

Army approves new postings, as NYSC gets new DG

Ronald Mutum

The Nigerian Army has approved the postings and appointments of some of its senior officers with Brigadier-General S. Ibrahim appointed as the new Director-General of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC). He was at Nigerian Army University, Bui,

Borno State. He replaces Major General Sule Kazaure who has been posted to Nigerian Army Resource Centre and appointed as Senior Resource Person.

A statement on Friday from Army spokesman Colonel Sagir Musa, also said Brigadier General CA Bossman was moved from Nigerian Army Archives to Command Schools Services and

appointed as Director and Brigadier General E Angaye, appointed Acting Director, Veterans Affairs Department (Army) and Brigadier General BA Tsoho posted from Army Headquarters Department of Civil-Military Affairs to Nigerian Army Language Institute and appointed Commandant.

Others affected are Brigadier General AA Goni from 82 Division

Education to Army Headquarters Department of Civil-Military Affairs and appointed Director Information, Brigadier General FC Onyeani from Headquarters Nigerian Army Supply and Transport to Defence Headquarters and appointed as Acting Director Catering.

Brigadier General SS Ibrahim is appointed Registrar Nigerian Army University, Bui.



Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal Sadique Abubakar (7th left) with other senior air force personnel, during the Jummat service to commemorate the 2019 NAF Week at in Abuja yesterday PHOTO: NAN

7 female medical students get Media Trust scholarships

Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

Media Trust Limited, publisher of Daily Trust titles, has awarded scholarship to seven female medical students of Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto. The scholarship scheme has been on for seven years, and is aimed at supporting girl child education.

Speaking, the Secretary of Daily Trust Foundation, Kabiru Bala said that the gesture was meant to motivate female students undertaking various courses which were hitherto perceived to be exclusively for their male counterparts.

Represented by Barrister Umar Ibrahim, he said the delivery of healthy and standard medical services is important in every society.

In his remarks, the Provost of College of Health Sciences, Professor Shu'aibu Bello said \$200,000 was required to train a medical student. Each beneficiary got N125,000.

UNIMAID gets new VC

Uthman Abubakar, Maiduguri

A new Vice Chancellor has been named for the University of Maiduguri. He is Professor Aliyu Shugaba. He was the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Admin) of the university, and takes over from Professor Ibrahim Abubakar Njodi when his tenure expires on 3rd June, 2019.

Pro-chancellor and Chairman of the Council of the university, Professor Biodun Adesanya, announced the Professor Shugaba's appointment to newsmen yesterday in Maiduguri.

Polls: Buhari sends Foreign Minister to Guinea Bissau, Benin Republic

Ismail Mudashir

President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday directed the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Geoffrey Onyeama, to undertake an urgent mission as his Special Envoy to Guinea Bissau, in the company of

ECOWAS Commission President, Jean-Claude Brou.

Presidential spokesperson, Garba Shehu said the president took the action in his capacity as Chairman of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State.

Buhari had in response to an

urgent request for assistance by the Government of Guinea Bissau approved support to the country's election process including 350 units of electoral kits, 10 motorcycles, 5 Hilux vans, 2 light trucks and \$500,000.

In a separate development,

Nigeria's Foreign Minister will also undertake a mission to Cotonou, Benin, to deliver a personal message to President Patrice Talon from President Buhari in the context of the brewing political crisis ahead of April 28, 2019, legislative elections in the country.

UK CSO to visit N/Assembly over bill on killing, exporting donkeys

Musa Abdullahi Krishi

A United Kingdom-based civil society organization, The Donkey Sanctuary, is to visit the National Assembly in support of the bill seeking to prohibit the killing and export of donkeys or their derivatives.

The bill, sponsored by a member of the House of Representatives, Garba Datti Muhammad (APC, Kaduna), was introduced on the floor of the House last year and passed second reading on November 13, 2018.

The Donkey Sanctuary said in a letter addressed to Rep Datti that it would visit Nigeria between May 13 and 15 on invitation of the Nigerian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) "in order to support the efforts being made

by Rep Garba Muhammad to progress the Bill through the Nigerian Parliament."

The CSO said its representatives would meet with parliamentarians and "speak in support of the measures being introduced, which would suspend the slaughter of donkeys for the skin trade, and halt the unsustainable off take of Nigeria's working donkey population."

It was learnt that the representatives of the CSO are likely to meet with Speaker Yakubu Dogara as well as some senators during the visit in order to get their buy-in.

Datti said because of the aesthetic, ecological, educational, historical, recreational and scientific value of donkeys to Nigeria and her people, there was need to preserve them for use, especially in rural transportation.

Ambode pardons 14 prisoners, converts 20 on death row to life imprisonment

Nurudeen Oyewole, Lagos

The Lagos State Governor, Akinwunmi Ambode has signed the order that pardoned 14 inmates of Kirikiri Maximum Prison who have been jailed for over 20 years for various offences.

Twenty others on death row had their punishment converted to life imprisonment.

The release order was said to have been influenced through the Advisory Council on Prerogative of Mercy.

While handing over the order for the release to prison

authorities, the state's Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr Adeniji Kazeem (SAN) said the development was pursuant to constitutional provision which provides for the establishment of an Advisory Council and grants the Governor power to grant clemency to convicted persons on the advice of the Council.

Chairman of the Council, Prof. Oyelowo Oyewo said aside its power under the Constitution, the setting up of the Council also serves as a way of de-congesting the prisons.

PDP condemns Buhari's private trip to UK amid insecurity

Saawua Terzungwe

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has condemned President Muhammadu Buhari's private trip to the United Kingdom, saying it was a wrong move amidst worsening insecurity bedeviling the nation.

The PDP said it was incumbent on President Buhari who is the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces to end the rising insecurity in various states of the federation.

Addressing a press conference yesterday in Abuja, the PDP National Chairman, Prince Uche Secondus, said Buhari's private trip was not in the interest of the nation.

"The President has embarked on a private trip to the UK to spend 11 days without writing the National Assembly. He has not asked the Vice President to act. We condemn it," Secondus said.

NDLEA secures conviction of 2 pharmacists over ephedrine diversion

Abbas Jimoh

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has secured the conviction of a pharmacist, Geoffrey Ezeokwu and his assistant Moses Ajibo

for unlawful diversion of ephedrine, a precursor chemical for the production of methamphetamine.

In what is the Agency's first conviction of a precursor chemical, they were sentenced to three

years each to commence, immediately.

A spokesman of the agency, Mr. Jonah Achema, said yesterday in a statement that the case was tried at the Federal High Court, Lagos by Justice Salisu

Saidu in Federal Republic of Nigeria Vs Moses Ajibo and Geoffrey Ezeokwu.

According to him, they were arrested in June 2012 where 300 kilograms of Ephedrine was recovered while 200 kilograms of the

precursor chemical was discovered to be missing.

He said the consignment was meant for Marleyshree Pharmaceuticals Ltd in Sabon Gari, Kano but was kept in their warehouses in Lagos.