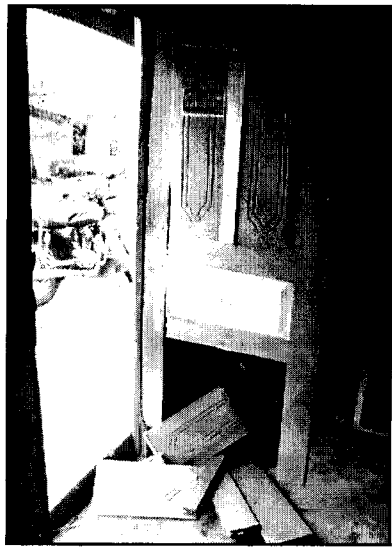


Land Encroachment: Judiciary Staff Alleges Illegal Arrest



The damaged door

his arrest by some armed police officers attached to the Swift Operations Squad (SOS) was illegal and an infringement on his fundamental human rights.

Mr. West while briefing newsmen in Port Harcourt, said he was nabbed by the police penultimate Saturday at about 3.45am.

He accused one Hon. Basoene Lawson and others who have a land dispute with him before a Senior Magistrate Court in Buguma on charge No BMC/33C/2012 of being the masterminds.

Mr. West alleged that over fifteen armed security agents who came to arrest him

destroyed his door to gain access to his home.

"My children who were sleeping on the floor sustained serious injuries and I was whisked away like an ardent criminal", Mr. West said.

He also informed

newsmen that he was detained in police custody for two (2) days before granted bail.

He further alleged that he was subjected to all kinds of inhuman treatment, "but I have nothing to say since the case is in court, and I want the law to take

*By Damiete West
Editor-in-Chief*

its course".

When Hon. Lawson was contacted, he denied the allegation, warning that "people should stop taking the laws into their hands". ###

Firm Promises Uninterrupted Power Supply To PHRC

Genesis Electricity Limited (GEL), in partnership with General Electric (GE), has begun the implementation of gas-fired Captive Power Project, CPP, to guarantee uninterrupted electric power supply to the Port Harcourt Refinery Company (PHRC), a subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

Speaking during a courtesy call on the NNPC Group Executive Director, Refining and Petrochemical, Mr. Anthony Ogbuigwe, at the NNPC Towers in Abuja, the GE Regional Sales Director,

Middle East Africa, Cees-Jean de Maaker, affirmed the readiness of the partnership to provide reliable power supply to the refinery.

De Maaker said GE was happy to partner with a professional and competent local company like GEL.

He added that GE was committed to ensuring full technical support across the spectrum of power plant installation, commissioning and subsequent long term management of the operations of the Genesis Electricity's captive power plant investment.

Also speaking, the GEL

Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Akinwale Omoboriowo, said the objective of the partnership was to provide sufficient power supply to the Port Harcourt Refinery, to guarantee its efficient operations.

Omoboriowo told the NNPC that it had commenced the deployment of the best power technology in the world to PHRC and would keep to the timeframe of the arrangement.

He disclosed that the GE would install power plants, operate and maintain the power plants for many years, adding that part of the company's obligation was to train young engineers. ###

Marginalization: IYC To Protest Against SPDC, Agip

*By Damiete West
Editor-in-Chief*

The Ijaw Youth Council (IYC), has threatened to stage a protest against Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), Agip and other multinationals operating in Kalabari kingdom for the non provision of social amenities, infrastructure and employment for the people of their host communities.

The Chairman of Kalabari Se Ikpangi of IYC, Comrade Sobrasua Odum, who made this known at an interactive forum with representatives of multinationals and contractors in Port Harcourt, frowned at the cavalier attitude of the management of the companies towards their host communities.

Comrade Odum called on the multinationals to live up to the expectations of the masses by providing job opportunities to avoid the wrath of the youths of the area.

The IYC boss reiterated his determination to combat illegal oil bunkering in the creeks of the Kalabari Kingdom.

In his speech, the Amanymanabo of Kalabari

Kingdom, HM, King (Prof.) T.J.T Princewill, Amachree XI, called on the IYC to always respect constituted authorities.

The Amanymanabo who was represented by the chairman of the Degema 3 Cluster Development Foundation (CDF), Chief (Barr.) Emmanuel Tam Princewill, appealed to the youths not to stage any protest.

His words: "Do not stage any protest. I am promising now to personally invite the management of these companies to have a talk with them. And I believe strongly that things will change for better". ###



Comrade Odum

Police Allegedly Kill 16 Year-Old Boy In Bayelsa

A 16-year-old boy was allegedly shot dead by the police in Yenagoa, the Bayelsa State capital.

Though the police authorities had launched investigation into the matter to ascertain the alleged involvement of its personnel in the killing, an eyewitness told this weekly that the incident occurred at 5p.m. at Hospital Road area of Ovom, commonly called red light district due to its large concentration of women of easy virtue.

The alleged killer cop was said to have pursued the lad and shot him before fleeing the scene.

It was gathered that when sympathizers rushed to the scene to see what assistance they could render, it was discovered that the boy's head had been shattered by the bullets from the cop.

The remains of the lad, whose identity could not be immediately ascertained, was later evacuated by police personnel from the 'A' Division and deposited at the Federal Medical Centre morgue.

Contacted, state Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Fidelis Odunna, confirmed that the police evacuated the remains of the victim, adding that he was yet to ascertain what led to his death. ###

Abalama ICT, Skills Acquisition Centre Commissioned

*By Damiete West
Editor-in-Chief*

An Ultra Modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Skills Development Centre has been Commissioned at Abalama Community in Asari-Toru Local Government Area of Rivers State.

The centre was built by a former lawmaker who represented Asalga Constituency II in the Rivers State House of Assembly, Hon. Ibinabo Michael-West.

Speaking at the event, the Speaker of the Rivers State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Otelemaba Dan Amachree, lauded Hon. Michael-West for his initiative.

The Speaker who was represented by his Chief of Staff, Hon. Awongo Ikalama,

stressed the importance of skills acquisition in human resources development. He advised the people to make judicious use of the centre.

In his speech, Hon. Michael West said the building of the skills centre was in fulfillment of his electioneering promise. He promised to pay the salaries of the instructors for a period of three (3) months.

Speaking on behalf of the organizing committee, Chief Torthy Dappa applauded Hon. Michael West for his gesture and described him as "a politician with a difference". He promised that the community would make judicious use of the ICT/Skills Acquisition Centre.

Speaking to Journalists shortly after the event, the Amanymanabo of Abalama

Community, HRH, Chief A.B Big TomTom, noted that the centre would direct the energies of the youths toward profitable ventures.

The paramount ruler emphasized the importance of education and expressed joy over the commission of the ICT/Skills Acquisition Centre. In his speech while commissioning the centre, the leader of the Rivers State House of Assembly, Hon. Chidi Lloyd, thanked Hon. Michael West for his initiative.

He called on the people to avail themselves of the opportunity to acquire different kinds of trades that will make them economically self reliant. ###



Hon. Michael West fourth from the right with the Amanymanabo of Abalama community, HRM A.B Big TomTom and other dignitaries in a group photograph after the commissioning