

# Daily InfoNews Bulletin

A Publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information, Calabar



PAGE 8

PAGE 10

PAGE 19

PAGE 28

PAGE 13

PAGE 25

# FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

### **Daily InfoNews...**

Daily News Bulletin is a daily publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information and Orientation for the entertainment and Education of all Cross Riverians and the general public about the daily events, activities and programmes of government and the private sector operating in all parts of the State.



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# **Contents**

**GOVERNOR OTU FLAGS OFF FOUR-DAY RETREAT** PAGE 3 FOR GOMBE STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY IN CALABAR

CROSS RIVER ASSEMBLY CONFIRMS CHAIRMAN. PAGE 5 MEMBERS OF SPORTS COMMISSION

CRHA PASSES CROSS RIVER STATE RURAL ACCESS ROADS AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2025.

**OVER 1,000 DRIVER'S LICENCES REMAIN UNCLAIMED AS CRIRS INTENSIFIES END-OF-YEAR ROAD TAX ENFORCEMENT** 

RENEWED HOPE INITIATIVE GIFT N50 MILLION TO 250 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN C'RIVER

FORESTRY SECURITY COMMISSION STRENGTHENS PAGE 14 PARTNERSHIP WITH C' RIVER

LAST CARNIVAL DRY RUN COMES UP ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2025. GET READY FOR THE **EXCITEMENT!** 

REMINDER ON TOTAL BAN ON SHOOTING OF KNOCK-OUTS, BANGERS, FIREWORKS AND **BURNING OF TYRES IN CROSS RIVER STATE** 

C'RIVER ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY HOLDS END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS CAROL

**CHECK INSIDE** 

FOR MORE STORIES

# **CROSS RIVER STATE**

### **VISION STATEMENT**

To become a leading Nigerian State with prosperous, healthy and well educated citizens; living in harmony with people and nature, and pursuing legitimate interest in freedom moderated by good governance.

### **MINISTERIAL MANDATE**

To project and protect the image of Government and act as Chief Image Maker/Spokesman for the State as well as supervision of the State Media Organisation.

# VISION

To be the best organ of the State for the promotion of positive values, its image and overall endowment to Cross Riverians, Nigerians and the Diaspora.

# **Mission**

To utilize in harmony all apparatus of government media to effectively disseminate information, educate and entertain the public, using the electronic, print media and interpersonal communication channels.



# Governor Otu Flags Off Four-day Retreat For Gombe State House Of Assembly In Calabar

By Itam Offor



ross River State Governor, Sen. Bassey Edet Otu, has declared open a four-day legislative retreat for members and management staff of the Gombe State House of Assembly in Calabar. The

programme, holding at Slessor Hall, Channel View, is themed "Consolidating Democratic Governance Through Effective Lawmaking."

The Governor, who was represented by

the Speaker of the Cross River State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Elvert Ayambem, commended the Gombe Assembly for choosing Cross River State as the host location, noting that inter-

state collaboration is essential in strengthening Nigeria's democratic institutions.

He described the retreat as a strategic platform for legislators and senior management staff to deepen their understanding of modern legislative practice, budget analysis, oversight efficiency, and constituency engagement. According to him, continuous training remains a major pillar for building strong parliaments capable of driving development.

In his remarks, the Speaker of the **Gombe State** House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Abubakar Mohammed, said the retreat is timely as the Assembly

moves into a crucial phase of budget consideration and legislative planning. He added that the themes served their commitment to improving democratic outcomes through well-informed and people-centered lawmaking.

Also present were the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Sadam Bello Sale, and the Majority Leader, Hon. Yaerima Ladan Gaule, who both emphasized the need for skill enhancement to ensure that legislation directly contributes to economic growth, social stability, and accountable governance in Gombe State.

The retreat is expected to feature technical sessions, expert-led

discussions, peer reviews, and practical workshops tailored to strengthen the Assembly's legislative capacity. Participants will engage with governance specialists, policy analysts, and parliamentary consultants over the four-day duration.

The event continues through the week as Gombe lawmakers explore new approaches to delivering effective legislation in line with global best practices.



# Cross River Assembly Confirms Chairman, Members of Sports Commission

By Itam Offor



he Cross
River State
House of
Assembly has
confirmed
Governor Bassey
Edet Otu's
nominees for the
positions of
chairman and
members of the
State Sports
Commission.

The confirmation, aimed at strengthening sports development in the State, followed the presentation of the report of the House Committee on Judiciary, Public Service Matters, Public Petitions and Conflict Resolution on the Screening of

Nominees for Confirmation of Appointment as Chairman and Members of the State Sports Commission by it's Chairman, Rt Hon Davies Etta (Abi State Constituency).

According to Etta, who serves as the



Deputy Leader of the Assembly, the Governor's nominations were in full compliance with section 2(1) of the Cross River **State Sports** Commission Law of 2000 and also in tandem with section 14(4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as altered) which dwells on geographical

spread.

The Committee Chairman informed that, his Committee found the Nominees to be "fit and proper persons" and having met the constitutional requirements, they were recommended for appointment as Chairman and Members of the CRS **Sports Commission** be confirmed by the House.

In their separate contributions, the Lawmakers unanimously supported the confirmation of the Nominees describing them as "square pegs in square holes". They applauded the State Governor for his choice of appointees.

The Speaker of the Assembly Rt Hon Elvert Ayambem



congratulated the nominees and charged them to work hard to justify their appointments.

Those confirmed are, Etta Lawrence Itanya who is to serve as Chairman, while Queen Gladys Festus, Hon Njarani Gabriel Ushie, Sunny Ndep Ebam and Ekpenyong Effiom Okon are to serve as Members of the

Commission.

In an interview with Journalists, the newly confirmed Chairman of the Sports Commission, Mr Etta Lawrence Itanya, promised that the Commission will not disappoint the Governor and Cross Riverians in the discharge of their duty. "We are going to change the narrative

of the Sports
Commission. By
the grace of God,
we are not going to
disappoint the
Governor, we won't
disappoint the
Tenth Assembly
and the entire
State. He said



# CRHA passes Cross River State Rural Access Roads Authority Amendment Bill 2025.

By Itam Offor



he State
House of
Assembly has
passed the Cross
River State Rural
Access Roads

Authority Amendment Bill 2025.

The passage of the bill followed the

deliberation on the bill, by the Lawmakers during plenary.

The sponsor of the



bill and Member representing Boki 1 State Constituency, Hon Bette Philip Obi, stated that the bill seeks to amend the Principal Law on the composition of the board of the Authority.

The Boki 1
Lawmaker further disclosed that the amendment is aimed at reducing the Membership of the Board from sixteen to eleven in order to strengthen their roles as well as enhance accountability.

Also speaking to journalists after the plenary, Hon Obi reiterated that he was delighted to sponsor the bill which is aimed at ensuring that rural roads are addressed.

"Bringing up this bil

"Bringing up this bill is my way of contributing to rehabilitation of rural roads. I come from a rural community where there are no roads at all. I know that His Excellency, our Governor, Senator Bassey Edet Otu is

committed to transforming the rural areas across the State. I am convinced that very soon, many rural communities will be linked with good roads". Obi stated.

In their various contributions, the Lawmakers supported the amendment of the bill emphasising that it will improve road infrastructure across the State.



# Over 1,000 Driver's Licences Remain Unclaimed as CRIRS Intensifies End-of-Year Road Tax Enforcement

By Achiane Adams

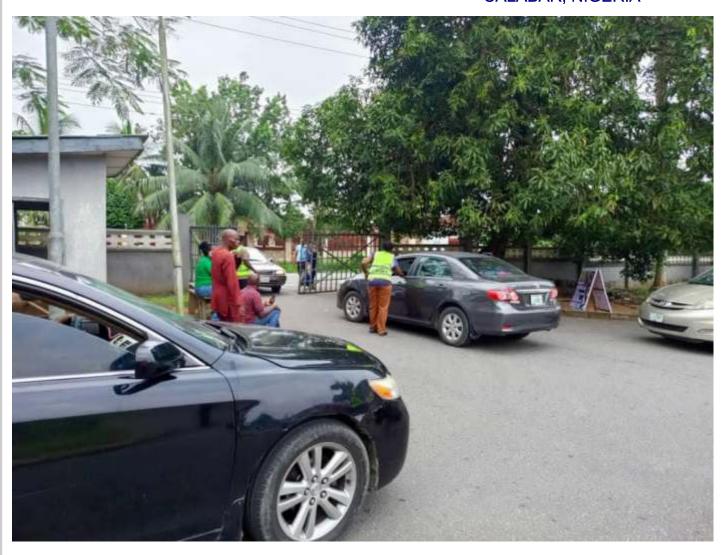


he Cross
River Internal
Revenue
Service (CRIRS)
has expressed
concern over the
surge in unclaimed
driver's licences
across the state,
disclosing that
more than 1,000
licences produced

between February and July 2025 remain uncollected despite multiple phone calls and text messages. The revelation comes as part of the agency's annual end-of-year road tax enforcement operations covering

defaced number plates, vehicle papers and third party insurance.

This compliance exercise is being conducted in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), the



Transport
Regulatory and
Enforcement
Agency (TRAMRA),
and various
security
formations. The
two day joint
operation focused
on ensuring full
adherence to
statutory
requirements.

According to CRIRS, the rising backlog of

unclaimed licences is slowing administrative processes and causing avoidable delays for motorists during verification checks. Many drivers who completed biometric capture and were approved for issuance are yet to collect their permanent cards.

The agency has therefore directed all

motorists who processed their driver's licences at the CRIRS Headquarters between February and July 2025 to proceed to the One-Stop Shop, Room 12, at the CRIRS Head Office, **New Secretariat** Complex, Highway, Calabar. Applicants are required to present the original copy of their



temporary licence to retrieve their permanent cards.

CRIRS reiterated the importance of possessing valid driving and vehicle documents at all times, stressing that up-to-date papers are crucial for safety, legal compliance, and avoiding penalties during routine checks.

The Service maintained that the

ongoing
enforcement is not
punitive but part of
a statewide effort to
deepen compliance,
enhance roadway
safety, and protect
revenue integrity as
the year winds
down. Motorists
were urged to keep
all relevant
documents valid,
current, and readily
accessible.

With the festive season fast approaching, CRIRS assured residents that the joint enforcement teams will continue to operate professionally and within established guidelines, with the overall goal of ensuring safer roads and a more transparent, accountable revenue system in Cross River State.



# MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

https://www.crossriverstate.gov.ng Email: commissioner@moi.cr.gov.ng

Ref: CR/MOI/AD/385/235 1st December, 2025

PRESS STATEMENT: UPDATED

# REMINDER ON TOTAL BAN ON SHOOTING OF KNOCK-OUTS, BANGERS, FIREWORKS AND BURNING OF TYRES IN CROSS RIVER STATE

The Government of Cross River State wishes to remind all residents across the 196 Wards in the Eighteen Local Government Areas of Cross River State that the Federal Government of Nigeria has approved a total ban on shooting of Knockouts, Bangers, fireworks and burning of Tyres across the Country, especially during the month-long Yuletide Season.

The State Government is making this crucial reminder as a follow-up to the recent Inspector General of Police's directives to all Police Formations across the Country to deal decisively with perpetrators of these hineous crimes against the people of Nigeria.

Government wishes to further note that this ban has become very imperative as a precautionary measure to assist Security Agencies to gauge and monitor security situations all round the clock and respond to emergencies accordingly.

Members of the Public are please requested to take note of this ban and strictly comply bearing in mind that huge consequences shall apply to all defaulters.

Government also wishes to remind the citizenry that burning of Tyres is very injurious to our health as well as destructive to the tarred roads and should be totally avoided.

Finally, the Government of Cross River State wishes all residents of our dear State a bumper Christmas Season of Sweetness and prosperous New Year 2026.

Erasmus Ekpang Ph.D., anipr, ftifuh Commissioner for Information.



# Forestry Security Commission Strengthens Partnership With C' River

By Effiom Solomon and Rose Undie



he Nigerian
Forestry
Security
Commission has
reaffirmed its
commitment to
supporting the
Cross River State
Government in
safeguarding forest
resources.

Assistant Deputy Controller in the Commission,
Martins Imina
Osakwe, made the
commitment when
he led delegation on
a courtesy visit to
the Commissioner
for Information, Dr.
Erasmus Ekpang, at
his office in Calabar.

Osakwe emphasized that the visit was part of the

Commission's efforts to deepen collaboration with the State in tackling emerging security challenges within forested areas.

He restated the Commission's readiness to work more closely with the government but appealed for



additional support in the provision of equipment and logistics to boost operational efficiency across the state.

In his response, Commissioner for Information, Dr Erasmus Ekpang commended the Commission's role in protecting forest reserves and maintaining security within rural communities.

He noted that Cross River's forests remain most of the nation's most valuable economic and environmental assets, stressing the importance of continued vigilance and responsible conservation.

Ekpang assured the delegation of the government's unwavering support and pledged to facilitate avenues for the Commission to engage directly with

the State Governor.
Such engagement,
he said, would
further strengthen
collaboration and
accelerate
interventions aimed
at enhancing forest
security and
preservation.

In a vote of thanks, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Mr. Emmanuel Egban, lauded the Commission for its dedication and urged it to intensify







its presence in all local government areas, including remote communities.

He encouraged the agency to remain proactive in addressing threats

to the state's natural resources while promoting peace and safety within forest-dependent settlements.

Mr. Egbang emphasized that sustained

collaboration between the Government and security agencies remains crucial to protecting Cross River's rich environmental heritage.











# Renewed Hope Initiative Gift N50 Million to 250 Persons with Disabilities in C'River

By Esther Okoi



n recognition of the nation's shared responsibility to promote inclusivity, the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI) has gifted the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Naira (N200,000) as Business Re-

capitalization Grant to 250 Persons with Disabilities in Cross River State.

Speaking during the event held at the office of the Wife of the Governor of Cross River State, to commemorate the World Disability Day, the First Lady,

and National
Chairman of the
Renewed Hope
Initiative, Senator
Oluremi Tinubu
inferred that "a
truly inclusive
society is built
when we stand
together, creating
opportunities that
empower everyone
to contribute their





unique gifts to our collective progress," adding that "Our nation grows stronger when every individual is

empowered to contribute meaningfully."

The President's Wife who was represented by the

Cross River State RHI Coordinator and Wife of the Governor, Bishop Eyoanwan Bassey Otu, reiterated that the event





commemorated simultaneously across the 36 State and the Federal Capital Territory is to celebrate and encourage the community of Persons with Disability and to support small business owners among them to recapitalize their existing businesses and strengthen their means of livelihood.

According to her, "this programme aligns with the Renewed Hope Agenda of His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, which seeks to promote inclusive growth and shared prosperity by ensuring that no Nigerian is left behind, especially those whose needs are often overlooked."

She encouraged beneficiaries of the Two Hundred Thousand Naira to make good use of the opportunity and make it a seed that grows into something greater and a business that sustains them and their family.

In a welcome address, the Commissioner for Social Welfare, Cross River State,



Bishop Margaret Ene Ita informed that the World Disability Day is set aside to "promote the rights, dignity and overall wellbeing of Persons with Disabilities in all spheres of life" and provides an opportunity for stakeholders to deepen their understanding of the challenges Persons with disabilities face

and renew collective commitment to building an equitable society where no one is left behind.

Bishop Ene Ita stated that the 2025 theme of "Fostering Disability-Inclusive Societies for Advancing social Progress," resonates deeply with the Renewed Hope Vison and the People First mantra of the State, adding that it "underscores the urgent need for strengthened accessibility and ensure People with Disability have equal opportunities and contribute meaningfully to the socioeconomic growth of our State."

Citing barriers in form of stigma,



limited access to healthcare, education and lots more encountered by Persons with Disability, the Social Welfare Commissioner pointed out that "addressing this gap is not just a matter of policy. It is a moral responsibility and a critical step towards attaining sustainable development."

The Chairman, Joint **National Association** of Persons with Disability (JONAPWD), Cross River State Chapter, Prince Ekpenyong Essien and its Secretary, Dr. Michael Obije, in their goodwill message, lauded Bishop Eyoanwan Otu for instituting peace among Persons with Disabilities in the State. They emphasized that

that the disability community in the State has known peace, progress and unity through the involvement of the Governor's Wife, adding that she has shown them unequivocal love.

Member of the Disability Rights Commissions, Cross River State, Hon. Augusta Bassey appreciated the



Governor's Wife for her love and commitment to the wellbeing of the disability community, noting that the disability community in the State now have their hope restored and renewed.

Also speaking, the Branch Manager, First City Monument Bank (FCMB), Calabar Road, Dr. Samuel Thomas, appreciated Bishop Eyoanwan Otu for her passion to ensure that the disability community is empowered.

He commended her for 'teaching them how to fish, rather than giving them fish,' pledging the commitment of the bank to continually work with her office to ensure financial inclusion for the

disability community.

The event climaxed with the distribution of wheelchairs, clutches, monetary gift, wrapper, rice and other food stuff to the disability community in celebration of the 2025 World Disability Day.



# C'River Environment Ministry Holds End of Year Thanksgiving, Christmas Carol

By Achiane Adams



he Cross
River State
Ministry of
Environment has
held its end of year
thanksgiving
service in
appreciation to
Almighty God for
His preservation
and sustenance of

the ministry's staff.

Speaking during the ceremony, the Commissioner for Environment, Obol Moses Osogi, expressed profound gratitude to God for preserving the lives of members of staff,

as well as guiding the ministry in the implementation of its activities.

The Commissioner urged staff to cultivate thanksgiving as a lifestyle, stressing that those who





give thanks are always blessed with more. He further admonished staff to adhere to scriptural teachings, live peacefully and share with people around them in celebration of the birth of Christ.

Earlier, the guest minister, Pastor Joseph Ogon, in his sermon titled "Don't Revenge", encouraged believers to imbibe the nature and heart of Christ, show love to one another and forgive their offenders.

The ceremony also commemorated the birth of Jesus, as staff rendered melodious Christmas carols and Bible readings to usher in the Yuletide season.

and the state, the Governor of Cross River State, Sen. Prince Bassey Edet Otu, the management of the ministry, and the continued preservation of staff.

The service, which

featured testimonies and special songs, also included prayers of thanksgiving, as well as prayers for peace, security and prosperity for the nation











OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER

# **AUTOMOBILE TECHNICIANS REGULATORY DEPARTMENT (ATRD)**









### 30th October 2025

### PUBLIC NOTICE

CROSS RIVER GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AGENCY (CRGIA), INVITATION FOR FIRST PHASE OF RECORDS UPDATE AND OBTAINING OF CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY WITHIN THE SOUTHERN SENATORIAL DISTRICT

The Cross River Geographic Information Agency (CRGIA) is the primary agency tasked with land management in the State. The end point of all transactions on Government Land across the State is a Certificate of Occupancy signed by the Governor of Cross River State. In line with this, CRGIA invites all allotees of Government Land across the Southern Senatorial District to update their records with the State Government and obtain or Recertify their Certificate's of Occupancy

### BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

Participants are advised to take advantage of this exercise to

- Obtain Certificates of Occupancy (for those who were previously not issued)
- Recertify and obtain the new digital, bankable and tamper-proof C of
- Resolve Conflicting Ownership Records
- Avoid Encumbrance and Encroachment
- Avoid Cancellation of Allocation or Revocation of C of O

### EXERCISE DATES

The Records Update Exercise will take place from 1st November 2025 to 19th December 2025.

# REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Bring any supporting documents related to your land transactions in Cross River State, including but not limited to:

- Allocation letters
- Survey Plans
- Receipts
- Agreements
- Other relevant documents

### VENUE

Visit Counter 5, CRGIA Office, Opposite Metropolitan Hotel, Calabar.

## CALL OUR OFFICAL LINES

0707 469 3423

0707 469 3424

CROSS RIVER GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AGENCY (CRGIA)\*

Enhancing Land Administration in Cross River State

Signed:

**Director Operations** 

For: Director General

Cross River Geographic Information Agency.

# **Tips on Safe Speed Practices**

- 1. OBEY SPEED LIMITS THEY ARE SET FOR YOUR SAFETY.
- 2. ADJUST SPEED TO CONDITIONS
- 3. KEEP SAFE DISTANCE
- 4. AVOID OVERSPEEDING
- 5. KNOW YOUR VEHICLE SPEED LIMITS
- 6. WATCH OUT IN BUILT-UP AREAS
- 7. USE ENGINE BRAKING ON SLOPES
- 8. BE CAUTIOUS ON CURVES



13TH
DECEMBER 2025
5:PM

# CROSS RIVER STATE DIASPORADAY CALLAR DAY CALLAR DAY

Channel View Hotels, Calabar

FOR REGISTRATION:

https://forms.gle/ucmnetFMezBa5kLy9

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SEA, PRINCE BASSEY EDET OR





# STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN CROSS RIVER STATE

Obtain an Application Form at CRGIA's Office, Old Secretariat Road, Off Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar, Cross River State

Submit Application Form with Required Documents
Fill and submit the form along with necessary documents,
e.g. Registered Title Document, survey plan, identification, etc.

Assessment and Payment of Fees.
The office will assess applicable charges, registration fees, processing fees, etc. Make the required payment.

Inspection and Publication (for private land)
Property is inspected by LUAC officials
Notice of application is published for 21 days to allow for objections.
After clearance, Governor's Approval in Principle is obtained.

C of O (Certificate of Occupancy) Engrossment and Signing The Certificate of Occupancy is prepared (engrossed) and signed by the Governor or delegated authority.

Registration and Delivery
Final registration is completed at the Lands Registry.
Registered documents are delivered to the applicant (client).

# NATIONWIDE CONTINUOUS **VOTER REGISTRATION (CVR)**



**Register to Vote** 

**ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION** STARTS ON 18TH AUGUST, 2025 www.cvr.inecnigeria.org

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION STARTS ON 25TH AUGUST, 2025

All 37 INEC State Offices or 774 Local Government Area (LGA) Offices Nearest to You

New Voters 18+ Collect or Transfer your PVC Replace your lost or damaged PVC No Multiple Registration





0700-CALL-INEC (0700-2255-4632) **INEC Short Code: 4632** 09050858629, 09050858675, 09050858649

INEC, Making your votes count... Consolidating our democracy.





# AVOICE Overspeeding:

Speed thrills
But Kills.

Always obey speed limits

CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND