



■ Minister of National Planning Shamsuddeen Usman, Vice President Namadi Sambo and chairman, Senate Committee on National Planning, Sen. Barnabas Gemade; during the inauguration of the National Steering Committee, Business Support Group, National Technical Working Group and the technical working groups for the development of the National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (NIIMP), at the Presidential Villa, Abuja yesterday.

PHOTO: FELIX ONIGBINDE

Soldiers kill four soccer fans in Mubi

From Ibrahim Abdul'Aziz, Yola

Soldiers attached to Military Joint Task Force (JTF) yesterday shot dead four youths in Mubi in Adamawa State.

One Josiah Musa, a resident of the area,

confirmed the incident to *Daily Trust*, alleging that it was unprovoked.

The youths, according to him, were on their way to their respective homes after watching a football match when the JTF personnel opened fire on them which resulted to the

death of four among them.

Spokesman of the military in the state Lt. Nuhu Jafar said he was not aware of the incident as he was actively participating in the military recruitment exercise currently going on in the state.

60-yr-old arrested in Katsina with 167kg of cannabis

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Katsina

The Katsina command of the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) says it arrested a 60-year old Muhammad Sani Bawa with 167 kilograms of cannabis.

Parading some suspected drugs dealers yesterday, the agency's commander for the state, Hajiya Maryam Gambo Sani, said from January, 2012 to December, 2012, the command seized over 1000 kilograms of cannabis sativa and 12,618 kilograms of psychotropic substances.

"This gives a total of 1,081,037 kilograms of illegal/controlled

drugs seized by the command during the year under review. We have arrested 411 persons for various drug related offences of which 45 were convicted to jail terms ranging from six months to 25 years imprisonment", she said.

Maryam also said the command had a total of 62 pending cases in the court and 265 arrested drug users were counseled and rehabilitated under the care of the command.

She described as alarming the abuse of rubber solution, nail polish remover, lizard dung, petrol, and the inhaling of pit latrine in the state, saying the trend indicated that much is needed to be done to address the situation.

UNICEF, Zamfara govt train 272 on primary education

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

Zamfara State government has commenced training of 272 participants known as School Based Management Committees (SBMC) from 68 communities across the state as part of the government's effort towards improving girl child enrolment and retention.

Speaking at the opening of the five day training workshop, head of Girl Child Education of the State Universal Basic Education Board Barrister Suwaiba Ibrahim Barau said the exercise was to complement UNICEF programme under which 72 communities were trained so as to take care of girl child education in the state.

Suwaiba said 72 schools were selected by UNICEF for the programme in fund management and improvement of girl child education in the state.

Also speaking, Director of Social Mobilisation of the State Universal Basic Education Board Alhaji Yusuf Abubakar Mafara said the 68 communities were to benefit from the counterpart funding to take care of the administration and monitoring of schools activities.

Yusuf said the training would reflect positive response and improvement in educational development in the state as all stakeholders who could meaningfully assist in this direction were involved.

Three died in Offa/Erinle crisis —Police

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Ilorin

The Kwara State police command yesterday gave an account of Offa/Erinle communal conflict, saying contrary to reports, only three people lost their lives in the crisis.

A statement by the Police Spokesman, DSP Fabode Olufemi, said eight people have been arrested in connection with the unrest and they would be charged to court soon.

"The Kwara state police command wishes to inform members of the public, that on 30th January 2013, the age-long land boundary dispute between the indigenes of Offa and Erinle degenerated into serious crisis which led to wanton destruction of lives and properties.

"Three persons died in the incident and not ten as published by some media, several properties were destroyed during the incident.

"Both towns in the crisis recorded losses. Eight persons have been arrested with various calibres of fire arms and ammunition. Investigation is ongoing and those arrested will soon be charged to court," it said.

'Leaders should be held responsible for attack in own domain'

From Hassan Ibrahim, Jos

Gbong Gwom Jos and Chairman Plateau State Traditional Council of Chiefs Da Jacob Gyang Baba has says leaders at all levels should be held responsible for any attack in their respective domain.

The monarch said in Riyom in the ongoing sensitization peace tour organized by Plateau State Special Task Force (STF), saying the best way to tackle the present security challenges is that in any location where there is an attack both traditional and political leaders should be arrested and faced the wrath of the law.

He said that "for those of us that are called leaders we must rise up to our responsibilities and also the people too must respect constituted authority for us to resolve this problems because you can never be good if you don't know how to follow".

Earlier, Emir of Karam Alhaji Babangida Muazu said a good number Nigerians are guilty of the present security problems in the country because "We have compromised our right for money and ask the politicians to give us money in place of development.

Police corporal dismissed for stealing motorcycle in Lagos

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

Goroye Folagade, a police corporal, has been dismissed from the Nigeria Police Force for stealing a motorcycle in Lagos. Until his dismissal from the force, the corporal was attached to Ikorodu police division.

The dismissed cop was said to have seized the motorcycle from its owner

simply identified as Saheed a few days after Christmas having violated the Lagos traffic laws but could not produce the same afterwards, claiming that it had been taken to Alausa.

A statement by Lagos Police Public Relations Officer Ngozi Braide said the corporal was given an Orderly Room Trial

before he was dismissed.

The statement said the offence for which the suspect was tried is contrary to paragraph (E) of the First Schedule of Police Act and Regulation 370 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.

"The Commissioner of Police, Lagos State Command, promptly reviewed the proceedings and upheld the findings of guilt

and thereby approved subject's dismissal from the force with effect from January 16, 2013," it added.

Ngozi said the corporal uniforms and other items belonging to the Nigeria Police Force that was in his custody before his trial had been retrieved from him, saying he had been arraigned at the Chief Magistrate's Court 14, Ikorodu.