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# MINILS NEWSLETTER

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## OUR VISION

To be a regional center of excellence in labour studies and globally renowned labour institution.

## OUR MISSION

Building the capacity of workers, employers and government officials in labour and industrial relations through training, research, education and inter-institutional linkages to promote labour management relations best practices and industrial harmony for sustainable development.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Professionalism
- Inclusivity
- Dialogue
- Service Delivery
- Innovativeness
- Transparency
- Client-Focused
- Development
- Diversity
- Gender Sensitivity

# MINILS HOLDS 3RD MATRICULATION, TIPS ON EXPANSION OF PROGRAMMES TO TACKLE UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA

The Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin, recorded a new milestone as it matriculated another set of students admitted into its Bachelors degree programme in Employment Relations and Human Resource Management.

The Director-General of the Institute, Comrade Issa Aremu, while delivering his welcome address, described the occasion as a significant milestone in the academic journey of the new students and a defining moment in the continued growth of the Institute. He noted that matriculation is not merely a ritual, but a formal initiation into the academic community, symbolizing acceptance into a system built on discipline, excellence, integrity, and the pursuit of knowledge.

Aremu disclosed that the degree programme, which commenced in 2019 in affiliation with the University of Ilorin, is an offshoot of the Institutes National Diploma in Industrial and Labour Relations launched in 2013. He explained that the initiative was part of a strategic effort to diversify and expand labour education services to its social partners. According to him, the milestone represents a significant leap forward, further strengthening the Institutes position among its peers and enhancing the delivery of labour education suited to the evolving world of work.




MINILS Director-General and Vice-Chancellor, UNILORIN during the 3rd Matriculation Ceremony.

Continued from Page 1

He also noted that the programme has recorded remarkable progress since its inception, adding that about 20 of its pioneering graduates are currently serving their fatherland under the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) scheme across Nigeria, thereby contributing meaningfully to national development.

The Director-General further informed the gathering of ongoing efforts to conclude affiliation processes with the University of Ilorin for the Institute's Postgraduate Diploma in Career Guidance and Counselling, which commenced in 2025. He reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to expanding its academic programmes in order to strengthen labour market efficiency and tackle unemployment in Nigeria.

While congratulating the matriculating students, Aremu charged them to cultivate positive attitudes towards learning, adhere strictly to rules and regulations, and avoid distractions that could derail their academic pursuits. He urged them to look beyond certificates and focus on acquiring practical skills that can provide solutions to societal challenges.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Professor Wahab Egbewole, SAN, emphasised that the foundation of every human endeavour is crucial.

He urged the new students to take their matriculation oath seriously, noting that it would shape the heights they attain in their academic journey.

Professor Egbewole commended the management of the Institute for upholding the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the programme and ensuring its sustainability.

He also reaffirmed the University's commitment to supporting the Institute in expanding its academic offerings.

Earlier, the Programme Coordinator and Director of the Academic and Distance Learning Programme Department, Dr Sylvanus Adamade, stated that the curriculum is designed to equip trade union leaders and workers with the theoretical and practical tools needed to navigate the complexities of the modern world of work.

He disclosed that the programme secured full accreditation for a period of five years from the National Universities Commission (NUC) in 2023.

According to him, the matriculating students comprise 15 admitted through the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) and three through Direct Entry, bringing the total number to 18.

Dr Adamade commended the management of the Institute for its support and called for continued collaboration from stakeholders in the labour sector to achieve the Institute's vision.

Dignitaries from academia, the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), and the labour sector graced the occasion..

# MINILS HOLDS MAIDEN PRE-MAY DAY LECTURE, ADVOCATES STRONGER SYNERGY BETWEEN WORKERS AND MANAGEMENT

The Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin, on Wednesday held a pre-May Day lecture, where management emphasised the need for stronger synergy and mutual understanding between workers and management as a foundation for productivity, industrial harmony and organisational growth.

Speaking during the maiden event, the Director-General/Chief Executive of the institute, Comr. Issa Aremu, stressed the critical role of labour in organisational growth, noting that workers remain the driving force behind wealth creation.

*"Labour creates wealth; that is why we should celebrate labour," he said.*

The DG emphasised that effective collaboration and mutual understanding between management and staff are essential for productivity and institutional progress, adding that no organisation can thrive without a harmonious working relationship.

The DG also commended the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation for ongoing efforts aimed at securing increased allowances for workers nationwide.

As part of activities marking the 2026 International Workers' Day, he announced that MINILS management had concluded plans to pay staff 10 per cent of their monthly gross salary in celebration of May Day.

Reaffirming MINILS' status as Nigeria's premier labour institute, he said the organisation would continue striving to provide the best for its workforce while urging employees to remain focused, dedicated and committed to their duties.

Earlier in her remarks, the Acting Head of Department, Special Duties, Mrs Rachel Solomon, traced the history and significance of May Day celebrations and expressed appreciation to the Director-General for initiating and supporting the pre-May Day programme.

The event featured lectures and discussions centred on the theme, "Re-Inventing Labour Management Relations in MINILS," with the Director of Human Resource Management, Dr Danjuma Lawan; Director of Trade Union Education, Mr Raji Michael; and Acting Head of Department, Labour Management Relations, Dr Moshood Lawal, serving as key speakers, while the chairmen of the Senior Staff Association (SSA), the Non-Academic Staff Union of Educational and Associated Institutions (NASU), Chairperson Women Committee of the Nigeria Labour Congress and a representative of National Association of People with Physical Disabilities participated also lent their voices to the discussion.



**Cross-section of management and labour leaders during the maiden MINILS Pre-May Day Lecture.**

# MINILS TRAINS SENIOR STAFF OF NCC ON "STRENGTHENING ORGANISATIONAL IDEALS AND WORKPLACE COLLABORATION"

The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) held a capacity-building workshop at the Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin between 4th and 8th May, 2026 for officers on Grade Levels 13 and 14 on the theme "Strengthening Organisational Ideals and Workplace Collaboration for Effective Regulatory Service Delivery".

Representing the Director General of MINILS, Comrade Issa Aremu, the Institute's Director of Human Resource Management, Dr Danjuma Lawan, in his opening address, apologised for the DG's absence, who was away to Abuja on official assignment.

Lawan described the workshop as unique due to the large turnout of participants and assured attendees that MINILS had deployed seasoned facilitators with deep expertise in labour and trade union matters to ensure a rewarding learning experience.

He noted that the institute has continued to witness significant progress under its current leadership and reaffirmed its commitment to fulfilling its mandate through quality capacity development programmes.

Speaking at the event, the Director General of NCC, Dr John Asein, said the Commission selected MINILS because of its established track record in labour education.

Asein stressed the importance of synergy between management and staff in strengthening organisational ideals and enhancing workplace collaboration for effective regulatory service delivery. He urged participants to take full advantage of the workshop to improve their capacity for the benefit of their organisation and national development.

Earlier, the Director of the coordinating department, Dr Michael Raji, welcomed participants and encouraged them to maximise the opportunity provided by their management to enhance both personal and organisational growth.

During an interactive session with the participants upon his return, the Director-General of MINILS, Comrade Issa Aremu mni, urged them to clearly articulate and "popularise" the purpose of their presence at the Institute, stating that a proper understanding of the training would enhance both institutional impact and national service delivery.

Com. Aremu, who enjoined participants to recognise that every right is tied to corresponding duties and responsibilities, stressed that the exercise of rights must be balanced with accountability, discipline, and a strong sense of obligation.

The DG proposed the formalization of a partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MINILS and NCC, noting that such a move would deepen institutional cooperation, enhance training opportunities, and promote shared objectives.

Aremu while underscoring the importance of history in shaping organisational values and direction, called on the participants to appreciate the legacy of labour education and nation building.



*Group photograph of participants and management staff during the NCC capacity-building workshop at MINILS, Ilorin.*

# MINILS MARKS 2026 IWD, RE-ECHOES THE NEED FOR WOMENS INCLUSION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin, joined the global community to commemorate the 2026 International Womens Day (IWD), re-echoing the need for gender equality and greater inclusion of women in national development.

The event, the fifth of its kind since the inception of the Comrade Issa Aremu-led administration, took place on Monday, 9 March 2026. It brought together labour leaders, government officials, and development partners to chart a course on strategies for strengthening womens participation in leadership and national development.

In his welcome address, the Director-General/Chief Executive of MINILS, Comrade Issa Aremu, called for deliberate constitutional and policy reforms to increase womens representation in governance. He emphasised the need for Nigeria to adopt proactive measures to address the persistent under-representation of women in political decision-making.

Aremu, who noted that women make up about 51 per cent of the global population, said they deserve stronger representation in the nation's political institutions. He also commended the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for appointing women to key government positions.

> *"Women deserve stronger representation in the nation's political institutions."*

He further praised the female staff of the Institute for their professionalism and dedication, stressing that the progress recorded at MINILS during his tenure has been made possible with their support.

He also reiterated the call for the creation of special seats for women in the National Assembly to improve their political representation.

This years event, themed *Advancing Women Through Unity: The Impact of Collective Support Give to Gain*, attracted the presence of stakeholders in the labour movement and government.

Among them were the Kwara State Director of the National Orientation Agency, Alhaji Dare AbdulGaniyu; the Kwara State Controller of Labour, Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, Mr. Orodiran Bola, who was represented by a Principal Labour Officer in the Ministry, Mrs. Rachael Abosede Adeoye; the Chairperson of the Women Committee of the Kwara State NLC, Comrade Victoria Agboola; and other dignitaries.

## WORKERS' DAY: MINILS REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING LABOUR EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

The Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS) has reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to strengthening labour education, workforce development and capacity building for Nigerian workers.

In a goodwill message delivered at the 2026 Workers Day celebration held at the Ilorin Township Stadium, Kwara State, the Director of Human Resource Management at MINILS, Dr Danjuma Lawan, who represented the Director-General of the Institute, Comrade Issa Aremu, said MINILS remains dedicated to providing qualitative and quantitative labour educrleciors and trade unions across the country.

Lawan noted that the Institute remains focused on empowering workers through education, training and professional development under the purposeful leadership of the Director-General and management team.

He described MINILS as a vital institution established to serve Nigerian workers by deepening labour knowledge, enhancing industrial relations, and equipping workers with the skills required for effective representation and national development.

Lawan emphasized that MINILS is fully prepared to meet the educational aspirations of workers through its expanding academic and professional programmes, including a Bachelors Degree in Employment Relations and Human Resources Management affiliated with the University of Ilorin, a Postgraduate Diploma in Career Guidance and Counselling in partnership with GIZ, and National Diploma programmes in Industrial and Labour Relations.

He added that beyond academic training, the Institute also recognizes and honours individuals who have made significant contributions to the promotion of decent work and labour advancement in Nigeria and beyond.

Reiterating MINILS role as the workers institute, Lawan encouraged workers, labour leaders and stakeholders to take advantage of the Institutes broad range of educational and developmental services.

MINILS joined other trade unions and labour stakeholders in the ceremonial Workers Day march past, proudly showcasing its solidarity with the Nigerian labour movement.



*MINILS staff during the 2026 Workers' Day celebration held at the Ilorin Township Stadium, Kwara State.*

# MINILS EXPANDS INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVE WITH RENOVATED HALL, SOLAR WATER PROJECT



*MINILS staff and management officials during the handover of the solar-powered pumping machine and renovated training hall.*

As part of deliberate efforts geared towards repositioning Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS) through improved infrastructure and enhanced service delivery, the Institute on Friday, May 8, held a formal handover ceremony for a newly installed solar-powered pumping machine and a renovated training hall.

Speaking during the brief ceremony within the Institute's premises, the Director-General, Issa Aremu mni, stated that the projects were aimed at ensuring a more conducive working and learning environment for staff, participants, and stakeholders of MINILS. He noted that the projects reflected the Institute's determination to reposition MINILS and demonstrate what could be achieved through deliberate and intentional efforts.

While urging staff to embrace innovation, initiative, and institutional development, the Director-General enjoined them to preserve the newly installed equipment and ensure proper maintenance of assets for future users and generations of workers at the Institute.

He further disclosed that renovation works would also be extended to the Institute's other training hall as part of ongoing infrastructural improvements.

Comrade Aremu spoke about management's zero tolerance for delay in the processing of funds, emphasizing the importance of efficiency and accountability in service delivery.

He added that outstanding performances and initiatives by staff would continue to receive recognition and reward and conducted by encouraging departments to sustain efforts that would further enhance the visibility and impact of the Institute's programmes.

# MINILS CALLS FOR UNION–GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP TO DRIVE INDUSTRIALISATION

The Director-General/Chief Executive of Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Comrade Issa Aremu, has called for stronger partnership between organised labour and government as a strategy to promote industrialisation, attract investment, and expand employment opportunities in Nigeria.

He made the call at the opening of an in-plant workshop titled "Upskilling Trade Union Leadership for Effectiveness in Nigeria's Oil and Gas Sector in the Post Petroleum Industry Act Era", organised for executives of the Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG), Kaduna State.

Speaking at the event, Comrade Issa stated that industrialisation cannot thrive without investment, describing it as the foundation for job creation and the survival of organised labour.

He urged NUPENG to lend its voice to advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring adequate funding for labour market institutions such as MINILS, noting that proper financing could transform the Institute into a world-class learning centre.

Also speaking, Dr. Bamidele Onibanyi, representing the Head of the Academic and Distance Learning Programmes Department, said the Petroleum Industry Act provides an opportunity to restructure Nigeria's oil and gas industry, boost productivity, stimulate economic growth and ensure stable industrial relations.



*Cross-section of NUPENG executives and participants during the in-plant workshop at MINILS.*

# PHOTO SPEAKS



Cross-section of staff members during the May Day celebration at the stadium



Cross-section of staff members during the May Day celebration at the stadium



Participants during the World Health and safety day.



The DG demonstrating how to put out a fire during the drill exercise at the World Health & Safety Day



Another participant during the drill exercise.



Cross-section of matriculating students at the matriculation ceremony

# PHOTO SPEAKS



MINILS Management with the DG of the NCC



Com. Issa Aremu decorating the newly promoted ASP Obatoye Tunji



Cross-section of Beta Glass PLC union officials and participants during a capacity-building workshop at MINILS



The DG, Management staff with the newly inducted staff

# DG TARGETS BETTER SECURITY, WELFARE FOR MINILS SECURITY PERSONNEL

The Director-General/Chief Executive of the Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin, Mr. Issa Aremu, mni, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to strengthening security and improving the welfare of security personnel at the Institute.

Speaking at a security briefing at the Institute, Aremu commended the personnel for maintaining a secure and breach-free environment since his assumption of office in 2021. He urged them to sustain the momentum, noting that security remains one of Nigeria's major challengse alongside water, food, and power supply.

He noted that one of his first acts upon assumption of duty as Director General was to strengthen internal security in the Institute alongside adequate electrification of the Institute, a desire that birthed the solar-powered borehole pumps which now supply running water 24 hours a day within the Institute.

The DG thereafter, called for the formalisation of a monthly security briefing as part of efforts to sustain the Institute's stable security system.

Earlier while giving his report, ASP Tunji stated that the Institute had not recorded any security challenges, noting that issues of poor lighting were already being addressed. He added that repairs to a damaged section of the perimeter fence would be carried out soon and commended the cordial relationship between Moonlight Security and the police. He, however, appealed for improved welfare for the security personnel amid the rising cost of fuel.

In his remarks, the Chief Security Officer of Moonlight Security, Mr. Akeem Kayode appreciated the DG and management for their support, describing the leadership as responsive and attentive.

The DG responded by assuring the personnel of timely salary payments and approved a token to cushion the impact of rising living costs. He concluded by directing that the access road leading to the Institute be sanitised and fully reclaimed to strengthen control and enhance overall security.

# 2026 RADIO DAY: AREMU ADVOCATES POLICIES TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF MEDIA WORKERS

The Director-General/Chief Executive of the Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS), Ilorin, Comrade Issa Aremu, has called for the creation of policies that protect the rights and welfare of media workers.

He made this call recently in Ilorin during the commemoration of the 2026 World Radio Day, an event organised by the Kwara State Branch of the Radio, Television, Theatre and Arts Workers Union (RATTAWU).

Speaking at the event, Aremu, who was represented by the Director of Human Resource Management at the Institute, Dr Danjuma Lawan, noted that the occasion provides a platform to recognise the immense contributions of radio, television, theatre and arts workers "whose creativity, professionalism and commitment sustain the media and cultural industries".

He acknowledged the critical role of the sector in "shaping public opinion, preserving cultural heritage, promoting national values and supporting democratic governance", adding that their roles are "deeply connected to labour productivity and national development".

Mr Aremu observed that "the media and creative industries are significant employers of labour and vital drivers of skills development". He further called for a collaborative effort among governments, labour unions, employers, and media professionals to safeguard the dignity of labour in the media and creative industries.




*MINILS representative addressing participants during the 2026 World Radio Day celebration organised by RATTAWU.*

# SOCIAL DIARY

## BIRTH



The family of Mr and Mrs Oseni Akeem Olarewaju (HRM) was blessed with a baby boy on the **12th of May, 2026.**

## MARRIAGES



- Mr. Abdulkabir Akanbi of Procurement got married on **17th January, 2026**
- Alhaja Ibrahim Mopelola, Ag. HOD of EDD gave out her daughter in marriage on **28th March, 2026**
- Mrs. Damilola Rotimi of EDD tied the knot on **28th March, 2026**

***We wish them all a happy married life.***

## CONDOLENCES



The management and staff of MINILS commiserate with the following staff on the loss of their loved ones:

- **Mr. Folorunsho Ishola Abdulkadir** of Finance and Account *(lost his father)*
- **Mrs Abiola Grace Afolabi** of Library unit *(lost her father)*
- **Dr. Sylvanus .S. Adamade,** Director of ADLP *(lost his father)*
- **Mr. Kunle Ojediran** of TUE *(lost his brother)*
- **Mr. Gbenga Fagbemi** of Transport Unit *(lost his mother in-law)*
- **Mrs. Fatimah Awola Abdullahi** of ADLP *(lost her father)*
- **Mrs. Muinat Omowumi Lawal** of Abuja Zonal office *(lost her father)*

*May the Almighty God grant their souls eternal repose.*