

1. Oil crash may warrant production halt, says NNPC

- Nigeria has not stopped producing crude oil but a persistent crash in oil prices may lead to a halt in production, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has declared.
- On Tuesday, Brent, against which Nigeria's crude oil is priced, fell by \$6.34 to \$19.23 per barrel amid demand collapse caused by reduced economic activities.
- Nigeria recently slashed the oil price benchmark for its budget to \$30 per barrel from \$57 per barrel, but oil prices kept crashing since the outbreak of coronavirus as demand plunged.
- On whether Nigeria had stopped oil production due to the persistent price crash, the country's national oil firm said it had not.
- It was, however, quick to explain that this might happen should global crude oil prices maintain persistent downward plunge.

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2. Lockdown: Discos are incurring losses, says IBEDC

- Electricity distribution companies are incurring losses as payment for electricity by consumers have been hampered by the restrictions of movement imposed to contain the spread of coronavirus, Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company has said.
- The Osun Regional Head, IBEDC, Mr Akin Ogunleye, disclosed this to our correspondent after making a donation of food items to Osun State Government on behalf of the company in Osogbo, the state capital.
- He, however, said that the Federal Government, through the National Assembly, had already commenced discussions with the Discos regarding palliatives to cushion the effect of nonpayment of bills by customers on them.

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3. Total battles coronavirus outbreak at Mozambique LNG project

- According to French supermajor Total, it is working with the government of Mozambique to manage a growing outbreak of COVID-19 cases at its \$20 billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) project site in Cabo Delgado, in the north of the country.
- "A large number of staff have been tested for the virus and a small proportion of them tested positive," Total said in a statement, adding that staffing has been reduced to essential services. Total said the first case was detected this month but did not state how many cases had been confirmed.
- According to local media reports, the site is under lockdown until further notice.

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4. UNDP in Liberia restores electricity to Grand Bassa's largest hospital

- The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Liberia has restored electricity at Grand Bassa's largest hospital, after installing solar panels at the Government health facility.
- The project comes in the wake of an agreement signed between UNDP under its Solar for Health Project and the Ministry of Health in December 2019 to electrify several hospitals and other health facilities across the country using solar energy.
- According to the medical director of the hospital, Dr. Abraham Jawara, the electricity will now allow departments such as the maternity ward, operating theater, and emergency room to function without hindrance.
- The 24 kilowatt health facility received 150 pieces of panels (275 watts each), 63 pieces of batteries with a capacity of 3000amps each, and 6 inverters at 4000 watts each.
- With the presence of the solar panels at the hospital, Jawara emphasized that nurses and doctors would no longer have to use phones and flashlights during operations.

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5. 33MW power plant to be constructed in Guinea to electrify Lefa Mine

- A new 33 MW power plant is set to be constructed in Guinea to power Lefa mine, one of the world's largest gold mines owned by Nordgold Group, in a bid to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide sustainable power generation for the mine.
- The plant will be designed and constructed by China manufacturing service group SUMEC, a member of China National Machinery Industry Corporation (SINOMACH), following an engineering, procurement and construction agreement signed with the gold producer.
- Upon completion, the new power plant to be constructed in Guinea will replace the existing power plant consequently reducing both fuel consumption for electricity production by 15% and engine oil by 30%. This will result in reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 17,000 tons a year which is in favor of Nordgold's climate change objective as well as its commitments to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

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6. NNPC, partners donate ambulances, others to South-West states

- The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation and its partners handed over six ambulances and medical consumables to South-West states on Thursday.
- NNPC said the donation was presented by the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Chief Timipre Sylva, on behalf of the corporation and the Independent Petroleum Producers Group, comprising of 26 indigenous oil companies.
- The corporation said in a statement issued in Abuja that the donation was part of the N21bn intervention initiative on the COVID-19 pandemic by the Nigerian oil and gas industry.

- The items donated to Lagos, Ogun, Ekiti, Osun, Oyo and Ondo states were received by the Minister of State for Health, Dr. Olorunnimbe Mamora, who is a member of the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, and Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

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7. NIPCO pays N563m dividends

- Shareholders of NIPCO Plc have approved payment of N563 million as cash dividends for the 2018 business year as the downstream oil and gas company recorded net profit of N1.58 billion. Shareholders will receive a dividend per share of N3.
- At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Abuja, NIPCO Plc Chairman Chief Bestman Anekwe said the company recorded total turnover of N254 billion in 2018 as it deepened petroleum products outlets and doubled its Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) market share in Nigeria.
- He said the company has continued to record outstanding achievements despite the prevailing difficult environment in the last few years.
- He noted that NIPCO has maintained its culture of outstanding performance and industry leadership by focusing on pursuing its major objectives.

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8. TCN, AFD to finalise power transmission expansion agreement

- The Transmission Company of Nigeria and the French Development Agency are set to finalise an agreement for the expansion of power transmission lines across the country.
- The AFD is a public financial institution that implements policies defined by the French Government and works to fight poverty and promote sustainable development in various countries.
- It was gathered that agreement between the TCN and the French would see to the expansion of transmission lines that would move electricity across several states in Nigeria.
- The TCN's Managing Director, Usman Mohammed, told our correspondent in Abuja that the agreement was part of the Transmission Rehabilitation and Expansion Programme of the TCN.

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