



CRIN Herald

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (CRIN), IBADAN.

ISSUE: 09 (November, 2021)

One Year of ED's Selfless Service: Footprints on the Sand of Time



On Monday 26 October, 2020, the mantle of leadership of Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), fell on Dr. Patrick Olusanmi Adebola as the fourth Executive Director (ED). It was a great task of rebuilding and repositioning the Institute, considering

the deep seated animosity and acrimony that embroiled the system. At the time of assumption of office by Dr. Adebola, the Institute was tottering over the edge of precipice with a litany of unpaid debts, moribund infrastructures, withheld funds, and aggrieved staff, whose morale was on the lowest ebb. Dr Adebola, like an experienced craftsman, set out to repair the defragmented parts of the Institute, on assumption of office. He reconstituted the Management Committee with progressives and flung open his doors to all cadre of staff. He organized periodic interactive sessions thereby assuaging the aches of aggrieved staff. The ED, being fully aware of essentials of peaceful co-existence with the host communities, paid visits to all the traditional leaders (Baales) and obtained royal blessings. He apologized to all that suffered injustice and curried the cooperation of all and sundry. As a master planner who has all the blueprints clearly laid out, Dr. Adebola balm the financial aches of staff (both serving and retired) by the payment of long overdue staff entitlements which

includes: Resettlement Allowances (50% of the year 2012 to 2020); 1st 28 days of staff transferred to substations where there are no staff quarters; Repatriation Allowances (year 2013 to 2020); Deceased staff arrears (100% of the year 2013 to date); Training arrears (year 2013 to 2020); and Unpaid vouchers (year 2017 to 2020) to the tune of ₦26,191,459.27. It is noteworthy that these staff entitlements paid by the ED were owed by the previous administrations. This noble act brought a palpable sense of joy among CRIN staff with jubilation and encomiums poured on the ED for this laudable achievements.



The good works of Dr. Adebola, came to the fore again as he successfully facilitated the recovery of deductions of the cooperative

societies and unions that was withheld for 15 months and 6 days. A cumulative sum of ₦23,071,756 was returned in full to the coffers of CRIN Cooperative societies, Academic Staff Union of Research Institutes (ASURI), Senior Staff Association of Universities, Teaching Hospitals, Research Institutes and Associated Institutions (SSAUTHRIAI), Non Academic Staff Union (NASU), National Association of Professional Secretarial Staff of Nigeria (NAPSSON), Association of Agricultural Technologists of Nigeria (AATON) and the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR). Another round of jubilation over this rare feat reverberated throughout the Institute and was even felt by retirees all of whom were earlier subjected to great hardship, as access to severance allowance, loan and disbursement





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of dividends was hampered.

Credits for the payment of the returned three months' salary to staff is largely that of Dr. Adebola. This great feat, which past administrations laboured in vain to achieve, greatly instilled peace in the Institute.

The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, has started the renovation and facelift of the Administrative Office Complex of CRIN Headquarters to a befitting standard for the first time in a very long time. This laudable project depicts the visionary and leadership capacity of the ED in transforming the Institute from the old narratives.



Renovated Board Room

Additionally, the ED upgraded the Institute Website (<https://crin.gov.ng/>) and the Internet bandwidth from 4Mbps to 100Mbps; Resuscitated the Pure Water Factory; Renovated the Flavour Quality Laboratory; Established Gymnastic Centre; On-going construction of the fermentary and the Perimeter fencing of the Institute.



Renovated ED's Office



Walkway of the Renovated Directorate Block



Renovated Flavour Quality Laboratory





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On-going perimeter fencing of the Institute

The roll call is almost endless as the ED is impacting lives almost on daily basis. One of the prominent visitors to the Institute who couldn't hold back her excitement opined that "leadership is key". Indeed, the achievements of Dr. Adebola, within just a year in office, is aptly captured by an American parlance 'you aint seen nothing yet'. Definitely, Dr. Adebola is firmly appending his footprints on the sands of time; history is writing his name in gold letters!

Oversight Visit by the Governing Board



The CRIN Governing Board, ably led by Alhaji Abdulahi Jao, paid oversight visit to the Institute from 26 to 29 September, 2021. The board members were warmly received by the members of staff, the ED, Dr.

Patrick Adebola and the Union members. They were ushered round the developmental projects of the Institute which includes the Institute's nursery, world acclaimed Flavour Quality Laboratory (FQL), the expansive 1000 seater conference hall and exquisite central laboratory under construction. The elated board members were visibly ravished by the transformations enveloping the Institute. The unspoken quest in the mind of the board members appears to be: "where is the Executive Director harnessing these rare magic wands within a very short time?". The

answer was not far-fetched as they are eloquent testaments to the fund management prudence of the ED, Dr. Patrick Adebola.



The board members at the Nursery



Visibly elated board members and the Executive Director (left)



The Executive Director (middle) exchanging pleasantries with the board members





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ARCN Corner

How ARCIN Act Amendment Will Boost Agric. Research in Nigeria

The Executive Secretary of Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCIN),



Professor Garba Hamidu Sharubutu, has commended the Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Senator Abdullahi Adamu, for sponsoring the amendment of the ARCIN Act.

According to Prof. Sharubutu mni, the Council's amended act, which has been signed by President Muhammadu Buhari, has harmonized the boards of the research institutes with the Board of the Council to enhance the operation of the Council with the research institutes it supervises.

Prof. Sharubutu further stated that the new act did not only reduce the bureaucracy in the various research institutes, but also reduced the cost of running the Council and the research institutes.

Speaking with journalists in his office in Abuja, the ARCIN boss commended Senator Abdullahi Adamu for sponsoring the bill. He also commended former Ministers of Agriculture, Chief Audu Ogbeh, Alhaji Sabo Nanono and the current Minister, Dr. Mahmood Abubakar, for their roles in ensuring that ARCIN Act was amended.

"The person I will give real credit to for initiating this bill in order to make sure that the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria actually takes his proper place is Senator Abdullahi Adamu.

"He actually conferred with the agricultural research council management at that time, and said, if you are having these types of boards and we are not having the best, why can't you come up with a law for us to be able to unify these boards, because in his wisdom, it is going to reduce cost; it is going to ensure that there is synergy; it is going to make sure that you now perform your function of designing a research project in tune with what the government policy actually is.

"So honestly, I give him the credit, because he was the sole sponsor of the bill and all of us bought his wisdom, we then went down to work, we toured the whole of this country from one zone to the other. And what we did was we looked at the geopolitical zones, and held meetings with stakeholders, before we came up with a bill.

"And, of course, again, I have to give credit to the ministers, in fact, the three ministers that were involved, number one is Chief Audu Ogbeh, then Alhaji Sabo Nanono, then this current minister, Dr. Mahmood Abubakar, even though he met it at the tail end, but when his advice was sought, he actually sought serious briefing before he consented to the fact that there is no problem with that bill, that the bill is definitely going to serve the interests of the country.

"We also give credit to the House of Representatives, because the chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Agricultural Colleges also participated actively by making sure that they concur with the bill," he said.

Furthermore, Professor Sharubutu said that there is another bill sponsored by Senator Adamu which seeks to address the issue of funding for Research Institutes and other agricultural related activities.



“This bill (ARCN amendment bill) went together with a bill on the endowment fund. I



don't know how we can thank Senator Abdullahi Adamu, maybe because he has been in the area of agriculture for a long time, he

has been an agriculturalist, he has been the Chairman of the committee on agriculture for a very long time, so he has all the wisdom.

Rather than making provision for a separate form of funding only for the Research Institutes and the colleges, in his own wisdom, he said let there be an Act that will establish an Agricultural Development Fund.”

He explained that this Agricultural Development Fund is supposed to harmonize all the various sources of revenue that are agriculture-related, so that the sector will have a TETFUND type of organization so that the Research Institutes will draw from, the colleges will draw from, and the universities of agriculture will draw from.

Prof. Sharubutu said those into processing will also draw from the fund and industrialists will now have the option of opting to either come to the development fund or go to the industrial fund to go and draw their money depending on what they want to undertake.

“So, there is a separate bill, and I know that the bill, again sponsored by Senator Abdullahi Adamu, has passed the Senate, it has also been concurred with at the House of Representatives and we are praying that very shortly, the minister may decide to push it for presidential assents,” he added. **(Report submitted by Mr. Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Head, Protocol and Publicity, ARCN)**

NALDA Commissions 30,000 Birds Capacity Integrated Farm Estate in Yobe State on 24 September, 2021

- Farm to generate N1.1 million daily, N400 million annually
- Incubation centre to produce 250,000 noilers annually



The President of Nigerian Senate, Senator Ahmed Lawan, has commissioned an integrated farm estate in Yobe State built by the National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA). The farm estate which houses 10 poultry pens that contain 30,000 old layers and an incubation centre is sitting on 20 hectares of land, and is expected to produce about 250,000 noilers annually for sales. Located at Gasamu, Jakusko Local Government in Yobe State, the farm estate has 30 youths, who are the beneficiaries, to manage the birds in a one person to 1000 birds.

Speaking at the commissioning during the weekend, the Executive Secretary of NALDA, Prince Paul Ikonne, said: “we are here today for the commissioning of this 30,000 bird capacity farm estate which is specially made to produce noilers. This centre is like a reproduction centre that will be producing our locally improved birds that will be distributed across the country in order to encourage our local breeds and maintain our old stocks.”





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He stated that the farm estate, which commenced production immediately, is expected to generate N1.1 million daily from sales of birds alone and N400 million annually for the farmers. He explained that the incubation centre will produce the parent stock which will lay eggs the production of day old noilers for sales, with the production capacity of 250,000 annually. While the 30,000 birds will be used for egg and meat production for the 30 benefiting farmers.

“The youths from this immediate community are the first set of beneficiaries which we believe will engage them meaningfully as they will be making their money from this centre. We believe that it will reduce unemployment and this community has been enjoying peaceful coexistence within themselves, that this farm will increase that peace within them. I want to thank the host community, especially the President of the Senate for his support and the Governor of the state for providing us the enabling environment to see that the desire of Mr President is achieved. NALDA integrated farm estates are meant to empower the community, to develop the land within the community, empower the youth, create employment and reduce hunger in our land”, the ES of NALDA, Prince Paul Ikonne, added.

On the sustainability of the farm estate, the NALDA boss, Prince Paul Ikonne, stated that the Authority has engaged Prime Farm to manage the farm estate, while Jaiz Bank and other banks will be its financial partner.

The President of the Senate, Senator Lawan while commissioning the farm estate, said it will produce chicks for sales and distribution across the country. “So it means it is a special bird, anyone who wants our type of chicks will get it from here, it means there will be a lot of trading and marketing between this

Gasamu Farm Centre and all parts of Nigeria.” The Senate President expressed optimism that the farm estate will project the name of the community, and cause the establishment of poultries around the Local Government and the State. While commending President Buhari for the approval of the project, Senator Lawan appealed to NALDA to increase the production capacity of the poultry, stating that the 250,000 chicks annually may not be enough for the community alone.

The Governor of Yobe State, Mai-Mala Buni in his address, said the project is the first of its kind in the State. Governor Buni, who was represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Baba Wali, urged NALDA and the beneficiaries to ensure success of the centre in line with the state’s objective of introducing new ideas for effective production.



The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr. Mahmood Abubakar, stated that the project is a fulfilment of the aspiration and promise of President Buhari. The Minister who was represented by the Executive Secretary of Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), Professor Garba Sharubutu mni, assured the Senate President of the commitment of the

Ministry to partner with him and NALDA in order to improve the livelihood of rural communities. **(Report submitted by Mr. Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, ARCN)**



National Review and Validation of Biosafety Policy and Action Plan



The final review and presentation of the National Review and Validation of the draft National Biosafety Policy and Action Plan was held on 29 September, 2021. The Director General of

National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA), Dr. Rufus Egbegba, in his welcome remarks, thanked the stakeholders for their various contributions and support, adding that the validation of the biosecurity policy is a major step that has been collectively taken to ensure the security of Nigerians. Dr Egbegba indicated that the draft policy document was adopted for validation at the technical meeting.



Delivering his goodwill message, the ES of ARCN, Prof. Garba Sharubutu, heartily congratulates the DG for this

feat. The ES reiterated that, while laws protect the system, it takes good policies to effectively drive the system. Prof. Sharubutu, however, affirmed that this biosafety policy will contribute to strengthening the One-health programme in Nigeria. The ES added further that the ARCN will collaborate with the NBMA by airing its content on ARCN TV and Radio, which were recently approved by Mr. President. "We shall welcome research in the areas of environmental issues as it affects

agriculture from the agency for consideration and possible sponsorship under the Competitive Agricultural Research Grant Scheme (CARGS)", Prof. Sharubutu stated.

The climax of the occasion was the presentation of the draft biosafety policy document to the representative of the Hon. Minister of state, Federal Ministry of Environment, for onward transmission to the Federal Executive Council (FEC). **(Report submitted by Mr. Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Head, Protocol and Publicity, ARCN)**

Stakeholders Suggest How to Revive Crop Production for Industrialisation



• Harp on the reintroduction of commodity boards **(Report by Femi Ibirogb, Head, Agro-Economy, The Guardian Newspaper)**

Breaking away from the mono-cultural economy by reviving commercial production and industrialisation of cash crops requires coordination that only organised boards involving public and private counterparts could guarantee, industry bigwigs have pointed out. Countries maximising benefits of crops such as ginger, cocoa, cashew, oil palm and coffee, they argue, get farmers, input dealers, off-takers, processors and exporters, among others, organised and coordinated. Data is required for planning, production expansion, input sourcing and industrial utilisation to diversify the base of the economy. Through coordination, accurate





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data is mined from farmers, aggregators and other critical stakeholders in the value chains.

Speaking on the oil palm industry in Nigeria, Chairman of the Plantation Owners Forum of Nigeria (POFON) and Chief Executive Officer, Aden River Estates Limited, Mr Emmanuel Ibru, said Nigeria is the only major producer that does not have a coordinating body. This, he added, leaves the industry poorly coordinated, dragging productivity and industrialisation of palm oil sector.

Executive Director, Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), Dr. Patrick Adebola, and Managing Consultant, Foremost Development Services, Mr Fatai Afolabi, also expressed similar views while speaking with The Guardian.

“Malaysia has an oil palm council. Every other leading producer of oil palm in the world has an oil palm council and the council basically formulates policies for the industry and ensures implementation,” Ibru said.

He added that if there is a council with members drawn from all stakeholder groups and government representatives from the Customs Service, research institutes, including the vegetable oil producers, the industry would become better organized with a view to ensuring productivity and best practices. He said major oil palm producers invest in research and development guided by their councils and allow allocation of funds to intend farmers.

Also emphasising the importance of industrial crops, the CRIN boss, Dr. Patrick Adebola, stated that cocoa, cashew, coffee, kola, tea and some others had been known as major foreign exchange earners for the country.

“I believe that if we promote these tree crops, we can reclaim our past sources of revenue for development,” he added.



Dr. Adebola declared that while Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana are waxing stronger in cocoa production, Nigeria struggles with about 250,000

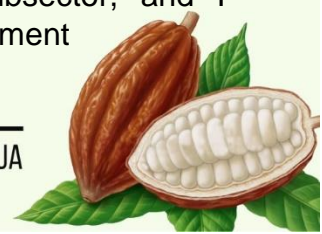
to 300,000 tonnes. This, he said, is a result of the “well-regulated cocoa subsector in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.

“Nigeria tends to have more hectares than Cote d'Ivoire, but their production is higher than ours. Everything about cocoa in that country is well regulated.”

Apart from that, he said, good agricultural practices would get us maximum yield, and this could be done by intensive training of farmers through a coordinating body.

“One other way is by regulating agrochemicals that we use on cocoa farms. In Nigeria now, every agrochemical comes in and farmers use it indiscriminately. This affects the quantity of cocoa we produce and the quality in terms of pesticide residue leading to rejection of some of our cocoa beans when we export. If the cocoa subsector is more regulated, these things will normalise,” he said.

Dr. Adebola said: “the biggest mistake we made was abolishing the cocoa board. There were allegations of corruption, but corruption could have been fixed without winding it down. If you look at Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, their cocoa sectors are doing well because the boards are in place. They regulate their cocoa subsectors. But in Nigeria, there is no one-stop-shop for cocoa subsector, and I think it is high time the government





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looked at not only cocoa but also other commodity boards. They should be brought back.”

He suggested that when the commodity boards are brought back, a certain percentage of what they make should be reinvested into research to relieve the government of the burden of exclusively funding research institutes as done in other countries.

In the same vein, President, Cocoa Farmers Association of Nigeria (CFAN), Adeola



Adegoke, stated that Nigerian farmers have expertise in cash crop production, and available human, land and financial resources from the crude oil sector should be

channeled towards reviving crop production and moribund industries. He emphasized the money-spinning potential of industrialisation and local consumption of cocoa and export of semi-finished by-product such as cocoa butter.

Managing Consultant, Foremost Development Services, Mr. Fatai Afolabi, who is also Executive Consultant to POFON, said in terms of agricultural data and statistics, the last time Nigeria had agricultural credible data was the time of marketing boards. He said it was their specific function to collate data. They also assisted in production, keeping data of what was produced.

“Part of what was produced was bought over and exported. And because they wanted to export more and more, they had to stimulate more production. It’s a chain which had to function, but the moment they no longer existed, individuals became their own

marketing boards and they are not giving out the data.

[\(https://guardian.ng/features/stakeholders-suggest-how-to-revive-crop-production-for-industrialisation-forex/\)](https://guardian.ng/features/stakeholders-suggest-how-to-revive-crop-production-for-industrialisation-forex/)

HORTSON holds Council Meeting

The Horticultural Society of Nigeria (HORTSON) held her council meeting at the Institute on October 04, 2021. The annual event was hosted by the Institute to fine-tune the necessary machineries ahead of the forth-coming conference that would be hosted by the Institute from November 14 to 18, 2021. As is typical of our amiable Executive Director, Dr. Patrick Adebola, he graced the occasion and assured the organisers of maximum cooperation throughout the conference. The ED, being a man of foresight, had renovated the venue of the opening ceremony of the conference to a befitting standard; he had also massed force to complete the 1000 seater conference hall, but was impeded by paucity of fund.



The ED and HORTSON Council Members

The Local Organising Chairman of the HORTSON Conference, Dr. Rotimi Ipinmoroti and an outgoing President in Council (PIC) of the Society, Dr. Henry Akintoye, were full of praises to the ED for his unrelenting efforts towards the success of the forth-coming conference and the structural transformations of the Institute.





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CRIN Interns Trained on Chocolate and Soap Production

The Institute organized training on chocolate and soap production with cocoa pod husks for interns. This is in keeping with the avowed commitment of the Executive Director to transform wastes to wealth and empower the youths towards entrepreneurship. It was hands-on, as the students participated actively in the production processes under the guide of the CRIN staff: Mrs. Kehinde Rachael Adeleye, Mrs Nwaokolo Ruth and Mr. Kayiwede Solomon. The beneficiaries were drawn from the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Olabisi Onabanjo University Ago-Iwoye (OOU), Osun State University, Osogbo, Ladoké Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho and Osun state Polytechnic, Ire.



Chocolate production facilitated by Mrs. Kehinde Rachael Adeleye

Glorious Outing by CRIN Volleyball Team

The volleyball team of the Institute emerged victorious during Federal Government Parastatals and Allied Institutions Volleyball Staff Games (FEGOPAG) which was held from 20 to 25 September, 2021. The venue was Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Oyo State Command Headquarters, Ibadan. The following were the Institutions that participated in the meet: Customs, Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN), Nigerian Securities and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Police, Federal College of Animal Health (FCAH), Moor Plantation and CRIN. The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria team walloped her opponents and clinched the third position.



The victorious team members

Monthly Sports Programme

The monthly sports programme of the Institute took place on October 12, 2021. It was a beehive of activities as staff of all cadres thronged the gym to keep fit. Everyone was eager to try their hands on the myriads of gymnastic equipment that litter the sports arena. The experienced guides were on hand to assist all neophytes in the proper use of the equipment for body fitness.





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Staff of the Month: Mrs. Alaba Olubukola Olayinka



Mrs. Alaba Olubukola Olayinka was born on 12th February, 1977 to the family of Elder and Mrs Oludayo Onabanjo in Lagos State. She had her elementary education at Ifo Ota Primary

School, Sango Ota in Ogun State. She also attended Yejide Girls' Grammar, School, Molete, Ibadan, where she obtained her West African School Certificate (WASC). She later proceeded to The Polytechnic Ibadan, where she obtained her Higher National Diploma in Office Technology Management. Mrs. Alaba was employed to CRIN service in 2011 and deployed to Admin and Supply and later to Finance and Accounts as well as other departments in the Institute to mention a few. She is presently in Value Addition Research Department (VAR), where she rose to the rank of Confidential Secretary on CONRAISS 7. She has attended many courses in service and workshop sponsored by CRIN Management which include: Managing Boss, Official Schedule and Office/Document Security, Performance Improvement for Secretarial, Data and Allied Cadre. She has also attended Conference of Association of Professional Secretarial Staff of Nigeria (APSSON). Mrs Alaba epitomizes diligence, humility, intelligence, transparency and resourcefulness.

November Birthday Galore

Hearty birthday celebrations to the members of staff that will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Wishing you all the very best in your life endeavours. Congratulations!



Bolarinde Folake A.	01-November
Rilwanu Safiyanu A.	01-November
Odeku Olufemi O.	01-November
Ojo Mukaila	01-November
Adebiyi Solomon	02-November
Ezeorah Loveth U.	02-November
Adebisi Temitope I.	02-November
Ganiyu Saidi	02-November
Bakare Abiola A.	04-November
Ajayi Joseph O.	05-November
Asua Ime S.	05-November
Babalola Bayo	05-November
Dinni Chinedu E.C.	06-November
Mimiola Uwakwe	06-November
Ajayeoba Olanipekun	07-November
Mofolasayo Adewale S.	08-November
Ekemube Alex R.	08-November





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Ebiale Benjamin	08-November	Aremu-Dele Olufemi	22-November
Olaniyi Olayinka O.	09-November	Ojo Olubunmi	22-November
James Musa N.	09-November	Oladoja Olaolu	22-November
Mallam Dada B.	10-November	Adesokan Mutairu A.	23-November
Olagunju Nurudeen	10-November	Adeyanju Segun O.	23-November
Ajala Akeem O.	10-November	Ele Andrew Chidi	23-November
Akinwande O.O.	11-November	Adeogun Muiwa A.	23-November
Sorinolu O. E.	11-November	Adegoke Funke	23-November
Fabowale Folasayo	11-November	Taiwo Nnenna	24-November
Joshua Paul N.	11-November	Ojua Eunice O.	25-November
Iseoluwa Samuel	11-November	Omitade Oluwatoyin	25-November
Adeyemo Solomon	11-November	Abdulahi Usman M.	25-November
Akintoroye Oladunni	12-November	Mohammed Shaib	25-November
Bolarinwa Felix	12-November	Oloruntomi Isaac A.	25-November
Ugwuoke Joseph C.	13-November	Aikpokpodion P.A.	26-November
Adeyemi O. R.	14-November	Mapayi Elizabeth F.	26-November
Fakeye Joke	14-November	Akele Oni O.	26-November
Adeniyi Dele O.	15-November	Samuel Abraham I.	26-November
Ogiugo Phillip I.	15-November	Babatunde Maria O.	27-November
Ogolowa Faith E.	15-November	Oluwadare Sarah E.	28-November
Akinola Christianah	16-November	Okeniyi Temitope S.	28-November
Yahaya Mufuliati O.	16-November	Nwajei Maureen N.	28-November
Lawal Kazeem	17-November	Akinbola Temilorun	28-November
Okunade A.F.	18-November	Famuyiwa S. B.	29-November
Ganiyu Ibrahim	18-November	Abiade Suleiman	29-November
Ani Cyril	18-November	Adeyemi Adedeji	31-November
Ibiremo Omolade B.	19-November		
Oyewale Samson	19-November		
Adeleke Olaoye A.	21-November		

