



## FINANCE NEWS

#### FG, states, LGs' borrowing from banks hits N954.27bn

Bank loans to the different levels of government and the national economy have continued to grow steadily as the banking sector moves to put its nonperforming loans under control, NIKE POPOOLA reports

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# Lockdown, physical distancing almost shut down economy – FG

The lockdown and physical distancing measures that were implemented to curb the spread of COVID-19 in Nigeria almost led to a complete shutdown of economic activities across the country, the Federal Government said on Sunday.

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# Investor confidence plunges by 0.08 per cent amid uncertainty

Uncertainties, inconsistent government policies have continued to dampen investors' confidence in the equity sector of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE), raising questions as to turning around its fortunes.

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#### CBN releases N16b for Anchor Borrowers' Programme

THE Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has released N16 billion for Anchor Borrowers Programme. The apex bank has also been applauded for its new foreign exchange policy restricting forex access for maize imports.

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#### WTO: Okonjo-Iweala Promises Support for Low-income Countries

Nigeria's candidate for the position of Director General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, has assured least developed countries (LDCs) and Small Vulnerable Economies (SVEs) that are members of the global trade body of her support if given the job.

# Preserving forex reserves, raising local capacity through import substitution

For decades, successive governments in Nigerian resorted to protective measures, including import restrictions and exchange rate control, to manage its foreign exchange (forex) market.

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#### MARKET RATES: INTERBANK /PARALLEL

NGN	USD	GPB	EUR
20 JULY	462 / 470	565 / 575	510 / 520
17 JULY	460 / 465	555 / 565	500 / 506
16 JULY	455 / 463	550 / 562	498 / 505
15 JULY	455 / 461	550 / 558	495 / 504

cbn.gov.ng

### **BUSINESS NEWS**

#### Investor confidence plunges by 0.08 per cent amid uncertainty

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#### United Capital grows net profit by 16% to N1.91b in H1

UNITED Capital Plc braced the lockdown in the second quarter to sustain double-digit growths in key performance indices in the first half with net profit rising by 16 per cent to N1.91 billion.

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#### Investors scout for value stocks amid H1 optimism

BARGAIN-HUNTING for value stocks drove activities at the stock market as investors sought to take positions ahead of the expected inflow of first-half results of quoted companies.

#### NNPC suffers 47% drop in petrol sales revenue

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation saw its revenue from petrol sales plunge by 47.38 per cent to N107.61bn in April as supply dropped amid the coronavirus lockdown and the reduction in the pump price of the product.

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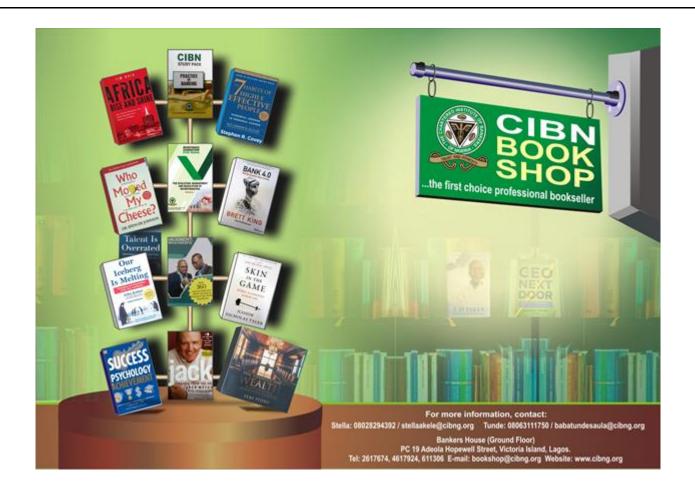
#### **NSE's Value of Trading Declines by 45%**

The stock market witnessed a decline in value of investment by investors last week, committing only N7.436 billion as against N13.453 billion invested the previous week, showing a fall of 44.7 per cent.

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### WHAT'S NEW?





#### "When life gives you Monday, dip it in glitter and sparkle all day." – Ella Woodword





JUST IN: Third Mainland Bridge: FG, Lagos inspect alternative routes

Four days to the partial closure of the Third Mainland Bridge for rehabilitation, officials of the Federal Ministry of Works and the Lagos State Government on Sunday inspected repair works being done on alternative routes.

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#### N64b e-waste poses health risks for Nigerians, others

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Nigeria and the rest of Africa may soon begin to grapple with a different layer of complicated health issues unless governments rise up to the mounting electronic waste (e-waste) on the continent.

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# JAMB warns tertiary institutions against charging over N2000 for post-UTME screening

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) has warned tertiary institutions against charging more than N2,000 for post- Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) screening.

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