Daily InfoNews Bulletin

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

TUESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2026



GOV OTU DECLARES 18-OVER-18 LGA VICTORY



Daily InfoNews...

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DailyNews Bulletin is a daily publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information and Orientation for the Entertainment and Education of 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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TUESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2026

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2027: VP Shettima Urges Cross Riverians to Renew Tinubu, Otu Mandates

...As Gov Otu Declares 18-over-18 LGA Victory, Says APC Was Cheated in 2023

By Nakanda Iyadim



Vice President Kashim Shettima has made a passionate appeal to the people of Cross River State to renew the mandate of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Governor Bassey Edet Otu, declaring that the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) has come as the state's most trustworthy friend.

Addressing a mammoth crowd when the APC presidential campaign train berthed at the U.J. Esuene Stadium in Calabar on Monday, Shettima, who conveyed President Tinubu's warm fraternity, commended Cross Riverians for resisting lies and propaganda targeted at the administration in the last three years.

"We have come to you again. We have come as the most trustworthy friends you can ever have. These are not empty words. Over the past three years you have shown us support and resisted lies and propaganda intended to misrepresent us. That is why we are here today. We don't take this strong will for granted," he declared.

Shettima described the partnership between the APC and Cross River State as "an alliance of progress, prosperity, opportunity and dignity" centred on the people's welfare.

"We seek a renewed mandate for President Tinubu, for Senator Bassey



Otu as Governor, and for members of the National Assembly and House of Assembly. We are asking because authority belongs to the people and those entrusted with authority must return with an account of their stewardship," he stated.

The Vice President anchored President Tinubu's case for Cross River on four major pillars: infrastructure, maritime economy, regional diplomacy and human capital development.

Highlighting the flagship Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway, Shettima said it was a deliberate initiative to open the state to global economic opportunities.

"It will connect coastal communities, ease movement of goods and people, expand tourism, attract investors and create thousands of jobs. Our vision is for Cross River to become a major beneficiary of this economic revolution," he said.

He confirmed Federal Government approval for the Bakassi Deep Seaport under the Tinubu administration, noting: "When completed, it will become an international maritime gateway, attract shipping companies, generate employment, stimulate industrial development and offer enormous economic opportunities."

Shettima further disclosed plans to locate the Gulf of Guinea Commission Secretariat in Calabar, saying it will boost the state's international visibility, stimulate hospitality and translate diplomatic and commercial activities into jobs.

He cited the disbursement of Nigerian Education Loan Fund (NELFUND) to Cross River students as concrete proof of people-centred governance.

"No parent should have to watch the abilities of their kids surrender to a shortage of money. So NELFUND is here for you," he assured.

Making a passionate plea for total victory, the Vice









President urged voters to support APC candidates from top to bottom.

"I stand before you to ask you once again to renew the mandate of President Tinubu as President, and myself as Vice President, and another term for Otu and Peter Odey as Governor and Deputy, and for all members of the National Assembly and House of Assembly.

"We stand before you as the battle-tested, the indomitable, the indefatigable, the audacious, the lion-hearted, the dauntless, the valiant, the resolute, chosen by you, with solemn duty of carrying this great nation to greater height. We ask for your votes for APC and its programme of continued service," he said.

In his address, Governor Bassey Otu, who is also the APC South-South Campaign Coordinator, declared total support for the Tinubu-Shettima ticket, urging citizens to vote APC across all elective positions for seamless governance.

"This whole task is about the sense of gratitude, hospitality and productivity of the good people of our state, and the overarching personality of Africa's most popular connector, our own Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu," Otu remarked.

Describing President Tinubu as the architect of modern Lagos and a political giant, the Governor stated: "Our President is a man of great intelligence, responsibility, cautiousness, a nationalist and an original strategist who combines talent of democratization and organization mindset."

Outlining the state's economic direction, Otu said key foundations have been laid across agriculture, industry and services, assuring that inherited debts will be cleared as opportunities flourish.

Expressing confidence ahead of 2027, he insisted on securing all 18 Local Government Areas,



asserting that the party was shortchanged in 2023 when it won only seven LGAs.

Also speaking, APC National Chairman, Prof. Nentawe Yilwatda, lauded President Tinubu's vision of building a $1 trillion economy by 2030, positioning Calabar as a critical pillar of that growth.

Yilwatda noted that the Bakassi Deep Seaport and the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway will transform Calabar into a premier maritime hub, extending through Akwa Ibom, Rivers, Bayelsa, Ondo and Edo to Lagos, and onward to Togo and Ghana as part of the West African coastal road network.

He further explained that the port will serve as a key holding facility for landlocked countries such as Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic. The network will be complemented by rail lines linking Calabar to Port Harcourt, Kano and Maiduguri, as well as the Trans-Saharan Highway connecting Calabar by road through Ebonyi, Enugu, Benue, the FCT, Nasarawa, Plateau, Bauchi and Gombe to Maiduguri.

Yilwatda urged Governor Otu to prepare the state's economy by developing warehouses, supporting SMEs and strengthening middlemen networks to capitalise on emerging import-export opportunities.

The rally witnessed an overwhelming turnout from all 18 Local Government Areas of the state. Dignitaries in attendance included the Senate President, Chief Godswill Akpabio, Deputy Governor of Cross River State, Rt. Hon. Peter Odey, South-South Governors and other party executives.


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Over 5,350 C'River MSMEs Empowered As Meda, Owan Enoh Rally Support For Tinubu In 2027

By Daniel Bebia



No fewer than 5,350 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and local entrepreneurs across Cross River State have benefited from direct cash grants, skill acquisition and capacity-building programmes under ongoing state and federal government interventions.

The Director-General of the Cross River State Micro Enterprise Development Agency (MEDA), Mr. Great Ogban, disclosed this during the Manufacturing and MSME Town Hall Meeting held on Sunday at The Dome, Calabar Municipality Garden.

Ogban explained that the interventions were deliberately structured to reach businesses across the three senatorial districts to stimulate grassroots economic growth.

"More than 5,350 Cross Riverians have benefited from various enterprise-development and empowerment interventions under the current administration," he said. "SMEDAN has trained 2,500 participants across the three senatorial districts, while another 2,000 persons have benefited from a separate intervention, with 500 of them accessing grants of N500,000 each."

Evaluating the impact of the financial assistance,



the MEDA boss noted that beneficiaries were making judicious use of the support to scale up operations.

“The outcome of the grant programme is encouraging, as beneficiaries are actively applying the skills and financial support received to expand their businesses,” he added.

He further highlighted that local businesses have accessed low-interest facilities and administrative reliefs aimed at easing the cost of doing business.

“Cross River businesses have benefited from a N200 million MSME intervention, alongside access to single-digit interest loans and N50,000 grants facilitated through SMEDAN and the Bank of Industry (BOI),” Ogban stated.

“Governor Bassey Otu deserves commendation for providing 1,000 free Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) business registration slots, an initiative that has significantly reduced the cost and administrative challenges associated with formalising businesses in our state.”

Calling for sustained synergy between the state and federal governments, Ogban urged entrepreneurs to support continuity in economic governance.

“Sustained collaboration between the Federal and State Governments is essential to consolidate the gains recorded in the MSME sector. I urge our entrepreneurs and stakeholders to support continuity in the implementation of these transformative economic programmes,” he said.

Corroborating his remarks, the Minister of State for Industry, Senator John Owan Enoh, emphasized the strategic importance of small businesses to Nigeria’s economic revival.



He noted that MSMEs account for nearly 96 per cent of businesses, contribute 40 per cent to the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and generate about 87 per cent of national employment.

"MSMEs are actually our economy. You all seated here are the economy of Cross River and the economy of Nigeria," Senator Enoh told participants. "You need to be very proud of the contributions you continue to make to the economic growth and development of our state and our country."

The Minister announced several upcoming federal industrial initiatives earmarked for Cross River State, including an Electric Bicycle Assembly Plant following an agreement reached with an economic development team, with location talks ongoing with Governor Bassey Otu ahead of a scheduled November 10 meeting;

Allocation of 75 acres of land in Calabar for an automotive-related project, alongside an automotive training centre currently being built by the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC); and

Over 2,000 residents across the 18 Local Government Areas benefiting from federal grant programmes, NITDA mentorship and digital business development schemes.

Senator Enoh also unveiled a document compiled by the Manufacturing and MSME Directorate detailing the achievements of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu since May 2023, urging Cross Riverians to support the President's re-election in 2027 to sustain the gains.

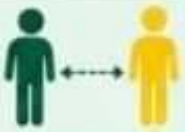
"As a directorate, what we have done is to put together a document that captures and indicates a lot of the progress that has been made by Mr President," he said. "That document makes the case for the fact that re-electing Mr President is actually what this country is going to benefit from."

The town hall featured presentations by the Special Adviser to the President on Youth, Business and Investment, the Managing Director of NEXIM Bank and the Director-General of SMEDAN.

IPC measures for Ebola and Marburg disease

Key recommendations

NCDC
NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

	Best practice
 **IPC ring approach**	Use the IPC ring approach in health-care facilities and communities when a case is identified.
 **Hand hygiene**	Use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) or soap and running water (if currently using chlorine, then implement a strategy to change to ABHR).
 **Screening**	Everyone should be screened using a no-touch technique at the first point of contact.
 **Patient placement**	Patients should be isolated in a single room and their well-being and visitors made a priority as safely as possible.
 **Personal protective equipment**	PPE should be selected based on risk of activity being performed.
 **Spraying health and care workers**	**Do not** spray health and care workers during PPE removal.
 **Health and care worker exposures**	Exposed health and care workers should be assessed and managed according to risk of exposure.
 **Waste management**	All waste generated should be treated as infectious waste, including heavily soiled linen.
 **Environmental cleaning and disinfection**	Clean and disinfect surfaces/environment by wiping in patient care areas.
 **Safe management of dead bodies**	**Do not** disinfect dead bodies.

Adapted from: World Health Organization. *IPC measures for Ebola and Marburg disease: past and present.*

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