

News

TS ADVISED TO TAKE STOCK ON ISSUES

can be actively involved in agenda setting for the government and monitor how government policies are being carried out to the benefit of all Nigerians.

"Even when the government is doing well, the press should say so and when they are not doing well they should be reported without sentiment, it should not be bad news all the time, though many of you think that bad news will sell your papers.

He used the opportunity

to call on Rivers State Government to institute an insurance cover for practicing journalists in the state due to the hazards of their profession. Further he stated that the insurance cover embolden the journalist to do their job without fear and favour.

The Elder state man also announced an annual scholarship programme worth of 2 million Naira for the practicing journalists in Rivers State while, the insurance scheme will start in 2012.

In his key note address, Senator Olurunimbe Mamora stated that the role of media in 'National Development' is critical as a core part of building a respectable society.

The senator described the media as a watchdog and moulder of opinion, adding that the media is also regarded as search light for good governance, best practice and ethic through the beaming of light on activities in public and private sectors.

Mamora who was the former speaker Lagos State House of Assembly, however recalled that

during the campaign of freedom of information Law, the media were in the fore front to consistently lobby government to jettison unnecessary secrecy of its activities and enact a law which would serve as a constant reminder to those elected to power that they are accountable to the people.

He said the freedom of information thrives on the refrain that open government is good, adding that it is a key avenue for securing transparency and openness, defining features of modern democracy.



From Left:
Governor
Babatunde Fashola
of Lagos State,
Chief Molade
Okoya-Thomas,
Chief Femi
Okunnu, and Oba
of Lagos, Oba
Rilwan Akiolu 1, at
the 5th Town Hall
Meeting on
Security in Lagos
on Tuesday

Sallah: Accident claimed 17 lives, 20 injured in Kwara

THE Sector Commander of the FRSC in Kwara, Mr Yusuf Salam, said 17 lives were lost, while 20 persons were injured in motor accidents in the state during the Eid-el-Kabir festival.

Salam said in Ilorin that

most of the accidents were as a result of careless and reckless driving.

He said the command had taken measures to ensure that the rate of accidents

protect the road from further damage.

"The effects of soil erosion in the area is beyond our control, we appeal to the state government to construct drains to check the menace."

Galadima commended the Mugulvu Development Area Administration for constructing culverts on the road, which he said had assisted in saving some portions of the road from being completely washed away.

were drastically reduced during the Christmas.

"The corps will improve on its efforts and enforcement level. We are introducing more mobile courts to ensure that people violating traffic rules are instantly brought to book.

"During the period, we will encourage the use of rest areas. We will encourage road users, especially motorists, the drivers, at least, when they travel for long period, to rest.

"So like our offices along Eyenkorin/Oloru/Bode, and Saadu/Jebba roads, our clinics and rest areas are there. We will encourage the

drivers to rest.

"Driving without rest causes fatigue, which leads to accidents," the sector commander said.

He disagreed with the claim that the poor state of the roads were responsible for incessant accidents, and said that most of the accidents were largely due to "bad drivers and bad driving".

According to him, when the road is bad, a good and trained driver that is efficient in his job will know that he needs to apply a common sense speed.

"You cannot have a pot hole and you enter the pot hole because they say the last bond speed is 100 kilometre per hour," he said, and urged motorists to always be cautious while on the road.

seeks drainages construction in Adamawa

access road linking the community with adjoining villages.

The erosion had also affected a large chunk of land at the only primary school in the area.

Galadima said that the community was working through communal efforts to fill up the burrow pits created by erosion and protect the road.

He said, "We are using gravel, woods and leaves to erect embankments to