

Daily Newsletter - Cooking gas price jumps to N1,500/kg.

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GLOBAL NEWS

Australia PM Anthony Albanese ratings dip as opposition prospects brighten

Australia's conservative opposition coalition has pulled ahead of the Labor government for the first time since the May 2022 election, while ratings of Prime Minister Anthony Albanese fell to the lowest levels, a widely watched poll showed on Monday. A Newspoll conducted for The Australian newspaper showed the Liberal-National coalition now leads Labor 51-49 on a two-party preferred basis under Australia's preferential voting system, where votes from minor parties are redistributed until a winner is elected.

Source: Reuters

Focus: Low-cost hybrid tech gives Renault breathing space in tough EV

transition

Renault CEO Luca de Meo's bet on a low-cost gearbox technology is allowing the French carmaker to gain ground in Europe's fast-growing hybrid car market, giving it some breathing space as rivals get squeezed by the electric mobility challenge. Demand for expensive electric vehicles is not taking off in

Europe despite a European Union ban on combustion engine cars due to come

into force in 2035, putting massive strain on Europe's automotive industry.

Source: Reuters

U.S. lifts import ban on Malaysian glove maker Brightway

The United States has lifted a ban on Malaysian glove maker Brightway Group,

allowing the firm to resume sales of its products in the country nearly three

years after being sanctioned for alleged labour abuses. The U.S. Customs and

Border Protection (CBP) had barred imports of disposable gloves produced by

three Brightway subsidiaries in December 2021 over suspected forced labour

practices. In a statement issued late on Friday, the CBP said Brightway and its

subsidiaries have been allowed to resume exports to the United States from

Oct. 11 after the company had "taken actions to fully remediate the forced

labour indicators within its manufacturing process".

Source: Reuters

Asia shares stutter on diverging takes of China's stimulus pledges

Asian stocks swung between gain and loss on Monday as investors struggled to

reach a consensus view on China's economic stimulus promises made over the

weekend which, though broad, were light on specifics. Minister of Finance Lan

Foan at a closely watched news conference on Saturday pledged to

"significantly increase" debt, but left investors guessing on the overall size of

the stimulus, a detail needed to gauge the longevity of a stock market rally.

Source: Reuters

BUSINESS AND MACRO-ECONOMIC NEWS

Cooking gas price jumps to N1,500/kg

As Nigerians struggle with the high cost of petrol, the price of Liquefied

Petroleum Gas, also known as cooking gas, has also increased to

N1,500/kg. But the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of NIPCO Plc,

Suresh Kumar, said the Dangote refinery and other domestic refineries would

bring down the price of cooking gas, expressing concerns that over 60 per cent

of cooking gas consumed in Nigeria is being imported. Checks by our

correspondent confirmed that the prices of cooking gas peaked at N1,500/kg in

some retail outlets in Ogun and Lagos States as of Sunday. In Abuja, the

average price for refilling a 12.5kg cylinder of cooking gas has increased by

41.6 per cent to N17,000 in different areas.

Source: Punch

FG introduces tax payment in instalments

The Federal Government has proposed introducing a tax payment option that

enables individuals to pay their taxes in instalments. It introduced this in the

Nigeria Tax Bill 2024, recently submitted to the National Assembly for

consideration and approval. Our correspondent obtained a copy of the draft on

Sunday. This means that each person now has the flexibility to fulfil their tax

obligations either by making a single lump sum payment or by spreading the

payments out over time and settling before the designated due date for

filing. The government also proposed the creation of a special account by the

Accountant-General of the Federation for tax refunds.

Source: Punch

NATIONAL NEWS

Obaseki, Okpebholo's transition panels discuss handover today

Ahead of the November 12, 2024 handover, Edo State Governor, Godwin

Obaseki, has called on the state's governor-elect, Senator Monday Okpebholo,

to raise a panel to interface with his (Obaseki's) transition committee towards

the smooth handover of power. Obaseki proposed October 14, 2024 (today) for

both panels to hold their first meeting. Okpebholo of the All Progressives

Congress won the September 21 governorship election in the state to emerge

as the governor-elect. The result of the poll is, however, being challenged by

the candidate of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party, Asue Ighodalo. However,

in a letter dated October 10, 2024, the Secretary to the State Government,

Joseph Eboigbe, called on Okpebholo to raise a counterpart transition

committee to ensure a smooth power handover on November 12.

Source: Punch

Amaechi still bitter over primary defeat by Tinubu - APC chieftain

A chieftain of the All Progressives Congress in Bauchi State, Sunusi Takko, has

lashed out at former Minister of Transport, Rotimi Amaechi, for his open

criticisms of President Bola Tinubu's government. Takko, who served in the

defunct 2023 APC Presidential Campaign Council, described Amaechi's

criticisms of Tinubu as unpatriotic and advised him to recover from losing the

APC presidential ticket to Tinubu in 2022. Amaechi had, in a recent interview,

decried the economy hardship in the country, wondering why youths are not on

the street protesting against the Tinubu government. But in a statement on

Sunday, Takko took on Amaechi over his suggestion of mass protest against

the government, wondering if Amaechi had yet to recover from losing the APC

presidential ticket to Tinubu in 2023.

Source: Punch

National Assembly considers bill seeking to increase VAT from 7.5% to

10% by 2025

Consumption tax, also known as value-added tax (VAT) may soon become

higher in Nigeria. According to a report by The Cable, the National Assembly is

reportedly considering a bill to increase value-added tax (VAT) from 7.5% to

10% by 2025. The legislature also intends to increase VAT to 12.5% by 2026

through 2029. "VAT shall be charged on the value of all taxable supplies at the

following rates (a) 2025 year of assessment 10%; (b) 2026, 2027 2028 and

2029 years of assessment 12.5% (c) 2030 year of assessment and thereafter,

15%," the document reads. On May 8, Taiwo Oyedele, chairman of the

presidential committee on fiscal policy and tax reforms, said Nigeria needed to

increase its VAT rates.

Source: Businessday







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