

Delta Airlines speaks on why it stopped Abuja flights

SHOLA ADEKOLA - LAGOS

DELTA Airlines has attributed reasons for the suspension of flights to Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja to what it called passengers' low traffic.

According to the airline's Commercial Manager for East and West Africa, Mr Bobby Bryan, Delta Airlines last year discontinued its

flights from Abuja to Houston in the United States, because it realized that the market in Abuja was not as big as the airline projected.

Bryan who said other factors that led to the stoppage include slow growth of flight operations, declared: "Though, we consider Nigeria as a huge market for Delta Airlines, but we had to last year stop flights into Abuja

because we found out that the market was not as big as we projected.

"We also noticed that the operations did not grow as fast as we envisaged. We thought the best thing to do was to stop the Abuja flights. But, we have not closed our offices there, we still sell tickets through the Abuja office. We do not intend to resume operations there very soon."

Maritime experts want Stallion punished

TOKUNBO OLOKE - LAGOS

FREIGHT Forwarders at the ports have called on the Federal Government to allow the full weight of the law to come against one of the acclaimed auto manufacturers, the Stallion Group Limited, over the allegation of abuse of the country's trade regulations.

The company was alleged

to have brought in containers of tyres in the name of Completely Knocked Down (CKD) parts, apparently in attempt to enjoy some concessions as an auto manufacturer.

Freight forwarders and others who expressed dismay over the alleged fraud wondered how long such trade crime has been going on before the Nigeria Cus-

toms Service (NCS) discovered it at the Tin Can Island port during a thorough examination.

Stakeholders who spoke on this development, said the company cannot attempt such fraudulent act without having the belief that it will be protected by those highly placed in government, particularly in the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

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