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# Emergency Rule in Rivers State amounts to a Civilian Coup – How do we fight back?

Sacked Kaduna

**Electricity Employees** 

Yet To Be Re-Instated

 $The^{imposition\ of\ Emergency\ Rule\ in\ Rivers\ State\ shows\ that\ the\ Tinubu\ administration\ has\ undertaken\ what\ amounts\ to\ a\ civilian\ coup.}$ 

Democratic structures have been collapsed, elected officials suspended from offices, the principle of federalism undermined, the Federal constitution of Nigeria pushed aside, and military rule imposed in Rivers State under a sole administrator. The usual democratic constraints of Constitutional compliance, public protest, judicial review, and parliamentary oversight have been over-turned or ignored.

The Tinubu regime is now operating outside the rule of law and the constitution. Nigeria is now under civilian-military rule.

It has now become obvious that the courts and the National Assembly are rubber stamps for the Tinubu administration. The two houses of the National Assembly ratified the state of emergency in Rivers State.

This included going into closed sessions and pretending to recognise the required two thirds majority through a voice vote. They also accepted the suspension of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and members of the State House of Assembly without dissent from any members of the opposition parties.

The Nigerian masses cannot depend on politicians to defend our democratic space and institutions.

In the situation of this civilian coup and civilian-military rule, we can no longer rely on polite appeals nor democratic niceties. The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) issued an excellent statement against the suspension of the elected officials of Rivers State, describing it as "unconstitutional and an assault on democracy".

Many civil society groups have voiced their opposition to the Imposition of emergency rule and introduction of military sole administrators. The Nigeria Labour Congress and the Trades Union Congress have also issued a good statement on the coup in Rivers State, but all this is not enough.

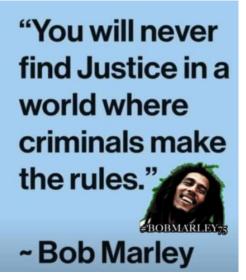
The trade unions have the power to defeat the Tinubu regime as they dealt with El Rufai in Kaduna in May 2021. We have to organise much better to encourage the labour movement to use this power. The NLC and TUC in Rivers State have warned that they may be forced to take decisive action if the state of emergency declared in Rivers State is not reversed within a reasonable timeframe. We need to organise more direct collective action by the NBA and other civil society organizations until the Constitution and laws are complied with.

The time for appeals and demands is clearly over, it is only collective mass action that can defend our democracy, stop this civilian coup from engulfing other States in the Federation and see the end of poverty, inequality and corruption that is the foundation of the troubles that we all face on a daily basis.

We need a Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) so that we can afford to eat. For the detailed arguments see this briefing: <a href="https://ivavalleybooks.com/2024/01/02/briefing-on-the-minimum-wage/">https://ivavalleybooks.com/2024/01/02/briefing-on-the-minimum-wage/</a>

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

#### Eight Months After Coming To Effect, Kaduna State Yet To Implement The National Minimum Wage-By Bashir Bello



Civil servants in Kaduna State still await the implementation of the N72,000 minimum wage which the State Government promised since November last year.

All the staff interviewed confided in us that they were yet to receive the new minimum wage promised by the state government. However, they were being subjected to various forms of screenings and verifications ostensibly to fish out ghost workers.

This development has confirmed the fears expressed by the state chapter of the Nigeria Labour Congress, in which it raised concerns on the implementation of the new wage regime. The Chapter has earlier voiced that the state government has defaulted on its promise.

Many civil servants are health workers and teachers who form a vital component of the state's working machinery. Without them, activities in the state will be grounded. Yet these staff have suffered neglect from

the hands of succeeding administrations.

The last administration embarked on a mass sack of the civil servants cutting across ministries agencies, parastatals and the local government employees. Despite trimming down the workforce by nearly half its former size, the State has continued to neglect their welfare turning them into a beggarly status while eroding their self-worth.

Most of the lower grades workers comprising of cleaners, gardeners, messengers and other gatekeepers have been sacked and replaced with contract staff engaged by private firms and receive meagre salaries.

A visit to one of the secondary schools in the state capital revealed a pathetic scenario where most of the teachers were absent due to high cost of transportation, which forced them to skip some days off in order to make ends meet.

The delayed implementation of the New National Wage is deliberate and leaves on its trail a lot ambiguity and confusion. Workers were only told of a fixed amount as the Minimum Wage. The question that comes readily to mind is whether workers whose grade levels are higher than the minimum are affected by the increase and if so by what percentage.

In this situation, the trade unions across the state need to sit up and take action, they are failing in their basic role to protect the value of their members' salaries.

#### As 'Progressive' Tinubu Replicates What He Did In Lagos





The notion of progressive politicians in Africa, particularly in Nigeria, is a myth. For years, I've observed that individuals who claim to be champions of progress and change when out of government quickly abandon these principles once in power...

It's often said that Nigeria is too complex to be controlled by one person, but Tinubu's actions suggest otherwise. He has used Lagos as a lab to demonstrate and master his political and transactional ingenuity. Now, Lagos is under his boots and firm grip. He has the capacity to replicate same at the centre! And it seems he's making progress, albeit gradually. Is it essential to be patient and allow him complete his conquering of Nigeria?

Full article is available from: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/498d6y4p">https://tinyurl.com/498d6y4p</a>

#### Senator Natasha's Case Highlights Rampant Sexual Harassment

Educate O'Clock MARKET WALK FOR SENATOR NATASHA AKPOTI #WeStandWithSenNatasha #SayNoToIntimidation #JusticeForSenNatasha

#### DI WAHALA FOR SEN. NATASHA AKPOTI





- Make senator dem remove di six months suspension wey dem give Senator Natasha Akpoti. Make dem remove Akpabio for oga seat, until dem check di matter of sexual harassment wey Senator Natasha talik finish. Make dem investigate di matter well without partiality.

March 9, 2025 March 12, 2025 March 13, 2025 March 14, 2025 TO BE A PART: @talktoene\_ @Gemmaofili 🛭  ${f R}$  ape, physical violence, and sexual harassment are all too common for most women. Members of the elite, like Senator Natasha, are usually protected from most aspects of the poverty-ridden and violent society that we all suffer from. Sexual harassment is also a key issue related to insecurity, as both Boko Haram, for example, and the army have allegedly used rape as part of their war in the North East Nigeria.

Trade unions need to take cases of sexual harassment much more seriously. We have to demand that all such claims are taken seriously and investigated properly. We have to have zero tolerance for any form of sexual harassment in our workplaces.

Socialist Labour calls for zero tolerance for all forms of sexual harassment in our workplaces and our communities.

Trade unions have to continue to work in this area and empower their women members in the workplace. Civil society organizations must do the same in the communities.

In the case of Natasha, it is the Senate President, Akpabio, who should be suspended. This will allow a proper investigations of Natasha's allegations.

To read our full article see:

https://socialistlabour.com.ng/senator-natashas-case-highlights-rampant-sexual-harassment/



## SOCIALIST LABOUR

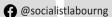
### **ABOUT US**

We are socialists and Marxists The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises have made clear that capitalism is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from it. Attempts to reform capitalism have failed: the only solution is to replace it with a truly democratic socialist society. Capitalist rulers will only give up power if forced to do so. We need a mass democratic movement to bring about socialism. Events, such as the Russian Revolution of 1917, January 2012 in Nigeria and the uprisings in Sudan and Algeria in 2019, show what is needed.

## AJOIN THE RESISTANCE

https://tinyurl.com/JoinSocialistLabour

www.socialistlabour.com.ng



#### The Teaching Profession and the Challenges of Weak Unionism

#### -By Murtala Muhammad Gidado

Despite its critical role, the teaching profession is often relegated to the background, especially in developing countries. Teachers face numerous challenges, including poor remuneration, lack of incentives, inadequate training opportunities, and unfavourable working conditions. One major reason for this unfortunate situation is the failure of the National Union of Teachers (NUT) to effectively represent and protect its members' interests.



Teaching is not just about standing before students and delivering lessons. It encompasses mentorship, research, innovation, and lifelong learning. The profession has great prospects, as education is the bedrock of development. With advancements in technology, the teaching profession is evolving beyond traditional classroom settings to embrace e-learning, artificial intelligence-driven education, and global collaborations.

The NUT, established to serve as a formidable voice for teachers, has failed in its mandate. Instead of providing good representation, capacity building, and welfare for teachers, it has become a tool for exploitation and financial mismanagement. Many teachers contribute monthly dues

to the union, yet they receive little or no benefits in return.

The lack of transparency and accountability within the NUT has left teachers vulnerable. The union leadership, rather than fighting for improved salaries, better working conditions, and continuous professional development, has focused on personal gains. Unlike the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), which has a strong and organized structure, the NUT remains weak, ineffective, and largely unaccountable.

#### Way Forward: Building a Strong and Accountable Teachers' Union

To reposition the teaching profession and protect the interests of teachers, the following steps must be taken:

- 1. Reforming the National Union of Teachers (NUT) There must be a total overhaul of the leadership structure. Transparency, accountability, and active participation of teachers should be prioritized. The union should ensure that funds collected from members are properly accounted for and used for their welfare.
- 2. Building a United Front Teachers at all levels—primary, secondary, and technical education—must unite to demand better working conditions. The union must develop a strong negotiation strategy similar to ASUU's, ensuring that the government takes their demands seriously.
- 3. Welfare and Capacity Building The union must invest in capacity-building programs, scholarships, and continuous professional development for teachers. Welfare packages, such as housing schemes, health insurance, and retirement benefits, should be introduced.
- 4. Advocacy and Policy Engagement The NUT must actively engage with policymakers and education stakeholders to push for reforms that benefit teachers and the education sector at large.
- 5. Accountability and Democratic Leadership There should be periodic audits of the union's finances, and teachers should have the right to elect and recall any leader who fails to perform.

Teaching remains the foundation of all professions, and teachers deserve respect, good welfare, and strong representation. The NUT must wake up to its responsibilities. If ASUU can stand firm for university lecturers, why can't the NUT do the same for teachers at other levels? A strong and accountable teachers' union is the key to revitalizing the teaching profession and ensuring a better future for educators and students alike.

If you would like to join the campaign to revitalise the NUT and make it more democratic then contact Socialist Labour.

#### The Working Class by Liberating Itself Will Liberate All of Humanity

The working class is the only class that in liberating itself has the potential to liberate all of humanity. That is why the organised working class is central to Socialist Labour's strategy for change, see this article:

https://socialistworker.co.uk/teach-yourself-marxism/whats-unique-about-the-working-class/

#### Sacked Kaduna Electricity Employees Yet To Be Re-Instated

By our Kaduna correspondent

The 900 sacked workers of the Kaduna Electric Distribution Company (KAEDCO) are yet to be re-instated despite the one-week industrial action embarked upon by the state chapter of the National Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE). This strike was very successful and caused total blackout across the four states in the North West under the company's franchise.

The management of the electricity distribution company has disputed the figure of workers retrenched. So it remains to be seen whether the 444 workers it claimed to have sacked without notice have been have been re-absorbed. The successful strike action was called off on 7th of February 2025 after a meeting of the state government with the management of KAEDCO and the union representatives. NUEE claims to have won benefits for all workers who were retrenched.

According to some of the staff interviewed, the management was yet to re-instate the affected workers as most of them were served their letters in area offices before the strike action. They believe that the management was only biding for time but would surely push on its resolve to continue with the disengagement process under the guise of "downsizing the workforce due to prevailing economic realities". The company has embarked on wasteful spending on "re-branding" and paid its board members a large chunk of the revenue generated in form of salary and emoluments. This shows the company has plenty of money.

Moreover, the workers complained that the retrenched workers were not paid adequate terminal benefits. Only those that had served for five years and above were paid a "token" which was far below their entitlements. Those whose services did not cover these years were simply sacked without benefits. Though the workers are bitter with the mass sack, they felt that at least they should be paid the benefits due to them.

The fears expressed by the workers was that the labour union might have been compromised following the silence that followed the strike action. The strike that was planned to continue on the 1st March, but was suddenly called off without any notice.

The workers believe that the only potent weapon of bargaining was through industrial action and to call off the strike while negotiation continues would only give the management more time to carry out its planned retrenchment. If the strike action had persisted, the management would have had no other option than to toe the path of true bargaining.

The general situation in the workplace now is tense as the employees are living in palpable fear of who would be the next to be sacked. This has greatly dampened their morale and affected their productivity. We need pressure on NUEE to organise the necessary action to ensure that the Kaduna workers are actually all recalled.

#### 2025 budget: What's in it for the Working People?

The 2025 Federal Budget is double the size of the year before. Capital expenditure gets a huge boost, to form over 40% of the total – this is the key area of looting and is extremely high by international standards. International



experience suggests that government capital spending should form no more than 15% - 20% of public sector total expenditure (the average for sub-Saharan Africa is less than 15% and it is less than 10% in South Africa).

At N2.5 trillion, the health budget sees a 59 per cent increase from 2024. Yet, healthcare still receives just 5 per cent of total spending. This is a third of the international target of 15%.

Education gets only N3.5 trillion (6 per cent – a quarter of international targets), yet Nigeria's schooling crisis deepens. Out-of-school children have surged from nearly 9 million in 2014 to a shocking 20 million in 2024.

For more details on the 2025 budget see: <a href="https://punchng.com/2025-budget-whats-in-it-for-nigerians">https://punchng.com/2025-budget-whats-in-it-for-nigerians</a>

#### Interview with Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

It's been 11 years since she published a novel. In that time, the author has lost both parents, seen Trump become president twice – and finally returned to fiction after a bruising reaction to her comments on gender <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yyz9jmmn">https://tinyurl.com/yyz9jmmn</a>

### We Need a Strategic Approach to Build Peoples' Confidence in Themselves By Tina Nkechi

The class struggle and socialism are mainly about confidence. If people have enough confidence then they will fight for their rights. Our priority is to give them confidence in themselves and the value of collective action.

That is why we repeatedly affirm the success of the youths on the streets in Kenya, Bangladesh and Kano. If they can win then why not us? People want fairness and democracy. They know we do not have it here and now.

People assess the likelihood of our struggle winning. They will join the fight if they think that it will be successful. The same in elections. They vote for the people that may win, not necessarily those with a wonderful program.

The worst thing about colonialism and racism is the impact on peoples' confidence in themselves. We need to be careful to try and reverse this impact.

We need to ensure that we never forward posts that suggest that Africans are second class. We need to be very careful not to allow posts of Europeans making racist statements – we do not need to be reminded of these objectional and false narratives. We should also be very careful about sharing any posts about European 'experts'. Just because a white person says something does not make it true.

It seems to me that many posts by African Nationalists and people with similar views make the situation worse. If African leaders are just puppets of the 'imperialists' does that give us confidence that we can bring about fundamental change? If African leaders stop being puppets of imperialists, will that be sufficient to liberate the African workers, peasants, women and youths from class exploitation and oppression?

We need to emphasise that Africans have agency and are perfectly capable of bringing about change. The case of Niger shows that African governments are not powerless. The military junta did throw out the French troops – it took them 10 days to retreat to N'Djamena as they had to build a road through the desert. Aso Rock did not give them permission to use the roads through Nigeria. The junta has also ordered the French uranium mining company to leave and Air France aeroplanes are still not allowed to fly over Niger. The US troops are also packing up their bags.

If the government of Niger, one of the smallest African countries with the lowest per capita GDP can do this, then all African governments could throw out the imperialists. It is a political choice, it is not lack of power.

The Nigerian Government is far more powerful than the one in Niamey. The IMF and the World Bank cannot dictate to Aso Rock, they can only recommend or advise. They suggested to Buhari that the petrol subsidy should be ended and the naira devalued for eight long years. Buhari choose not to follow their advice. In contrast, Tinubu jumped at the opportunity to benefit the Nigerian elite with these 'reforms'.

The Nigerian ruling class are not 'agents of imperialism'. Dangote is in the premier league of global capitalists. His refinery in Lagos is one of the most sophisticated in the world.

We need to be very careful not to allow any posts that deny the beauty and intelligence of our people. We need to be careful not to let nationalists interpretations to go un-challenged because they often ignore the class nature of prevailing African realities. It is not 'our' fault that there is so much poverty – we are poor because they are rich.

This will change when we have enough confidence to use our collective power to achieve fundamental change. We need to emphasise that African workers, peasants, women and youths are perfectly capable of autonomous struggles and bringing about real change.

#### Winning Strikes Pamphlet from South Africa

The right to strike was won by the working class after decades of struggle against apartheid and capitalism in South Africa. This booklet is about knowing strike laws and rights, tactics for strike organizers and anticipating the responses of bosses. Moreover, it is a guide to winning strikes. And, even if we do not win all our strike demands, it is about ensuring that we gain strength and unity from our action.

Although written in the context of South African laws, there is a lot that Nigerian trade union members can learn from this pamphlet.

- https://www.lrs.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Winning-Strikes-A-guide-to-strike-action.pdf

#### Naira-for-crude: Marketers fear price hike as FG suspends sale to Dangote

The NNPC, Dangote refinery and the fuel marketeers are fighting each other for the large financial gains I from the oil sector. This is one of the reasons that the Dangote has not delivered the expected drop in the price of petrol and other fuels.

The corrupt elite continue to loot so the common people suffer - we need to come together to fight back!

For more details see: <a href="https://punchng.com/naira-for-crude-marketers-fear-price-hike-as-fg-suspends-sale-to-dangote">https://punchng.com/naira-for-crude-marketers-fear-price-hike-as-fg-suspends-sale-to-dangote</a>



This picture shows the dramatic growth of wealth in Africa in recent decades.

The buildings in front, especially on the right, were built around independence, in the 1950s or 1960s the buildings in the back were built in recent decades.

The picture could be from any African capital, it is of Nairobi. This shows the massive growth for the rich, but the story for most people is of little change, especially in the last few decades of neoliberalism.

#### Africa on strike By Bettina Engels

Tnions in Africa have extended their activities beyond their traditional European remit, but face a challenge from the number of informal works on the continent. The nature of unions and strikes are changing, writes Bettina Engels.

African trade unions are actors in struggles for radical change to political and economic structures. Nevertheless, they primarily represent the interests of regular contracted workers in the formal sector. This is a minority of the working people worldwide, which reflects the dubious narrow notion of labour under capitalism. Despite this, Africa is home to dynamic and evolving forms of industrial action.

In Mali, lectures at most universities are on strike for the third week. They've not been at work since 27 January 2025. They claim the payment of a research bonus that has been promised to them since 2017 has not been paid. On 9 December 2024, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the network of university teacher associations announced an unlimited strike, calling for an increase in salaries. <a href="https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2025/02/26/africa-on-strike/">https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2025/02/26/africa-on-strike/</a>

#### Making a killing for investors-By Obiora Ikoku

resident Tinubu's "reforms" have plunged Nigerians into economic despair, with soaring costs and violent repression, exposing the brutal toll of neoliberal policies.

This article summarises the brutal repression that met the protests over these policies. As the author says, "The potential for even limited action to have an effect was demonstrated in November last year when social media outrage forced the regime to hastily free sick and malnourished underage protesters arrested in connection with the #EndBadGovernance protest, when footage of their arraignment in court set the internet agog."

The full article is available here: <a href="https://africasacountry.com/2025/01/making-a-killing-for-investors">https://africasacountry.com/2025/01/making-a-killing-for-investors</a>

#### West African juntas are undermining human rights, but not reducing poverty

Salvador Ousmane paints a damning picture of the African military juntas that came to power in Burkina Faso, Niger, and Guinea in recent years. He argues that they have failed to address security concerns and poverty in their countries while reneging on their promises to hold free elections and restore civilian rule. Instead, these juntas have launched sustained attacks on human rights, suppressing political protests, civil society organisations, and trade union activists. Yet, Ousmane sees hope in the resilience of trade union activism, which con-



tinues to persist despite these repressive conditions.

The three Sahelian states have turned their backs on Western countries, notably the former colonial power France, to move closer to Russia and China. But they are failing in their promise to end insecurity (as also in Nigeria). Of the 7,555 deaths due to terrorism worldwide in 2024, 3,885 were recorded in the Sahel. There is no military solution to insecurity.

The social climate in Senegal has become tense in recent weeks. After a brief strike launched by doctors' and teachers' unions in February to demand solutions

to the structural crises in their sector, demonstrations took place on the campus of Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar. The students, who took to the streets to support the Sonko-Faye duo during their incarceration before the elections last year, are now denouncing a delay in the payment of their scholarships.

The social roots of insecurity (poverty, inequality and corruption) have to be addressed. The juntas of West Africa, and indeed the democratically government of Senegal have done almost nothing to improve the lives of the common people. As in Nigeria, we need fundamental change to reduce poverty and inequality.

In Niger, the military junta is digging in for the longer term. In line with the main recommendations of the "National Conference" (held early March 2025) the transition to democracy has been set at "five years minimum, renewable depending on the security situation" or "the agenda of the Confederation of Sahel States". The leader of the junta has been made president and promoted to general. All existing political parties have been dissolved.

Repression in Burkina Faso continues. In late March, the junta dissolved the Association of Journalists of Burkina Faso. Two journalists, leaders of the association, were arrested and taken to an unknown destination. This was after they denounced attacks on press freedom. The political movement SENS (Serve and Not Serve Oneself), which was outraged by a massacre of civilians attributed to the security forces, denounced the kidnapping of five of its members. <a href="https://roape.net/2025/03/07/west-african-juntas-are-undermining-human-rights/">https://roape.net/2025/03/07/west-african-juntas-are-undermining-human-rights/</a>

#### Are peasants part of the working people?

And so agents of transformation alongside the workers in Nigeria? The veteran Tanzanian Marxist, Issa G. Shivji summarises the arguments at the African level in this recent article: <a href="https://www.scienceopen.com/hosted-document?doi=10.62191/ROAPE-2024-0025">https://www.scienceopen.com/hosted-document?doi=10.62191/ROAPE-2024-0025</a>

Shivji argues for the use of the term working people (including peasants), specifically in the case of Tanzania, in the following article. What do comrades think? How should we relate to the peasants in Nigeria today? <a href="https://journals-sagepub-com.ezproxy3.lib.le.ac.uk/doi/10.1177/2277976017721318">https://journals-sagepub-com.ezproxy3.lib.le.ac.uk/doi/10.1177/2277976017721318</a>

#### Kenyan Socialist argues against Socialists Standing in Elections

Will there be any meaningful elections in 2027 in Nigeria? Should we be supporting candidates or should be concentrate on the trade union struggle? This article from Kenya outlines some of the arguments: <a href="https://ukombozireview.com/2021/11/15/leftist-involvement-in-general-elections/">https://ukombozireview.com/2021/11/15/leftist-involvement-in-general-elections/</a>

## **Summary of Workers Strikes - March 2025**

We need your assistance to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive. Please submit details of any strikes in your state or community. All these strikes need our support and solidarity. We call on all trade union branches to send messages of support and to organise solidarity visits to any strikes in their localities. To read more about how to organise effective strikes, see: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/solidarityunity">https://tinyurl.com/solidarityunity</a>

Members of the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) and Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) in primary schools and area council workers in FCT re-started their indefinite strike on 24th March. It had previously been suspended in October after a 20 day strike, in December and on Friday, 21st February after promises from the FCT Minister to pay the minimum wage in February.

Staff members of five **polytechnics and colleges of education in Oyo State** embarked on an indefinite strike from 24th March. Chair of the Joint Action Committee of 15 staff unions, in the state, Dr Kola Lawal, explained that the strike is to protest the non-implementation of the new minimum wage for staff of state-owned tertiary institutions.

**ASUU members at Cross River University State** started an indefinite strike from 25th February. This is over irregular payment of salaries. The Joint Action Committee of SSANU, NASU and NAAT held a three day warning strike last August. The first semester examinations were suspended indefinitely in late January. The strike has been suspended.

**ASUU members at Sokoto State University** suspended their strike at a congress held on 4th March. The strike started on 26th February. It was over the failure of the University and the State Government to address their concerns. These include arrears of pay increases, increments and promotions.

The Joint Union of Academic Staff of Plateau State-owned Tertiary Institutions, JUASPTI, started a week warning strike on March 4th. A previous strike was suspended in August 2023 based on an agreement with the State Government, but "nothing much came out of the agreement".

The **coalition of tertiary institutions' unions in Adamawa State** started an indefinite strike, on 11th March over the implementation of the minimum wage.

The Medical and Dental Consultants' Association of Nigeria, South-West Zone, continued their indefinite strike by clinical lecturers in universities across the region over the non-payment of the Consolidated Medical Salary Structure. The strike started in early February.

The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) started an indefinite strike in the **local governments of Osun State** from 17th February. This is in protest against the planned resumption of sacked All Progressives Congress (APC) council executives, who were reinstated by a Court of Appeal verdict. The strike is supported by NULGE in the State.

The local government workers were given 72 hours to return to work by the PDP local government chairs but the strike continues as we go to press.

**Workers at Kano State Water Board** started an indefinite strike from. 27th February. The strike is over the failure to implement the minimum wage and confirmation of casual staff.

Suspended strike on 5th March, after promises from the State Government to pay minimum wage in March.

#### Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises show that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from our work. Reform attempts have failed: the only solution is a truly democratic socialist society. The corrupt elite will only give up their power if forced to do so. We need a mass democratic movement to bring about socialism. Events, such as Russia in 1917, the January 2012 protests in Nigeria and the mass uprisings in Sudan and Algeria from 2019, begin to show what we need.

For more details of the basic ideas and policies of Socialist Labour see:

www.socialistlabour.com.ng/about-us/

Join the Socialist Labour supporters WhatsApp group by clicking this link:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/KiOyN3OKGBIIvtuh0ycDaU

We would love to receive letters, comments or suggestions from our readers. We want to hear from you with suggestions for articles for our future editions or questions on any articles in this issue. We especially welcome news about protests and strikes in your community or town.

#### Socialist Labour Depends on its Supporters for Finances

Socialist Labour depends on its members and supporters for finances. We need more financial support so that we can be more active, expand and grow. If you are able to make a modest financial contribution that would be really helpful. We would also like all readers of this Bulletin to consider fully joining Socialist Labour by paying monthly subscriptions. The standard rate is ₩1,000 a month, with a lower rate of ₩500 for students, pensioners or unemployed and ₩5,000 for higher paid comrades. We can all afford something - every little helps.

Please make your contributions to the following bank account:

First Bank Nig. Ltd. Account No. 3158880328

Account Name: Aborisade Albert Femi

The account is only used for Socialist Labour purposes.

Please join Socialist Labour, by submitting the following details:

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State:

Workplace address/university/school:

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