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BEWARE! ONE POST CAN RUIN YOUR LIFE

The Anambra State Commissioner for Information and Value Reformation, Dr Law Mefor, in a recent

article titled, "How One Post Can Ruin A Life," drew attention to the fact that seemingly casual online activities can amount to criminal offences.

His warnings: "Before you post, pause. Before you forward, verify. Ignorance of the law is no defence," deserves serious attention because the digital age has made information sharing easier than ever, but it has also created opportunities for cybercrime. A single social media post, careless forwarding of fake news, online impersonation or sharing of private images without consent can cause irreparable damage to lives and reputations and expose offenders to legal consequences.

Under Nigeria's Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, 2015, as amended, certain online activities attract penalties, including imprisonment and fines. Citizens must therefore understand that the internet is not a lawless space where anyone can act without accountability.

The growing spread of misinformation is particularly troubling. False reports can incite panic, damage reputations, mislead the public and undermine trust in public institutions. While constructive criticism is essential in a democracy, deliberately fabricating and circulating falsehoods is irresponsible and potentially unlawful.

Equally concerning is the misuse of bank accounts and SIM cards for suspicious transactions. Lending personal financial details to strangers or participating in questionable online deals can expose individuals to fraud investigations and prosecution.

The Nigeria Police Force's sensitisation campaign, "Towards a Resilient Cyberspace: Think Before You Click," is therefore timely. However, building a safer digital environment requires more than arrests and punishment. Public education, responsible online behaviour, effective law enforcement and cooperation among financial institutions, telecommunications providers and technology companies are equally important.

Young people, in particular, must channel their digital skills into productive ventures rather than pursue quick wealth through cybercrime. Parents, educators and community leaders also have a responsibility to promote digital literacy and online safety.

Ultimately, every internet user has a role to play in creating a responsible and secure cyberspace. Verify information before sharing it, respect others' privacy and reject suspicious financial transactions.

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One careless post can destroy a reputation, cost someone their livelihood or lead to prosecution. Think before you click, because responsible digital citizenship begins with you.



EBOLA ALERT: SOLUDO'S GOVERNMENT STEPS UP SURVEILLANCE, URGES VIGILANCE



By Stella Obi

As concerns over the spread of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) grow following the confirmation of an imported case in Nigeria, Ndi Anambra have been urged to remain vigilant and strictly observe preventive measures to protect themselves, their families and their communities.

Although no confirmed case has been reported in Anambra State, health authorities have emphasised the importance of early detection, public awareness and the prompt reporting of suspected cases to prevent possible transmission.

In response to the growing concerns, the Anambra State Government under the leadership of Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo, has intensified measures to prevent the spread of Ebola by deploying nurses to the Chinua Achebe International and Cargo Airport to conduct health checks and activating emergency hotlines for reporting suspected cases.

During a recent press briefing, the Commissioner for Health, Dr Afam Obidike, assured residents that the state was strengthening its surveillance and emergency response systems to protect public health.

Dr Obidike urged residents to promptly report suspected cases through the designated emergency numbers, 08038818131 and 08039595988.

He said the Ministry was collaborating with the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and other public health partners to improve early detection, strengthen surveillance and ensure a coordinated response to any suspected Ebola case.

The Commissioner noted that surveillance had been intensified at entry points, including the airport and border communities, while public awareness campaigns and refresher training for healthcare workers were also being strengthened.

He cautioned residents against panic and the use of unproven preventive measures, such as drinking or bathing with salt water, stressing that these practices do not prevent Ebola infection.

Dr Obidike advised residents experiencing symptoms such as fever, headache, weakness, muscle pain and joint pain, particularly following possible exposure, to seek immediate medical attention.

To reduce the risk of infection, residents are advised to wash their hands regularly with soap and running water or use alcohol-based hand sanitisers.

Community leaders, town unions, market associations, transport operators, religious organisations and youth groups have also been encouraged to support public enlightenment campaigns and promptly report unusual illnesses or deaths through established health channels.

Residents are further urged to avoid spreading unverified information or stigmatising people under monitoring, as being identified as a person of interest does not mean that an individual has Ebola.

Ndi Anambra are encouraged to remain vigilant, practise good hygiene and rely on verified updates

from the Anambra State Ministry of Health and the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC).

Early reporting, public cooperation and strict adherence to health guidance remain essential to preventing the spread of Ebola and protecting communities across the state.

Ultimately, vigilance must not give way to panic, and public awareness must translate into practical action. Every resident has a role to play in preventing the spread of Ebola by maintaining proper hygiene, avoiding risky contact and seeking prompt medical advice whenever exposure is suspected.

ANAMBRA CIVIL SERVICE WEEK KICKS OFF WITH SOLUTION NOVELTY CUP TO BOOST FITNESS AND PRODUCTIVITY



By Azuka Offor

The 2026 Anambra State Civil Service Week has commenced with the Solution Novelty Cup, an inter-ministry football competition designed to promote physical fitness, teamwork and productivity among civil servants.

The tournament kicked off on October 15, 2026, at the rear grounds of the Jerome Udoji Secretariat Complex, Awka, with civil servants from various ministries gathering to participate in the opening fixtures.

The Head of Service, Barr. Ngozi Anuli Iwouno, in a welcome address, described the competition as an important prelude to the annual Civil Service Week celebrations.

Iwouno urged participating civil servants to demonstrate discipline, dedication and fair play, noting that the values displayed on the football field should guide their conduct and commitment to effective public service delivery.

Speaking at the event, the Commissioner for Youth Development and Sports,

Hon. Patrick Agha Mba, welcomed the Head of Service, permanent secretaries, directors and other civil servants to the competition.

He said the tournament aligned with the vision of Governor Chukwuma Soludo, to promote grassroots sports through school competitions, market tournaments and community based health and lifestyle programmes.

According to the commissioner, maintaining a healthy workforce is essential to achieving the administration's vision of a liveable and prosperous homeland, noting

that physical fitness, teamwork and mutual respect could strengthen relationships among civil servants and contribute to improved productivity.

Agha Mba disclosed that the matches would last 15 minutes each and be complemented by mandatory pre-match health screenings to encourage participants to prioritise their wellbeing.

He subsequently declared the inter ministry football competition open, urging the teams to compete enthusiastically while upholding discipline, sportsmanship and respect for their opponents.

The commissioner reaffirmed his ministry's commitment to using sports to promote healthy living, unity and teamwork across the state, declaring, "Solution is here, and Anambra State is rising!"

The opening matches produced a mix of results, with the Ministry of Health recording a 3-0 walkover victory against the Ministry of Physical Planning after the latter failed to appear for the fixture.

In another encounter, the Ministry of Environment defeated the Ministry of Agriculture 1- 0 in a penalty shootout, while the Ministry of Women Affairs

secured a 1-0 victory over the Ministry of Petroleum.

Beyond the competition, the Solution Novelty Cup offers civil servants an opportunity to embrace healthier lifestyles, build stronger working relationships across ministries and reinforce the importance of teamwork in public administration.

The tournament forms part of activities marking the 2026 Public Service Week, highlighting the connection between employee wellbeing, workplace cohesion and an effective, productive civil service.

PERMANENT SECRETARY SMOH URGES LGAS TO PRIORITISE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

By Nnedinma Okeke

The Permanent Secretary, Anambra State Ministry of Health (SMOH), Dr Obiageli Uchebo, has urged local government authorities to prioritise primary healthcare through effective leadership, resource mobilisation and accountability.

Uchebo made the call during a technical presentation at an engagement meeting held at Best Western Melloch Hotel, Ifite, Awka.

The meeting brought together officials of the Anambra State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (ASPHCDA), SMOH, development partners, local government mayors, supervisory councillors for health, directors of primary healthcare across the 21 local government areas and other stakeholders.

She said the presentation was aimed at clarifying mayors' responsibilities in primary healthcare delivery and explaining how political leadership could support health professionals without taking over technical management.

According to her, the engagement also focused on practical measures to improve healthcare financing, facility



readiness, workforce support and community participation, alongside measurable performance indicators and a 90 day action plan.

Uchebo said mayors should make primary healthcare a priority in their development plans, mobilise political, financial and community support, and work with primary healthcare directors and relevant state agencies to address service delivery challenges.

She urged them to monitor performance data, follow up on commitments, promote

accountability and represent community needs while respecting clinical and professional boundaries.

She identified key areas requiring local government attention as planning, resource mobilisation, facility readiness, essential supplies, workforce support, maternal, newborn and child health, community mobilisation, health promotion, monitoring and evaluation, and collaboration with relevant partners.

NBA WOMEN FORUM ONITSHA TEAM JOINS CANCER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, ADVOCATES EARLY DETECTION



By Angela Oduche

The Onitsha team of the Nigerian Bar Association Women Forum (NBAWF) has joined the cancer awareness campaign to educate the public on breast, prostate and cervical cancers, emphasising the importance of prevention, early detection and access to appropriate medical care.

Speaking during the campaign, Barr. Ozowara Ozowara stressed the need for individuals to understand the risks associated with the three types of cancer and take proactive steps to protect their health.

She urged women to remain vigilant about unusual changes in their breasts and seek prompt medical attention whenever they notice warning signs. She emphasised that

fear or embarrassment should not prevent them from seeking medical assistance.

Addressing men, Ozowara described prostate cancer as a major health concern, particularly among older men. She encouraged them to consult qualified healthcare professionals to understand their individual risks and determine the need for appropriate screening.

On cervical cancer prevention, she highlighted the importance of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and appropriate screening in reducing the risk of the disease. She also encouraged mothers and young girls to take advantage of available preventive healthcare services.

Ozowara further cautioned against relying on herbal remedies or self-medication when symptoms arise, urging members of the public to seek professional medical attention for accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

The State Lead, Barr. Amara Muojeke, and the Onitsha Branch Facilitator, Lauretta Ikwuka, were among the speakers at the campaign, which highlighted the need for sustained public enlightenment and collective efforts to reduce the burden of cancer.

By Anazonwu Chizoba Vivian

The Anambra State Government needs to strengthen menopause awareness and improve access to healthcare services for women experiencing menopause related health challenges.

World Menopause Day provides an opportunity to highlight the physical and emotional changes women may experience during menopause and the importance of appropriate medical care and support.

The 2026 global theme, “Chronic Pain at Midlife: From Recognition to Evidence Based Care,” highlights the need to recognise persistent pain among women and ensure that they receive appropriate medical assessment and treatment.

In Anambra, increased awareness would help women understand menopause related changes, recognise possible symptoms and seek medical advice when necessary.

Menopause is a natural stage in a woman’s life, usually occurring between the ages of 45 and 55.

**WORLD
MENOPAUSE DAY:
NEED FOR GREATER
AWARENESS,
BETTER
MENOPAUSE CARE
IN ANAMBRA**

However, experiences vary, with some women reporting hot flashes, sleep disturbances, mood changes, joint and muscle pain, and fatigue that may affect their daily activities.

Despite its health implications, menopause remains a subject that many people find difficult to discuss openly. Some women endure symptoms without seeking help because of embarrassment, inadequate information, financial constraints or limited access to healthcare professionals.

The state government could expand awareness campaigns through hospitals, primary healthcare centres, community outreach, radio programmes and other communication channels. Such initiatives would help women understand menopause and know when to seek professional medical advice.

Healthcare professionals should also receive appropriate training to identify and assess menopause related concerns, including persistent pain.

Although joint and muscle pain may occur during the menopause transition, chronic pain can have other causes. Proper medical evaluation is therefore essential to identify underlying conditions and determine suitable treatment.

Husbands and family members also have a role to play by understanding menopause as a natural life transition and providing emotional and practical support. A supportive home environment can encourage women to discuss their symptoms openly and seek medical care without fear of embarrassment or dismissal.

Improving access to women's healthcare also requires adequate numbers of trained personnel, affordable services and reliable health information, particularly for women facing financial or geographical barriers to medical care.

As the world marks World Menopause Day, greater public awareness, improved access to healthcare and evidence based treatment are important steps towards protecting women's health and well being in Anambra.

NOCEN FEMALE SUG PRESIDENT GAINS INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING



By Mokwugwo Ogochukwu

The President of the Students' Union Government (SUG) of Nwafor Orizu College of Education, Nsugbe (NOCEN), Comr. Ewulum Adachukwu Patricia, has become the first female SUG President of the college and the first student union president from the institution to represent it at an international leadership programme outside Nigeria.

Ewulum participated in the ninth edition of the Nigerian Association of

Nigerian Students (NANS) Leadership Training Camp and Exchange Programme, held in Accra, Ghana, from Oct. 11 to 16, 2026.

The programme, themed "Frontiers of Tomorrow: Equipping Nigerian Student Leaders for Continental Growth and Innovation," brought together student leaders to strengthen their leadership skills, exchange ideas and explore innovative approaches to student representation and institutional development.

At the end of the programme, Ewulum received a certificate of participation and another certificate for presentation to the college as evidence of NOCEN's representation at the event.

On Oct. 16, she presented the certificate to the Provost of NOCEN, Prof. Victor I. O. Ndirika.

Her participation provided an opportunity to interact with student leaders from other institutions and gain insights into leadership, collaboration and institutional development.

The achievement highlights the participation of women in student governance and the value of international exposure in preparing young leaders for greater responsibilities.

Ewulum's participation marks a milestone in NOCEN's student leadership history, particularly for young women aspiring to leadership positions.

UNIZIK VC TASKS AGEING RESEARCH CENTRE ON NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES, COMMUNITY OUTREACH

By Obianuju Azukaego

The Vice-Chancellor of Nnamdi Azikiwe University (UNIZIK), Awka, Prof. Ugochukwu Stanley Anyaehie, has directed the university's Research Centre for Ageing and Psychological Health to develop proposals for new academic programmes and community outreach initiatives aimed at improving the well-being of older persons.

Prof. Anyaehie gave the directive when the Centre's Director, Prof. Rita N. UgokweJoseph, led a delegation on a courtesy visit to his office. He urged the centre to develop certificate courses and contribute to the design of undergraduate programmes in speech therapy, occupational therapy, autism, gerontology, medical social work and clinical psychology.

The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that the university's diaspora engagement platforms had attracted prospective international partners willing to support the proposed programmes. He also requested the submission of a community outreach plan for the university's consideration and possible support.

Earlier, Prof. Ugokwe-Joseph explained that the centre was established in 2020 through her initiative, with financial support from His Royal Highness, Eze Chidubem Iweka III of Obosi, who sponsored the initial construction of its building. She noted that the centre currently operates from the first floor of the CBN Building while awaiting the completion of its permanent site.

Contributing to the discussion, Rev. Fr. Prof. C. C. Ajaelo, a clinical psychologist and member of the delegation, advocated practical, people-centred programmes that respond to societal needs. He also highlighted opportunities for international collaboration in autism and clinical psychology, noting that Duke University in Atlanta was willing to partner with UNIZIK.

Other members of the delegation included the Deputy Director I, Dr. Chris Okwuchukwu Obialor;



Dr. Justina N. Okoli; Mr. Chukwuma Elijah; Mrs. Anazonwu Ngozi; Nnakianya Deborah; and Dr. Cynthia Users.

ANAMBRA POLICE STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP TO BOOST SECURITY



The Anambra State Police Command has reiterated its commitment to safeguarding lives and property through enhanced collaboration with residents, estate associations and other community stakeholders across the state.

The Police Public Relations Officer, SP Tochukwu Ikenga, disclosed this in a statement following a meeting between the Commissioner of Police, CP Nnanna Oji Ama, and representatives of the Association of All Chairmen of 3-3 Estate and the Association of Non-Indigenes in Anambra State on October 19.

The meeting focused on addressing security challenges, improving communication between residents and the police, and exploring ways to strengthen collective efforts towards crime prevention and public safety.

Addressing the participants, CP Ama encouraged residents, regardless of their ethnic, cultural or geographical backgrounds, to remain vigilant and promptly report suspicious movements or activities to the Police. He also urged them to encourage members of their respective associations to provide credible and timely security information.

The commissioner assured non-indigenes residing and engaging in legitimate businesses in Anambra State that the command remained committed to protecting their lives and property, enforcing the rule of law and creating a safe environment for all residents.



By Chizoba Njaka

ANAMBRA DISTRIBUTES 4,480 BAGS OF FERTILISER TO FARMERS



By Stella Okpalaeze

The Anambra Government has distributed 4,480 bags of fertiliser to farmers under the Federal Government's Renewed Hope Farm Input Support Programme to boost agricultural productivity and food security.

The Anambra Government has distributed 4,480 bags of fertiliser to farmers under the Federal Government's Renewed Hope Farm Input Support Programme to boost agricultural productivity and food security.

The distribution was announced at the 2026 World Food Day celebration organised by the State Ministry of Agriculture, at the Agricultural Development Programme Complex, Awka. The event had the theme, "Innovate Today. Nourish Tomorrow."

The allocation represents Anambra's 40 per cent share of the 11,200 bags supplied to the state through the National Agricultural Development Fund (NADF).

The Commissioner for Agriculture, Dr Ben Odoemena, represented by the Commissioner for Environment, Dr Clement Aguiyi, said World Food Day



provided an opportunity to recognise farmers' contributions and renew commitment to ensuring access to sufficient, safe and affordable food.

He said farmers must remain central to agricultural policies and programmes, adding that food security began with production at the farm level.

The celebration featured an exhibition of agricultural produce and value added food products processed from crops grown in various communities across the state.

Traditional rulers, community leaders, farmers, members of the Value Chain Development Programme, (VCDP), and other agricultural stakeholders attended the event.

ANSACA URGES NYSC CORPS MEMBERS TO LEAD HIV AWARENESS, FIGHT STIGMA IN ANAMBRA

By Obianuju Isima

The Anambra State AIDS Control Agency (ANSACA), has urged members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), Batch C, Stream 1, posted to Idemili South Local Government Area (LGA), to take responsibility for promoting HIV awareness, encouraging testing and tackling stigma in their host communities.

The Executive Director of ANSACA, Dr. Nkem Okeke, made the call while joining the Mayor of Idemili South, Hon. Oluchukwu Ilogbenu, to welcome the corps members at the local government secretariat in Ojoto, following their 21-day orientation exercise.

Dr. Okeke encouraged the corps members to know their HIV status, access counselling and testing

services, and use their positions as young graduates and community volunteers to educate residents on HIV prevention as well as available support services.

He disclosed that HIV testing is available, free of charge at primary healthcare facilities and general hospitals across Anambra State, encouraging the corps members to share accurate information, correct

misconceptions and promote an environment where people living with HIV are treated with dignity and respect.

The ANSACA Executive Director highlighted the commitment of the Anambra State Government, under Governor Chukwuma Soludo, to strengthening HIV services and advancing efforts to reduce new infections, prevent AIDS related deaths and eliminate stigma and discrimination.



FIRSTPOWER URGES STRICT SAFETY COMPLIANCE FOLLOWING DEATH OF THREE MEN IN ONITSHA

By Emezina Patricia

FirstPower Electricity Distribution Company Limited has called on property owners, contractors and residents to observe electrical safety precautions around overhead power lines following the death of three men in an electrocution incident at Fegge, Onitsha, Anambra State.

The incident reportedly occurred on October 19, 2026, at No. 123, Old Port Harcourt Road, when an iron pole being erected for a water tank fell onto an 11kV electricity line, electrocuting the three men handling it.

The victims, identified as Chukwudi Ukwa, Frank Okafor and Somadina Nwabuike, were reportedly working at a compound where a contractor had been engaged to sink a borehole for the owner of a two-storey building.

Police officers from Fegge Division subsequently conveyed the bodies to General Hospital, Onitsha, while the building owner, identified as Mr Steven, was reported to be assisting the police with investigations into the incident.

Reacting to the tragedy, FirstPower emphasised that construction, borehole drilling, water tank installation and other activities near electricity lines require strict adherence to safety regulations to prevent avoidable accidents and loss of lives.

The company explained that long metal objects coming into contact with energised overhead conductors can cause fatal electrocution, exposing not only the individuals handling them but also nearby residents and passers-by to serious danger.

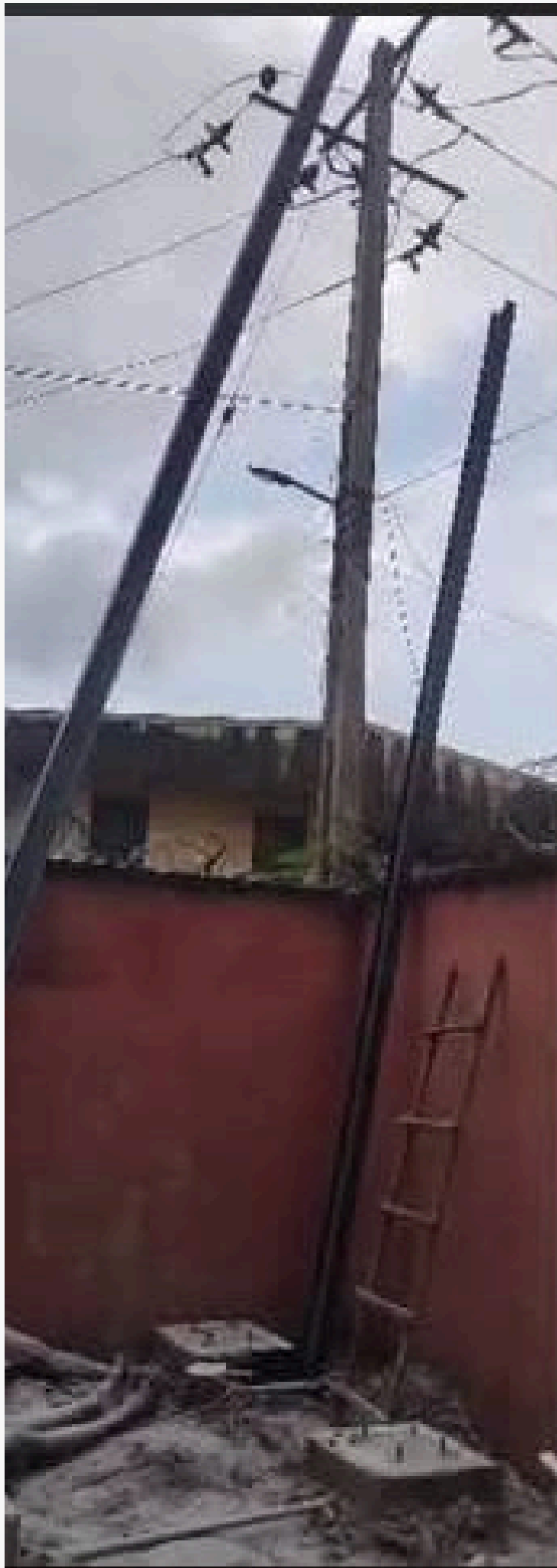
FirstPower noted that it had continued to intensify electricity safety awareness campaigns across markets, motor parks, streets, schools and communities in Anambra State, warning residents against erecting structures, setting up stalls or carrying out other activities within electricity line corridors without the required clearance.

The company urged property owners, contractors and artisans to assess their work environments before

commencing projects, maintain the prescribed safety distances from power lines and seek qualified professional guidance whenever their activities involve electricity infrastructure.

It also advised members of the public to avoid touching fallen electrical wires or attempting to remove objects in contact with power lines. Any suspected electrical hazard, it said, should be reported immediately to the appropriate electricity provider or emergency authorities, while people keep a safe distance from the affected area.

FirstPower expressed condolences to the families and associates of the deceased, reiterating its commitment to public sensitisation and collaboration with relevant authorities and communities to promote electrical safety. It urged residents to report dangerous activities around power installations, stressing that no construction project or household installation should endanger human lives.



PILGRIM OFFICE SEEKS ASSEMBLY'S PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE 2026 CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE

By Ikem Ngozi

The Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Pilgrim Affairs, Hon. Barr. Odira Ezeh, has called for stronger collaboration with the Anambra State House of Assembly to promote the 2026 Christian pilgrimage programme.

Ezeh made the call during a courtesy visit to the Deputy Speaker of the House, Rt. Hon. Chukwuma Pius Okoye at his residence as part of efforts to mobilise stakeholders for the successful implementation of the Pilgrim's initiative.

Barr. Eze said the programme aligned with Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo's commitment to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and economic development of Ndi Anambra.

The SSA explained that the Deputy Governor, Dr. Onyekachukwu Ibezim, had developed initiatives to expand pilgrimage opportunities, including a proposed Pilgrimage Exchange Programme to promote religious tourism, create employment and boost the state's internally generated revenue.

He also highlighted the proposed Pilgrimage Lottery Programme, designed to broaden access to pilgrimage opportunities while ensuring fairness, transparency and credibility in selecting beneficiaries.

Ezeh further announced plans for the Anambra State Christian Pilgrims Summit, which would educate citizens on the spiritual significance of pilgrimage and its potential benefits to individuals and society.

He urged the Deputy Speaker and other lawmakers to encourage eligible members to participate in the programme and explore ways to support deserving constituents who might lack the financial capacity to embark on the pilgrimage.

Responding, Rt Hon. Chukwuma Pius Okoye, the deputy speaker, Anambra state House of Assembly, described the initiative as a welcome development and a long-awaited opportunity for Anambra State.

He commended Governor Soludo for accepting the programme and pledged to partner with the Pilgrim in all their plans to ensure its success.



IDEMILI SOUTH MAYOR PLEDGES IMPROVED WELFARE FOR NYSC CORPS MEMBERS

By Nkeiruka Innocent Ekeh

The Mayor of Idemili South Local Government Area, Hon. Oluchukwu John Ilogbenu (Olutek), has pledged to improve the welfare of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members serving in the area and provide a conducive environment for their assignments.

He gave the assurance while receiving Batch C, Stream 1 corps members at the Local Government Secretariat, Ojoto, following their 21-day orientation exercise.

Hon. Ilogbenu urged the corps members to discharge their duties diligently, uphold the values of patriotism and contribute meaningfully to the development of their host communities.

He encouraged them to see their service year as an opportunity to build character, acquire experience and prepare for greater responsibilities. He also disclosed plans to engage the council's management on improving their welfare packages.

The mayor further announced plans for an interactive session, a Christmas get-together and recognition of outstanding corps members, in line with Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo's recognition of exceptional service at the state level.

Earlier, the Head of Department of Education, Comrade Nnamdi Nweke, described Idemili South as a peaceful local government area and reaffirmed the council's commitment to the welfare of corps members serving in the area.

The Executive Director of the Anambra State AIDS Control Agency (ANSACA), Dr. Nkem Okeke, urged the corps members to embrace the culture and traditions of their host communities.

He also pledged the agency's support for health services, including testing and counselling, during their proposed Christmas gathering.

Speaking on behalf of the corps members, Comrade Francis Idugu, from Cross River State, thanked the mayor for the warm reception and

pledged their cooperation with the council and their host communities. The Deputy Mayor, Hon. Ifeyinwa Ejiofor, was also present at the event.



DMGS STRENGTHENS PARENT-TEACHER PARTNERSHIP TO BOOST STUDENTS' ACADEMIC SUCCESS

By Chika Obi

Dennis Memorial Grammar School (DMGS), Onitsha, has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening collaboration between parents and teachers as a vital step towards improving students' academic performance, discipline and overall well-being.

The commitment was highlighted at the school's recent Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) meeting, where the Principal, Rev. Dr. Chimezie Ogidi, interacted with parents and teachers on issues relating to students' progress, character development, school activities and administration.

During the meeting, Rev. Dr. Ogidi briefed parents on developments within the institution, including school fees and other administrative matters, appreciating their continued support and cooperation, while encouraging them to take an active role in their children's education and personal development.

The meeting provided an opportunity for parents to raise concerns, seek clarification and offer suggestions on matters affecting their children's academic progress and welfare. The Principal and other members of staff

responded to the questions raised, reinforcing the importance of open communication between the school and parents.

Participants reached resolutions aimed at promoting discipline, improving students' welfare and supporting academic excellence. Parents expressed their willingness to cooperate with the school in implementing the agreed measures.



GOV. SOLUDO CELEBRATES ARCHBISHOP VALERIAN OKEKE AT 73, LAUDS HIS UNCOMMON VIRTUES

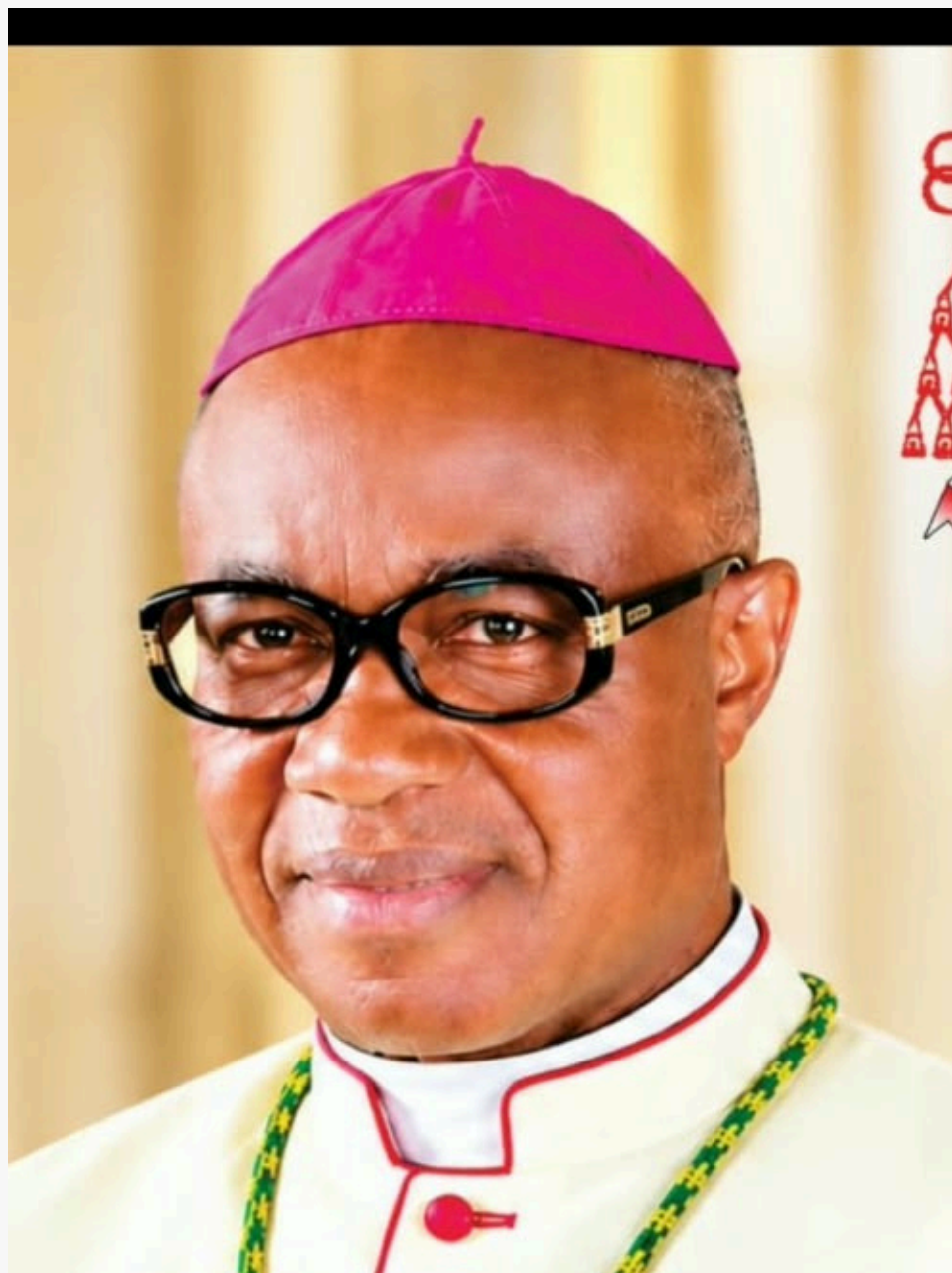
By Ifeyinwa Ogwo

The Anambra State Governor, Prof. Chukwuma Soludo has congratulated His Grace, Most Rev. Valerian Maduka Okeke, Archbishop of Onitsha and Metropolitan of the Onitsha Ecclesiastical Province, on his 73rd birthday. He described him as a shepherd of uncommon humility, wisdom and moral courage whose example has strengthened many people's faith and nurtured hope across the state and beyond.

The congratulatory message was contained in a press release signed by the Governor's Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Christian Aburime, on October 20.

The governor noted that the Archbishop's impact extends well beyond the pulpit, reaching the Church's schools, health institutions and charitable outreach. "His Grace has championed the dignity of the human person, widened opportunity for young people and extended compassion to the poor, the sick and the forgotten.

He commended the Archbishop's longstanding tradition of marking his birthday with inmates of the Onitsha Custodial Centre. According to the



Governor, the gesture reflects the Gospel imperative to remember those in bondage. It affirms that no one is beyond redemption, mercy or the possibility of a fresh start. "This is a testimony to a life lived in imitation of Christ, who came to serve and not to be served," the Governor said.

Governor Soludo wished the Archbishop a very happy birthday. He prayed for God's continued blessings of good health, renewed strength, and many more fruitful years of service to the Church and humanity.

ANAMBRA TOURISM MASTER PLAN HISTORIC STEP TOWARDS LIVEABLE, PROSPEROUS HOMELAND - MEFOR

By Rose Oranye

The Anambra State Commissioner for Information and Value Reformation, Dr. Law Mefor, has described the Anambra State Tourism Master Plan as a historic step towards achieving

Governor Chukwuma Soludo's vision of a liveable and prosperous homeland.

Mefor stated this on Tuesday, while speaking with journalists after a stakeholders engagement on the

establishment of the Anambra State Arts Council and Anambra State Censorship Board, organised by the Ministry of Culture, Entertainment and Tourism, in Awka.

According to him, the Soludo administration's intention is to transform Anambra from a departure lounge to a destination where people can plan to visit, return to, live, work, relax, enjoy and invest, noting that tourism is integral to achieving that vision.

He said the master plan presented at the engagement is a holistic roadmap for tourism development in the state, adding that the presentation itself was only a summary of the over 380-page document.

Mefor explained that with the master plan now in place, the next stage is vetting by the State Executive Council and the Governor, followed by implementation.

He noted that the five major tourism sites identified are just a starting point, with more to come including non-tangible tourism components such as Onwa December, New Yam Festival and Mmanwu Festival.

The Commissioner expressed optimism that the vetting process would not take long and would be concluded before the end of the year, paving the way for the transformation of the master plan into actualities.



JOIN SOLUDO'S VALUE REFORMATION AGENDA TO SUSTAIN PEACE IN ANAMBRA - MEFOR TELLS REGGAE GROUP

By Rose Oranye

The Anambra State Commissioner for Information and Value Reformation, Dr. Law Mefor, has called on members of the Reggae Cultural Organisation to join the Soludo administration's value reformation agenda to entrench lasting peace in the state.

Mefor made the call on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, when the group led by Pupa Macson Justice Nwasike, National Kinky Muan, who



represented the Anambra State High Ras, Pupa Mikky Ajuorah, paid him a courtesy visit in his office in Awka.

According to the commissioner, peace is the foundation and canvas of development, and without it, no society can progress. He described reggae as a music of peace and justice, recalling how icons like

Bob Marley, Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer used it to preach one love, a message he said shaped his generation.

He said the Soludo government under Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo is committing over 30% of state resources to peace-building through the Anambra Homeland

Security Law 2025, which created Operation Udo Ga-Achi and Agunechemba, noting that though no-go areas in Awka and other parts of the state have been reclaimed, pockets of resistance remain in some areas.

Mefor said peace, security and justice must intermarry to create an enabling environment for investment, but lamented anti-peace and anti-investment practices threatening the state, including land double-selling, adulteration of palm oil and other products with dangerous chemicals, and get-rich-quick syndrome.

He decried fake money rituals like _okite_ and obscene display of wealth, stressing that wealth without work is unsustainable, citing the convictions of self-acclaimed money ritualists, noting that these vices contradict core Igbo values of uche, uchu and egwu Chukwu.

The commissioner said the ministry had assembled a coalition of the willing and developed a blueprint, now before the governor, to launch an ethical and moral rebirth in Anambra to confront cultism, drug abuse, Yahoo Plus and other forms of

immorality, urging reggae musicians to use their songs to preach the reformation message.

Earlier, Pupa Nwasike disclosed that the group is a cultural organisation that preaches peace, oneness and equality, using reggae as a tool for unity, just as reggae was used globally to campaign for Nelson Mandela's release.

He pledged partnership with government and announced their Unification Jamming, slated for November 14, in Anambra.

ONYEKESI EXTENDS SUPPORT TO TWO CHILDREN'S HOMES, REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO CHILD WELFARE

By Amaka Isikala

The Anambra State Commissioner for Women and Social Welfare, Mrs. Chinyere Esther Onyekesi, has extended support to two children's homes in the state through donations of essential supplies to improve the welfare of children in residential care.

During visits to Divine Mercy Home, Nnewi, and Model Children's Home, the Commissioner presented assorted foodstuffs, beverages, household provisions and toiletries to support the daily needs of the children and ease the responsibilities of their caregivers.

Mrs. Onyekesi emphasised that every child deserves love, protection, dignity and access to opportunities that promote healthy growth and development, regardless of their circumstances.

She noted that the intervention reflects the commitment of the Anambra State Government, under Governor Chukwuma Soludo, to strengthening social welfare, ensuring that vulnerable children receive the care and attention they need.

The commissioner stressed that children in residential homes require sustained support to meet their basic needs and enjoy a safe, nurturing environment.

She reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to protecting children's rights and promoting their overall well-being across the state.

Mrs. Onyekesi called for stronger collaboration among government agencies, caregivers, non-governmental organisations and well-meaning individuals to improve the living conditions of children in residential care.

According to her, child protection is a collective responsibility that requires consistent attention and practical support to ensure that no child is left without the care, security and opportunities needed to thrive.

The visits form part of the ministry of Women and Social Welfare's ongoing efforts to strengthen child protection and social welfare services in line with the Solution Agenda of the Soludo administration.

Through such interventions, the ministry continues to highlight the importance of supporting vulnerable children, creating an environment where every child can grow up with dignity, security and hope for a brighter future.





NNEWI NORTH MAYOR BACKS EFFORTS TO SUSTAIN NIGERIA'S POLIO FREE STATUS

**By Enoch Uzuegbunam/
Ebere Muonwe**

The Mayor of Nnewi North Local Government Area, Hon. Echezona Anazodo, has pledged continued support for immunisation and primary healthcare initiatives to sustain Nigeria's polio free status.

Anazodo, represented by his deputy, Hon. Ijeoma Okoli, made the pledge during a polio awareness walk

organised by Rotarians across Anambra State in Nnewi to mark World Polio Day.

The walk began at St. Mary's Anglican Cathedral, Uruagu, Nnewi, and proceeded through major streets, where participants sensitised residents on the importance of routine immunisation in protecting children against polio.

Anazodo commended Rotary International for its efforts to

eradicate polio and called for sustained action towards eliminating the disease across Africa.

He said his administration would continue to partner with Rotary to strengthen primary healthcare delivery and support efforts to protect children against preventable diseases.

The event featured the unveiling of a polio awareness billboard in Nnewi

North, donated by the Chief Executive Officer of Palmleaf Real Estate in collaboration with Rotary leaders.



The billboard is intended to remind parents and caregivers of the importance of routine immunisation against polio.



OGUGUA: PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE KEY TO ANAMBRA WEST'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By Obiageli Nwankwo

The Anambra State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Ekene Ogugua, has called on traditional rulers, community leaders and other stakeholders in Anambra West Local Government Area(LGA) to embrace peaceful coexistence, describing unity as essential to sustainable development and improved educational outcomes.

Dr. Ogugua made the call on at the Anambra West Major Stakeholders' Strategic Meeting, held at Ajadu Hall, Umueze Anam. The meeting was organised by the local government under the leadership of its Mayor, Hon. Dr. Tony Obierike.

The commissioner cautioned that conflicts among communities could undermine development initiatives and disrupt children's education, urging stakeholders to prioritise



dialogue, mutual understanding and cooperation in resolving disagreements and maintaining peace across the area.

He noted that peaceful coexistence aligns with Governor Chukwuma Soludo's vision of a united and progressive Anambra State, stressing that achieving meaningful development requires the collective commitment of government, community leaders and residents.

The meeting attracted the member representing Anambra West Constituency in the Anambra State House of Assembly, Hon. Patrick Udoba; the Deputy Mayor, Hon. Reuben Ozoemena; Hon. Dr. Felix Ikechi; and the Special Adviser to the Governor on Education, Dr. Christian Elejo Chukwuemeka.

Discussions focused on peace, unity and development, with participants underscoring the importance of setting aside political and other differences in pursuit of shared community goals.

The meeting reinforced the need for sustained engagement among stakeholders to address issues that could threaten harmonious relationships and hinder progress in the local government area.

It highlighted the role of community cooperation in creating a stable environment for educational advancement, economic activities and other development initiatives.