ICPC, police clear D’banj of rape, fraud allegations

Date: 2023-12-02

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Source: https://thenationonlineng.net/icpc-police-clear-dbanj-of-rape-fraud-allegations/

ICPC, police clear D’banj of rape, fraud allegations  
  
Singer, Dapo Oyebanjo popularly known as D’banj, has been cleared of rape and fraud allegations by the Nigeria Police Force and the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), The Nation has learnt.  
  
The police and the anti-graft agency gave the ‘Fall-In-Love’ crooner a clean slate in separate clearance reports upon completion of investigations with incontrovertible outcomes on the innocence of the Kokomaster singer.  
  
In an affidavit obtained by The Nation, deposed by Toheeb Lawal of Abuja-based law firm, Law Corridor, before District Court of Abuja, wherein the reports of the Nigeria Police Investigation and Clearance from the anti-corruption agency were exhibited and marked exhibits A and B, the legal practitioner averred that the police and ICPC cleared the singer of rape and fraud allegations.  
  
In 2020, the singer was accused of rape and the Inspector General of Police ordered an investigation into the allegation.  
  
In a report dated November 14, 2023 with case number CR:3000/X/FHQ/ABJ/SEB/T.1/VOL 18/284, and signed by ACP YY Abubakar of the Special Enquiry Bureau at the Force Criminal Investigations Department at the Force Headquarters in Abuja, the police said the matter was investigated but there was no evidence to substantiate the claim.  
  
“The allegation was investigated,” the report reads in part. “The complainant, witnesses and suspects made their statements. Investigation was expanded across board but there was no prima-facie evidence, adduced facts or corroborative evidence to establish the offence of rape and sexual assault against the singer.”  
  
Also, in 2022, D’banj was wrongly accused of diversion funds associated with the N-Power Programme of the Federal Government.  
  
However, in a separate outcome after its investigation, the ICPC said D’banj was not guilty of any fraud allegation.  
  
In a response to an inquiry, the Commission cleared D’banj of any infraction on the matter.  
  
The clarification was dated November 29, 2023 with document number ICPC/OPS/SDD/SPT.LG/31/23.  
  
“The commission investigated issues of fraud in the administration of the N-POWER Scheme where Mr Daniel Oladapo Oyebanjo’s name came up. However, there was no prima-facie case of fraud against him.  
  
“Kindly be advised that Daniel Oladapo Oyebanjo is not under investigation with the Commission for any fraud-related offence,” the statement reads in part.  
  
The lawyer, in his deposition filed before the Chief District Court of the Federal Capital Territory at Wuse Zone 2, Abuja, also averred that the singer was never a government official and never had any access to government funds and that the N-power campaign he supported was free and was never paid a penny by anyone or the government.