

## Nigeria: PEPT Judgement; Presidential Roundtable in India

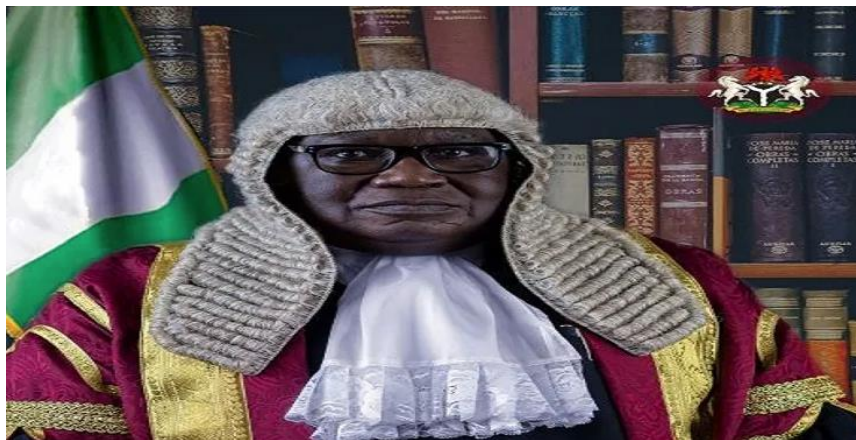
**Note:** Please read about the arrival of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu in New Delhi for participation in G20 and about the precautionary steps against coups by the President of Guinea-Bissau, a country in West Africa at <https://diqinews360.com/g20-president-tinubu-in-india-guinea-bissau-against-coups/>

September 6, 2023: Abuja: **Presidential Election Petitions Tribunal (PEPT)** verdict: All the five Judges of PEPT unanimously upheld election of Bola Tinubu as President of Nigeria. President Tinubu welcomed the verdict and called for Collective Efforts to build the nation

The President said he would deliver his vision of a Unified, Peaceful and Prosperous Nation and he would serve all Nigerians, irrespective of all diverse political persuasions, Faiths and Tribal Identities. The President again thanked Nigerians for the mandate given to him.

The PDP candidate **Atiku Abubakar** was hesitant in accepting the verdict and did not congratulate Tinubu. The Labor Party's **Peter Obi**, ominously said, "When the litigant, who contested the election, continue to find it very difficult to establish their case due to obstacles on the way, starting by INEC, certainly they may resort to some other means of trying to get justice, which may not be lawful."

The Five Judges on PEPT were: **Justice Haruna Tsammani**, **Justice Stephen Adah**, **Justice Monsurat Bolaji-Yusuf**, **Justice Moses Ugo** and **Justice Abba Mohammed**. The legal teams of President **Bola Tinubu** of APC, **Atiku Abubakar** of PDP and **Peter Obi** of Labor were SAN **Chris Uche**, SAN **Wole Olanipekun** and **Levi Uzoukwu** respectively.



*Justice Haruna Simon Tsammani, Chairman of PEPT*

**Note:** Major points from the learned judgements of the Judges have been covered well by Punch. Readers of [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) can refer the article in Punch at <https://punchng.com/presidential-poll-tribunal-words-on-marble/?amp>.

September 6, 2023: New Delhi, India: **Nigeria-India Presidential Roundtable:** “As the largest economy in Africa, Nigeria is capable of becoming the vessel of development, prosperity and democracy in Africa.” - **H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu**, GCFR, President, Federal Republic of Nigeria



*September 6, 2023: New Delhi:*

*Participants at Nigeria-India Presidential Roundtable with the President*

President Bola Tinubu, on Wednesday, commended Indian investors for investment pledges amounting to nearly \$14 billion U.S. dollars committed during the Nigeria-India Presidential Roundtable and Conference, saying, **"we are ready to give you the best returns for investment possible, so invest now."**

**NEW INVESTMENTS:** Indorama Petrochemical Limited has pledged a new investment of \$8 billion U.S. dollars in the expansion of its fertilizer production and petrochemical facility in Eleme, Rivers State.

Jindal Steel and Power Limited, one of India’s largest private steel producers, has committed to investing \$3 billion in Nigeria.

Founding President of SkipperSeil Limited, Mr. Jitender Sachdeva announced that he was investing \$1.6 billion U.S. dollars in the establishment of twenty 100MW power generation plants across the states of Northern Nigeria, amounting to 2,000MW of new power within the next four years.

SkipperSeil has a fully-owned subsidiary in Nigeria, called GTA Engineering Nigeria Ltd. GTA is the only accredited maintenance arm for Power Transformers repairs in West Africa. (Reference: <https://www.skipperseil.com/>)

Additionally, the President has approved finalization on a new \$1 billion U.S. dollar agreement to bring the Defense Industries Corporation of Nigeria (DICON) to 40% self-sufficiency in local manufacturing and production of defense equipment in-country by 2027 through a comprehensive new partnership with the Managing Arm of the Military-Industrial Complex of the Indian Government.

Another Indian firm, Bharti Enterprises, which is a major first-generation corporation in India with interests in telecom, space communications, digital solutions, insurance, processed foods, real estate, and hospitality, has expressed its commitment to invest an additional \$700 million in Nigeria, with work set to begin immediately.

**Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Mr. Wale Edun**, who addressed the roundtable themed, “Building Partnerships with Renewed Hope for a Diversified and Prosperous Economy,” thanked **Mr. Naveen Jindal, Chairman of Jindal Steel and Power Limited**, for the new \$3 billion investment in iron ore processing and steel development in Nigeria.



*Chairman, Airtel Networks Limited, Nigeria:*  
***Sunil Bharati Mittal***

Commending **the Tata group and so many others** who have immediately responded to Mr. President’s bold and decisive moves to correct the major systemic faults in the macro-economic and investment climate in Nigeria, the

Finance Minister noted, “I also wish to thank **Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises**, for his continued commitment to invest in the first phase at least \$700 million dollars more in Nigeria,” Mr. Edun said.

Minister Edun further used the opportunity to explain the underlying principles of **President Tinubu’s eight-point strategy**, emphasizing that his agenda aims

- to promote growth and job creation,
- poverty reduction,
- food security,
- improved access to capital,
- inclusivity,
- business and citizen security, and
- fair play on a foundation of
  - rule of law and
  - anti-corruption.

On behalf of investors, **Chairman of Bharti Enterprises, Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal** told the President, “You have **unified the FX market**. You **have freed up crucial capital to upgrade your public infrastructure**. Now, you have just dropped your prepared remarks and have spoken from your heart. Our investors have heard from a leader who is doing everything possible to attract capital to Nigeria **for the benefit of Nigerians and our companies**. Mr. President, we will bring these investments to Nigeria, and **with your inspiring leadership style**, we can only do more and more.”

Also, at the event, Nigeria’s Minister of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy, **Dr. Bosun Tijani**, and his counterpart from India’s Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Co-operation in the field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions, to be implemented at total population scale for digital transformation**.

The Minister also signed an **MoU with Central Square Foundation** for Co-operation in the field of **Sharing Successful Ecosystems**, which involve interventions **relating to education technology, to be implemented at population scale for digital economic transformation**.



**Dr. Bosun Tijani with Sandeep Aurora, Director for Govt. Affairs and Public Policy:**  
The Indian Global AI Team to support Nigeria's National AI Strategy

Under the watch of **Nigeria's Industry, Trade and Investment Minister, Dr. Doris Uzoka-Anite**, a 3<sup>rd</sup> **MoU on Infrastructure Development** was signed between the **Infrastructure Corporation of Nigeria Limited (InfraCorp)** and **Invest India, the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency of India**, which helps investors looking for investment opportunities and options in India.

Closing the interactive session, **Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, the Director-General of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)**, noted that the Presidential Roundtable would encompass cooperation across key areas, such as **capacity building and skills development of the Nigerian Youth, agriculture, and the enhancement of digital and physical infrastructure**, among others.

The Presidential roundtable also had in attendance **Governor Dapo Abiodun of Ogun State; Yusuf Tuggar, Minister of Foreign Affairs**; along with industry leaders from both India and Nigeria.

Following the Roundtable, the President met individually with each of the top pledging investors **to finalize on the next steps to ensure that no environmental encumbrance stands in the way of their success in Nigeria.**