital city.



Naira) penalty, while violation fee per property was pegged at 7.5% conversion fee of the Assessed Capital Value (ACV) of the property; plus payment of statutory Right of Occupancy fees for the new land use and purpose clause.

And was clearly stated that within 30 days from the date of notice, If default persists, titles may be revoked, property sealed, or structures demolished.

On illegal extension, merger, or subdivision of properties (without approval) Fee of 2.0% of the assessed capital value of the property.

payment of fees.

Fresh lease terms: New title documents will cover a fresh lease term of 99 years.

Enforcement actions for non-compliance: If owners fail to comply with payments or approvals, penalties include sealing the property, removal or demolition of unauthorised structures, revocation or withdrawal of title.

These measures apply specifically to properties located on major thoroughfares including Ademola Adetokunbo Street, Aminu Kano Crescent, Gana Street, Gimbiya Street, and Yakubu

"Abuja is not just a city; it is a symbol of national pride. We cannot allow unregulated developments and land use violations to compromise its future," the Minister stated.

Illegal markets, residential properties in commercial zones, and structures lacking proper approval have all come under scrutiny. Dozens of non-compliant buildings have already been marked for removal, and enforcement operations are ongoing across key districts including Gwarinpa, Lugbe, Apo, and parts of the Central Area.

Experts note that

DIGESTNews

FCT Minister initiates comprehensive waste evacuation exercise

By Felicia Meeme

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Barrister Nyesom Wike, has initiated a comprehensive waste evacuation exercise along major roads in satellite towns and other communities in the FCT. The exercise which was led by Hon. Abdulkadir Zulkiflu, Coordinator of the Satellite Towns Development Department, aims to assess and address waste management

issues within Abuja.

Areas to be covered in the exercise include: Federal Housing Interchange Axis, Sabo Lugbe junction, Airport Road, Lugbe-Airport Road by Berger, Airport Road, Lugbe by Car Wash, Primary School opposite Catholic Church, and Airport Road by Gwoza Borehole.

Other areas are: Pantaker Field, Police sign post, Airport Road by Kuchingoro, Angwan Tivi by Gwoza Axis, Gwagwalada

Expressway A2, Nyanya/Karshi road, Bwari Town as well as Onex Bwari road.

The Coordinator, while speaking to Abuja Digest emphasised the importance of collective responsibility in maintaining a clean environment, urging residents to adopt good waste disposal habits and cooperate with the FCT administration to prevent flooding and epidemic outbreaks.





Traditional Sports and Nigeria at 65:
A Path to Unity and Growth

As Nigeria marks 65 years of independence, attention often turns to what binds the country together and what pushes it forward. Beyond politics and modern achievements, culture remains a steady thread, and traditional sports stand out as one of its strongest ties.

Nigeria has some well known traditional sports like Abula, Dambe, Kokowa, Langa and Ayo. These games are overseen by the Traditional Sports Federation of Nigeria, and they have featured in national events like the National Sports Festival where they continue to draw athletes and spectators.

Football and athletics may dominate today's sporting scene, yet traditional sports remain a living link to the past. They hold stories of discipline, skill and shared identity, and in a country of many cultures they create a rare platform where differences give way to common heritage.

This is what Malam Ilyasu Abdu, Chairman of the FCT Traditional Sports Association and North Central representative on the national board, wants Nigeria to embrace as it celebrates 65 years of nationhood. He explained that the games remain strong in spirit but need more support to grow. He said, "Traditional sports are not just for leisure. They are cultural assets that can unify our people if we invest in them, because they allow Nigerians from every background to come together and share in one another's traditions."

He highlighted the values each game carries. Abula builds teamwork, Ayo develops patience and focus, while Dambe and Kokowa demand discipline and respect for rules. As he put it, "When a child learns to play Ayo, he is learning patience, strategy and respect for his opponent. When a girl plays Abula, she is learning to rely on her team and to communicate clearly. These are lessons that last beyond the field."

For him, the role of traditional sports is not to compete with football and athletics but to stand beside them. Modern sports may draw the biggest crowds, yet indigenous games bring depth and identity, and together they can shape Nigeria's sporting culture.

Malam Abdu warned that some games may disappear if nothing is done. He called for more festivals, exhibitions and school programmes to keep them alive. He urged that traditional sports be included in the school curriculum, with inter-school competitions and proper training for teachers, so that children can grow up with both cultural pride and sporting skill.

He also pointed to the economic opportunities. Locally made Ayo boards and equipment for Abula or Kokowa can bring income to craftsmen and organisers, while coaches, referees and event managers can find steady work. "If

us and so imagine if we grow them to international level like judo, karate and others, that means we will have the upper hand and win a lot of medals from them," he said.

He also appealed to private organisations to lend their support. "There is need for corporate organisations to as a way of social responsibility come in to complement government's efforts in developing traditional games. This is because it is a way of giving back to their host communities," he explained.

As Nigeria reflects on 65 years of independence, Malam Abdu's vision is clear. He hopes traditional sports will become symbols of pride, unity and opportunity, carried forward by government support, private sponsorship and community involvement.

The early signs are promising. At the last National Sports Festival in Abeokuta in 2025, traditional



we take a closer look, we will see that these games can create industries. There are jobs in equipment production, in coaching, in refereeing, and even in tourism if we package our games well. This is how culture can also become an economic driver," he said.

Looking beyond Nigeria's borders, he urged the nation to take its games to the world. "Our traditional sports are indigenous to

athletes won one gold medal in the female singles Ayo board game, one bronze medal in the Ayo mixed doubles and one silver medal through the female Abula team. In total, they brought home one gold, one silver and one bronze, while the Ayo board game produced two gold medals overall. For Malam Abdu, this success shows that traditional sports are not only part of Nigeria's past but also a vital piece of its future.

Tinubu's Push for 2030 Commonwealth
Games Rides on Nigeria's Sporting Highs

Nigeria's bid to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games has found its strongest voice yet in President Bola Tinubu, who has urged the Commonwealth Games Federation to give Africa the chance to stage the event for the first time in its 100-year history. His support not only elevates the country's chances but also comes at a time when Nigerian sport is enjoying remarkable success on the global stage.

In a statement on his official X account, Tinubu called Nigeria the "gateway" for Africa and urged the Commonwealth to seize a historic opportunity.

"It is time for Africa. After 100 years of the Commonwealth Games, they have never been hosted on African soil. By bringing the Commonwealth Centenary Games to Nigeria in 2030, you will send a powerful message that every region of the Commonwealth matters, and that Africa is not only part of the story, but central to its future," he said.

He added, "Nigeria is the gateway. Africa is the stage. The

Commonwealth is the family. Let us make history together in 2030." That message is backed by sporting evidence. The country's athletes and teams have lifted Nigeria's name across the continent and beyond in recent months. The D'Tigress, Nigeria's women's basketball team, secured a historic fifth consecutive AfroBasket title in August, defeating Mali 78-64 in the final to cement their dominance. Their unbeaten run in African competition now spans almost a decade, making them one of the most consistent national sides in Nigerian sports history.

Not long before that, the Super Falcons, Nigeria's celebrated women's football team, claimed their 10th Women's Africa Cup of Nations crown in Morocco. They showed resilience and flair in the final, coming from two goals down to beat the hosts 3-2. Individual players, including Rasheedat Ajibade and Chiamaka Nnadozie, also collected top honours, underlining the depth of talent within the squad. These achievements have

resonated at home and abroad, attracting both government recognition and corporate support. President Tinubu himself rewarded the D'Tigress with national honours, cash gifts, and housing, while companies such as MTN Nigeria pledged millions to celebrate the Falcons' latest triumph.

For many observers, the President's vocal backing of the 2030 Commonwealth Games is more than a political gesture. It reflects a belief that Nigeria, buoyed by sporting excellence and a renewed focus on infrastructure, is ready to take its place as host of a major global event.

Hosting the Games would not only affirm Nigeria's leadership in African sport but also inspire the next generation of athletes, create jobs, and leave a legacy of facilities capable of driving development for years to come.

With the Commonwealth Games Federation yet to decide, Tinubu's message is clear: Africa's time has come, and Nigeria stands ready to open the gates.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Friday 3rd October 2025
AFC Bournemouth v Fulham

Saturday 4th October 2025
Arsenal v West Ham United
Chelsea v Liverpool
Leeds United v Tottenham
Hotspur
Manchester United v Sunderland

Sunday 5th October 2025
Aston Villa v Burnley
Brentford v Manchester City
Everton v Crystal Palace
Newcastle United v Nottingham Forest
Wolverhampton Wanderers v Brighton & Hove Albion

Saturday 18th October 2025
Brighton & Hove Albion v Newcastle United
Burnley v Leeds United
Crystal Palace v AFC Bournemouth
Fulham v Arsenal
Manchester City v Everton
Nottingham Forest v Chelsea
Sunderland v Wolverhampton Wanderers

SPANISH LA LIGA

Friday 3rd October 2025
Osasuna v Getafe

Saturday 4th October 2025
Athletic Bilbao v Mallorca
Girona v Valencia
Real Madrid v Villarreal
Real Oviedo v Levante

Sunday 5th October 2025
Alavés v Elche
Celta Vigo v Atlético Madrid
Espanyol v Real Betis
Real Sociedad v Rayo Vallecano
Sevilla v Barcelona

Friday 17th October 2025
Real Oviedo v Espanyol

Saturday 18th October 2025
Atlético Madrid v Osasuna
Barcelona v Girona
Sevilla v Mallorca
Villarreal v Real Betis

Sunday 19th October 2025
Celta Vigo v Real Sociedad
Elche v Athletic Bilbao
Getafe v Real Madrid
Levante v Rayo Vallecano

ITALIAN SERIE A

Friday 3rd October 2025
Hellas Verona v Sassuolo

Saturday 4th October 2025
Atalanta v Como 1907
Inter Milan v Cremonese
Lazio v Torino
Parma v Lecce

Sunday 5th October 2025
Bologna v Pisa
Fiorentina v Roma
Juventus v AC Milan
Napoli v Genoa
Udinese v Cagliari

Saturday 18th October 2025

Lecce v Sassuolo
Pisa v Hellas Verona
Roma v Inter Milan
Torino v Napoli

Sunday 19th October 2025
AC Milan v Fiorentina
Atalanta v Lazio
Cagliari v Bologna
Como 1907 v Juventus
Genoa v Parma

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Friday 3rd October 2025
TSG Hoffenheim v 1 FC Köln

Saturday 4th October 2025
Bayer Leverkusen v Union Berlin
Borussia Dortmund v RB Leipzig
Eintracht Frankfurt v Bayern Munich
FC Augsburg v VfL Wolfsburg
Werder Bremen v FC St Pauli

Sunday 5th October 2025
Borussia Mönchengladbach v SC Freiburg
Hamburger SV v Mainz 05
VfB Stuttgart v 1 FC Heidenheim

Friday 17th October 2025
Union Berlin v Borussia Mönchengladbach

Saturday 18th October 2025
1 FC Heidenheim v Werder Bremen
1 FC Köln v FC Augsburg
Bayern Munich v Borussia Dortmund
Mainz 05 v Bayer Leverkusen
RB Leipzig v Hamburger SV
VfL Wolfsburg v VfB Stuttgart

Sunday 19th October 2025
FC St Pauli v TSG Hoffenheim
SC Freiburg v Eintracht Frankfurt

FRENCH LIGUE 1

Friday 3rd October 2025
Paris FC v Lorient

Saturday 4th October 2025
Auxerre v Lens
Brest v Nantes
Metz v Olympique Marseille

Sunday 5th October 2025
Le Havre v Rennes
Lille v Paris St Germain
Monaco v Nice
Olympique Lyonnais v Toulouse
Strasbourg v Angers

Friday 17th October 2025
Paris St Germain v Strasbourg

Saturday 18th October 2025
Angers v Monaco
Nice v Olympique Lyonnais
Olympique Marseille v Le Havre

Sunday 19th October 2025
Lens v Paris FC
Lorient v Brest
Nantes v Lille
Rennes v Auxerre
Toulouse v Metz

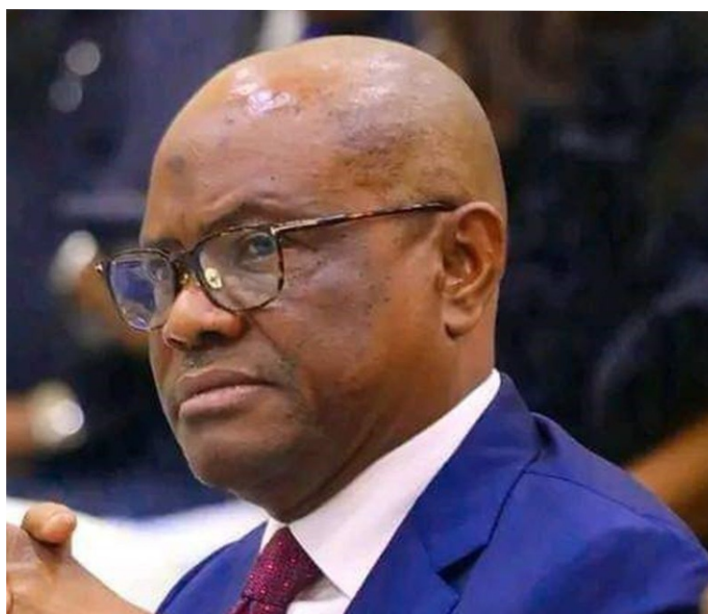
Wike mourns Arise News Anchor vows justice for her untimely passing

By Wisdom Acka

Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Barrister Nyesom Wike, has extended his heartfelt condolences to Arise News Channel over the tragic demise of their esteemed news anchor, Miss Somtochukwu Maduagwu. In a statement released on Tuesday, 30th September, 2025, the Minister described her passing as a profound loss, not only to her family, and colleagues but to the Nigerian media landscape and the nation at large. Through his Senior Special Assistant on Public

Communications and Social Media, Lere Olayinka, the Minister expressed deep sorrow, stating: "The loss of such a vibrant and dedicated professional at the prime of her life is a painful blow. "Somtochukwu's brilliance and commitment to journalism were a beacon of inspiration. Her absence leaves a void that will be deeply felt."

According to the statement, the Minister emphasised that the Nigeria Police Force would spare no effort in ensuring that justice is served. He urged the public to remain patient as investigations proceed, assuring that no stone will be left unturned.



He prayed for divine solace: "We pray that the Almighty God grants her eternal rest

and strengthen her family, friends, and colleagues, particularly the Chairman of Arise News, Prince Nduka

Obaigbena, with the fortitude to bear this irreplaceable loss."

Citing reports from the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), the statement reveals that the late journalist was brought to Maitama District Hospital in the early hours of Monday, where she was pronounced dead.

It also discloses that Mandate Secretary on Health and Environment Services, Dr. Dolapo Fasawe, assured that preliminary medical findings would be made available to relevant law enforcement agents to aid in uncovering the truth behind her death.

GSS Gwarimpa gets WAEC standard ICT lab

By Odugbo Sarah

A non-government organisation (NGO), OFON Essential Global Foundation in collaboration with Rev. Sam Oye of the Harvest House Church, Abuja had donated 20-capacity WAEC Standard ICT Laboratory to Government Secondary School, Gwarimpa Estate, Abuja Municipal Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

The Mandate Secretary for Education, Dr. Danlami Hayyo, while receiving the donation at the School premises described it as heartwarming, noting that the gesture encourages fruitful partnerships towards ensuring quality access to education as a shared responsibility.

He announced that the FCT Administration, under the leadership of the Minister, Barr. Nyesom Wike, has earmarked the School for total renovation and provision of infrastructure to give students the best conducive environment for learning, setting the pace in equipping schools with the necessary tools to compete

in the digital age in order to enhance the system and achieve academic excellence.

He commended the NGO and Rev. Sam Oye for their passion and commitment to improving and enhancing

advancement.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman of the Occasion, Rev Sam Oye said education and technology plays vital role in the development of a country and its citizenry.

determination to continue to partner with the NGO just as he has achieved with them to intervene in schools assuring that more interventions will still come.

In his vote of thanks, the

lauded the FCT Minister, the Mandate Secretary for Education, Dr. Danlami Hayyo, Rev. Sam Oye, and OFON Essential Global Foundation for their roles in the commissioning of a state-of-the-art ICT laboratory at Government Secondary School, Gwarimpa- Estate, assuring that the facility will greatly boost students' digital literacy and learning outcomes.

In his donor's remark, Engr. Essien O. Emmanuel, President of OFON Essential Global Foundation, said that the donation of the ICT Laboratory was aimed at enhancing students' learning experiences and preparing them for Computer-Based Tests (CBT) in WAEC and NECO examinations. He commended the guests for their presence and assured that the facility will further strengthen the organisation's commitment to digital education.

The highlight of the event which featured drama, goodwill messages and donations towards the next phase was the formal commissioning of the 20-capacity WAEC Standard ICT Laboratory.



FCT officials with the donors and some students in the ICT Laboratory.

education adding that their invaluable contributions to FCT schools is noteworthy.

Dr. Hayyo further emphasised the importance of public-private partnerships in advancing education, adding that the event highlights the invaluable role of collaboration in education

He explained that he is passionate about bridging the gap of underdevelopment and lack of basic amenities in the teaching and learning environment as well as giving the less privileged an opportunity to acquire education.

He expressed his

Director/Secretary, FCT Secondary Education Board, Dr. Sani Ladan, acknowledged the efforts of stakeholders in enhancing the quality of education, just as he reiterated the Board's commitment to maintaining positive partnerships with like-minded organisations. He