Daily InfoNews Bulletin

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

THURSDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER, 2026



C'River Denies APC Involvement in Obi Convoy Attack, Blames Internal Rifts









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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Daily InfoNews Bulletin

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

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CROSS RIVER STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION
CULTURAL CENTRE ROAD, CALABAR, CRS

5th November, 2026

PRESS STATEMENT

CROSS RIVER STATE GOVERNMENT DEBUNKS FALSE CLAIM OF APC ATTACK ON PETER OBI'S CONVOY IN CALABAR

The Cross River State Government categorically debunks the false and mischievous claim that supporters of the All Progressives Congress (APC) attacked the convoy of Mr. Peter Obi in Calabar. This allegation is untrue, unfounded, and a calculated attempt to misrepresent the peace-loving people of Cross River State.

THE FACTS ARE CLEAR:

1. It Was Internal Frustration, Not A Political Attack

Reports revealed that what occurred was not an APC-orchestrated attack but an implosion due to frustration from people who had experienced being used and dumped in the past by the NDC and were determined that the same scenario would not repeat itself. Upon hearing that the same scenario might likely play out again, some of them became irritated and choose to express their anger, even on their own vehicle. The evidence is public. Some of those involved were seen openly hanging the flag of the NDC. That is not APC. That is not our character. That is not our conduct.

2. Cross River Remains a Beacon of Peace and Hospitality

Calabar is Nigeria's tourism capital. We do not welcome visitors with violence. We welcome them with culture, warmth, and dignity. Under the leadership of His Excellency, Governor Bassey Edet Otu, this administration stands for peace, tolerance, and issue-based politics. We will not allow Cross River to be dragged into the politics of propaganda and staged incidents. We therefore challenge those behind this false narrative to present one verifiable evidence linking any APC supporter to the incident.

Moreover, after the enormous stress of receiving the President barely forty-eight hours earlier, nobody had the energy, the interest, or the reason to go out and attack any convoy. To claim otherwise is to deliberately ignore reality.

We therefore call on security agencies to investigate and expose the true actors behind this unfortunate attempt to sow discord.

Cross River State is peaceful. Our people are peaceful. And this Government will continue to protect that peace for all visitors and residents alike.

HON. (PST). EKPENYONG ENE COBHAM
Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Cross River State

C'River Denies APC Involvement in Obi Convoy Attack, Blames Internal Rifts



The Cross River State Government has denied allegations that supporters of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) were responsible for the attack on the convoy of the opposition figure, Mr. Peter Obi, in Calabar.

The Government, in a statement dated November 5, 2026 and signed by the Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Pastor Ekpenyong Ene Cobham, described the allegation as "untrue, unfounded, and a calculated attempt to misrepresent the peace-loving people of Cross River State."

The denial follows reports of a violent disturbance near Watt Market in the state capital where vehicles were allegedly damaged.

According to the statement, the altercation was not orchestrated by APC supporters but was a result of an internal crisis within the opposition camp.

The Government said findings by State agents indicated that the disruption was an "internal implosion by





individuals aggrieved over being used and dumped in the past" by the opposition party.

It added that irritated supporters, fearing a repeat of past political neglect, turned their anger inward and damaged vehicles belonging to their own faction.

"Individuals caught on camera causing unrest were openly displaying NDC insignia. That is not APC. That is not our character. That is not our conduct," the statement said.

Reaffirming the State's reputation as Nigeria's tourism capital, Commissioner Cobham said the administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu remains committed to hospitality, culture and issue-based politics.

He said the Government rejects attempts to drag the State into "the politics of propaganda and staged incidents."

The statement also questioned the logic of the allegation, noting that Government and party supporters were still recovering from hosting the President barely 48 hours before the incident.

"Nobody had the energy, interest, or rationale to organize an attack on an opposition convoy," it stated.

The Government challenged those promoting the attack narrative to produce verifiable evidence linking any APC member to the disruption.

It called on law enforcement agencies to launch a thorough investigation into the incident, unmask the real perpetrators and hold accountable those attempting to sow discord in the State.

The Government assured residents, business owners and visitors of their safety and reiterated its resolve to preserve the peace in Calabar and protect all citizens regardless of political affiliation.

200 Residents Benefit from Free Medical Outreach in Honour of C'River Health Commissioner's Mother

By Kingsley Agim



A total of 200 residents of Bendeghe Ekiem in Etung Local Government Area of Cross River State have benefited from a free medical outreach organised by the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Henry Egbe Ayuk, in honour of his late mother, Madam Maria Okongor Asu Ayuk, as part of activities marking her funeral.

The medical outreach, held on October 30, 2026, provided free consultations, laboratory investigations, health education and essential medications to members of the community, turning a moment of family mourning into an opportunity to give back to the people of Bendeghe Ekiem.

Speaking on the motivation behind the intervention, Dr. Ayuk said the outreach was a mark of respect and appreciation for his late mother, whose sacrifices, encouragement and unwavering support were instrumental to his education as a medical practitioner and the achievements he had recorded in life.

He explained that his mother's contribution to his upbringing and personal development had shaped his journey, making it important to honour her memory through an intervention that would positively impact lives, particularly by bringing essential healthcare services closer to people in her community.

According to him, dedicating the medical outreach to her memory was a meaningful way of expressing gratitude for the sacrifices she made and the opportunities her support had made possible, while extending



the benefits of healthcare to others.

The intervention reached 200 beneficiaries, comprising 75 males, 95 females and 30 children, who received medical attention and free medications following consultations and clinical assessments by the health professionals deployed for the exercise.

The medical team provided several essential services, including blood pressure monitoring, body weight assessment, family planning services, health education and general medical consultations. Laboratory screenings were also conducted for malaria, HIV, hepatitis and random blood sugar to help identify possible health conditions requiring medical attention.

Following clinical evaluations, beneficiaries received free therapeutic medications, including antimalarials, antibiotics, antihypertensive drugs, diabetic medications, analgesics, deworming treatments and essential multivitamins for adults and children.

The outreach was executed under the leadership of Dr. Paul Odey and Dr. Joseph Bassey, with the support of dedicated health professionals and frontline clinical personnel whose coordinated efforts ensured the delivery of the various medical services to the beneficiaries.

Beyond providing immediate medical assistance, the exercise also promoted preventive healthcare, encouraged early detection of health conditions and raised awareness about the importance of regular medical checks, particularly among residents with limited access to healthcare services.

Madam Ayuk, who died at the age of 92, was buried on Saturday at her family compound, Asu Erem House, Njim Emeh, Bendeghe Ekiem, amid celebrations of her life, contributions and enduring legacy.













C'River Targets Improved Health Outcomes with 2027 Operational Plan

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Ministry of Health has commenced a six-day development, orientation and training workshop for its 2027 Annual Operational Plan (AOP), bringing together health sector stakeholders, government agencies and international development partners to strengthen planning and implementation of healthcare programmes across the state.

The workshop, which began on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at Danic Hotel, Calabar, is themed "Strengthening Health Planning and Implementation for Improved Health Outcomes in Cross River State" and is designed to produce a unified, costed and results-oriented roadmap for the state's health sector in 2027.

The six-day exercise is structured into two phases, with November 3–5 dedicated to state-level Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), while activities from







November 6–8 will focus on Local Government Area (LGA) Health Managers and Monitoring and Evaluation Officers (M&EOs).

Declaring the workshop open, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Dr. Jonah Bassey Offor, who represented the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Henry Egbe Ayuk, emphasised that the annual planning exercise must serve as a practical management instrument for translating government health policies into measurable results.

Dr. Offor maintained that the AOP should go beyond routine administrative documentation to become a credible framework for setting priorities, guiding implementation and ensuring accountability across the state's health sector.

"The Annual Operational Plan must represent our collective determination to build a stronger, more responsive and sustainable health system for Cross River State. It must be a credible statement of our priorities, a disciplined guide for implementation and a clear basis for accountability," he stated.



He further reminded participants that the effectiveness of the planning process would ultimately be measured by its impact on residents, noting that every health indicator, budgetary allocation and programme should translate into improved healthcare outcomes.

“Behind every indicator in our operational plan is a human life, behind every budgetary allocation is an opportunity to save a life; and behind every programme we implement is a family whose health and well-being depend on the effectiveness of our health system. We must therefore plan with purpose, implement with commitment and evaluate with accountability,” he added.

Providing technical direction for the exercise,



the Director of Health Planning, Research and Statistics, Mr. Chris Ushuasung, explained that the planning process had been decentralised into state-level and local government administrative streams under the Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) framework to improve efficiency and prevent duplication of resources.

According to him, the exercise brings together ministry directorates, disease programme officers, local government health managers, primary healthcare directors and facility heads to jointly develop intervention plans and costed budgets for the coming year.

"We have two different tools that we are using to populate our AOP. We are bringing together key health sector stakeholders to jointly design intervention plans and costed budgets for the upcoming year," Dr. Ushuasung explained.

He added that the approach would save time, prevent overlapping interventions and ensure that contributions from development partners, joint funding mechanisms and government budgetary allocations were captured within a common framework.

Dr. Ushuasung noted that the ultimate objective was to ensure that all stakeholders operated with one unified plan, one budget and one reporting system, thereby strengthening coordination, resource utilisation and accountability in the implementation of health programmes.

The workshop is being organised within the framework of the Sector-Wide Approach in Health, with technical participation from the World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), alongside key directors, agency heads, unit heads and other health sector stakeholders.




CARNIVAL CALABAR 2026
2ND
DRY
RUN
SUNDAY
22ND
NOV.
FLAG OFF
1:30PM
MILLENNIUM PARK
THEME:
RETHINKING OUR COLLECTIVE DESTINY

100 Days: Mensah Declares Zero Tolerance For Indiscipline, Promises Reward For Outstanding Staff

By Sylvia Okoi



The Cross River State Commissioner for Environment, Barr. Bassey Offiong Mensah, has marked his first 100 days in office, declaring zero tolerance for indiscipline among staff while promising to reward outstanding performance at the end of the year.

Barr. Mensah, who was redeployed from the Ministry of Water Resources in the July 2026 cabinet reshuffle by Governor Bassey Edet Otu, spoke during the Ministry's November Solemn Assembly.

He expressed gratitude to God for the successes recorded since he assumed leadership of the Ministry.

Highlighting one of those achievements, the Commissioner disclosed that the Ministry has procured a truck and other equipment to strengthen its operational capacity and improve logistics for field operations.

On discipline, he cautioned staff against misconduct and truancy, urging them to demonstrate commitment and take their responsibilities seriously.



At the same time, he commended the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Rosemary Onah, directors and heads of departments for their diligence and dedication to duty.

Barr. Mensah also revealed that a reward system is being put in place to recognise outstanding staff performance at the end of the year. He added that staff welfare and the provision of a conducive working environment remain top priorities of his administration.

In a sermon titled "The Faithful Servant in Faithful Service," the guest minister, Rev. Engr. KinGeorge, likened a faithful servant to a worker who performs assigned duties diligently, conscious of God's watchful presence.

Referencing Matthew 25:21, the cleric admonished civil servants not to compromise the quality of service they render, stressing that faithfulness in service does not go unrewarded. He noted that dedication and commitment to duty attract their own rewards.

The Solemn Assembly featured praise and worship, as well as prayers for the Governor, his family and the State Executive Council, Nigeria, Cross River State, and the Ministry's leadership and staff.











FG Boosts Cross River Emergency Response with New Fire Truck

By David Asu



The Federal Government has strengthened emergency response capacity in Cross River State with the donation of a brand-new fire truck to the Cross River State Emergency Management Agency (CR-SEMA) through the South South Development Commission (SSDC).

The Director-General of CR-SEMA, Mr. Efa Nyong, received the vehicle in Calabar on Sunday, November 1, 2026, describing the intervention as a significant boost to the agency's operational capacity and ability to respond to fire outbreaks and other emergencies.

Nyong expressed appreciation to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of SSDC, Miss Usoro Akpabio, for the donation, noting that access to essential emergency equipment was critical to effective disaster management and the protection of lives and property.

He said the intervention reflected the Federal Government's commitment to strengthening emergency management institutions and supporting states in addressing disaster risks, particularly across the South-South region.



According to him, the new fire truck would enhance the agency's operational readiness and improve its capacity to respond to emergencies across the state.

The CR-SEMA chief also commended Governor Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu for his commitment to the safety and welfare of Cross River residents, noting that the equipment would complement the state government's efforts to strengthen disaster preparedness and emergency response.

He assured that the fire truck would be deployed effectively to support emergency operations and urged sustained collaboration among government agencies and relevant stakeholders to minimise disaster risks and improve public safety.

Nyong expressed optimism that the donation would significantly strengthen the state's emergency response infrastructure, particularly in tackling fire outbreaks and protecting lives, businesses and public assets, while assuring that the equipment would be deployed judiciously to serve the people of Cross River State.


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CR SEMA
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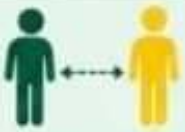

BENCUT FERTILIZER
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HUMANITARIAN RELIEF MATERIALS
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HANDOVER OF HUMANITARIAN
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ABIO

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.*

Take note



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