

# 15 killed in Yobe road accident

From Hamisu Kabir Matazu, Damaturu

Fifteen persons died in a fatal road accident at Zobali village near Potiskum town in Yobe State yesterday.

Yobe Sector Commander of

the Federal Road Safety Commission Alhaji Usman Umar Masari confirmed the incident, saying the accident involved an 18-seater bus and a trailer.

He said the dead bodies given mass burial at Zobali grave yard. Masari attributed the accident

to over-speeding on the side of the bus driver and lack of adequate caution sign put in place by the trailer driver.

A witness told *Daily Trust* that the incident occurred around 7:30am when the 18 seater bus conveying passengers from Kano

rammed into broken down fish-container trailer wrongly stationed on Kano-Maiduguri road.

"15 people died instantly, and four others that sustained various degrees of injuries were taken to Potiskum General Hospital", he said.

## No ghost worker in Jigawa –Head of service

From Abdullahi Anako, Dutse

The Jigawa State government says it has rid the state of ghost workers.

State Head of Service Alhaji Mustapha Aminu told newsmen in Dutse yesterday that after a series of screenings

conducted for civil servants and the establishment of computerized payroll system in the public financial system which addressed leakages the state no longer had ghost workers.

"The state has no ghost-workers anymore because we have been able to computerise our payroll system in all the

arms of the government.

"Before we established the data base for civil servants, we embarked on table payment for six months where a lot of ghost-workers were discovered and money realised.

This ghost workers syndrome was prevalent in local government civil service but

that had also been tackled," he said.

Aminu also said the government had also introduced biometrics thumbprint system which captured all the civil servants in the state, saying any worker who attempts to collect double salaries would be detected by the computer.

## Last year's Armed Forces Remembrance Day emblems used in Kano

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano

Troops and dignitaries at the Kano venue of this year's Armed Forces Remembrance Day celebration Tuesday could not wear the 2013 emblems for the occasion because the badge was not available in the state. Instead, they were issued with old emblems that were produced for the event last year, *Daily Trust* observed.

The decades-old tradition of honouring Nigerian soldiers, who lost their lives in various theatres of conflicts, is flagged off every year with the launching of the year's emblem, which is sold to generate revenue for the Nigerian Legion.

The symbol is worn by government officials for a week long period, until January 15 when the president and state governors lay wreaths as a national event at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

But in Kano those used by many dignitaries and soldiers on parade at the remembrance theatre turned up wearing 2012 emblems.

Our correspondent gathered that it was the first in the history of the yearly event that such a development was witnessed. Shortly before the commencement of the Remembrance Day parade at Malam Kato Square on Tuesday, officials of the state Directorate of Youths Development launched a last ditch effort to correct the anomaly by using white inks to change the year to 2013.

*Daily Trust* learnt from officials of the directorate that the state did not receive its share of the symbol from Abuja this year for unknown reasons.

An officer who does not wish to be named said it was in an effort to prevent a situation where military men and retired soldiers would not adorn the emblems at the occasion that they resorted to using old ones. But when contacted, the director of administration in the Directorate of Youths Development, Sani Bashir, said the old emblems were used because the one produced for this year were of low quality.

Bashir, however, said the directorate had ensured that the dates on the badges had been corrected.



■ A staff of the Ogun State Signage and Advertisement Agency fixing a billboard of the Sokoto State Governor Aliyu Magatakarda Wamako celebrating former President, Olusegun Obasanjo, along the IBB Boulevard, Abeokuta, yesterday.

PHOTO KEHINDE AKINYEMI

## Three killed as tanker plunges into Edo river

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

Three persons have been reportedly killed when a petrol tanker fell into Ovia River in Edo State. Those killed were occupants of the tanker carrying kerosene from Warri to Lagos.

It was gathered that the tanker

plunged into the river on Friday but rescue operation started on Saturday after one of the bodies was sighted floating on the river.

Benin Tollgate Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps Adewale Ameen confirmed the incident, saying they were not aware of the incident until the body of one of

the victims was seen.

Adewale stated that a NUPENG identity card was found on the victim and upon inquiry, they learnt that there were other victims under the river, saying NUPENG officials informed them about the tanker and the victims.

He said rescue operation

commenced on Saturday and they were able to bring out the engine and chassis of the tanker including the two other bodies.

"The tanker is still inside the river with 33,000 litres of kerosene. The tanker loaded from Warri plunged into the river. There was no trace until one of the bodies floated out on Saturday."

## 500 Zamfara teachers get training on science teaching skills

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

A total of 500 primary school teachers have been trained by Zamfara State Universal Basic Education Board (ZSUBEB) on teaching skills of science and mathematics subjects, ZSUBEB permanent member Alhaji Mahe Abdullahi Rini has said.

He said the training was organized in conjunction with the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), saying the training of 350 science and mathematics teachers had already commenced at Teachers Training College for Science and Mathematics in Gusau last Monday and it would last three weeks.

Mahe also said 3192 teachers drawn from the 14 local governments of the state were screened out of which 1520 were selected for the final test, adding that "all unqualified teachers have also attended the rigorous training on the two core subjects of Science and Mathematics and it would soon be accredited for the final test to determine their knowledge on the teaching methods adopted by the board."

ZSUBEB, according to him, was to get 600 qualified teachers for all the two subjects in the next one year and the exercise would be continuous to ensure the authentication of quality and discipline of teachers.

He said the board would ensure the review of teaching methods by teachers across the state in order to ensure pupils have good and quality lesson.

He urged parents and guardians in the state to ensure they give their supports and cooperation toward ensuring the success of the programme and report any abnormalities by any teacher in the state.

## Bauchi declares work-free day to clear graveyards

The Bauchi State government has declared today as work-free day for its civil servants to participate in the clearing of graveyards across the state.

A statement by Mr Ishola Michael, the Chief Press Secretary to Governor Isa Yuguda, indicated that the work-free day was only for Bauchi State civil servants, saying the move was to ensure that "the final resting places of the departed are kept clean and collapsing graves, patched-up."

It said the governor will monitor the exercise personally in Bauchi and other neighbouring local government areas while emirs, district heads, imams and pastors were also expected to participate fully. (NAN)