

NEWS

Contributions intact – PENCOTM

Contributors for delay in transfer process

liquidated or shut down.

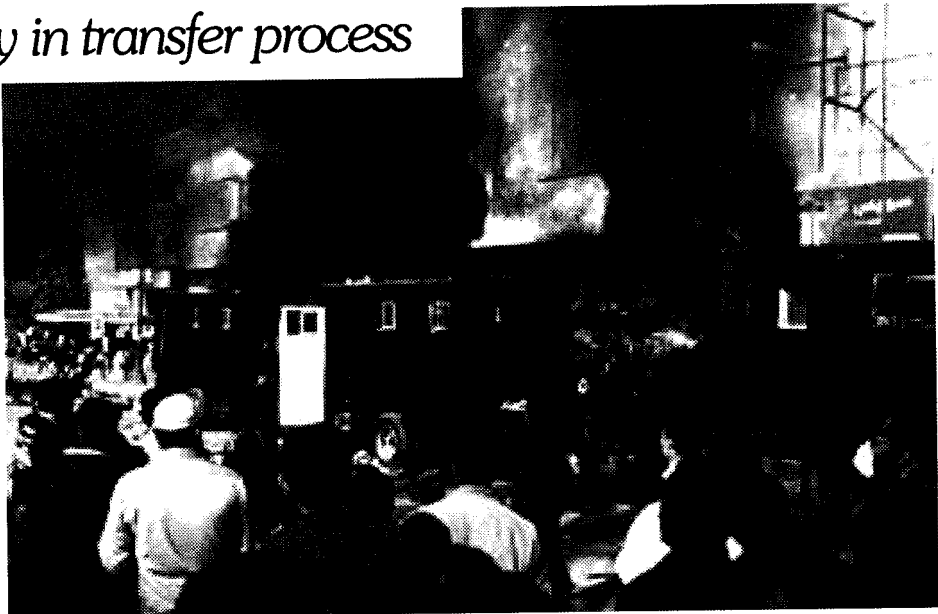
"The steps taken by the commission to address the challenges include the relaxation of the documentation requirements in the guidelines, acceptance of photocopy of NSITF membership certificates, acceptance of letter of confirmation/indemnity from employers for lost certificates and sworn court affidavits to be considered on merit.

"The application process involves the receipt of application requests by the PFA, forwarding of all transfer application documentation as required in the Guideline to Trustfund, which is also copied to the commission.

"Trustfund verifies the documentation and obtains the commission's concurrence before instructing its custodian to effect the transfer.

"The discrepancies noted by contributors, if any, have been traced to employers with gap or period with missing contributions because of the unavailability of evidence of remittances such as request instrument, schedule of remittances and non-remittance of contributions by employers and unidentified employers (employers with number and contributions in the data base but without employer's name)."

As part of the efforts to establish the amounts to be



• Egyptian demonstrators burning a riot police vehicle during a protest in the northern city of Suez on January 28, 2011 demanding the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak. Photo: AFP

transferred on behalf of each contributor to the NSITF scheme, Trustfund has sent statements of accounts to the contributors.

In addition, Trustfund and the commission, it was learnt, had placed advertisements in some national dailies requesting contributors to the scheme to report any observations with a view to having correct and updated records.

Therefore, for these categories of contributors, they are requested to report all discrepancies to Trustfund, update their records with verifiable evidence of remittance(s) at the nearest Trustfund office or perform an online update

of their membership records at the Trustfund web site.

But there are also complaints of contributors not being able to access the Trustfund web site where they are supposed to download some application forms required for the transfer.

"With regard to the inability to print statement of contributions from Trustfund web site, the observation has been noted and Trustfund was notified to rectify the problem," PENCOTM said.

The Pension Reform Act 2004 provides that contributions to the NSITF scheme and the accrued income shall be transferred into members' RSAs after the expiration of the five-

year moratorium, which took effect from July 2009.

The act empowers the commission to supervise the transfer of the NSITF contributions, which represents the amount remitted to National Provident Fund and/or NSITF pension schemes by registered employers on behalf of their employees covering the period January 1962 to June 2004.

Asked if there was a limited period within which the transfer should be done, PENCOTM said the process would take a minimum of 30 days and could take longer where inadequate documentation had been provided by the contributor.

Police arrest landlord for killing tenant over electricity bill

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SATURDAY PUNCH gathered that a N300 electricity bill was the cause of a disagreement between the two men and this later led to Akande's death.

It was learnt that trouble started when the suspect accosted his tenant on his way to work on Monday, demanding the payment of his electricity bill.

Akande's plea that he should be allowed to pay the bill at the end of the month because he was a salary earner reportedly didn't go down well with his landlord.

Disturbed by the ensuing argument, the deceased's wife was said to have intervened by giving the landlord N200, promising to pay the balance of N100 in the evening.

But not ready to allow the issue go that way, Isiaka reportedly slapped his tenant on his cheek and later hit him on his chest.

Eyewitnesses said that Akande collapsed immediately and all efforts to revive him didn't yield any positive result.

Neighbours and sympathisers then rushed him to a nearby hospital, where the doctor on duty confirmed him dead.

His corpse was later deposited at the mortuary of the University College Hospital, Ibadan.

Policemen from Moniya Police Station, who were drafted to the scene based on a report made by a resident of the area, later arrested the suspect.

The command's Public Relations Officer, Mr. Olatunji Ajimuda, confirmed the incident to **SATURDAY PUNCH**.

INEC extends registration

John Alechenu, Abuja

The Independent National Electoral Commission on Friday announced a one-week extension of the ongoing voter registration.

This, the commission said, was in accordance with the new amendment to Section 9 (5) of the Electoral Act 2010, as amended.

A statement by INEC Secretary, Alhaji Abdullahi Kaugama, said the extension had also affected the earlier date slated for the display of the preliminary voter register.

The statement read, "Following the new amendment to Section 9 (5) of the Electoral Act 2010, as amended, the Independent National Electoral Commission has extended the ongoing voter registration by seven days.

"The extension will take effect from January 30, 2011, to February 5, 2011."

Ihuoma Chiedozie with agency report

A gang of gunmen suspected to be assassins on Friday shot dead the All Nigeria Peoples Party governorship candidate in Borno State, Madu Fannami and six others.

The details of the killings were still sketchy at press time, but the Commissioner of Police in charge of the state police command, Alhaji Mohammed Abubakar, confirmed the incident.

Abubakar told the *News Agency of Nigeria* in Maiduguri that among the seven persons killed by the gunmen was a little boy, as well as a younger brother of Governor Ali Modu Sheriff.

He said the police had evacuated and deposited all the corpses at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital mortuary.

The police boss said investigation into the killings had started by the command, adding that for now, no arrest had been made in connection with the incident.

The Nigeria Army had earlier placed its officers and men on red alert over the

spate of killing of its men in Maiduguri by unidentified gunmen.

Igbo traders in the state had recently ordered the closure of their shops to protest the indiscriminate killing of their members in Maiduguri by the gunmen.

Meanwhile, President Goodluck Jonathan in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Friday received with shock the news of the killings.

The President, who is in Addis Ababa to attend the 16th African Union Summit, condemned the act.

CP slaps DPO over inadequate security for DDCMs

Adelani Adepegba, Abuja

The Commissioner of Police, Federal Capital Territory, Mr. John Haruna, allegedly slapped the Life Camp Divisional Police Officer, Mr. Mahmud Umar, for not providing adequate security for the ad hoc workers of the Independent National Electoral Commission and the Direct Data Capturing machines being used in the ongoing voter registration.

Haruna was reported to have redeployed Umar, a Chief Superintendent of Police, to the Area Commander's office for an

Gunmen kill Borno ANPP governorship candidate, six others

• Jonathan condemns act

Reacting to the killings in a statement by his spokesman, Mr. Ima Niboro, the President directed security agencies to apprehend those behind the act.

The statement read in part, "(President) Jonathan unreservedly condemns these killings and wants security agencies to find those behind the act.

"The President maintains

that the era of do-or-die politics in Nigeria is over, and those who want to take us back to that arbitrary past have no place in modern Nigeria.

"The President condolees with the government and people of Borno State, as well as the families of those who were killed in cold blood and prays Allah to grant repose to their souls."

alleged dereliction of duty, which he could not explain to the satisfaction of the commissioner.

Trouble started for the embattled DPO when the commissioner got a report that the electoral officials and the DDC machines were not being given the necessary security by the police in the Life Camp area, contrary to the directives from the FCT command.

Haruna was said to have followed up on the report by visiting one of the centres, where he confirmed the absence of policemen.

Livid with anger, he was