



•Akwa Ibom State Governor Godswill Akpabio flanked by Minister of Agriculture, Prof. Sheikh Abdallah (left) and Head of Service of the Federation Stephen Orosanya at a workshop for states' Heads of Service.

Naval Rating killed in Rivers

From Bisi Olaniyi, Port Harcourt

A NAVAL Rating was killed yesterday and two others injured when their patrol boat was attacked by illegal 'bunkerers' in a creek near Okirika Jetty, Okrika Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Sources said the Ratings were patrolling the creeks, when they were attacked.

The attackers, according to a source, ambushed the Ratings and shot them.

Spokesman of NNS Pathfinder Lt. Edward Yeibo said he has not been briefed.

Flag Officer Commanding (FOC), Eastern Naval Command of NNS Pathfinder Rear Admiral Usman Jubrin said the authorities would go tougher on illegal 'bunkerers' and pipeline vandals in the region.

NLC, TUC threaten strike over shooting

From Osagie Otabor, Benin

THE Nigeria Labour Congress and the Trade Union Congress (TUC) in Edo State have said they would go on a one-day warning strike if the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Olufemi Adeniyi, was not transferred.

This followed the shooting of the Chairman of the National Union of Air Transport Employees (NUATE), Comrade Godwin Ehikioya by a police orderly at the Benin Airport.

A communiqué issued at the end of an emergency meeting of the state NLC and TUC yesterday demanded for the identification of and prosecution of the police orderly.

The organised labour said the police should be held responsible for the treatment of the victim.

Pupil killed in Akwa Ibom

From Iniobong Ekponta, Uyo

"Her private part was completely yanked off and one of the breasts severed; this is clearly a ritual murder."

"I beg the police to please get to the bottom of this matter." Policemen from Itam Division were said to have inspected the remains of the dead pupil before she was taken to the mortuary.

The Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Welfare, Mrs. Eunice Samuel Thomas, has warned parents to protect their young ones from straying into dangerous areas to avoid being seized by ritualists.

HERE was outrage at the Community Secondary Commercial School (COMSECOMS), Ibiaku Itam, Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital, following the discovery of a body.

The body of Emem Etim, a Senior Secondary (SS1) pupil, was discovered with her private parts missing.

According to her mother, Mrs. Etim, the 17-year-old left the house to collect a lesson note from her classmate.

"When she did not return; I raised an alarm; we searched everywhere only to discover her body in her school premises on Calabar-Itu Road.

NDDC to hand over coastal roads to Niger Delta ministry

From Vincent Ikuomola, Abuja

THE Federal Government has directed the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to handover the design and construction of coastal roads to the Ministry of Niger Delta.

The agency has been directed to settle all outstanding fees in connection to the projects.

Vice-President Namadi Sambo announced this at a meeting of the Federal Executive Council (FEC)-constituted Committee on Niger Delta.

According to a statement by his media aide, Mr. Umar Sani, the Vice-President said the Federal Government is determined to complete all coastal roads, the East-West road as well as East-West trunk lines.

Sambo said: "The Federal Government has directed that the coastal road construction be transferred

to the Ministry of Niger Delta since the money needed for its construction is over N1 trillion and is beyond the capability of the NDDC.

The Vice-President said the NDDC should submit to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Vice-President, the Attorney-

General of the Federation and Minister of Justice and the Office of the Director General of Bureau for Public Procurement (BPP), the contract agreement of the project, the Due Process Certification for award of contract and the full company profile, including technical and foreign partners, involved in the project.

NDDC Chairman

One killed in FRSC recruitment

From Okungbowa Alwerie, Asaba

A MAN died yesterday when he collapsed during the recruitment exercise of the Federal Road Safety Corp (FRSC) in Asaba, the Delta State capital.

The deceased, it was learnt, died after he and three female applicants collapsed during a three kilometre fitness race.

The applicants were rushed

to a private hospital, where the victim died from exhaustion.

He was among thousands who had to complete the race which commenced from the Grand Hotels and Resort Centre and ended at the Asaba Stadium.

Sector Commander of the

Chibuzor Ugwoha said the detailed design for the coastal road project is at 80 per cent completion and by January the final design would be completed.

He said soil tests have been carried out successfully and that the commission welcomes the decision of the government as it lacks the resources to fully prosecute the project.

FRSC Luka Ikpi denied that the victim was an applicant.

He said the victim did not have any identification tag on him

According to him though the deceased applicant was dressed in the same attire as other recruits, he did not have any tag.

Ikpi said all the participants' index finger, vest and shorts were tagged.