

motorcycles as high as N150,000.

his motorcycle during the recent

much in Lagos", Dauda lamented.

## Amnesty Programme Seeks Partnership With NPA

The Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP) says it has been repositioned to tackle unrest and unemployment in the Niger Delta by partnering with the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA).

It said the PAP was aimed at empowering youths in the area with requisite skills.

Interim Administrator of PAP, Maj.-Gen. Barry Ndiomu, disclosed this during a courtesy call to the Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Mohammed Bello-Koko in Lagos last week.

Ndiomu solicited the partnership of the authority for some of its programmes, especially the Deep Sea Diving School in Rivers State.

The interim Administrator said he had redirected the programme to its primary objective of boosting the capacity of youths in the Niger Delta.

"When I took over in September 2022, I discovered that the programme had been drifting away from the core objectives of why it was established.

"I have to redirect the vision towards the initial concept, which is essentially to build the capacity of the teeming restive youths in the region.

"Like they say, 'an idle mind is the devil's workshop'. When these boys are

jobless, what do you expect from them? They engage in criminal activities, including pipeline vandalism, piracy and other activities which affect the economy," he said.

According to him, PAP has five vocational centres, which were established with different specialisations such as in Agadagba in Ondo state aimed at training youths in oil and gas related activities.

## Dala Inland Port Begins Operation, Receives First Container

The Managing Director, Dala Inland Dry Port (DIDP), Alhaji Ahmad Rabiu, says the port has started commercial operations as it received the first container.

Rabiu said this during the formal introduction of DIDP to customs, clearing and forwarding agents and other stakeholders at the company's office in Kano on Friday.

He stressed the commitment of the management to enforce international standards and best practices in handling of cargoes in the facility.

According to him, the company will create an enabling environment for a seamless and improved service delivery.

The managing director said he was satisfied with the unveiling of DIDP as

port of origin and destination, which would generate job opportunity and enhance economic development in the state.

He said that the port was a ready port for cargo movement from origin to destination and gave assurance that the company would render modernised and digital services for smooth operations.

Rabiu added that the meeting was organised to showcase the level of preparedness of the port to stakeholders.

Earlier, the Chairman of the DIDP Board, Alhaji Abubakar Bawuro, said that the port would service Nigeria's neighbouring countries and would also serve as a window among the countries to do business conveniently.

He said that the inland dry port would

security."

Also, Article 226(1) (a) and (b) of UNCLOS provides that: a) "States shall not delay a foreign vessel longer than is essential for purposes of the investigations provided for in articles 216, 218 and 220, b) If the investigation indicates a violation of applicable laws and regulations or international rules and standards for the protection and preservation of the marine environment, release shall be made promptly subject to reasonable procedures such as bonding or other appropriate financial security."

facilitate delivery of cargo from the door of the manufacturer to the buyers.

Bawuro noted that the port was ready for visitors as it received one container for export.

He added that the port had capacity of 20,000 Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) and called on all stakeholders to patronise it.

In his remarks, the Representative of Kano/Jigawa Customs Area Command, Mr Sambo Khalil, assured of the service commitment and support for the successful take-off of the dry port.

Also speaking, Mr John Jenkins of SIFAX Cargo Handling and Logistics, called for a synergy to sanitise the system.

Jenkins also promised to provide effective service delivery for customers.

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