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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.

Articles and stories in this publication may be reproduced.

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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.

Armed Forces Day: Gov Otu Reaffirms Support for Veterans, Families



Cross River State governor, Senator Bassey Otu, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to the welfare of military veterans, widows and families of fallen heroes, as he joined officers, veterans and stakeholders at the 2026 Armed Forces

Celebration and Remembrance Day held at the Eleven Millennium Park, remembrance arcade on Thursday in Calabar.

Represented by his Deputy, Dr. Peter Odey, Governor Otu described the event as a solemn reminder of the supreme sacrifices made by members

of the Armed Forces to keep Nigeria united and peaceful.

"The lesson from this ceremony is that we remember our fallen heroes, those who paid the supreme sacrifice for this country to remain one. Many people do not fully understand the sacrifices these



people made, most of them with their lives. The fact that we can sleep peacefully in this state is because of the hard work and commitment of our military officers," he said.

He stressed that

the state government remains resolute in its support for the Armed Forces and their families, noting that the administration recognises their invaluable contributions to national and state security.

Responding to questions on the welfare of widows of fallen heroes, the Deputy Governor assured that the Otu administration has deliberately included them in government programmes and interventions.

"All the widows are being carried along in our programmes. Even before this



include delayed welfare benefits, poor access to medical care for aged and bedridden veterans, and the plight of widows and orphans, many of whom remain unemployed despite completing higher education.

Despite these challenges, Ojugbo commended Governor Bassey Otu for his supportive disposition, noting that the current administration has shown genuine concern for the Legion and its members. "With the look of things, the government is trying for us, and we appreciate the support we have

event, we had met with them. The Commissioner for Social Welfare has been mandated to ensure that they are included in everything that we do," he stated.

Earlier, the State Chairman of the Nigerian Legion, Cross River State

Command, Comrade Daniel Ojugbo, described the ceremony as a mark of honour for fallen heroes and a moment of reflection on the challenges faced by veterans and their families.

He listed some of the challenges to



received so far," he said.

Also speaking at the event, the Coordinator of Military Widows in the state, Mrs. Miriam Orok, expressed gratitude to the

governor for what she described as a marked improvement in the treatment and inclusion of widows under his administration.

"Since the coming of Governor

Bassey Otu, things are different, things are really different. He has been carrying us along, and we are very grateful," she said.

Mrs. Orok also



appreciated the First Lady of the state for her compassion, recalling that military widows were honoured

and supported with food items and gifts during the last Christmas season.

“Even last

December, the wife of the governor honoured us and gave us many goodies to share with our children.



We pray that Almighty God will bless them and continue to give them the grace to lead our state now and in the future," she added.

The 2026 Armed Forces Celebration and Remembrance Day in Calabar featured prayers, wreath-laying and tributes in honour of fallen heroes, in recognition of their sacrifices and

contributions to national peace and security.

























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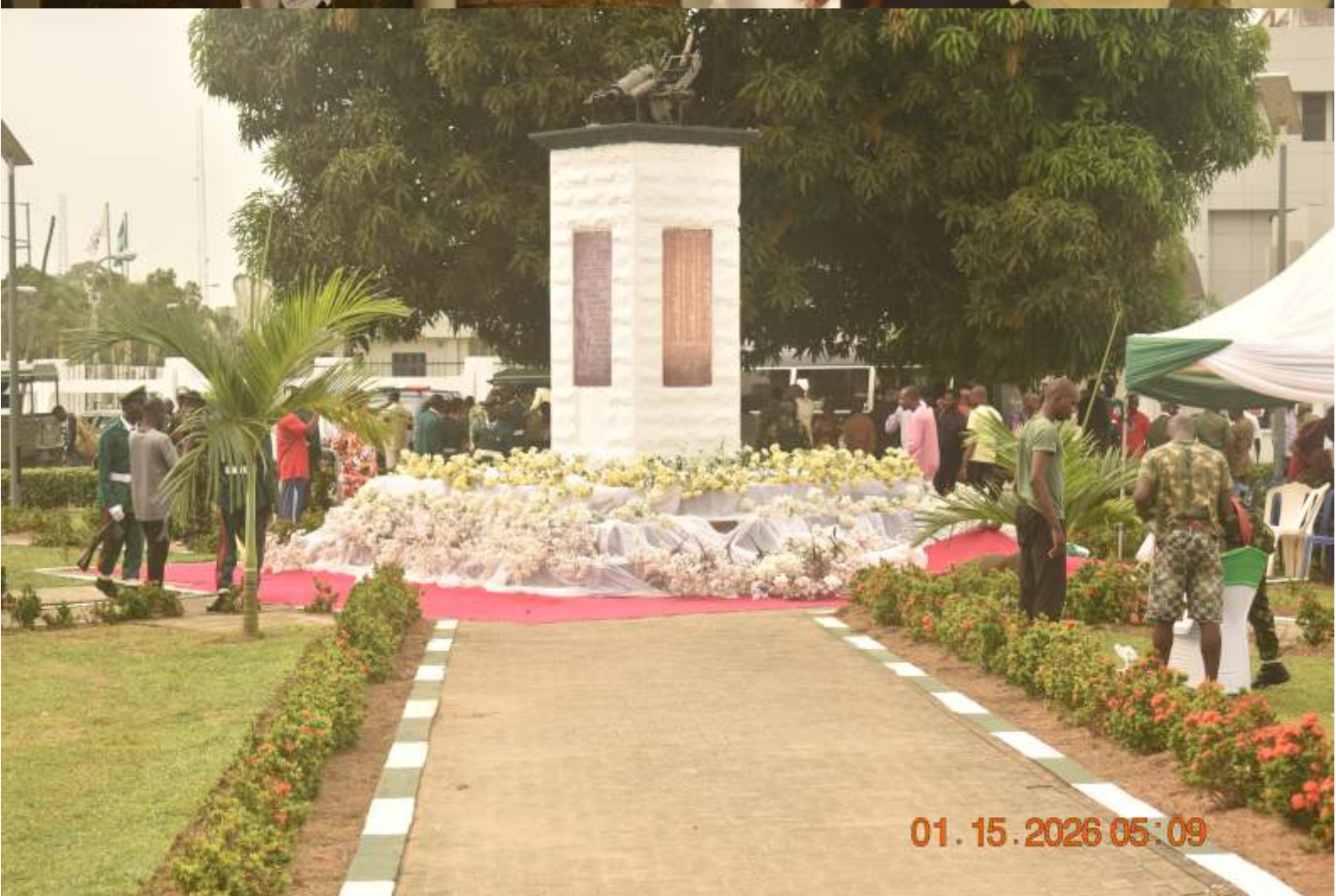














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01.15.2026 04:32





PRESS RELEASE

VAT ON BANKING FEES WAS NOT INTRODUCED BY THE NIGERIA TAX ACT

The Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS) wishes to address and correct misleading narratives circulating in sections of the media suggesting that **Value Added Tax (VAT)** has been newly introduced on banking services, fees, commissions, or electronic money transfers. This claim is categorically incorrect.

VAT has always applied to fees, commissions, and charges for services rendered by banks and other financial institutions under Nigeria's long-established VAT regime. **The Nigeria Tax Act did not introduce VAT on banking charges**, nor did it impose any new tax obligation on customers in this regard.

The Nigeria Revenue Service urges members of the public and all stakeholders to disregard misinformation and to rely exclusively on official communications for accurate, authoritative, and up-to-date tax information.

Signed
Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS)

Cross River Speaker Ayambem Joins Nation in Honouring Fallen Servicemen, Salutes their Courage and Sacrifices



Rt. Hon. Elvert Ayambem, Speaker of the Cross River State House of Assembly, on Wednesday laid a wreath at the 2026 Armed Forces Remembrance Day ceremony held at the Millennium Park Cenotaph in Calabar.

The wreath-laying, a solemn tradition at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, was observed in honour of fallen Nigerian servicemen and women who paid the ultimate price in defence of the nation, including those whose remains were never recovered or identified.

Speaking after the

ceremony, the Speaker described the occasion as a moment of reflection and gratitude, noting that it also served to renew the collective commitment to supporting the Armed Forces and upholding the ideals of service, courage, and patriotism for which they stood.

Senator Jarigbe Attends NUPRC's 2025 Oil Licensing Round, Assures Continued Legislative Support



The Senator representing Cross River North Senatorial District, Senator Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe, has assured the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) of the National Assembly's continued legislative support

as the Commission commenced activities for the 2025 Oil Licensing Round.

Senator Jarigbe gave the assurance during the pre-bid conference organized by the NUPRC for prospective bidders and key stakeholders in the Nigerian oil and gas industry. The conference, which

took place in Lagos, focused on clarifying the modalities, expectations, and regulatory framework guiding the licensing exercise for the 50 oil and gas blocks on offer.

The event was hosted by the Chief Executive of NUPRC, Mrs. Oritsemeyiwa



Eyesan, and was attended by the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Oil), Senator Heineken Lokpobiri; Chairman, Senate Committee on Upstream, Senator Eteng Williams; Chairman, Senate Committee on Gas, Senator Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe; Chairman, House Committee on Upstream, Hon. Alhassan Ado-Doguwa, alongside other industry stakeholders.

Delivering his

goodwill message, Senator Jarigbe reaffirmed the National Assembly's commitment to supporting the licensing round, the Federal Government's broader objective of boosting crude oil production and strengthening the energy sector. He noted that the current licensing round is of particular interest to him because of its consideration on the development of Nigeria's vast natural gas resources, expressing

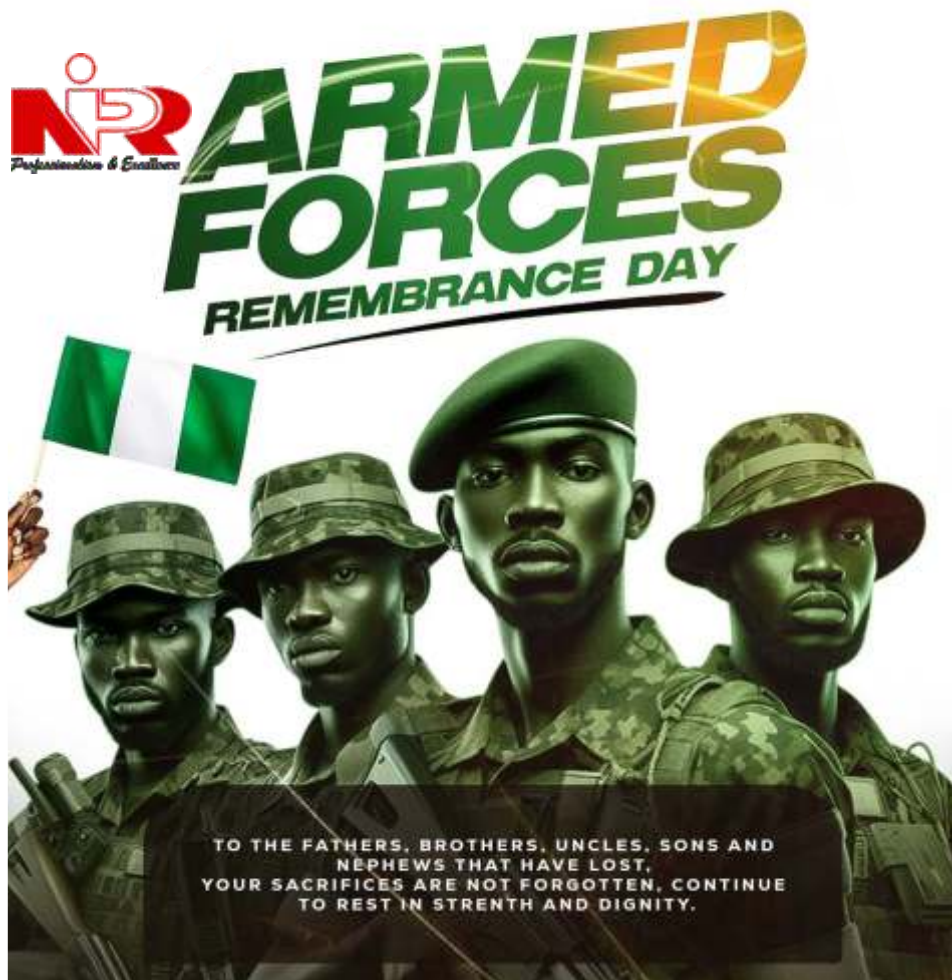
optimism that the country's estimated 209 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of gas reserves will now be effectively harnessed.

According to him, the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), enacted by the National Assembly, has significantly improved investor confidence in Nigeria's oil and gas sector by promoting credibility, transparency, and fairness in industry operations.

C'River NIPR Advocates for National Unity and Ethical Narratives on Armed Forces Remembrance Day

By Nakanda Iyadim

FOR LIFE, FOR LOVE AND COUNTRY



of their monthly meeting held at the conference room of the Ministry of Information to mark the 2026 Armed Forces Remembrance Day, Thursday, the State Chairman Pastor Augustine Mboso emphasized that the peace and sovereignty enjoyed across the nation are sustained by the "discipline, duty, and unwavering commitment" of the Nigerian Armed Forces.

The Cross River State Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) has called on Nigerians to look beyond ceremonial

observances and recommit to the core values of patriotism and responsible civic conduct.

In their public relations statement issued at the end

The Chairman noted that the day serves as a solemn reminder of the ultimate price paid by

fallen heroes and stressed that true remembrance requires a collective responsibility to preserve national unity and protect the legacy of those who served.

"A nation that honors its heroes must equally commit to preserving the values they defended," Mboso stated, identifying unity, patriotism, and respect for institutions as the essential pillars of a stable society.

As a body dedicated to reputation management, the NIPR highlighted the critical link between communication and national security.

The Institute urged media practitioners and public officials to be mindful of their rhetoric, asserting that the way the nation discusses its security forces directly impacts social cohesion and public morale.

The NIPR advocated for dignity, accuracy, and sensitivity in discourse regarding national service. Furthermore, the body called for robust policies that provide sustainable, long-term care for veterans and the families of fallen heroes.

Addressing the issue of patriotism they noted remain paramount in the development of the country, the Institute

encouraged citizens to champion narratives that bridge divides rather than fuel fragmentation.

In a final tribute to both serving personnel and veterans—whose sacrifices, the Institute noted, are "woven into the fabric of our national story"—the NIPR urged all Nigerians to use the occasion to recommit to building a nation worthy of the sacrifices made on the frontlines.

Cross River State Bids Farewell to Immediate Past HOS, Retired Permanent Secretaries

By: Kera Okem



The Cross River State Head of Service, Mr. Orok Bassey Okon, has hosted a colourful retirement party in honour of the Immediate Past Head of Service and retired Permanent Secretaries, in appreciation of their years of selfless and meritorious



service to the state.

The event, which brought together top senior civil servants and past administrative leaders, was

marked by goodwill, tributes and the presentation of gifts to all the retirees.

Speaking at the occasion, Orok



Bassey Okon Esq. described the retirees as pillars of the Cross River State Civil Service who served with dedication, integrity and commitment. He expressed profound gratitude for their invaluable contributions to governance and public administration.

The Head of Service also charged serving Permanent Secretaries to uphold the values of professionalism, discipline and excellence, urging them to surpass the standards set by their predecessors in the discharge of their duties.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Provost, College of Permanent Secretaries, Peter Uklala (Ph.D) warmly received guests and celebrated the retirees for their distinguished careers. He acknowledged their sacrifices and leadership roles in shaping



policy implementation and sustaining effective service delivery across Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

A major highlight of the event was the presentation of gifts to all the retirees as a symbol of appreciation and honour for their long years of

dedicated service.

The ceremony was graced by notable past Heads of Service, including Mrs. Ntunkae Mary-Theresa Ikwen, Barr. Geraldine Akpet-Ekanem, Dr. Timothy Akwaji, and Obol Dr. Innocent Eteng, whose presence added prestige and historical significance to the

celebration.

The retirement party served not only as a send-forth but also as a moment of reflection, inspiration and recommitment to the ideals of an efficient and people-centred civil service in Cross River State.

Quality Assurance Department, Ministry Of Education, Celebrates Retirement Of Mrs. Ngozi Offiong Eyo

By Patricia Ogbeche



The Department of Quality Assurance in the Cross River State Ministry of Education, Calabar, on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, held a colourful send-off ceremony in honour of Mrs. Ngozi Offiong Eyo, who retired after completing

35 years of meritorious service in the civil/public service.

Mrs. Ngozi Offiong Eyo, who joined the service in 1991, served diligently in various departments and held different positions within the Ministry of Education, leaving behind a legacy of

integrity, and professionalism.

Speaking at the event, the Chairman of the occasion, Senator Professor Stephen Odey, the Honourable Commissioner for Education, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Ntunkea Offiong Ani Offiong,



described Mrs. Ngozi as an amazing personality known for her humility, integrity, and strong work ethic. She noted that

Mrs. Ngozi's contributions to the ministry would be remembered for years to come. The celebration

attracted directors and staff from different departments of the ministry, the Chairman of the National Association of



Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS), the Chairman of the Senior Secretaries Board, members of the Executive Secretariat of the Calabar Zone, as well as pastors from Christ for the World

Incorporated Church.

In their various goodwill messages, speakers described Mrs. Ngozi as a warm, accommodating, and dependable colleague who was

easy to work with. Prayers were also offered for her good health, peace, and fulfillment in retirement.

In a vote of thanks, Mrs. Ngozi's husband, Mr. Offiong Eyo



(Rtd.), expressed profound gratitude to the Honourable Commissioner for Education, Senator Professor Stephen Odey, for his unwavering support to his wife throughout her career. He further

commended the commissioner for the numerous reforms introduced in the Ministry of Education, describing him as a man with a good heart who is accommodating and committed to progress.

The event ended on a joyful note as colleagues, friends, and family celebrated Mrs. Ngozi Offiong Eyo's years of faithful service and wished her a fulfilling retirement.

CR. Govt. Present Achievements Report on Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis

By: Iloke Egbe



The Cross River State Ministry of Health through the Department of Public Health, Neglected Tropical Diseases Control Program in collaboration with Evidence Action present 2024 impact assessment report on Schistosomiasis (STH) and Soil Transmitted

Helminthiasis (SCH) carried out in the 18 LGAs of the State.

The one day event held at the conference hall of Essential Drugs Program, Barrack's road Calabar aimed amongst others to update stakeholders on the achievements recorded within the period, opportunities

available and the way forward and to elicit feedback from the public.

In a detailed power point presentation, the senior manager Evidence Action Mr. Tochi Ohaji, reflected on the background and baseline souvey which provided evidence from the program evaluation

following a 7 years preventive chemotherapy which strongly suggested a significant rate of 48.5% reduction STH infections and 76.6% rate reduction in SCH among school children in the State.

Mr. Ohaji used the opportunity to call for increased sectoral collaboration to drive improvement in WASH across the State to sustain the high quality preventive chemotherapy which has generated greater gains in STH and

SCH prevalence.

He recommended treatment strategies for 2026 onward while referencing World Health Organization recommendations in the reduction of prevalence, and stated some approaches





appropriate to address Bakassi LGA which is the only LGA with negative indicators.

Adding her voice, the Program Manager, Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis Control and Elimination program in the Department of Public Health, Federal Ministry of Health, Mrs. Imaobong Umah, pointed out that WASH and basic hygiene including

behavioral change are essential to maintain results already achieved to avoid reemerges of the ugly past and called for stronger synergies and collaborations amongst Stakeholders.

The presentation outline background, methodology, results and conclusion. Lesson learned and acknowledgement. And featured goodwill messages from critical Stakeholders. In attendance were

the State Director, Neglected Tropical Diseases Control Program Pastor Mrs. Veronica Mark, representative of the Commissioner Ministry of Health and that of Permanent Secretary of the Ministry Dr. Jonah Offor represented by the Acting Director Public Health Mr Patrick Odu, Civil Society Organizations and none Governmental Organizations.



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CONGRESS**

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E-Registration Exercise

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Requirements:

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Must Have Valid NIN

***Old members MUST
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MEMBERSHIP***

Be A Part Of The Winning Party

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



The Hon. Speaker,
The Hon. Chief Judge,
All Commissioners/Special Advisers,
The Secretary to the State Government,
The Chief of Staff,
All Chairmen of Commissions and Boards,
All Permanent Secretaries Special Assistants,
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,
Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State & Local Govt.),
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy-Governor,
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals

HEAD OF SERVICE CIRCULAR NO. 1/2026

PAYROLL AUDIT, CREDENTIALS/PROGRESSION VERIFICATION FOR SERVING OFFICERS AND PENSION VERIFICATION FOR PENSIONERS

The attention of all Civil Servants in the State Public/ Civil Service is hereby drawn to the approval of His Excellency, the Governor of Cross River State, authorising the Office of the Head of Service to conduct a comprehensive Payroll Audit and Pensioners Verification for the State Public Service.

The exercise is aimed at:

- Ensuring the integrity and accuracy of the State payroll.
- Verifying Staff credentials, appointments, promotions and progression records.
- Eliminating payroll irregularities and strengthening personnel management systems.

The Payroll Audit will be conducted simultaneously with Credentials and Career Progression Verification for serving officers. While a Pension Verification Exercise will be carried out for pensioners. The Nigerian Union of Pensioners (NUP) is hereby notified accordingly.

All serving officers are directed to immediately collate and present copies of their service records to the administrative heads of their MDAs, but not limited to:

- Letter of First Appointment
- Letter of confirmation of appointment
- All Promotion Letters up to current grade level
- All Educational Certificates used in the course of service
- Any other official personnel records as may be required

Further details on the schedule, modalities and documentation requirements for the exercise will be communicated in due course.


Orok Bassey Oken
Head of Service



"Cash Payments to Individuals and Consultants remain Suspended — Tax ID Compliance Is Critical to the Reform," Says CRIRS Boss

By: Achiane Adams



The Executive Chairman of the Cross River Internal Revenue Service (CRIRS), Prince Edwin Okon, PhD, has reiterated the State Government's stance on the suspension of cash payments into Individuals or Consultants accounts while underscoring the

growing importance of the Tax Identification Number (Tax ID) under Nigeria's new tax reform framework.

Prince Okon made this disclosure during a Virtual Sensitization Webinar organized by CRIRS recently. The webinar focused on the implications of the

new tax reforms for salary earners as well as small, medium, and large-scale business owners.

According to him, taxpayers are encouraged to utilize digital platforms and bank deposits to pay their taxes and levies pending the State's adoption

and enactment of the Harmonized Tax Laws.

He added that the possession of a valid Tax ID has become fundamental to effective tax administration and compliance. He urged taxpayers to obtain or update their Tax IDs, noting that official letterheads and bank transactions should carry the Tax ID to enhance proper identification and tracking of tax payments.

“Most importantly, every taxpayer should either get a Tax Identification Number or update the existing one. It is a simple process that only requires the National

Identification Number (NIN) for individuals and the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) number for corporate entities.” he said.

Prince Okon further disclosed that CRIRS has resumed free physical Tax ID registration exercises to accommodate taxpayers who are not tech-savvy, ensuring inclusive participation in the tax system.

The webinar attracted a wide range of participants, including taxpayers, business owners, professionals, and other stakeholders from within and outside Cross River State. The engagement forms part of CRIRS’

sustained commitment to tax education and enlightenment, particularly in light of recent reforms aimed at strengthening Nigeria’s tax system.

Still speaking during the session, Prince Okon attributed the recent ₦57 billion revenue milestone recorded by the Cross River State Government to increased public trust in governance, noting that such achievements are only possible when citizens have confidence in government and willingly comply with their tax obligations.

He also acknowledged the unwavering

commitment of Governor Bassey Otu, stating that the Governor has consistently ensured that citizens benefit directly from ongoing tax reforms through the establishment of sound economic and institutional structures. According to him, the Governor's people-centered approach has created an enabling environment where tax policies translate into tangible socio-economic benefits for residents of the State.

Prince Okon further revealed that Cross River State is making deliberate efforts to join other states that have implemented the

Harmonized Taxes approved by the Joint Revenue Board (JRB), a move aimed at reducing multiple taxation, improving ease of doing business, and aligning the state's tax administration with national best practices.

The webinar featured seasoned tax experts and policy stakeholders, including Mr. Taiwo Oyedele, Chairman of the Presidential Fiscal Policy and Tax Reform Committee, and Mr. Segun Ade, Executive Secretary of the Joint Revenue Board. Both experts provided in-depth insights into the reforms, clarified common misconceptions, and explained the implications of the

new tax framework for employees, entrepreneurs, and corporate organizations, while commending Cross River State for its leadership in tax reform advocacy.

Mr. Oyedele noted that the reforms favour low-income earners and small-scale business owners, highlighting tax relief measures such as Corporate Income Tax exemptions for businesses with annual turnover below ₦100 million.

Participants were also guided on the practical implications of the reforms on personal income tax, business operations,



compliance requirements, and emerging opportunities under the new tax regime. These sessions were delivered by Dr. Patience Egwu, Head of Revenue Assurance, and Mr. Essien Ansa, Director of Personal Income Tax, both of CRIRS.

An interactive question-and-answer session further enhanced

engagement, allowing participants to seek clarification on specific concerns.

CRIRS reaffirmed that sustained tax education remains a top priority, emphasizing that informed taxpayers are more likely to comply voluntarily. The Service noted that revenue generated through taxation is critical for funding social services,

infrastructure development, and corporate social responsibility initiatives, particularly in underserved and rural communities, adding that the webinar is part of ongoing physical and virtual engagements to keep taxpayers well informed as the new tax reforms take effect.



Our Ref: GO/HOS/4/VOL. III/285

14th January, 2026

The Hon. Speaker,
The Hon. Chief Judge,
All Commissioners/Special Advisers,
The Secretary to the State Government,
The Chief of Staff,
All Chairmen of Commissions and Boards,
All Permanent Secretaries Special Assistants,
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,
Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State & Local Govt.),
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy-Governor,
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals

HEAD OF SERVICE CIRCULAR NO. 2/2026

DEPLOYMENT OF SECURITY PERSONNEL AND CENTRALIZED ELECTRICITY PAYMENT

This is to inform all Ministries, Departments and Agencies that His Excellency, the Governor of Cross River State, has approved the deployment of the Nigerian Legion and Peace Corps for security patrol around State government facilities.

Their role is strictly external security surveillance and does not extend to activities within the inner precincts or offices of MDAs.

Furthermore, MDAs are hereby advised that with effect from February 2026 electricity bills, MDAs shall cease direct payment to PHED. The Office of the Head of Service has been mandated to centrally settle electricity bills for all State MDAs.

The contents of this Circular are for information and strict compliance by all concerned.

Orok Bassey Okon
Head of Service



C'River to Decentralize Civil Service Housing Scheme; Launches Reforms for 2026

By Iloke Egbe



The Cross River State Head of Service (HoS), Barr. Bassey Orok, has announced that Governor Bassey Edet Otu has approved a decentralized housing scheme for civil servants, spanning all three Senatorial Districts of the

state.

Barr. Orok made this disclosure during the 2026 Solemn Assembly held at the New Secretariat Complex in Calabar.

The solemn assembly, themed "The Manifestation of God's Glory in Cross River State,"

served as a formal dedication of the state's workforce to God and marked the official resumption of full activities following the New Year break.

Addressing a large gathering of workers, the Head of Service emphasized that





2026 would be a "rewarding year" characterized by the Governor's goodwill.

He outlined several key policy reforms aimed at repositioning the State's civil

service.

According to him, "Training will begin this quarter for 2,000 civil servants to prepare for a new paperless service scheme designed to enhance efficiency

and reduce corruption."

He further disclosed that a rigorous audit will be conducted to identify and remove "ghost workers."





Barr. Orok noted that funds recovered from this exercise would be redistributed to increase the take-home pay of legitimate workers.

"The State will implement a strict verification process for credentials and closely monitor career progression to ensure meritocracy," he further disclosed

The Head of

Service also explained that the Office of the Head of Service will now centralize the payment of government utility bills. MDAs were directed to coordinate their utility needs



through his office.

On monthly sanitation, on what could be described as a notable policy shift, the HoS announced that the traditional monthly sanitation exercise for civil servants has been replaced with a health and wellness programme and that Starting this year, workers will participate in medical check-ups and aerobics at the U.J.

Esuene Stadium on the last Friday of every month.

The event featured spiritual ministrations and prayers for the state's prosperity. Key segments included a sermon delivered by Pastor Lawrence Agbata. Prayers for Cross River State and Nigeria led by Pastor Peter A. Ogbu, and prayers for the workforce led by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Mrs.

Offiong Ani.

Praise and worship sessions featuring the House of Assembly Staff Choir. The assembly was attended by high-ranking officials, including the Commissioner for Establishments, Pensions, and Training, Hon. Lawrencina Ita, alongside various Permanent Secretaries, Directors, and staff from across the MDAs.



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8th January, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Nigerian Army
Direct Short Service Course (DSSC) 29/2026

Join the Nigerian Army
... and serve your country

APPLICATION IS FREE

APPLICATION BEGINS FOR
Direct Short Service Course (DSSC) Course 29/2026

HOW TO APPLY:

- (1) Go online and visit the webpage at www.army.gov.ng to get the DSSC application form.
- (2) The form will be submitted to the page where you can read the qualification criteria for the ongoing DSSC course.
- (3) Click on the "Apply Now" button for the DSSC on your qualification and stage of choice.
- (4) At the present, you will be required to select if you are serving or have served in the Armed Forces of Nigeria. Choose the appropriate option and proceed.
- (5) If you do not have an account click on "Sign Up" as verification will be sent to your email or other email address and log in.
- (6) Fill out the form and upload all required documents listed below and upload:

- (a) Passport photograph.
- (b) Educational certificates.
- (c) Evidence of membership of any professional body.
- (d) Certificate of state of origin.
- (e) Birth certificate or age declaration.
- (f) NIN form.

Application Closes: **15 January 2026** Application Closes: **15 February 2026**

For further inquiries, please call 081-1000000 or 081-0000000 between 0800 - 1800 hours (Mon - Thurs only).

Command
Army Headquarters
Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Defence

Cross Riverians wishing to be enlisted into the Nigerian Army are encouraged to take advantage of the information provided in the above advertorial to apply and submit the printouts (hard copies) to the Desk Officer, in the office of the Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment, Calabar for possible complementary actions.

Patrick Egbede

Commissioner,

Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, CRS

**NIGERIA****SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**9th January, 2026**PRESS RELEASE****CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES REGARDING THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT LOAN ANCHORED BY THE OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN, CROSS RIVER STATE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
SCHEME (YES)**

There has been some misinformation in the public space regarding the Federal Government Loan to Cross Riverians to start or expand their businesses. The loan, which is domiciled in Zenith Bank, is part of the Federal Government initiative in collaboration with the Cross River State Government through the Office of the Chairman Cross River State Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES).

The required statutory deposit of ₦13,000.00 (Thirteen Thousand Naira) only is authentic for all potential beneficiaries of the loan and it is used for Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) processes, opening of Account Numbers in Zenith Bank by the potential beneficiaries and the issuance of ATM card to each beneficiary.

The loan in question varies for different categories of businesses with a pegged maximum of ₦5,000,000.00 (Five Million Naira) only.

This is to notify Cross Riverians and the general public of the authenticity of the loans and the aforementioned bank charges. The public is therefore admonished to take advantage of the loans and benefit maximally.

Prof. A. Owan Enoch

Secretary to the Government of the State



Cross River Hausa-Fulani Muslim Community Gets Official Stamp As Support Group



The Cross River State Hausa-Fulani Muslim Community has received its Certificate of Registration as a Support Group in the State marking a significant milestone as an official support group for the State Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu's re-election bid for a second term in

office come 2027

The Certificate was presented to the Leadership of the Group during the Community's 3rd meeting held at 520 Event Centre Calabar, with the theme "Unity and Togetherness", and was attended by members from Bogobiri and Nasarawa Hausa-Fulani Communities in Calabar Metropolis.

Speaking while presenting the certificate, Special Adviser, Support Group, Mr. Clement, and Special Adviser Religious Matters, Apostle Frank Umo, lauded the Hausa-Fulani Muslim Community for their unflinching support to Governor Otu, adding that their recognition as one of the Support Groups



will further solidify the Community's backing for Governor Otu to win a second term.

Sarki Hausa - Fulani and Muslim Community Leader, Sarki Garba Lawal, praised the

leadership for their efforts and urged for loyalty, transparency, and inclusiveness, emphasizing that the Support Group's commitment to the administration, reinforcing the community's dedication to unity and backing for

Governor Otu's agenda.

The meeting was a show of solidarity, with members turning out in large numbers to demonstrate their support for the administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu.



January 6th, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

**NOTICE TO TRACTOR BENEFICIARIES WITH OUTSTANDING
COLLECTION**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Development hereby informs all beneficiaries who have made the required down payment for tractors but are yet to take delivery from the Ministry's premises that they are required to do so on or before Thursday, 22nd, January, 2026.

Kindly note that any tractor not collected on or before the stated deadline will be reassigned to individuals on the waiting list.

Where such reassignment occurs, affected beneficiaries will be required to wait until the next batch of tractors is delivered to the Ministry before allocation can be reconsidered.

This notice is issued to ensure efficient allocation and optimal utilization of available tractors. All concerned beneficiaries are therefore urged to comply promptly.

Hon. Johnson A. Ebokpo KSM
Commissioner





JOHN OWAN-ENOH FOUNDATION MSME SUPPORT PROGRAM PHASE 2

The Minister of State for Industry, Dist. Sen. John Owan Enoh, hereby declares open the 2nd phase of the _John Owan Enoh Foundation MSME Support Program_ to mark the New Year Celebration!

Click the link below to apply online or print the physical Application Form and fill.

<https://hmindustry.com.ng/dashboard/application/create>

Wishing you all a Prosperous New Year!

A few things to note:

1. Beneficiaries from Phase 1 should not bother to apply in this phase. If you do, the system is built to identify you and you will automatically be disqualified from all related programs.
2. Those who applied in phase one and were not selected can simply log in and reapply. They no longer need to do the initial registration.
3. Note also that there is no lobbying, no political party connection and no recommendation whatsoever or from anyone, that will qualify any applicant. All applicants stand the same chance based on the viability of their business idea and available spaces.
4. The form for the informal sector added a few more details and will be available on this same space. Kindly note that any applicant who applies online and still fills the informal sector form will be automatically disqualified.

Thank you once again and have a happy new year celebration.

hmindustry.com.ng (<https://hmindustry.com.ng/dashboard/application/create>)

Account Login - Owan-Enoh Foundation MSME Support Program

Empowering businesses in Cross River and Cross Riverians worldwide with Owan-Enoh Foundation MSME Support Program.



Our Ref: GO/HOS/4/VOL. III/280

DECEMBER 10, 2025

The Hon. Speaker,
The Hon. Chief Judge,
All Commissioner/Special Advisers,
The Secretary to the State Government,
The Chief of Staff,
All Chairmen of Commissions & Boards,
All Permanent Secretaries/Special Assistants,
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,
The Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State/Local Govt),
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy Governor,
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial

HEAD OF SERVICE CIRCULAR NO. 9/2025

RE-DESIGNATION OF THE INFORMATION CADRE AS INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER CADRE

The Office of the Head of Service wishes to notify the Ministry of Information of the re-designation of the existing Information Cadre to the Information & Public Relations Officer (IPRO) Cadre with immediate effect.

2. The re-designation is in line with ongoing reforms aimed at strengthening professional communication functions, enhancing public engagement, and ensuring alignment with national and global standards of public information management.

3. Consequently, the following academic qualifications and professional certifications shall now be recognized and accepted for entry, progression, and professional practice within the Information & Public Relations Officer Cadre:

- a. Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication
- b. Bachelor's Degree in Journalism
- c. Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Arts
- d. Other related degrees and communication-based qualifications
- e. Professional certifications from the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR)
- f. Professional certifications from other recognized and reputable bodies in the field of communication, media, and public relations.

4. You are requested to take necessary steps to implement this directive, including updating all establishment records, scheme of service references, and relevant personnel documentation to reflect the new designation.

5. Please bring the contents of this circular to the attention of all officers and departments concerned for strict compliance.

Orok Bassey Okon
Head of Service





MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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

Ref: CR/MOI/AD/385/VOL.IV/237

18th December, 2025

PRESS STATEMENT

CLARIFICATION ON REGULATIONS FOR TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE CROSS RIVER STATE LIBRARY COMPLEX

The attention of the Government of Cross River State has been drawn to the unregulated and uncoordinated taking of photographs and making of Videos by users and visitors to the recently re-opened Cross River State Library Complex.

These unwholesome trends have continued to remain an issue of great concern to the Management of the Cross River State Library and the Government wishes to address them in the overall interest of the Public as follows:

1. The Cross River State Library Complex remains a public institution owned by the Cross River State Government. It has not been sold, leased, or transferred to any individual or private entity.
2. Government wishes to however note that certain sections within the State Library Complex -such as the Café and Multi-Purpose areas; are managed spaces established to promote sustainability, orderliness, and the protection of public assets.
3. The already introduced guidelines regulating photography and videography within designated areas of the Library Complex were introduced solely to preserve a conducive learning and research environment for users. These measures were further intended to reduce overcrowding, limit noise and distractions as well as prevent the misuse or damage of Library facilities.
4. Government wishes to emphasize that as a public Library, maintaining quiet study conditions and safeguarding resources remains a core responsibility of Management of the Library.
5. Again, Government recognises the fact that unrestricted filming and photography can lead to congestion and disruption of services for other Library Users.
6. In the light of the above, all clients-group or Individual, MUST give prior

notification and receive formal approval from the Library Management to guarantee seamless identification and Commercial Photography in the Complex.

7. Government further directs all clients and users to strictly adhere to the guidelines to correct all noticeable inconsistencies, enhance engagements and avoid congestion in the Library. They are also to note that these standardised guidelines are not intended to penalise Library Clients and Visitors but to make the Library more accessible, orderly, serene and beneficial to all members of the public.

Finally, Government sincerely appreciates the support so far and solicits for continued cooperation so that together with the Library Management, improved service delivery and transparency will be achieved in line with international best practices.

Thank you, as Government wishes you all a merry Christmas and a happy New year -2026.



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





Indiscriminate
BUSH
BURNING
is still outlawed
in Cross River State.

Do not indulge in indiscriminate bush burning. Avoid the wrath of Government.

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Cross River State

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01-4482998





STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN CROSS RIVER STATE

- 1** Obtain an Application Form at CRGIA's Office, Old Secretariat Road, Off Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar, Cross River State
- 2** Submit Application Form with Required Documents
Fill and submit the form along with necessary documents, e.g. Registered Title Document, survey plan, identification, etc.
- 3** Assessment and Payment of Fees.
The office will assess applicable charges, registration fees, processing fees, etc. Make the required payment.
- 4** 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.
- 5** C of O (Certificate of Occupancy) Engrossment and Signing
The Certificate of Occupancy is prepared (engrossed) and signed by the Governor or delegated authority.
- 6** 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
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Nearest to You*



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**Avoid
Overspeeding:**

**Speed thrills
But Kills.**

**Always obey
speed limits**

— FRSC —

CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND