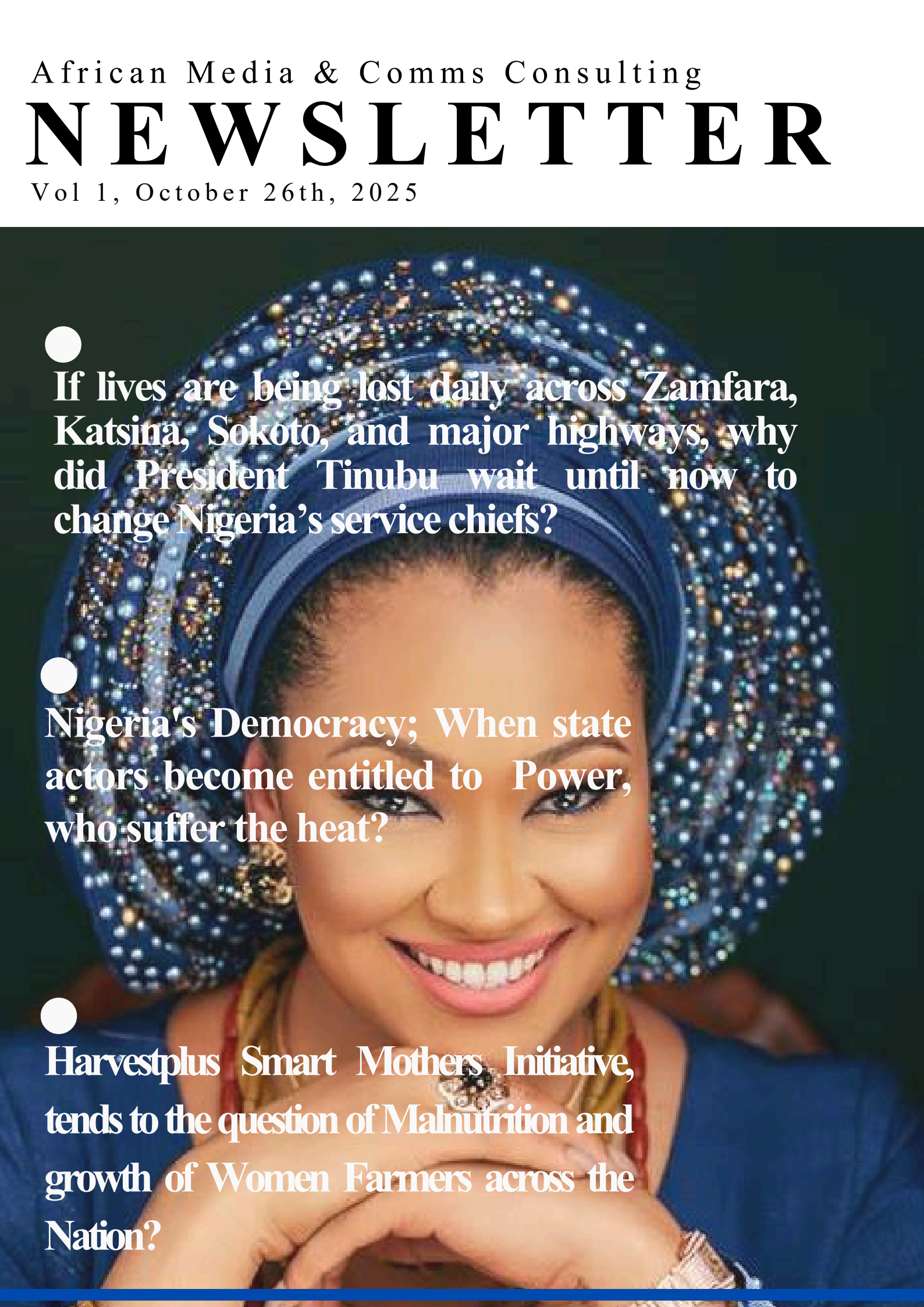


African Media & Comms Consulting

# NEWSLETTER

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● If lives are being lost daily across Zamfara, Katsina, Sokoto, and major highways, why did President Tinubu wait until now to change Nigeria's service chiefs?

● Nigeria's Democracy; When state actors become entitled to Power, who suffer the heat?

● Harvestplus Smart Mothers Initiative, tends to the question of Malnutrition and growth of Women Farmers across the Nation?

## **NIGERIA'S DEMOCRACY; WHEN STATE ACTORS BECOME ENTITLED TO POWER, WHO SUFFER THE HEAT?**



The absolute power of the Executive arm of Government has manifested into overriding state resources, control, and becoming authoritarian and a threat to democracy enjoined in Nigeria by Nigerians.

In a political submission by Dr. Aminu Hayat (Ph.D), State Governors across the country has downplayed upholding accountability to state resources expended in infrastructure, projects and programs for the benefit of the grass root and the masses whose votes primarily secured their positions.

Equally, the defection of state actors in opposition parties to ruling political party in order to access influence, enjoy federal resources, showcases a broader implications for Nigeria democracy.

To address this challenges, Dr. Aminu Hayat highlighted approaches, which includes the independency of the Independent Electoral Commission, the transparency and fairness judiciary, and the media in serving as watch dog without intimidation. He equally implore that the principle of tax statutes must be strictly construed to public expenditure, ensuring that every naira is accounted for and used for its intended public purpose.

## **HARVESTPLUS SMART MOTHERS INITIATIVE, TENDS TO THE QUESTION OF MALNUTRITION AND GROWTH OF WOMEN FARMERS ACROSS THE NATION**



It is no doubt that majority of women farmers in Nigeria and especially those trained by Harvest Plus in production, harvesting of crops are more focused on producing foods for the house hold inorder for the nutrient to reach children in the family.

As part of awareness creation, and Commemoration of the World Food Day, the Smart Mother Initiative by Harvest Plus in Kano state, presented an award to the Kano First Lady, Hajiya Maryam Aba Kabir Yusuf, who was represented by the Commissioner for Women Affairs in the state, Hajiya Amina S. Abdullahi to appreciate her leading voice for women across sectors in the state.

With the help of the Smart Women Initiatives, the platform has provided capacity building training on using and processing bio fortified crops, participants receiving support to start their own food business through business development, improve household nutrition and public health, especially for vulnerable populations like children and pregnant women.



### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GLOBAL INFLUENCE MEETS GRASSROOTS CHANGE?**

Once again, Michelle Obama is leading by example. Through her Girls Opportunity Alliance, she has announced a \$2.5 million global investment, not in politics or power, but in what truly transforms communities: girls education. This initiative goes beyond charity. It's a deliberate step toward breaking barriers that keep girls out of classrooms, from poverty to early marriage and gender inequality.

By channeling funds to local organizations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the project ensures that impact begins where it matters most, at the community level.

With this pledge, Michelle Obama sends a powerful message to the world: educating girls is not just a moral duty, it's a strategic investment in global progress.



### **DANGOTE PLANS MAJOR REFINERY UPGRADE TO OVERTAKE INDIA AND LEAD GLOBAL OIL MARKET**

Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, has announced bold plans to expand the capacity of the Dangote Refinery in Lagos, positioning Nigeria to take the lead in the global refining market and surpass India's Reliance Industries in scale.

According to Dangote, the refinery was designed with future expansion in mind, including the option to add a second refining train to double capacity. He said the project aims to transform Africa from a continent dependent on imported refined fuel into one that can achieve energy independence through private-sector investment.

Dangote emphasized that the refinery's growth represents not only a commercial success but also a symbol of Africa's industrial transformation, stating that the continent must take charge of processing its own crude oil and exporting finished products to the world.

If completed as planned, the upgrade would firmly place Nigeria at the center of global energy production, reshaping international oil trade patterns and creating thousands of direct and indirect jobs.



## HOW MANY LEADERS TRULY TURN CAMPAIGN PROMISES INTO TANGIBLE EMPOWERMENT FOR THEIR PEOPLE?

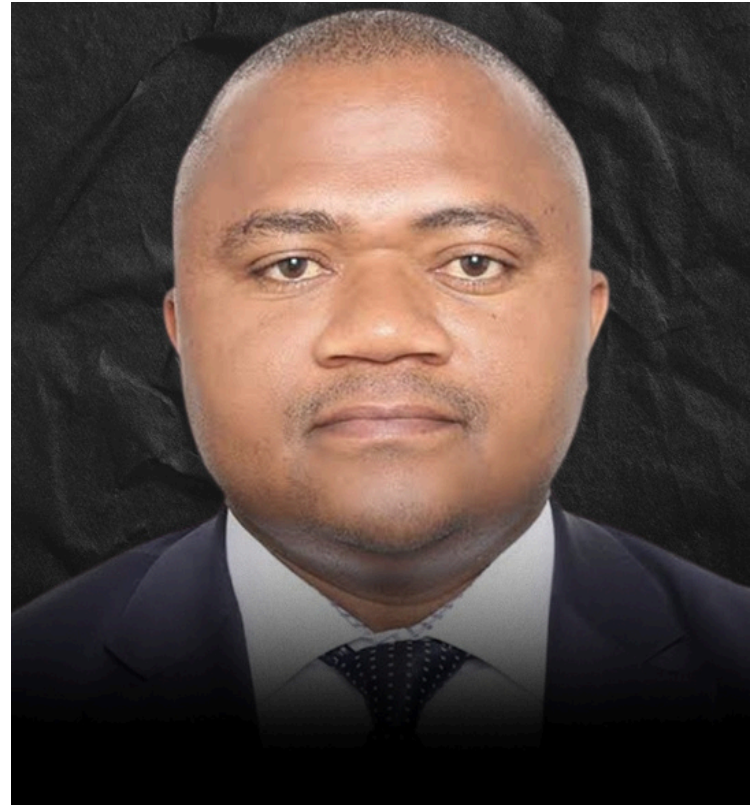


The true essence of democracy lies not just in words, but in the fulfillment of promises made to uplift communities and improve lives.

In a remarkable stride toward sustainable empowerment, the Senator representing Kogi Central, Sen. Natasha Akpoti-Uduaghan, has commenced the distribution of tricycles (Keke Napep) to support members of her constituency, a move aimed at breaking the cycle of unemployment and promoting self-reliance among her people.

From facilitating job placements and appointments for her constituents to overseeing road construction projects, paying tuition fees, rehabilitating schools, and providing digital tools for youth skill development, her track record reflects the very definition of people-centered governance. So, as Sen. Natasha leads the charge in redefining representation, the question remains, what if every elected leader truly made service to humanity their guiding principle?

## WHAT DOES \$120 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING MEAN FOR EAST AFRICA'S ENTREPRENEURS?

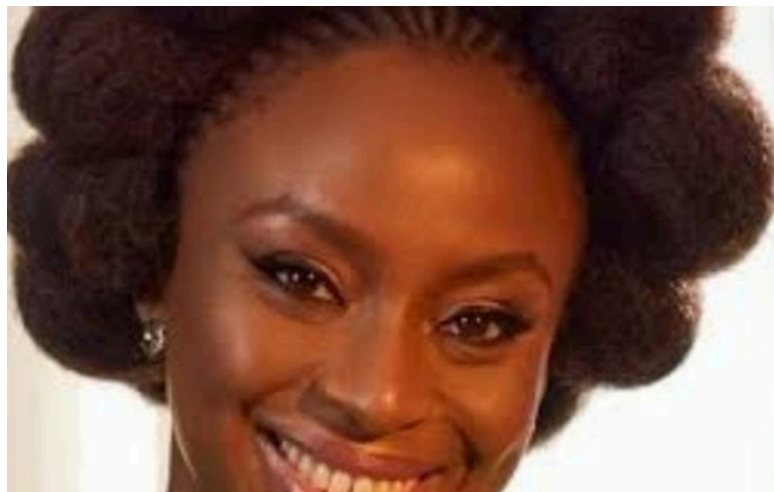


Tanzania's CRDB Bank Plc has secured \$120 million in new financing to empower entrepreneurs, women- and youth-led businesses, and affordable housing projects across East Africa.

The funding, announced during the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings in Washington, D.C., was driven by Group CEO Abdulmajid Nsekela's leadership. It comprises \$60 million from FinDev Canada to support women and youth-led enterprises and green initiatives, \$50 million from Germany's DEG for SME lending, and \$10 million from Shelter Afrique Development Bank for affordable housing projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Nsekela emphasized that the initiative reflects CRDB's vision for inclusive finance and sustainable development, stating, "This initiative is not just about banking; it's about changing lives."

Industry analysts say this deal strengthens CRDB's position as a model for inclusive banking and reflects growing global confidence in Africa's financial sector. Do you think such partnerships can redefine Africa's financial future?



## **KAMALA HARRIS AND CHIMAMANDA ADICHIE SET FOR CONVERSATION AT LONDON LITERATURE FESTIVAL**

Former U.S. Vice President, Kamala Harris, is set to engage in a thought-provoking conversation with celebrated Nigerian author, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, at the London Literature Festival today, October 23.

The discussion forms part of Harris's ongoing book tour for her memoir, "107 Days," which offers an insider's reflection on her brief yet intense presidential campaign.

Announcing the event on X (formerly Twitter), Harris expressed her excitement about sharing the stage with Adichie

Chimamanda Adichie, renowned for her globally acclaimed works *Purple Hibiscus*, *Half of a Yellow Sun*, and *Americanah*, continues to be a beacon of literary excellence and inspiration for writers across Nigeria and the world.

This collaboration between two influential women promises an engaging dialogue on leadership, identity, and storytelling at one of the world's most prestigious literary gatherings.



## **IF NIGERIAN PROFESSORS KNEW HOW MUCH THEIR COUNTERPARTS ACROSS AFRICA EARN MONTHLY, WOULD THEY STILL CHOOSE TO STAY AND WORK IN NIGERIA?**

A recent comparative analysis of university professors' salaries across several African countries reveals a startling disparity.

According to the data, professors in South Africa earn the equivalent of ₦6.99 million monthly, followed closely by those in Uganda (₦6.15 million) and Kenya (₦5.84 million).

Even smaller nations such as Eswatini (₦5.03 million), Lesotho (₦3.94 million), and Gabon (₦3.63 million) offer their professors significantly higher pay than Nigeria.

In contrast, a Nigerian professor earns approximately ₦535,000 per month, a fraction of what their peers in other African countries receive. Despite Nigeria's vast economy and population size, Nigerian professors rank among the lowest-paid on the continent.

Surprisingly, countries with far smaller economies such as Comoros, Seychelles, and Malawi, still pay their professors between ₦1.5 million and ₦1.7 million monthly.

At what point will Nigeria begin to treat its intellectuals as national assets rather than underpaid servants?



## WILL BURKINA FASO'S NEW POLICY COMPEL BIG CORPORATIONS TO INVEST MORE MEANINGFULLY IN THE NATION'S ECONOMY?



The Government of Burkina Faso has introduced a proposed law requiring major companies earning over CFA 5 billion (approximately \$8.8 million USD) annually to establish their headquarters within the country.

Approved by the Council of Ministers on October 9, 2025, the bill seeks to enhance local economic growth by ensuring that high-earning firms contribute directly to national development, job creation, and tax revenue.

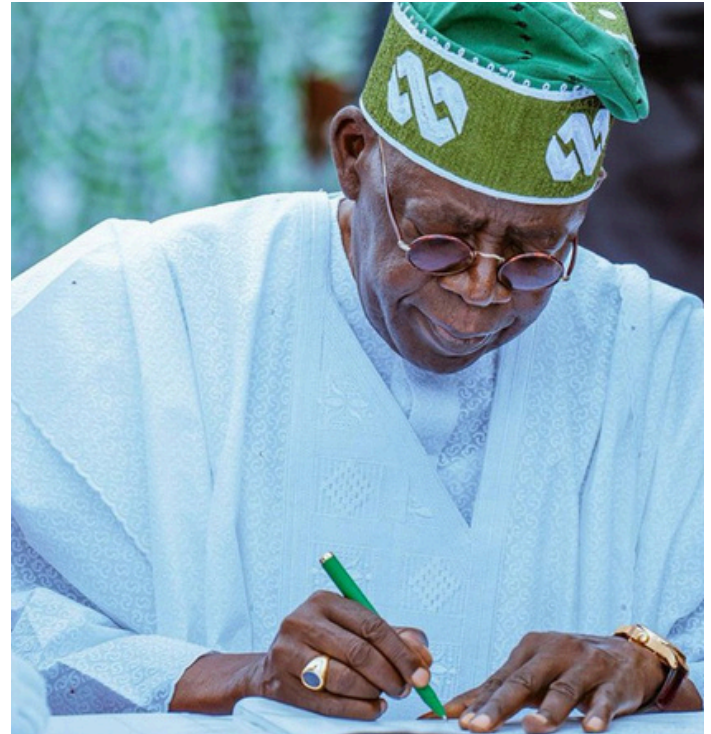
Under the proposed framework, companies meeting the revenue threshold will have six months to submit plans for setting up or relocating their headquarters. The government has also promised tax incentives and expedited approvals to facilitate compliance.

Officials say the move will promote economic sovereignty and enable stronger oversight of large corporations. However, some investors have expressed concerns over relocation costs and the need for transparent implementation guidelines.

The bill now awaits review by the Transitional Legislative Assembly.

Could this policy become a model for other African nations seeking to retain more corporate value within their borders?

## IF LIVES ARE BEING LOST DAILY ACROSS ZAMFARA, KATSINA, SOKOTO, AND MAJOR HIGHWAYS, WHY DID PRESIDENT TINUBU WAIT UNTIL NOW TO CHANGE NIGERIA'S SERVICE CHIEFS?



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has dismissed Nigeria's service chiefs and appointed new military heads in what the Presidency describes as a strategic move to strengthen national security.

While the reshuffle follows weeks of rumours about a possible coup and internal tensions within the armed forces, many Nigerians are questioning the timing, asking why such action wasn't taken earlier despite the persistent killings and kidnappings across the country.

General Olufemi Oluyede now serves as Chief of Defence Staff, Major-General W. Shaibu as Chief of Army Staff, Air Vice-Marshal S.K. Aneke as Chief of Air Staff, and Rear Admiral I. Abbas as Chief of Naval Staff. Major-General E.A.P. Undiendeye retains his position as Chief of Defence Intelligence.

The Presidency insists the move aims to improve operational efficiency and reinvigorate the fight against insecurity, but public sentiment remains skeptical. Many citizens argue that the government's response has come too late and wonder if their lives hold equal importance.

Will this reshuffle finally bring relief to Nigerians who have long endured violence, fear, and unanswered cries for security?

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