

# The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

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## INEC Accredits 134 Election Observer Groups For Edo, Ondo Guber Polls

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has accredited 134 election observer groups for the upcoming Edo and Ondo off-season governorship elections scheduled for September 21 and November 16, 2024. According to a statement released by INEC national commissioner and chairman of the Information and Voter Education Committee, Sam Olumekun, 124 of these groups are domestic, while 10 are international.

Read more:

[https://inecnigeria.org/?page\\_id=13744](https://inecnigeria.org/?page_id=13744)

## Senate introduces bill to establish electoral commission for LGs

The Senate has introduced a bill to establish the Local Government Independent Electoral Commission. Sponsored by Sani Musa, the senator representing Niger East, the bill had its first reading on Thursday. This proposed legislation comes about a week after the Supreme Court mandated that the federal government directly allocate funds to local government councils from the federation account.

Read more: <https://www.thecable.ng/just-in-senate-introduces-bill-to-establish-electoral-commission-for-lgs/amp/#>



## INEC Holds Pre-Election Training For Observers Ahead Of Edo, Ondo Guber Polls

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) held a pre-election training workshop for accredited election observers on Wednesday at its headquarters in Abuja. The event, chaired by Mr. Sam Olumekun, National Commissioner and Chairman of the Election and Party Monitoring Committee (EPMC), highlighted the workshop's importance, stressing its role in ensuring observers are well-prepared for the elections scheduled for September 21 and November 16, 2024.

Read more:

<https://independent.ng/inec-holds-pre-election-training-for-observers-ahead-of-edo-ondo-guber-polls/>



## Scores Injured as Armed Thugs Attack Shaibu, Okpebholo's Convoy In Edo

Barely a day after a Federal Court in Abuja reinstated Philip Shaibu as the Deputy Governor of Edo State, an undisclosed number of people were injured on Thursday when armed thugs fired shots at the convoy of the All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate, Senator Monday Okpebholo, and Shaibu. The attack occurred around 2 p.m. as the group was leaving Benin Airport upon arrival from Abuja.

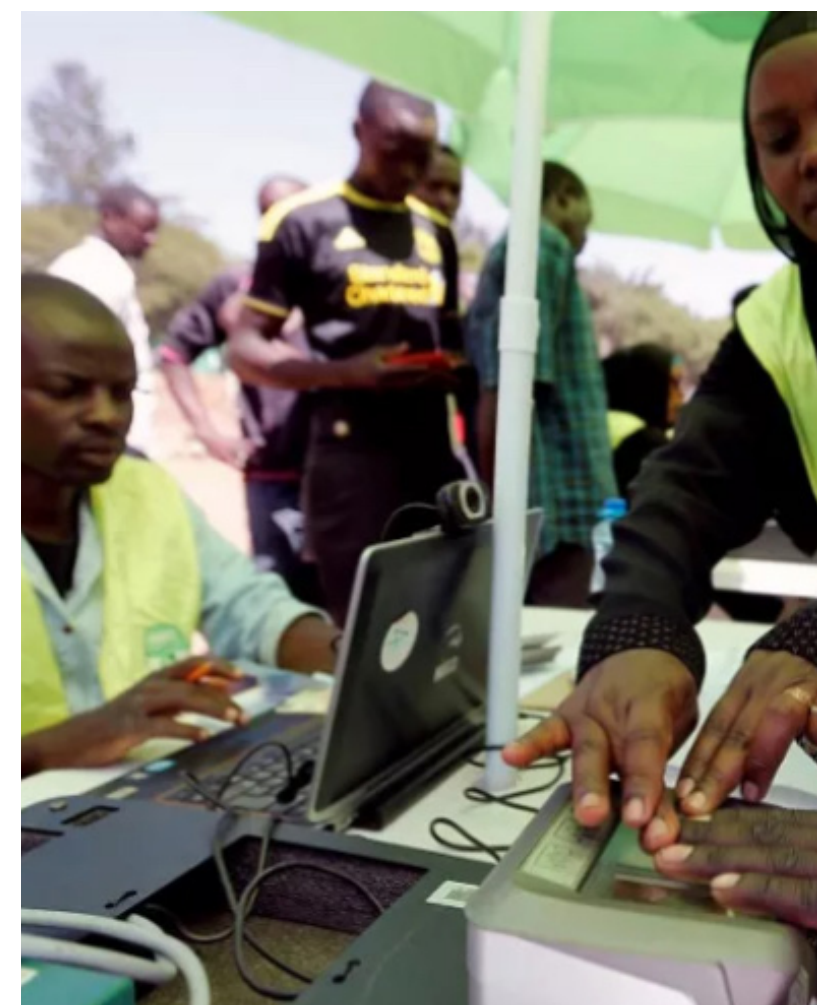
Read more: [https://leadership.ng/scores-injured-as-armed-thugs-attack-shaibu-okpebholos-convoy-in-edo/#google\\_vignette](https://leadership.ng/scores-injured-as-armed-thugs-attack-shaibu-okpebholos-convoy-in-edo/#google_vignette)

## Incomplete registration: INEC invites 246 new applicants from Edo, Ondo for validation

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has invited 246 new applicants—82 from Edo and 164 from Ondo state—to provide complete data to ensure their eligibility to vote in the upcoming governorship elections in both states. In a statement on Thursday, Sam Olumekun, the National Commissioner and Chairman of the Information and Voter Education Committee, announced that a cleanup of the register using the Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) revealed that the biometric details of these applicants did not meet the threshold for seamless accreditation.

Read more:

[https://inecnigeria.org/?page\\_id=13754](https://inecnigeria.org/?page_id=13754)





## Appeal Court Affirms Diri's Re-Election As Bayelsa Gov

The Court of Appeal in Abuja on Thursday upheld the decision of the Bayelsa Governorship Election Tribunal, confirming the November 11, 2023, re-election of Governor Douye Diri of Bayelsa State. A three-man panel of the appellate court, in a unanimous judgment, dismissed an appeal seeking to overturn the Tribunal's decision.

Read more: <https://independent.ng/breaking-appeal-court-affirms-diris-re-election-as-bayelsa-gov/>

## Federal High Court affirms Ighodalo as PDP guber candidate

Read more: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/07/federal-high-court-affirms-ighodalo-as-pdp-guber-candidate/>

## Tribunal upholds APC Rep's victory in Katsina rerun election

The National and State Assemblies election petitions tribunal on Thursday upheld the election of Alhaji Dalhatu Tafoki, representing Faskari/Sabuwa/Kankara federal constituency in the House of Representatives, in this year's rerun elections in Katsina State. The three-member panel, led by Justice K.A. Ojiaka, dismissed the petition filed by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate, Alhaji Jamilu Muhammad, citing a lack of merit.

Read more: <https://www.ripplesnigeria.com/tribunal-upholds-apc-reps-victory-in-katsina-rerun-election/>



## Court upholds Uzodinma's election as Imo gov

The Court of Appeal in Abuja has dismissed the appeal filed by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and its governorship candidate, Samuel Anyanwu, challenging the Imo State tribunal's decision that affirmed Hope Uzodinma as the authentic governor of the state. The court ruled that the appeal lacked merit, having resolved all issues against the appellants. Similarly, the appellate court also dismissed the appeals by the Labour Party and its candidate, Achonu Nneji, as well as the Allied Peoples Movement, for also lacking merit.

Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/court-upholds-uzodinmas-election-as-imo-gov/>

The Federal High Court in Abuja upheld the nomination of Dr. Asue Ighodalo as the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate for the 2024 Edo State gubernatorial election on Wednesday. Justice James Omotosho delivered the decision, dismissing the suit marked CS/469/24 filed by Philip Shaibu, who had challenged Ighodalo's nomination.





## Bill seeking six-year single term for president, govts scales first reading

The House of Representatives on Wednesday passed the first reading of a bill proposing an amendment to the 1999 constitution to establish a single six-year term for the offices of the President, State Governors, and Local Government Areas Chairmen. The bill was sponsored by Ikenga Ugochinyere, the representative for Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency in Imo State, along with other lawmakers.

Read more: <https://punchng.com/bill-seeking-six-year-single-term-for-president-govs-scales-first-reading/>

## Adamawa constitutes LG election petition tribunal, appeal panel

Read more: <https://dailypost.ng/2024/07/17/adamawa-constitutes-lg-election-petition-tribunal-appeal-panel/>

## Rivers, Kogi, 11 other states to hold local govt elections after Supreme Court judgment

Following the Supreme Court judgment granting financial autonomy to local government authorities, at least 13 states in the country have begun preparations to hold council elections. The states include Kaduna, Kogi, Bauchi, Katsina, Osun, Enugu, Benue, Rivers, Jigawa, Imo, Kebbi, Abia, and Anambra.

Read more: <https://politicsnigeria.com/rivers-kogi-11-other-states-to-hold-local-govt-elections-after-supreme-court-judgement/>



## Sanwo-Olu Appoints Retired Judge, Five Others To Lagos Electoral Commission

The Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has approved the appointment of six individuals to the Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission (LASIEC). Retired Justice Bola Okikiolu Ighile will serve as the Chairman, with Samson Ajibade, Oluwo Durojaiye, Dr. Metilelu Olusola, Aileru Abeeb Dapo, and Oladele Adekanye appointed as members. This new leadership team is expected to oversee and ensure the integrity of electoral processes within the state.

Read more: <https://thewhistler.ng/sanwo-olu-appoints-retired-judge-five-others-to-lagos-electoral-commission/>

Adamawa State has established a petition tribunal and an appeal panel to address any disputes arising from the Local Government elections held last Saturday. On Wednesday, the state Chief Judge, Justice Hafsat Abdulrahman, officiated the swearing-in ceremony for the tribunal and appeal panel members at the state High Court in Yola.



## Kaduna to conduct LG elections Oct 19

The Kaduna State Independent Electoral Commission (KAD-SIECOM) has announced that Local Government elections in the state will be held on October 19, 2024. According to Hajara Mohammed, Chairperson of KAD-SIECOM, this decision was disclosed during a meeting with political parties and other stakeholders in Kaduna. Mohammed noted that the current council members, who assumed office on November 1, 2021, will complete their three-year tenure on October 31, 2024.

Read more: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/07/kaduna-to-conduct-lg-elections-oct-19/amp/>



## Otu seeks assembly's approval to constitute electoral commission

Governor Bassey Otu of Cross River has urged the state House of Assembly to approve the formation of a new Cross River State Independent Electoral Commission (CROSIEC). During a Wednesday session in Calabar, Speaker Elvert Ayambem read the governor's letter, which was signed by the Secretary to the State Government, Professor Anthony Owan Enoh. The letter also called for the dissolution of the current CROSIEC, established by the previous administration.

Read more:

[https://newsdiaryonline.com/otu-seeks-assemblys-approval-to-constitute-electoral-commission/#google\\_vignette](https://newsdiaryonline.com/otu-seeks-assemblys-approval-to-constitute-electoral-commission/#google_vignette)



## Kogi to conduct local govt elections, October 19



The Kogi State Independent Electoral Commission (KOSIEC) has announced that chairmanship and councilorship elections across the state's 21 local government areas will be held on October 19, 2024. This announcement was made by KOSIEC Chairman Mallam Mamman Nda-Eri during a stakeholders' meeting in Lokoja.

Read more:

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/kogi-to-conduct-local-govt-elections-october-19/>



**Countdown  
to Off-Cycle  
Governorship  
Elections  
2024**

**64**  
DAYS TO

**Edo State Elections  
21st September, 2024**

**121**  
DAYS TO

**Ondo State Elections  
16th November, 2024**

