

**Fayose Hails
Governor Otti's
Performance**

▲ Pg. 20

**Tinubu Reads
Riot Act Against
Child Bullying**

▲ Pg.17

**Abia Medical City
To Gulp
\$1.3 Billion**

▲ Pg. 17

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Gov Otti's Transformational 2 Years & Abia's Miraculous Bounce Back

On Thursday, May 21, 2025, thousands of enthusiastic Abians gathered at Umuagbai Secondary School along Port Harcourt Road for a celebration tagged "The Promise Kept Carnival." The event marked a milestone – the reconstruction of the critical Port Harcourt Road, which had been in ruins for over 30 years. The crowd was so immense that security personnel struggled to manage the enthusiastic turnout as Governor Alex Otti arrived at the venue.

This overwhelming public reception mirrors scenes across the state. On April 19, 2025, a similar crowd welcomed the Governor to the 2025 Ekpaniboro Festival in Atan Abam. Again, on May 1st, workers at the Umuahia Township Stadium turned out en masse to celebrate May Day with the Governor.

Whether in the remote community of Isuochi in Umunneochi LGA, the oil-rich town of Owaza in Ukwa East, Atani village in Arochukwu, or urban centers like Umuahia and Aba, the reception remains the same – Abians are grateful and energized by a Governor they now proudly call "the Action Governor."

Continued on P.2

EDITORIAL: Otti At Midterm—A Clear Departure In Infrastructure Governance

Features

Abia's Miraculous Bounce Back

In just two years—barely halfway through his first term—Governor Alex Chioma Otti has triggered monumental changes that many now refer to as “The Abia Miracle.” But to appreciate the transformation, one must first reflect on the condition of Abia prior to May 29, 2023.

A State in Ruins

Before Governor Otti took office, Abia was widely regarded as one of Nigeria's least developed states. Under the administration of Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu (2015–2023), the state's infrastructure, economy, and public service architecture had deteriorated drastically.

Heaps of waste littered Umuahia and Aba. Roads were impassable. Power supply was erratic. Public schools and health facilities were dilapidated. The civil service was riddled with corruption, absenteeism, and inefficiency. Workers and pensioners were owed several months of salary arrears. Government buildings were crumbling, and the public debt burden was staggering—over ₦92 billion owed to banks, contractors, workers, and pensioners.

When Governor Otti assumed office, many government offices were shuttered due to an ongoing industrial action by organized labor. It was a state in near-total collapse—akin to the scene in Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, where Okonkwo inherited a legacy of poverty and debt from his improvident father, Unoka.

Governor Otti and the Abia Miracle

Against this grim backdrop, Governor Otti's swift and strategic reforms have brought about what many call a miracle. Roads are being rebuilt—Okpara Square to Express Tower, Ngwa Road in Aba, and numerous others. Clean streets, smart schools, revamped hospitals, and upgraded government facilities now reflect a new era of governance.

But this “miracle” is not magic. It is the product of sound economic planning, strong political will, and an unyielding commitment to service.

Building a New Governance System

The “New Abia” is powered by a reformed governance structure built on:

Merit-Based Appointments: Professionals with proven track records have been appointed to key positions, regardless of gender, class, or ethnicity.

Rule of Law: Governance is now driven by due process, legality, and institutional integrity.

Leadership by Example: Governor Otti leads from the front, setting high standards of discipline, hard work, and transparency. Public workers are now paid regularly—on the 28th of every month, as promised during the

campaign.

Empathy for the Vulnerable: His administration has implemented free healthcare programs, settled salary and pension arrears, and expanded access to education through empowerment initiatives.

MDA Reform: Ministries have been restructured for efficiency, many now implementing projects via direct labor at minimal cost.

Fiscal Discipline: Strict adherence to budgetary provisions ensures that public funds are properly utilized. Payment cycles are transparent, with the Accountant-General mandated to release funds within 72 hours of approval.

Strategic Partnerships: The Governor has tapped into both local and international networks to attract investments and support. Structural platforms such as the Transition Council, Global Economic Council, and Security Trust Fund have enhanced coordination.

A Culture of Hard Work

Governor Otti's legendary work ethic has redefined leadership in Abia. He is known to sleep less than four hours a night, constantly pushing the machinery of government forward. His relentless drive has inspired his team and established a governance tempo that ensures projects are delivered promptly and efficiently.

Restoring Trust Through Accountability

Public funds are no longer siphoned off. The Due Process Office ensures value-for-money in all procurements, and the culture of stealing from state coffers has been decisively dismantled. The result? Investors and development partners now see Abia as a credible destination for business.

Inclusive Governance

Governor Otti's administration reflects inclusivity across all zones, communities, and gender lines. For the first time, women hold critical roles in government, and no part of the state feels marginalized.

Conclusion: A New Abia Has Emerged

The “Abia Miracle” is not a fluke—it is the result of deliberate policies, disciplined execution, and people-centered governance. Governor Otti's administration has reawakened hope, restored pride, and repositioned Abia as a model of

transformation.

In just two years, Abia has not only bounced back from the brink—it is charting a bold new path toward prosperity. The once-forgotten state is now a shining example of what visionary leadership can achieve. Indeed, the New Abia is here to stay.



Gov. Otti Signing 18 Bills Into Law

In fact, under Governor Alex Otti's administration, women have assumed key leadership roles across several vital state institutions. Offices such as the



Gov Otti And His Team At The Monthly Expanded Exco Meeting

Accountant-General of the State; Chairpersons of the Civil Service Commission and the Primary Education Board; Commissioners in the Ministries of Tertiary Education and Poverty Alleviation; Director-General of the State Orientation Agency; Chairman of the Hospitals Management Board; and the Chief Medical Director of Abia Specialist Hospital, Aba, are all led by women. Additionally, women hold approximately 75% of the Permanent Secretary positions in Abia State.

Governor Otti's commitment to inclusive governance is further demonstrated by the consistency of weekly State Executive Council meetings and monthly Expanded Executive Council meetings. These gatherings ensure collective decision-making and promote accountability among top government officials, allowing challenges to be identified and resolved collaboratively with set timelines for execution.

1. Timely Payment of Workers' Salaries

In keeping with the biblical principle, “A worker deserves his wage,” Governor Otti pledged during his May 29, 2023 inauguration that salaries would be paid on or before the 28th of each month. This pledge has been faithfully upheld. Prior to his administration, salary payments were

irregular and arbitrary. Today, in addition to prompt salary disbursements, all entitlements and allowances due to Abia workers are consistently honored. This has greatly improved staff morale and productivity, reinforcing a hallmark of good governance.

2. Recovery of Government Assets

A responsible administration ensures the protection and recovery of public assets. Governor Otti has demonstrated unwavering commitment in this regard by establishing a State Panel on the Recovery of Government Funds and Assets, chaired by Justice Mrs. Duruoha (Rtd). In 2024, he also commissioned a Visitation Panel for Abia State University. These efforts are aimed at curbing corruption and restoring accountability in public institutions.

3. Repositioning the Civil Service

Governor Otti has reinvigorated the Abia State Civil Service by:

Promoting merit-based recruitment, promotion, and disciplinary measures.

Renovating and upgrading government staff quarters and public infrastructure.

Combating ghost workers, absenteeism, and workplace truancy.

These reforms have transformed the Abia workforce into a more efficient and professional service, significantly improving government



Abia Workers At A Training Programme

service delivery.

4. Implementation of Direct Labour Mechanism

To fast-track service delivery and reduce costs, Governor Otti introduced the use of direct labour in key ministries like Works, Lands and Housing, and the Abia State Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA). This approach leverages in-house professionals, enhancing their capacities while saving public funds.

As Commissioner Chaka Chukwumerije aptly stated during the re-opening of the Old Secretariat Complex in November 2024, this approach “deepens the capacity of the State's Structural Engineers, Builders, Architects and Quantity Surveyors, while saving resources and delivering quality.”

Continued

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

Abia State is now regarded as a huge construction site. Most government officials are now known by their busy schedules and haste to deliver quality goods and services. Indeed, numerous projects have been delivered since the coming into power of Dr. Alex Otti on May 29th 2023.

Such goods and services have been delivered at quick paces and with a most effective costs that leaves many observers quite bewildered.

Since there are legions of such projects, only few examples which roughly falls within the sectors that Governor Otti declared an Emergency on, when he assumed office on May 29th, 2023 would be showcased here.

Road Infrastructure Development

Abia's roads, once among the worst in Nigeria, have undergone a dramatic transformation. Over 300 roads—urban, intercity, and rural—have been constructed or rehabilitated. These roads are built to high standards and include drainage systems, street lights, and roundabouts. Governor Otti's collaboration with both local and international contractors has ensured lasting infrastructure improvements.

MAINTAINED, CONSTRUCTED/REHABILITATED ROADS

1. Construction of Ogbunammiri Drive at Ehimiri Extension
2. Construction of St Michael's Street Government Layout Drive at Ehimiri Extension
3. Reconstruction of Madonna Hospital Road off Aba Road to New Road, Umuahia South (1.25km)
4. Installation of reinforced concrete slabs over open manholes and drains across Umuahia
5. Rehabilitation of Eketa Market to Obikabia Road, Isiala Ngwa North Axis
6. Reconstruction of IBB - Ahiaeke Road, Umuahia
7. Maintenance of Uburu - Ihechiowa Road, Arochukwu LGA (1.7km)
8. Patching of Potholes, Maintenance of Failed Portions with Concrete and Construction of 2 no Catchment Pits on Enugu-Ukwu Road by Health Centre Road in World Bank Housing Estate Umuahia (295m)
9. Patching of Potholes/Failed Portions, Repair of Collapsed Drain Walls and Construction of 1No Catchment Pit on Health Centre Road in World Bank Housing Estate Umuahia (810m)
10. Repair/maintenance of Amuzukwu - Mbom Umuetze Road Phase 2
11. Construction of Road 11 Lowcost Housing Estate, Umuahia
12. Construction of Ahima - Umuikaa Ring Road, Okwu Olokoru Umuahia South LGA 1.25km with drainage construction and repairs
13. Repair/maintenance of Road 4, Area 5

Agbama Housing Estate Umuahia

14. Construction of Agbama Road 4, Area 1 Umuahia
15. Construction of road leading to Umulolo Umuobia Olokoru Community in Umuahia South LGA, with 755m length of drains
16. Intervention and recovery of 3,750m² Eluoma Road in Uzuakoli Bende LGA, 576.9m
17. Construction of Prof. Dickson Uduma Street in Ehimiri Housing Estate Umuahia (313m length with drain)
18. Construction of Umuobiala - Umuokogbuo road with drainage at Isuikwuato LGA Phase II (900m)



progress, stonebase

30. Maintenance of Opobo junction to Ehre Timber Market Road, Aba
31. Maintenance of Ajiwe Street, Aba: Site clearing
32. Rehabilitation of Leru - Ndiawa - Umuelem road in Isuochi Umuonneochi LGA
33. Construction of Road 5 Area 5, Agbama Housing Estate, Umuahia
34. Reconstruction of 5km Akanu - Abia Road, Ohafia
35. Maintenance of 4.5km Owerinta - Umuocheala - Amapu Umuovo Road
36. Avonipupe Flood Control Works, Ubakala

PROJECTS EXECUTED BY CONTRACTS

1. The Dual carriage Port-Harcourt Road, the project is a three-lane carriageway with earthworks and storm water control. It includes rehabilitation of Asa road with a new binder and wearing course laid over 1.1km stretch and accompanied by streetlight as the first project to be executed by Julius Berger in Abia State, the completed port-Harcourt road is constructed with drainage and u-channels.
2. Peoples Road Aba
3. Omuma Road
4. Umuahia - Uzuakoli - Ohafia Road Section 3
5. Umuezike/Ofeme Nkpa Road
6. Ahaba Ikwanu/Ohuhu Ikeala Nsulu
7. Amuvi - Ndi Okereke - Ozu Abam
8. Abayi - Ariaria - Ahia - Oberete - Umuiku - Eberi - Omuma Road
9. Dualization of Umuikaa Junction to Umuene
10. Osisioma Junction - Ekeakpara Road
11. Nunya - Eluama Road, Isuikwuato
12. Owerinta Bridge - Umuikaa Junction
13. Ohanku Road
14. Ohafia - Arochukwu Road
15. Onuimo - Express Tower, Umuahia
16. Obobia Road
17. Onuinyang - Okporoenyi - Oboro Ikwanu Road Sections I
18. Onuinyang - Okporoenyi - Oboro Ikwanu Road Sections II
19. Ohanze - Ntighauzor - Obete - Umuoha - Oberete Akirikaobu Road
20. Umuokpara Ring Road
21. Mbala - Umuaku - Ngodo Road
22. Obegie - Umudobia - Owaza Road
23. Omenuko Bridge
24. Ntigha - Mbawsi - Umuala Road
25. Umuogo - Nsukwe Ring Road
26. Orpet - Umuafai - Lodu - Ahiaeke Road
27. Ahiaeke - Okwuta - Isieke Road
28. Ndi Okereke - Idima Abam Road
29. Idima Abam - Bende Road
30. Obuaku Industrial Estate Road



Housing Estate, Umuahia, Abia State

25. Construction of Umuochi road Okaiugu Nkwogwu Umuahia north LGA, Abia State (Length = 1.28km) with drainage.
26. Maintenance of Kingdom Hall Street, Aba
27. Maintenance of Chief Nkoro Street and Spurs, Aba.
28. Maintenance of Gabriel Nwosu Street, Aba: Earthworks
29. Maintenance of Amagu - Ohuru Road Aban

Contract

- 2 Cemetery Market Road phase I, Aba -completed with streetlight 0.55

Contract

- 3 Emelogo Street, Aba -completed with streetlight 1.8

Contract

COMPLETED AND COMMISSIONED ROADS EXECUTED BY BOTH DIRECT LABOUR AND CONTRACTS

- | DESCRIPTION | LENGTH | MODE |
|---|--------|------|
| 1 Shalom Road, Aba completed with streetlight | 0.56 | |

Continued

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

4 Old Express/MCC Road, Aba
3.4
Contract
5 Umuimo Road, Aba
1.03
Contract

6 Udeagbala Road, Aba
1.76
Contract

7 Omoba Road, Aba
2.25
Contract

8 Jubilee Road, Aba
1.652
Direct labour

9 Queen's Street Aba
1.105
Direct Labour

10 Reconstruction of Old A3 at Obheie. Ukwu West LGA. - ASOPADEC
7.0

11. Kent/Ehi Road, Aba
1.1
Contract
12 University Road, Aba
1.8
Contract

13 College Road, Aba
0.3214 Green Avenue, Aba
0.55
Contract

15 Umuahia - Ossah Road, Aguiyi Ironsi Boulevard) Umuahia
3.5
Contract

16 Abak Road Aba
1.07
Contract

17 Cemetery Road Phase II
0.55
Contract

18 Reconstruction of Umuahia - Uzuakoli - Ohafia Section I
22.64
Contract

19 Reconstruction of Umuahia - Uzuakoli - Ohafia Section II
22.5
Contract

Total Length
69.467

COMPLETED ROADS
A W A I T I N G
COMMISSIONING
DESCRIPTION
LENGTH(km)
MODE
1PH Road
6.8
Contract

2Ndoki Road
1.4
Direct Labour
3 Milverton Avenue
0.63
Direct Labour
4 Market Road
0.744
Direct Labour

5 Tenant Road
0.74
Direct Labour

6 Cameroon Road
0.711
Direct Labour

7 Ehi Road
0.5
Direct Labour

8 School Road
0.729
Direct Road

9 Clifford Road
0.836
Direct Labour

10 Afikpo Street
0.48
Direct Labour

11 Eketa Market-Obikabia
19.5
Direct Labour
Total Length
33.07

**LIST OF COMPLETED
DIRECT LABOUR ROAD
MAINTENANCE
PROJECTS SINCE THE
INCEPTION OF THE
ADMINISTRATION OF
HIS EXCELLENCY DR.
ALEX CHIOMA OTTI
(OFR) THROUGH THE
MINISTRY OF WORKS**

1. Patching and Maintenance Work at Aba Road, Umuahia
2. Patching and Maintenance Work on Otuka Road, Umuahia
3. Palliative Work at Olokor Road, Umuahia
4. Patching and Maintenance Work on Ikot Ekpen Road, Umuahia (Phase I)
5. Patching and Maintenance Work at Lagos Street, Umuahia
6. Patching and Maintenance Work from Police Check Point to International Conference Centre (Ogurube Layout)
7. Patching and Maintenance Work within Commissioners Quarters Road
8. Patching and Maintenance Work at Road 2 Low-Cost Housing Estate, Umuahia
9. Patching and Maintenance Work at

Umuahia -Uzuakoli Road, Umuahia (Ossah Road to Ubani 2nd Gate)

10. Palliative Work on Umuahia - Uzuakoli Road (from Trade More/ Ubani 2nd Gate to Uzuakoli)

11. Patching and Maintenance Work at Niger Road, Umuahia

12. Rehabilitation of Isieketa Road (Junction)

13. Patching and Maintenance Work at Enugu Road, Umuahia

14. Patching and Maintenance Work at Orpet - World Bank Housing Estate - Agbama Roads, Umuahia

15. Maintenance Repair of Bata to Salad Market Junction, Aba

16. Maintenance Repair and asphalt overlay of Jubilee Road Aba

17. Maintenance Repair and asphalt overlay of Queen's Street Aba.

18. Drain Desilting of Azikiwe Road (LHS), Jubilee Road, Hospital Road, St Michael's Road, Pound Road, Park Road, Ngwa Road, Azikiwe by Mosque to School Road.

19. Emergency Repair of Amuvi - Amakohia, Arochukwu LGA.

20. Maintenance Repair and asphalt overlay of Queen's Street/part of Ehi Road, Aba.

21. Drain Desilting of Osusu Road, Umuocham Road to Ukwu Apu.

22. Emergency Repair of Opobo Junction - Azumini - Obheie Road.

23. Patching and Maintenance Work at World Bank Housing Estate Internal Road (Road O).

24. Patching and Maintenance Work at Uwalaka Street, Umuahia.

25. Maintenance of BCA Road (from BCA Junction to New Secretariat), Umuahia.

26. Patching and Maintenance of Road to New Government House.

27. Patching and Maintenance Work along Old Umuahia - Ubakala Road.

28. Patching and Maintenance Work at Macaulay Street, Umuahia.

29. Patching and Maintenance Work at Ntigha Mbawsi Road (Phase 1).

30. Maintenance of Finbarrs Road, Umuahia (Phase 1).

31. Patching and Maintenance of NNPC - Nkwoegwu Road and spurs.

32. Patching and Maintenance Work at World Bank Housing Estate internal Roads (Road C).

33. Patching and Maintenance Work at Uzuakoli Road, Umuahia (from Cooperative to Uwalaka Street).

34. Patching and Maintenance Work at Asaba Street Umuahia.

35. Patching and Maintenance Work at Amuzukwu Umuahia.

36. Patching and Maintenance Work at Ntigha-Ahia Orie (Phase 1).

37. Grading of Cottage Hospital Road, Aba.

38. Maintenance of Old Umuahia - Ubakala Road.

39. Maintenance of Olokor Road from Mobil Aba Road to Holy Ghost College.

40. Maintenance of Ohobo road to Uchenna junction by Aba Road, Umuahia.

41. Maintenance/repair of Ogbor Hill Bridge to Opobo Road Junction, Aba.

42. Clearing of sand refuse traps and repair of bridge abutment washout at Okpu Umuobo waterside Aba.

43. Maintenance of Library Avenue (Bank Road), Umuahia.

44. Maintenance of Amuvi - Nkwunabo Road in Arochukwu.

45. Maintenance work at St. Michael's Road, Aba.

46. Maintenance work at York Street to Azikiwe Road, Aba.

47. Maintenance work at Mosque Street to Park Road, Aba.

48. Maintenance of Finbarrs Road, Umuahia (Phase 2).

49. Patching and Maintenance Work along Orpet- Umuafai-Umuana-Lodu Road, Umuahia.

50. Maintenance of Onyenweaku Street, Aba.

51. Patching and Maintenance Work in FMC, Umuahia (Road leading to Emergency Ward).

52. Link up East Road to Ngwa Road, Aba.

53. Maintenance Work at Express Tower, Umuahia.

54. Patching and maintenance work at Macaulay Street, Umuahia.

55. Patching and maintenance of Government House internal roads.

56. Patching and maintenance of Azikiwe/ Aba Road to BCA/Ikot Ekpen Road

57. Patching and maintenance of Michael Okpara Auditorium and Ministry of Finance

premises.

58. Drain and tunnel desilting at Umuocham and Aba Owerri Road.

59. Repair of Ama Ogbonna, Mosque by Clifford, School Road by Mosque, Kamalu, Constitution Crescent.

60. Patching and maintenance work at New Road (from Sons of Mary to Stanpol junction by Aba Road Umuahia.

61. Maintenance of Okigwe Road (from Cooperative to Uwalaka) Umuahia.

62. Reconstruction of 5 internal roads in Ehimiri Housing Estate (Ibe Nwachukwu Street, Ukpo Avenue, Hon. Matthew Ibe Street, Second gate and Chuzy Iboko Drive.

63. Reconstruction of Sir Nwogu Street, Ehimiri Housing Estate.

64. Maintenance of Professor Umezurike Street Arochukwu.

65. Patching and maintenance work at School Road Umuahia.

66. Maintenance of Jombo Offor Lane, Arochukwu.

67. Repair of Leru - Ngodo Road, Umunneochi (Phase 1).

68. Desilting of Immaculate Avenue Tunnels, Aba.

69. Asphalt overlay of Bata-Railway crossing.

70. Bata - Brewery Road repairs (Up to Binder course).

71. Repair of Leru - Ngodo Road, Umunneochi (Phases 2).

72. Repair of Eketa - Obikabia Aba Road.

73. Repair of Leru-Ngodo Umunneochi Road Phase 3 up to LGA HQ Nkwoagu.

74. Maintenance of Shoprite Road Umuahia.

75. Maintenance of Bende - Itumbuzo road, Bende LGA.

76. Rehabilitation of Factory Road Umuahia and Spur. The spur is the road to Public Utilities Gate and Railway Quarters.

77. Afara Road behind Golden Guinea Breweries Umuahia

78. Law Anosike road beside Golden Guinea Breweries Umuahia.

79. Maintenance of Factory Road Extension through Isiafa Afara to Afara Technical College gate Umuahia.

80. Direct labour reconstruction of Old Court Road Aba.

81. Overlay of Breweries Road phase 1 from NIPPOST to Breweries Gate.

82. Direct labour

maintenance of Okpara Avenue with Spurs.

83. Eze Desmond Oguguo Road Umuahia (Between Okpara Avenue and Factory Road at Wiss Castle Hotel)

84. Okpara Avenue Extension between Okpara Avenue and Factory Road by ABSIDP.

85. Okpara Road Extension beyond Ojukwu Bunker to Isiafa Afara.

86. Eze I. O. Kanu Avenue Isiafa Afara, Umuahia.

87. Isiafa Afara Ring Road to Ukwu Uga and Lux Mundi University.

88. Repair/Patching of Nkata Ibeku Road.

89. Construction/Repair of Drainages/Desilting of Drains at Itumbuzo Road, Bende LGA.

90. Painting of Bumps in Umuahia and its Environs (Phase 1).

91. Patching and maintenance of isolated pot-holes along BCA - Azikiwe and Winners/Ehimiri Roads.

92. Patching and Maintenance Works at Ehimiri Housing Estate Ring Road, Umuahia.

93. Repair/ maintenance of Otu-Uka Road/ Ochendo Bypass.

94. Patching/Maintenance of Amachara Express Road.

95. Emergency Repairs of Uguwunagbo LGA Mother and Child Hospital Road.

96. Repair/Patching of Umuakakah Nkata Road.

97. Patching of some failed sections along Aba Road.

98. Repair/Patching of Crowther Street, Umuahia.

99. Repair/Patching of Item Street, Umuahia.

100. Repair/Patching of Ohafia Street, Umuahia.

101. Repair/Patching of Abiriba Street, Umuahia.

102. Repair/Patching of Cameroun Street, Umuahia.

103. Repair/Patching of Bonny Street, Umuahia.

104. Demolition of existing and installation of new speed bumps along Umuahia - Ururuka Road (Isi court to Amakama), Umuahia.

105. Patching of isolated potholes along Ikot-Ekpen Junction - BCA Road.

106. Maintenance of Warri Street, Umuahia

107. Overlay of some failed portions of Lagos Street, Umuahia.

108. Maintenance of Secretariat Road Umuahia from Jovit Eatery to Abia Newspapers.

109. Maintenance of Bende

Continued

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

Road (from Umuahia to Bende LGA).

110. Maintenance of Abam Street, Umuahia.
111. Maintenance of Kaduna Street, Umuahia.
112. Maintenance of Okwulehie Street, Umuahia.
113. Maintenance of Olokoro Street Umuahia.
114. Maintenance of Eket Street, Umuahia.
115. Maintenance of Nkwere Street, Umuahia.
116. Maintenance of Warri Street, Umuahia Phase II.
117. Umuocham Road (Ukwu Apu - PH Express Way).
118. Desilting at Umunkpeyi Mbawsi.
119. Maintenance of Owerri Road, Umuahia.
120. Construction of drains and drainage outfalls along Dozie Way/IBB Road and Dozie Way/Lodu.
121. Repair/maintenance of Amuzukwu - Mbom Umueze Road Phase 1.
122. Construction and Maintenance of Drainage System at Ehimiri Housing Estate Spur to Ahiaeke - Okwuta Road, Umuahia.
123. Maintenance works along Agbama Housing Estate Road (1st Transformer to F-Line).
124. Maintenance of Trinity Road Afara from Uchenna bus stop to Afara Technical College gate.
125. Drainage works and asphaltting along Adaalu Road from Mopol Base to Geometric Power Gate.
126. Maintenance repair of Afara Oriogwu to Isi Court.
127. Patching and Maintenance repair of Ekwuruke Street.
128. Patching of isolated potholes along Aba Road, Umuahia (from Abia Tower to Enugu/ PH Express) - Phase 3.
129. Repair/ Patching of Abiriba Street, Umuahia (Phase 2)
130. Repair/ Patching of Awolowo Street, Umuahia
131. Repairs of Aba North LGA and RRS Roads and Compound.
132. Remedial Repairs of Opobo Junction to Obehie Road.
133. Maintenance Repair of Washout at Amaeke Abam, Arochukwu LGA.
134. Rigid Pavement Treatment of Railway Crossing along Aba Road/Old Umuahia.
135. Reconstruction of Late HRM Eze Ezo Ukandu Ring Road, Isuikwuato LGA.
136. Repair of Failed Portions of Nkwuagu - Amuda Isuochi Road, Umunneochi LGA.
137. Maintenance of Trinity College Road, Isama Afara to Factory Road Extension
- 138: Patching of Potholes at Commissioners' Quarters New Government House.
139. Expansion of Bata Roundabout Aba.
140. Maintenance of Nkwere Street Phase II (from Umuwaya to Niger Street) Umuahia
141. Reconstruction of Doziway Road Umuahia with reconstruction of drains, culverts and median, as well as tree planting and installation of Solar Powered streetlights.
142. Reconstruction of Obiora Road Aba.
143. Maintenance of Osisioma flyover Aba.
144. Maintenance of Doziway Junction by Ikot Ekpene Road and the spurs.
145. Grading/Palliative Work on Enachoken's Palace Road.
146. Umuocham Road Aba Repairs (Aforule- Ukwu Apu).
147. Umule Road Aba Repair.
148. Repair and overlay of Justice Obisike Orji Crescent - Eze Akomas, Aguiyi Ironsi Layout Umuahia (576m).
149. Maintenance of Old Goods Shed Road, Umuahia.
150. Maintenance of Winners' Way Umuahia.
151. Paving of Abia State Civil Service Commission Premises.
152. Maintenance of Ugwueke Road (from Alayi to Ndiagbo II), Bende LGA (13km).
153. Patching of Potholes/Maintenance of Failed

- Portions on Ugwuavo - Obinkita Road in Arochukwu LGA.
154. Repair of Utughugwu Road, Arochukwu LGA.
155. Construction of Ugwu Court Ring Road, Abiriba.
156. Grading of Umuebereaja Link Road, Isuikwuato LGA.
157. Maintenance of Uwalaka by Ibeku Road Umuahia.
158. Patching and Maintenance of Obowo Street Umuahia.
159. Maintenance of Obikabia Aba Round Aba by Ukaegbu Road.
160. Repair of collapsed drain and asphaltic pavement on Ukaegbu Road, Aba.
161. Rehabilitation of Ndoki Road Aba.
162. Patching and Maintenance of Oboro Street, Umuahia.
163. Special Repair on Ikot-Ekpene Road.
164. Patching of Isolated Potholes on Asaba Street Amuzukwu.
165. Patching of Potholes and Maintenance of Failed Portions/Drainage at Olokoro Road (Holy Ghost College - Ahiaukwu)
166. Patching of Road at Uwalaka by Ossah Road junction Umuahia
167. Zero Potholes patching on Aba-Owerri Road, Aba
168. Zero Potholes patching on Ezeogu Street Aba.
169. Maintenance of Okigwe Road Umuahia.
170. Zero Potholes patching on Georges Street Aba.
171. Zero Potholes patching on New Umuahia Road Ururuka from Obikabia junction to Umuobiakwa.
172. Zero Potholes patching on Eziukwu Road Aba from Factory Road to School Road junction.
173. Zero Potholes patching on Ochefu Street Aba.
174. Zero Potholes patching on Azikiwe Road from

to Eziukwu Road)

185. Patching of Potholes along International Conference Centre - Ikot Ekpene Rd - Ubakala Exp Junction.
186. Patching of potholes on Umuokpara Street off Okigwe Road, Umuahia.
187. Reconstruction of Clifford Road Aba (From Asa Road to Eziukwu Road).
188. Reconstruction of Ehi Road Aba (From Asa Road to Eziukwu Road).
189. Rehabilitation of Palm Lane, Umuahia.
190. Maintenance of Old Timber Road (From World Bank Housing Estate to Olokoro Road), Umuahia (525m).
191. Maintenance of Umuobasi Street (From Finbarrs' to Bende Road), Umuahia.
192. Reconstruction of Rufus Obi Road, Umuokogbuo Isuikwuato.
193. Patching of potholes and repair of wash outs along Bende Road (From Umuahia town to Bende LGA Hqtrs).
194. Maintenance Repair of Igberere Road (from Igberere junction to Onu roundabout Igberere) Bende LGA (1.76km).
195. Construction of 1,223m drain along Obekie - Ezendioma Road, Ukwu West LGA.
196. Construction 60m x 7.3m spur with one side concrete drainage and 1 no catchment pit (1.2m x 1.2m) on Domicious Street off Olokoro Holy Ghost College to Ahia Ukwu Road.
197. Rehabilitation of 112m Failed Section and Maintenance of Isolated Potholes in Umuasua Road in Isuikwuato LGA.
198. Maintenance Work at Hospital Road, Amaekpu/Okagwe, Ohafia.

199. Reconstruction of Afikpo Street Eziukwu Aba.
200. Construction of Internal Roads within NYSC Orientation camp Igberere.
201. Patching of potholes/maintenance of failed portions, concrete works, earthworks and asphaltting of Isi court to MAHCOHTECH - Ahiaukwu Olokoro.
202. Repair of washout on stone pitched portion along Ukaegbu Estate Junction by Aba Road.
203. Repair of failed portions of Road P off upstairs line in World Bank Housing Estate, Umuahia.
204. Maintenance of Milverton Avenue, Aba.
205. Construction of Ohobo by-pass, off Aba Road, Umuahia.

WAST MANAGENT

When Governor Otti assumed office, Abia's urban centers were overwhelmed with refuse. He immediately declared a sanitation emergency and led cleanup efforts personally. As of early 2025, Abia now

enjoys clean streets, with cleanliness becoming a standard way of life.

Key Achievements of Abia State Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA)

- Revamped and revitalized ASEPA, ensuring staff are aligned with their roles.
 - Improved waste handling and disposal systems through private sector participation.
 - Handed over engagement letters to five contractors for private sector participation in waste management.
 - Transitioned to a regulatory and supervisory role, focusing on oversight rather than direct waste collection.
- Future Plans
- Roll out the second phase of private sector participation in waste management.
 - Generate employment opportunities through the new waste management system.
 - Continue public enlightenment and sensitization on environmentally friendly habits.

Continued



Eziukwu Road to East Street, Aba.

175. Zero pothole patching on Osusu Road from Ama Ogonna to Faulks Road, Aba.
176. Zero potholes patching on Ozuitem Street, Umuahia.
177. Zero potholes patching on Igberere Street Umuahia.
178. Zero potholes patching on Udi Street, Umuahia.
179. Placement of Access slabs on Okigwe Road Umuahia after Ekwuruke Street, Uwalaka Road by Ibeku Road, and BCA Road by Ikot Ekpene Road Umuahia.
180. Drain repairs on Obowo Street, Oboro Street and Ozuitem Street all in Umuahia.
181. Reconstruction of Market Road Aba (From Asa Road to Eziukwu Road).
182. Reconstruction of Tenant Road Aba (From Asa Road to Eziukwu Road).
183. Reconstruction of Cameroun Road Aba (From Asa Road to Eziukwu Road).
184. Reconstruction of School Road Aba (From Asa Road

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

Other ASEPA Programs

- Conduct regular inspections of industries, hotels, and eateries to ensure compliance with environmental standards.
- Implement massive tree-planting initiatives to mitigate the effects of global warming.
- Develop educational programs to foster environmental awareness among children.
- Establish mobile courts for monitoring and enforcing environmental regulations.
- Provide training and practicum opportunities for students in environmental and health-related fields.
- Organize continuous clean-up exercises and review environmental audit reports.

Goal

To position Abia State among the three cleanest States in Nigeria through effective waste management and environmental protection.

EDUCATION

The Abia State Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education has achieved significant milestones under Governor Alex Otti's administration, transforming the state's education landscape and showcasing the administration's commitment to improving the quality of education and promoting academic excellence. The Ministry's initiatives focus on improving infrastructure, promoting quality education, and enhancing teachers capacity.

Some Key Achievements:

- AbiaFIRST Education Programme: A comprehensive initiative to overhaul the state's education system, supported by development partners like UNESCO and the World Bank.
- Free and Compulsory Education: Declaration of free and compulsory education from Primary 1 to Junior Secondary School 3, effective from the 2024/2025 academic session.
- Teacher Recruitment and Training: Recruitment of 5,000 teachers and training of 12,000 teachers, with a focus on improving teachers welfare and capacity building.

- Infrastructure Development: Allocation of N29.5 billion for construction of perimeter fences and remodeling of public schools.

- Promotion of Science and Technology: Emphasis on practical teaching methods and organization of science competitions.

- Abia State Basic and Secondary Education Management Information System (ASBS-EMIS): Launch of a digital platform for real-time access to learner-level data.

- Improved Staff Welfare: Constant payment of salaries, capacity training, and enhanced welfare packages for teachers.

Key Achievements of the Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB):

- Infrastructure Development
- Secured N8.57 billion for classroom construction, pupil seats, and teacher training
- Marked over 100 school buildings for renovation
- Distributed 10,000 textbooks and 100,000 exercise books
- Teacher Development and Training
- Trained 2,000 Master Trainers and 1,170 teachers
- Trained 1,115 teachers in contemporary instructional methods
- Trained 110 teachers in History and English language proficiency
- Education Governance and Policy
 - Domesticated the National School-Based Management Committee (SBMC) policy
- Inaugurated Education Secretaries from all 17 LGAs

- Conducted a comprehensive needs assessment
- Community Engagement and Partnerships
- Launched a school enrolment drive campaign
- Conducted meetings for SBMCs
- Established an all-inclusive Tenders Board
- Digitalization and Data Management
- Trained staff on public procurement procedures
- Conducted digital school census training
- Established a comprehensive digital database

TERTIARY EDUCATION

Key Achievements in Tertiary Education:

- Abia State University:
- Single campus policy: Concrete actions taken to ensure seamless implementation of the policy recommended by the visitation panel.
- New Faculty buildings: Construction of new Faculty of Law and Faculty of Agriculture buildings at Uturu.
- Hostel renovation: Fixing of hostels to ensure good and decent accommodations for students.
- Ogbonnaya Onu Polytechnic:
- Salary Payments and Arrears:
 - Restored regular salary payments after over 10 years of irregularities
 - Paid 36 months' salary arrears owed by previous governments
 - Approved payment of salary arrears for disengaged staff

Infrastructure Development:

- Constructed a new School Gate
- Built a 300-seater lecture theatre (90% completed)
- Comprehensive renovation of buildings, offices, classrooms, laboratories, and workshops
- Upgraded the Polytechnic Sports Complex with a standard gymnasium and courts for various sports
- Renovated and retrofitted the Rector's Lodge.

SECURITY

Abia was once plagued by rampant insecurity. Governor Otti addressed this with two key measures:



1. Launch of "Operation Crush" to combat violent crimes.
 2. Demolition and reorganization of the Umunneochi Cattle Market, a former criminal hub.
- These actions have drastically reduced crime, making Abia one of the safest states in Nigeria.

FINANCE

Key Accomplishments In Finance Include:

- Adoption of IPSAS: Full compliance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards, promoting transparency and accountability in financial operations.
- Improved Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)*: Strategic reforms and digital tracking systems have boosted the state's IGR.

- Elimination of Multiple Taxation: Implementation of a harmonized task force to streamline revenue collection processes.

- Payment of Pension Arrears: Settlement of over a decade of outstanding pension arrears to retirees.

- Salary and Pension Reforms: Restoration of parity between core and non-core civil servants, with prompt and full payment of salaries and pensions on or before the 28th of every month.

- E-Payment and TSA Implementation: Full adoption of electronic payment systems and Treasury Single Account to enhance accountability and block revenue leakages.

- Debt Reduction: Over 65% of the inherited N192 billion debt has been repaid without borrowing any funds.

- Pension Reform: Enactment of a new pension law aimed at safeguarding pensioners' welfare and implementing the Contributory Pensions Scheme.

- Full Payment of Minimum Wage: Payment of N70,000 minimum wage to Abia workforce.

Key Achievements Under Revenue Generation:

- Increased IGR Target: Set a target of N120 billion Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) for 2025, a significant increase from previous years.

- Tax Enumeration and Automation: Launched a statewide tax enumeration and automation exercise to capture real-time data on buildings, businesses, and residents.

- Digital Transformation: Signed an MoU with MTN Nigeria for digital transformation, including online tax payments and withholding tax payer registration.

- Automation of Revenue and Tax Collection: Fully automated revenue and tax collection processes, integrating all to Treasury Single Account (TSA).

- Abia State Social Identification Number (ABSSIN): Developed a platform for creating ABSSIN, a unique identifier for all taxpayers.

- Partnership with Access Bank PLC: Engaged Access Bank PLC as a top consultant on Abia Revenue collections.

- Improved Tax Compliance: Implemented measures to improve tax compliance, including online registration and payment systems.

- Enhanced Service Delivery: Focused on enhancing service delivery, particularly for rural dwellers, through digital initiatives.

- Increased Revenue Generation: Implemented strategies to increase revenue generation, including tax enumeration and automation.

- Streamlined Revenue Collection: Streamlined revenue collection processes, reducing leakages and increasing efficiency.

- Tourism and Hospitality Development: Signing of an MOU with Radisson Blu to transform the Enyimba Hotel into a world-class five-star facility.

- Capital Project Funding: Consistent and timely disbursement of funds for capital projects across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).

- Payroll Automation: Sustained automation of the central payroll system for all government employees.

- Timely Financial Reporting: Regular and timely reporting of the state's financial accounts.

- Compensation for Affected Communities: Introduction of structured compensation payment to individuals and communities affected by government projects/ land acquisition.

- School Operations Support: Monthly operational

Continued

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

allowances for heads of government schools to eliminate unauthorized PTA levies and other charges on pupils.

- Health Insurance Coverage: 12.5% take-off payment for civil servants under the State Health Insurance Scheme.
- Recovery of State Investment: Ongoing recovery of dividends from state investment portfolios.

BUDGET AND PLANNING



Key Achievements Include:

- Citizens Engagement Summit: Organized a summit to foster dialogue between the government and stakeholders.
- Participatory Budgeting: Involved citizens in the budgeting process.
- Budget Transparency: Leveraged technology to enhance transparency.
- Debt-Free Development: Achieved debt-free development with the 2025 budget.
- Increased Capital Expenditure: Allocated 82% of the 2025 budget towards capital expenditures.
- Improved Fiscal Discipline: Curbed revenue leakages and improved fiscal discipline.
- Inclusive Governance: Ensured grassroots voices shaped allocations.
- State Action Plan 2: Validated the plan, prioritizing health, education, and environmental sustainability.
- Accelerated Infrastructure Projects: Witnessed accelerated projects, including roads and healthcare facilities.
- Citizen-Centric Budgets: Developed budgets aligning with Governor Otti's vision.
- Prudent Fiscal Management: Demonstrated commitment to prudent management.
- Collaboration with Stakeholders: Fostered collaboration with stakeholders.
- Capacity Building: Built capacity within the Ministry and other MDAs.

INDUSTRY AND SMEs

Notable Achievements Include:

- Digital Economy and SMEs
- Disbursement of Grants and Loans:
- ₦2 billion grant to businesses through NG-CAREs (ABIA-CAREs)
- SME Empowerment: Launch of a revolving ₦1 billion loan scheme supporting 10,000 Abians and residents with interest-free loans of N100,000 each for petty trading.
- Training and Capacity Building:
- Free entrepreneurial development training to 193 SMEs
- Cybersecurity training to 150 Abians
- Digital literacy training to over 1,000 civil servants
- Industry Development
- Revamping Moribund Industries:

- Strategies in place to revive industries such as Aba Textile Mills, Star Paper Mills, and Golden Guinea Breweries
- Artisan Training:
- Trained 450 artisans in automated shoe making at ENASCO Aba
- Industrial Cluster Development:
- Relocation of auto mechanics to Ovom Auto Mechanic Industrial Cluster and spare parts dealers in Aba.

-Support for Industries:

- Reconstitution of Enyimba Garments Factory management and provision of 300KVA transformer
- Revocation of ENASCO property to protect taxpayer investment
- Partnerships and Collaborations
- MOU with Bank of 10 billion Naira matching fund for micro-businesses and SMEs
- Partnership with Ethnocentrique Limited, Training and mentoring of 2,000 SMEs in fashion works via Future Fashion Programme (FFP)

JUSTICE & LAW

Notable Achievements



1. Construction of Model Court Buildings: Modern court buildings across all 17 LGAs to improve access to justice.
2. Digitalization of Abia State Laws: Complete digitalization of state laws for easy access.
3. Provision of Computers: Computers provided to judges and law officers to enhance productivity.
4. Establishment of Small Claims Court: Small Claims Courts in Aba and Umuahia for efficient dispute resolution.
5. Specialized Trainings: Law officers trained on legislative drafting and commercial law practice.
6. Review of SME Law: SME Law reviewed to include digital economy, promoting entrepreneurship.
7. Witness Support Unit: Unit established to support and protect witnesses.
8. General Upgrade and Renovation: Ministry of Justice Headquarters and courthouses renovated.
9. Publication of Judgements and Law Journal: Abia State High Court Judgements Online Reports and Abia Law Journal published.
10. E-document Storage and

Management System: System established for efficient document management.

11. Citizen's Mediation Centre: Centre established in Aba for dispute resolution.

12. Sexual Assault Offenders Registry: Registry established in Umuahia to track sex offenders.

Ongoing Activities

1. Strengthening Citizen's Rights Department: Department being strengthened to handle human rights issues.

2. Implementation of Case Management System: System being implemented to enhance case management.

3. Judiciary Auditorium: Auditorium being built for judicial events.

4. Training Equipment: Equipment being provided for training purposes.

5. Multidoor Court House: Functional Multidoor Court House being set up in Aba.

18 New Bills Signed into Law

1. Greater Aba Development Authority (GADA) Law, 2023

2. Greater Ohafia Development Authority (GODA) Law, 2024

3. Pension Reform Law 2024

4. Repeal of the Law for Pension for Governors and Deputy Governors

5. Rural Access Roads Agency & Roads Fund Laws, 2024

6. Ministry of Finance Incorporated (MOFI) Law

7. Tax Codification & Consolidation Amendment, 2024

8. Public Procurement & Bonds Law 2025

9. Local Government (Amendment No. 6) Law

10. Public Complaints and Citizens' Rights Commission Law, 2025

11. ABROMA Repeal Law

12. ASEDA Repeal Law

13. Environmental Security Trust Fund Law

14. Homeland Security Law

15. Correctional Service Law

16. Fire Service Law

17. Physical Planning & Umuahia Development Laws

18. Abia State Electricity Law, 2025

HEALTH

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

- Project EKWUEME: Ongoing renovation and retrofitting of 200 Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) across the state, with over 100 completed for commissioning.

- Free Medical Outreach: Free medical outreach programs launched to provide healthcare services at the grassroots.



Continued

Governor Otti's Infrastructural Strides

Recruitment of Midwives: Midwives recruited to support maternal and child care in the 17 LGAs.

Secondary Healthcare

- **Renovation of General Hospitals:** General hospitals renovated to improve healthcare infrastructure and services, with some nearing completion.

- **Establishment of New Clinics:** New clinics established in general hospitals, including dental, orthopedic, hematology, and ENT clinics.

- **Free Medical and Surgical Services:** Free medical and surgical services provided, including prostate and Basic Life Support (BLS) services.

Tertiary Healthcare

- **Abia State Specialist Hospital and Diagnostic Centre:** Restored accreditation for housemanship, established new clinics, and increased medical consultants.

- **Establishment of Intensive Care Unit (ICU):** ICU established to provide critical care services for patients.

- **New 200-Bed Capacity Ward:** A new 200-bed capacity ward to be constructed in Amachara to expand healthcare capacity.

- **Abia State University Teaching Hospital, Aba:** Restored accreditation and equipped with modern health facilities.

Other Achievements

- **Approval of New Salary Structure:** New salary structure approved for Abia health workers to enhance their welfare and productivity.

- **Employment of New Health Workers:** 771 new health workers employed, including medical doctors, nurses, pharmacists, radiographers, and medical laboratory scientists.

- **Increased Budgetary Allocation:** 15% of the budget allocated to health, meeting the African Union's Abuja Declaration.

- **Global Health Partnerships:** Established global health partnerships to enhance healthcare services and capacity building.

- **Social Health Insurance Scheme:** Established a secretariat for the Formal Sector Social Health Insurance Scheme.

Abia Medical City

- **\$1.3 Billion Project:** A groundbreaking project to build Abia Medical City, a quaternary healthcare complex in Owerri, Isiala Ngwa South LGA.

- Key Features:

- 1,000-bed ultra-modern hospital

- Specialized centers for oncology, fertility treatment, and ophthalmology

- Medical tourism facilities, including a five-star hotel and medical step-down hotel

- Research institutes affiliated with top global universities

- Digital health technologies incorporating AI, virtual reality, and augmented reality

- Project Details:

- Collaboration between Abia State Government and MKP International Holdings

- Build-Operate-Transfer model

- 200-hectare project site donated by seven communities

- Expected completion within 24 months

Lands and Housing

Notable Achievements in Lands and Housing Include:

- **Renovation and Maintenance Works:** Facelift of Banquet Hall, Government House, Ministry of Agric, Abia Newspapers and publishing Corporation and other government buildings.

- **Fencing and Security:** Gate work at Okpara Auditorium,

perimeter fencing of secretariat old and new, Ministry of Agric, Lokpanta, and Umuahia Stadium.

Lands:

The Ministry of Lands has made significant progress in:

- **Land Acquisition and Compensation:** Acquisition of land for Abia Industrial Innovation Project (AIIP), Abia International Airport, Medical City, and FHA Estate.

- **Certification and Automation:** Prompt and transparent re-certification of land documents, automation of Governor's consent on Certificate of Occupancy, and 30-day turnaround time for processing of C of O.

Survey and Town Planning:

Successfully carried out 48 different surveys, acquired 1 drone for digital mapping, and acquired modern survey



instruments, and digitalization of town planning studio.

Notable Achievements under Abia State Estates Development Agency (ABSEDA)

- **Land Acquisition:** Regularization of past land acquisitions for estate development at various locations, including Nkpa Estate, Bende LGA, Lodu Estate, Umuahia North, and Umudike Estate, Ikwuano LGA.

- **Survey and Documentation:** Perimeter survey of Lodu Estate in Ikwuano LGA and issuance of over 60 Certificates of Occupancy to beneficiaries who met land allocation conditions.

- **Conflict Resolution:** Mediation and resolution of lingering land issues, including a disputed land issue at Okwu-Apu, Umuahia North LGA, and mitigation of trespasser activities.

- **Compensation Arrangement:** Equitable compensation arrangement between donor communities and ABSEDA, ensuring fair treatment of all parties involved.

- **Staff Integration:** Full integration of ABSEDA staff into the state Civil Service System..

SPORTS AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Key Achievements Include:

- **Revival of Sports:** Launched inter-house sports completion in 17 Local Government Areas.

- **Championship Wins:** Abia teams have won several championships.

- **International Competitions:** Abia athletes have excelled in international competitions such as the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics.

- **Sports Infrastructure Development:** Renovated and equipped sports facilities.

- **Support for Athletes:** Provided cash awards to athletes and officials.

- **Employment Opportunities:** Announced employment for athletes who won gold and silver medals.

- **Appointment of National Coaches:** Appointed national coaches in various sport disciplines.

Recent Milestones

The recent milestones include:

- **Abia Warriors Football Club:** Secured its first-ever continental ticket.

- **2nd Edition of Secondary Schools Unity Games:**

Commenced on May 12-14, 2025.

TRANSPORT

Key Achievements Include:

- **Sanity in the Transport Sector:** Regulated and monitored commercial transport operators, curtailing illegal activities and ensuring compliance with government policies and traffic laws.

- **Free Transport Services for Abians during Yuletide:** Coordinated free transportation for Abians in other parts of the country during the yuletide.

- **Park Auditing/Enumeration:** Embarked on park auditing and enumeration, registering/renewing parks and loading bays to improve public safety.

- **Public Transportation:** Strengthened mass transit systems, with ongoing work on the Central Bus Terminal, Bus Shelters, and Bus Stops/Junction Improvement.

- **Proposed Abia State Airport Project:** Made progress on the proposed airport project at Nsulu.

- **Railway Transport System:** Collaborated with the Federal Government on the construction of a railway line.

- **Urban Mass Transit Project:** Introduced electric buses for urban mass transit, partnering with Coscharis Motor Ltd.

- **Peace among Transport Union Leaders:** Resolved issues among transport union leaders and stakeholders, promoting peace and progress in the transport sector.

- **Driving School Regulation:** Controlled and coordinated driving school activities, ensuring registration and compliance.

- **Traffic Management and Safety:** Conducted regular vehicle checks, enforced traffic laws, and promoted road safety.

- **Operation Stop Littering Our Roads with Dirt:** Initiated a campaign to reduce littering on roads, providing waste buckets for commercial motorists.

- **Transportation Infrastructure Development:** Reconstructed Library Avenue Road, improving transportation infrastructure.

- **Collaboration with Transport Unions:** Strengthened collaboration between

transport unions and interstate transit operators, promoting synergy and harmony.

- **Vehicle Inspection:** Conducted regular vehicle inspections, boosting the state's Internally Generated Revenue.

TRANSFORMATION OF ABA

Aba, once in decay, is witnessing a renaissance. Key improvements include:

- **Rehabilitation of over 30-year-old roads** like Port Harcourt Road, Ohanku Road, and Ndoki Road.

- **Ongoing construction of a 5-star hotel** at the Enyimba Hotelsite.

- **Reliable electricity supply** via the Geometric and Alaoji Power Plants.

- **Establishment of the Greater Aba Development Authority (GADA)** to guide urban growth.

- **These projects are transforming Aba** into a hub for trade, tourism, and industry.

Greater Ohafia Development Authority (GODA)

With Engr. Obinna Odum at the helm, the Greater Ohafia Development Authority is tasked with transforming Ohafia into a modern, smart city. This is part of Governor Otti's vision for balanced regional development across Abia.

Conclusion

Governor Alex Otti has, within less than two years, transformed Abia State from a struggling entity into Nigeria's fastest-developing state. Through transparency, meritocracy, infrastructural development, and inclusive governance, he has restored pride, hope, and opportunity to the people of Abia.

His bold leadership has rightfully earned him national recognition, including the prestigious National Ambassador Man of the Year award.

Concluded

Opinion

From Ruin To Renaissance: The Miracle Of Port Harcourt Road, Aba

By Kalu Nto

"The people that dwelt in darkness have seen a great light." — Isaiah 9:2

This ancient scripture perfectly captures the transformation that has unfolded on Port Harcourt Road in Aba, Abia State. For decades, this once-thriving commercial artery deteriorated into a haunting symbol of state neglect—a decaying stretch of land riddled with craters, refuse, and frustration.

At its worst, the road resembled more of a wasteland than a city street. It became so dilapidated that keke riders had to navigate dangerous high-

tension areas just to get through. Residents and visitors alike had long accepted the road's collapse as an unfortunate norm. Some even joked that it could be a natural deterrent for unwanted pregnancies—so treacherous it was.

But today, Port Harcourt Road tells a different story: one of vision, courage, and transformative leadership.

As a proud Abian who has watched this miracle unfold, I am filled with hope and admiration for the

tremendous work Governor Dr. Alex Otti has done. This is no mere patchwork or cosmetic repair. What was once a neglected, refuse-filled path is now a first-class road—solid, beautiful, and impactful.

Until recently, I vowed never to travel to Aba from Port Harcourt directly. I preferred going around through Akwa Ibom to reach my hometown, Ututu, just to avoid the nightmare that was Port Harcourt Road. But with the election of Dr. Otti, a flicker of hope was rekindled. I strongly

believed that if any road deserved priority, it was this one—and that only a reputable firm like Julius Berger could handle its reconstruction properly.

Thankfully, the Governor shared that vision. Today, the road is a marvel. A friend recently joked that if you utter anything negative about ACO (Alex Chioma Otti) in a keke, you risk getting kicked out or scolded by passersby. That's how deeply appreciative the people of Aba are.

Yet, despite the applause, detractors have emerged—mainly questioning the ₦36 billion cost of the project. Let me respond directly:

1. Quality Comes at a Cost:


Only a company like Julius Berger could reclaim what was left of Port Harcourt Road. This wasn't just another trunk road—it was a death trap. The project required extensive soil tests, deep excavation, structural stabilization, and thorough refilling. Julius Berger's expertise doesn't come cheap, but the results speak for themselves. Anyone who remembers what that road was like understands the scale and

return of life to a place that had been forgotten.



4. Accountability in Governance:

It's easy to generalize that every public office is riddled with corruption, but Dr. Otti is charting a different course. He's investing in visible, life-changing infrastructure instead of lining pockets. And he isn't stopping at Port Harcourt Road. His administration is rolling out development projects across the state—from schools to hospitals to more roads—transforming Abia, one initiative at a time.

The reconstruction of Port Harcourt Road is more than just infrastructure. It is a powerful metaphor for



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HAPPY 2-YEARS ANNIVERSARY!!

Your Excellency's developmental strides within this short period of time are unquantifiable and an eloquent testimony of your desire of a better Abia State. We pray that God in his infinite mercy will continue to guide and grant you the Wisdom of Solomon to pilot the affairs of this Great State.

Long live our Executive Governor.
Once again, Congratulations His Excellency!

SIGNED
Festus Oshaba
Chairman, Ferotex Construction Co. Ltd





complexity involved.

It's laughable to suggest the Governor needed JB as a smokescreen for embezzlement. What JB did past administrations use to accumulate debts for the state? Does HE need or any state Governor at that need Julius Berger to chop 6bn? Abeg make we hear word!

2. Transparency Is Key:

Governor Otti publicly disclosed the cost of the project. That's more transparency than we've ever seen in Abia's recent political history. If anyone has doubts, they are free to request the Bill of Quantities from the Ministry of Works or even Julius Berger. What matters to most of us is that the road is done, and done well.

3. Local Sentiment Matters:

The people of Aba understand the value of this road. One young man called the ₦36 billion "paltry" compared to the daily suffering residents endured for decades. This isn't about party politics—it's about dignity, development, and the

what can happen when leadership meets integrity. A good road is not just a pathway—it's a lifeline for commerce, mobility, and growth. It brings hope to businesses and families and strengthens civic pride.

Two years into his administration, Dr. Otti has proven that meaningful progress is possible. He listens, he acts, and most importantly, he delivers.

In conclusion, I join countless Abians in celebrating this transformation. If this road were the only achievement of Dr. Otti's first term, it would still be historic. But thankfully, it's just one among many. We are finally seeing the light at the end of a very dark tunnel.

Let us stay the course, support what is good, and never forget where we started.

Añula ngwoo na-nkwu n'a bia! (Relax and wait for the sweeter wine Jesus converted from water.)

Engr. Nto is a grateful Abia indigene resident in Port Harcourt, Rivers State

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HAPPY 2-YEARS ANNIVERSARY!!

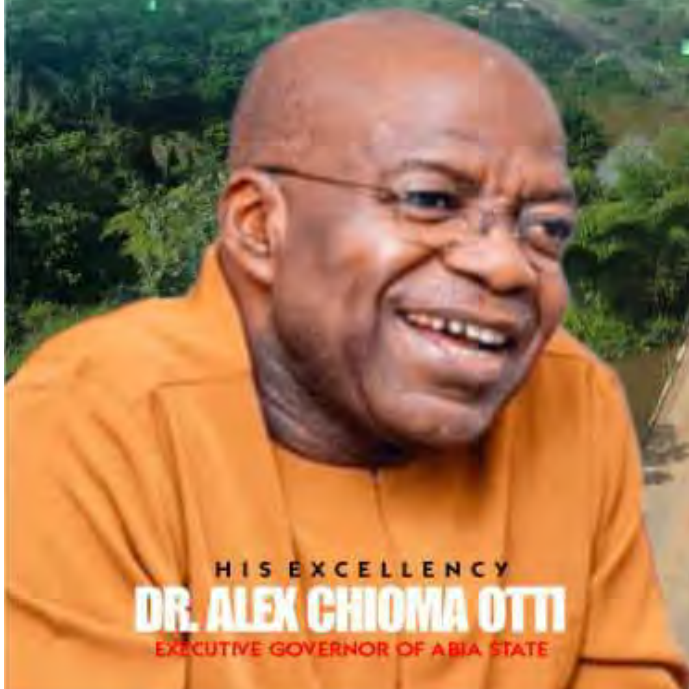
AS GOVERNOR ABIA STATE

We felicitate with the People's Governor, **Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, (OFR)**, on the occasion of the celebration of his **2ND Anniversary** in office.

We are happy to associate with you on the numerous achievements made by your administration within the short period of time.

Long live our Executive Governor.
Once again, Congratulations Your Excellency!

SIGNED
Management



HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE

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CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

The Management heartily felicitate with our amiable and God fearing Governor of Abia State **Dr. Alex Chioma Otti (OFR)** as he celebrate 2nd year in office.

May the good God Almighty grant you all it takes in terms of good health and preservation to deliver on your good strategic plans to the good people of Abia.

Long live his Excellency.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR!



Timothy Feng Tao
Area manager
South-South and South-East



Engr Eric Shen
Executive Director
South-South and South-East

Felicitations

With unquantifiable joy in my hearth, I Hon chief Munachim Ejim (OKWUOTO), the executive members and entire trades in New Market Aba Join millions of Abians to celebrate and felicitates our indefatigable, dynamic and pragmatic governor, **His Excellency DR ALEX CHIOMA OTTI OFR**, the governor with peoples mandate, Abia redeemer as celebrate God's grace and benevolence on this auspicious anniversary commemorating the impactful and heroic 2 Years in office as the Executive Governor of Abia State.

We at NEW MARKET ABA (AHIA OHURU) extols and eulogies your administration's resolve towards transparency and good governance, pledging our unalloyed support at all times in building a formidable and prosperous Abia of our collective dreams and aspirations in the days ahead.

ABIA HAS NEVER HAD IT LIKE THESE BEFORE: BRAVO Oji uzo eme ogo

Signed
Hon. Chief Munachim Ejim
(OKWUOTO)
Chairman New market
(Ahiaohuru)
Aba, Abia State.



Editorial

Otti At Midterm – A Clear Departure In Infrastructure Governance

At the halfway point of Governor Alex Otti's first term, Abia State finds itself at an inflection point. For a state long encumbered by developmental inertia and administrative lethargy, the last two years have marked a visible, if not transformative, shift—especially in the realm of critical infrastructure.

Unlike previous administrations whose infrastructural footprints were largely uneven, unsustainable, or mired in opacity, Otti's approach has so far leaned toward strategic planning, quality execution, and financial transparency. Roads, which had become perennial symbols of neglect in urban hubs like Aba and Umuahia, are now witnessing systematic rehabilitation, drainage inclusion, and better materials that promise durability rather than decay.

Past governments often launched projects with fanfare but completed few. White-elephant projects, abandoned sites, and pothole-riddled roads defined the infrastructural reality of successive regimes. Under Governor Otti, however, the story has begun to change. The Osisioma Flyover—left in limbo for years—was among the early interventions aimed at restoring public confidence in governance. Major roads like Port Harcourt Road in Aba and Ossah Road in Umuahia, long abandoned, are now seeing meaningful work. While these

projects are not without delays or criticisms, their implementation suggests a welcome departure from the cycle of "motion without movement."

Power infrastructure, though traditionally under the purview of federal institutions and private entities, has also received attention under Otti's leadership through partnerships aimed at boosting industrial energy supply. In contrast, previous administrations paid limited attention to energy infrastructure's enabling role in economic revitalization.

Furthermore, Otti's digitization of project monitoring and contract management adds a layer of accountability that was largely absent in the past. Open procurement processes, performance audits, and citizen feedback mechanisms are slowly becoming part of the governance fabric, challenging the old model of opaque budgeting and contractor favoritism.

That said, the work is far from complete. The state's rural infrastructure remains patchy, and some legacy issues—such as poor drainage, flooding, and rural-urban disparity—still plague many communities. But even here, Otti's government has made serious inroads, notably through rural road mapping and basic health center upgrades in most LGAs.

Governor Otti's midterm record on infrastructure is markedly progressive. If sustained, it may well set a new template for public service delivery in the state. Gov. Otti's leadership is not just promise made but promise kept.

Once again a big congratulation to the Able Governor on a meritorious 2 years in office.

LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
THE EDITOR
NATIONAL AMBASSADOR
P.M.B 7245, UMUAHIA
E-mail:nationalambassador@gmail.com

Taming The Soaring Cost Of Housing In The Southeast And South-south

Dear Editor,

The escalating cost of housing across the Southeast and South-South regions of Nigeria has reached alarming proportions. In major urban centers like Enugu, Owerri, Port Harcourt, Uyo, and Asaba, average citizens are increasingly priced out of the rental and ownership markets. What was once a problem of limited supply is now compounded by unchecked speculation, poor urban planning, and minimal government intervention.

Young professionals, artisans, and even middle-income earners are forced to live on the fringes of cities or endure exploitative rent conditions. Developers, in turn, often cite high costs of land acquisition, absence of infrastructure, and lack of financing options as major hurdles. This cycle has created a housing market that favors the elite while sidelining the majority.

To address this crisis, governments in these regions must urgently take a cue from the more proactive housing interventions seen in Lagos State. Over the past decade, Lagos has deployed a mix of public-private partnerships (PPPs), mass housing schemes, and affordable mortgage options through the Lagos State Home Ownership Mortgage Scheme (LagosHOMS). This model, though imperfect, has provided thousands of units to low- and middle-income earners, while also stimulating economic activity in the real estate sector.

Governments in the Southeast and South-South can replicate this model by:

Establishing regional mortgage boards that provide subsidized financing and rent-to-own options for first-time homeowners.

Investing in infrastructure—particularly roads, drainage, and electricity—in satellite communities to decongest urban centers and make land more viable for development.

Partnering with private developers through land swaps, tax incentives, and low-interest funding to accelerate affordable housing projects.

Enforcing housing regulation and rent control policies to discourage exploitation and gentrification in key urban zones.

The housing crisis is not just an economic issue—it is a social one. Without affordable shelter, the foundation of stable family life, productivity, and community development is weakened.

It is time for governors and urban development authorities in the Southeast and South-South to act decisively. Housing must be seen not merely as a commodity, but as a basic right—and government must lead the charge in making it accessible to all.

From Okenwa, Adaku Jane
Umuahia, Abia State



Abuja Digest

with Sophina Ovuike
+2348037744514

Oil Bid: NEITI advises NUPRC to ensure full disclosure of beneficial ownership

The Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) has called on the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) to ensure full disclosure of beneficial ownership of oil assets across the country.

It advised following its independent observation and monitoring of the pre-qualification and technical bid processes of the 2022-2023 Mini Bid Round and the 2024 Licensing Round, in line with its statutory mandate under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021 and the global Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Standard.

NEITI also identified other areas where it said NUPRC needed to make improvements. They include: strengthening the evaluation methodology and metrics, enhancing transparency in result disclosure, improving public access to bidder information, and integrating technical and commercial value assurance in evaluations.

The Advisory Report offered actionable recommendations to bolster future rounds, emphasising transparent disclosures, standardised scoring, and consistent stakeholder engagement.

The report also commended NUPRC for notable progress in the conduct of the 2022-2023 Mini Bid Round and the 2024 Licensing Round.

NEITI praised NUPRC's efforts, highlighting "notable improvements in inclusivity, digitalisation, and procedural integrity."

The report, presented to the NEITI National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) at its statutory meeting in Umuahia, Abia State, on May 9, 2025, described the licensing rounds as "significant milestones in Nigeria's upstream petroleum sector, designed to attract credible investments, unlock hydrocarbon potential, and advance national development objectives."

NEITI noted that the licensing process was generally professional, transparent, and inclusive, with adherence to published criteria as required by the PIA and EITI provisions.

Special concessions granted to indigenous and emerging firms were acknowledged as a progressive step that enhanced stakeholder participation and public confidence.

"The NSWG commended NUPRC's co-operation with NEITI and encouraged the adoption of the recommendations outlined in the advisory," said Orji Ogbonnaya Orji, Executive Secretary of NEITI.

At the same meeting in Umuahia, the NEITI Board also adopted a comprehensive Energy Transition and Climate Accountability Framework, developed in alignment with Nigeria's national energy transition plan, global climate obligations under the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the 2023 EITI Standard.

The framework redefines NEITI's role in the energy transition, introducing a transparent and accountable mechanism for: Tracking greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related financial risks, Monitoring divestments by International Oil Companies (IOCs), Overseeing the implementation of Host Community Development Trusts (HCDDTs) under the PIA, Promoting just transition planning and climate disclosures, Aligning NEITI's reports with national climate instruments, including NDCs and the Energy Transition Plan

"The framework positions Nigeria at the forefront of climate-compliant resource governance," Dr. Orji added.

To operationalise this policy, NEITI said it has outlined key implementation steps covering oil, gas, and solid minerals reporting, stakeholder engagement, institutional co-ordination, and bi-annual performance reviews.

The framework is being developed with support from the Ford Foundation as part of NEITI's ongoing study on the impact of energy transition on Nigeria's oil-dependent economy.

NEITI assured all stakeholders that it will continue to lead reforms that align resource governance with global sustainability imperatives while ensuring social and environmental justice across Nigeria's extractive sector.

House of Reps withdraws compulsory voting bill

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Abbas Tajudeen, has withdrawn a bill seeking to make voting mandatory for all eligible Nigerians.

The bill, co-sponsored with Hon. Daniel Asama Ago, aimed to amend the Electoral Act 2022 to enforce compulsory voting as a means of deepening democratic participation.

In a statement issued recently by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Musa Abdullahi Krishi, the Speaker said the decision followed "extensive consultations with a broad spectrum of stakeholders" across the country.

"From the outset, the bill

was introduced with the best of intentions—to bolster civic engagement and strengthen our democracy by encouraging higher voter turnout," the statement read.

The bill had earlier passed Second Reading on the floor of the House on March 21, 2024, sparking widespread debate among lawmakers, civil society organisations, and the general public.

While proponents argued it would significantly increase voter turnout, critics raised concerns about its implications on individual rights and the feasibility of enforcing such

a law in Nigeria's diverse electoral landscape.

Citing global examples, the Speaker noted that compulsory voting has helped sustain participation rates above 90 per cent in countries such as Australia, Belgium, and Brazil, with similar practices adopted in Argentina and Singapore.

However, he emphasised that Nigeria must pursue democratic reforms that reflect its unique context and public sentiment.

"Lawmaking is ultimately about the people it serves, and any reform must respect individual freedoms," Speaker Abbas stated.

Rather than compel citizens to vote, he expressed commitment to exploring alternative, non-coercive measures that incentivise participation, especially among young and first-time voters.

"This withdrawal will allow time for further dialogue on how best to cultivate a culture of voluntary participation that honours both our democratic ideals and the rights of our citizens," the statement concluded.

The bill had drawn a mix of reactions from Nigerians who called for sustained efforts to address the root causes of voter apathy, including electoral violence, lack of trust in the system, and logistical challenges on election days.

Our reforms'll solve 80% of Nigeria's bureaucratic challenges - Shettima

Vice President Kashim Shettima has said there is an urgent need for institutional reforms as the foundation for solving the majority of Nigeria's public policy challenges.

According to him, strengthening the nation's institutional frameworks would address 80 per cent of Nigeria's public policy challenges.

The Vice-President stated this during the official presentation of the draft National Public Policy Development and Management Framework by the Special Adviser to the President on Policy and Coordination/Head of the Central Results Delivery and Coordination Unit (CDCU), Hajiya Hadiza Bala Usman.

Shettima described the new policy framework as a transformative approach that has been "long overdue" in Nigeria's governance architecture.

"If we get our institutional frameworks right, we will solve 80 per cent of our public policy challenges. This approach is long overdue," he said.

He called for a national reset in the way public policy is conceived, communicated, and implemented, noting that the mitochondria of every government is a workable national public policy.

Commending President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's leadership, Shettima praised the President's unique blend of public and private sector experience and his readiness to implement bold reforms.

"For the first time, we have a leader who understands the dynamics and speaks the language of economics. He has the courage to take far-reaching decisions. We cannot but commend President Tinubu for his very promising reforms across all sectors of the national economy," he said.

The Vice-President also stressed the importance of policy clarity and communication, pointing out that reforms must be clearly understood by the public and consistently implemented across all tiers of government.

Highlighting the role of e-governance and digitalization, Shettima advocated for data-driven policy execution and real-time monitoring, just as he also called for enforceable consequences within the policy framework.

"There must be targets and deliverables; if people fail to perform, they should be made to pay the price. Implementation without accountability is another word for lunacy. People must be made to account for their stewardship," the VP

said.

Emphasising the need to build strong institutions over reliance on individual leaders, the Senator drew a leaf from former United States President Barack Obama, saying, "Like former President Barack Obama said, what nations need is not strong characters or leaders, but strong institutions — institutions guided by strong, fair, and acceptable laws."

Earlier, the Special Adviser to the President on Policy and Coordination, Hajiya Hadiza Bala Usman, told the Vice-President that the draft National Policy Development Framework was conceived by the realisation that the Federal Government had no document that conceptualised government policies.

"It is interesting. Your Excellency, to know that at the beginning of this administration, it was quite baffling that the Federal Government did not have a guiding document which specifies the process by which policies should be conceptualised.

"Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of government had been operating in silos, often producing overlapping and outdated policies. This has led to fragmentation, policy inconsistency, duplication

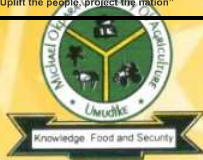
of efforts, and ultimately inefficiency in the government's endeavours.

"These challenges have not only impeded the realisation of government goals, but they have also weakened public trust and discouraged investor confidence. Recognising this urgency and the need to address these systemic issues is what enabled us, as a team, to initiate this process," she stated.

Hajiya Usman, however, expressed confidence that the Draft National Policy Development Framework will address deep-rooted challenges of policy management and lack of coherence and consistency across MDAs.

The Draft National Policy Development Framework, she noted, is the result of extensive collaboration between her office, Office of the Vice-President, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, foreign partners, and the National Economic Summit.

The presidential aide assured that with the input of the Vice-President, the draft framework will provide the much-needed clarity, structure, and coherence that will enable the development of policies with clear intent.



Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike.
Pmb 7267 Umuahia Abia State
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Congratulations Your Excellency on your 2nd year in Office

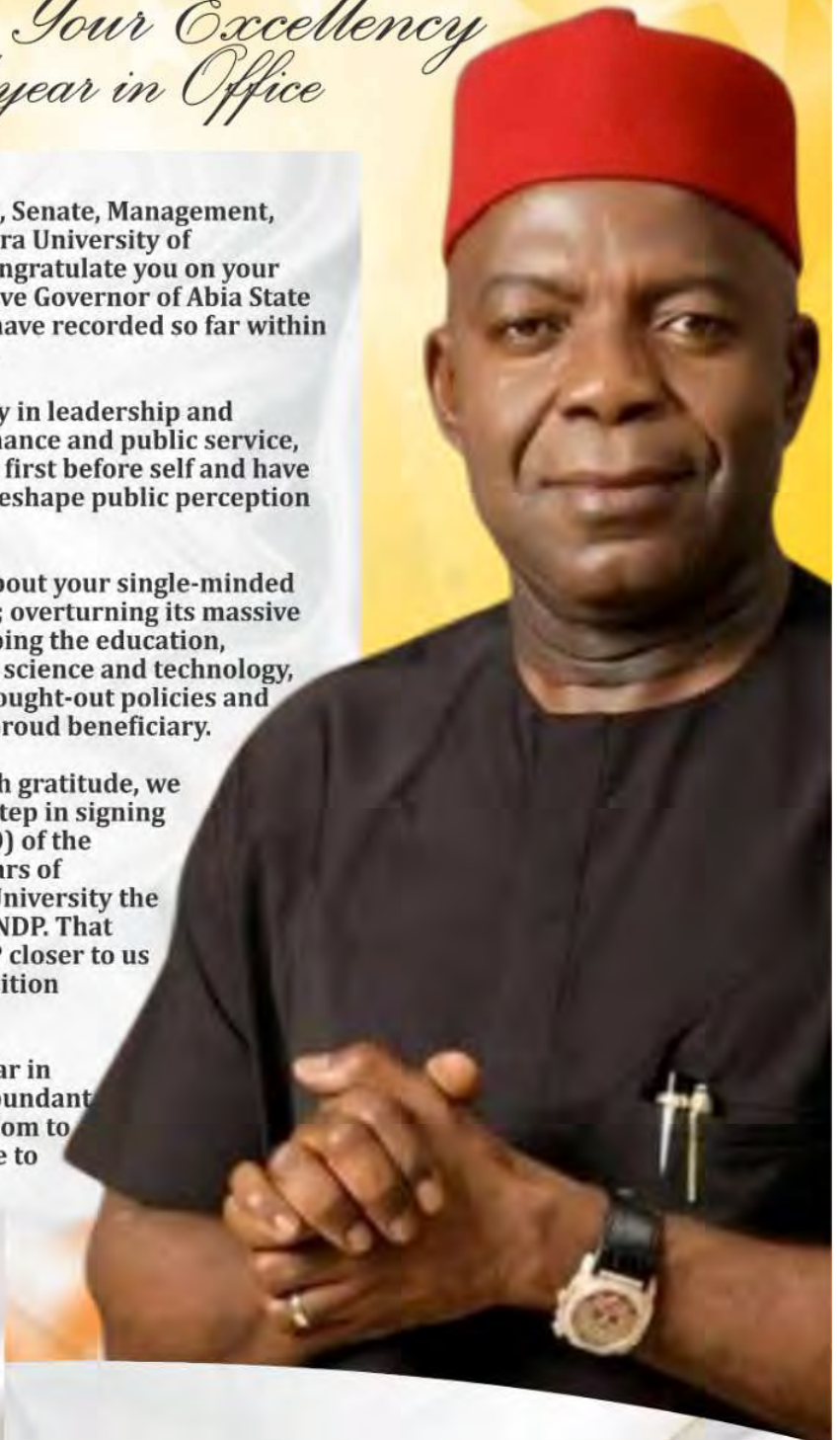
On behalf of the Governing Council, Senate, Management, Staff and Students of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, I heartily congratulate you on your second year in office as the Executive Governor of Abia State and for the modest successes you have recorded so far within a short time of being in the saddle.

We are inspired by your philosophy in leadership and commend your approach to governance and public service, which put the people and the State first before self and have helped to rebuild confidence and reshape public perception about governance in the State.

We are witnesses to, and excited about your single-minded devotion to transforming the State; overturning its massive road infrastructure deficit; revamping the education, agriculture and entrepreneurship, science and technology, and other sectors, through well-thought-out policies and actions, which our University is a proud beneficiary.

Of special note and heart filled with gratitude, we salute His Excellency for the bold step in signing the Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) of the University's Land, after over 30 years of acquisition and for providing the University the access to a relationship with the UNDP. That relationship has brought the UNDP closer to us with the donation of a skills acquisition facility, the UNIPOD.

On this occasion of your second year in Office, we wish you God's speed, abundant grace, uncommon favour and wisdom to continue to lead the New Abia State to her best years ever.



Signed:

Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, FNIFST, CFS, FIAFoST
Vice-Chancellor



Abia Diaspora Commission (ADCOM)

CONGRATULATORY

MESSAGE TO HIS EXCELLENCY

DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR,

ON HIS TWO - YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the **Abia Diaspora Commission (ADCOM)** and the global community of Abians in the diaspora, I extend our warmest congratulations to you on this remarkable milestone of two transformative years in office as the Executive Governor of Abia State.

Indeed, May 29, 2023, marked the dawn of a new era in our beloved state—a turning point in leadership defined by integrity, visionary planning, and courageous execution. Two years later, the light you ignited continues to burn brighter across every sector of Abia life.

Under your inspired watch, Abians at home and abroad have witnessed what true leadership can deliver. Your administration's signature projects are not only reshaping the landscape of Abia but also restoring the pride of our people. These include:

The total reconstruction of Port Harcourt Road, Aba—a legendary intervention in a once-forgotten commercial artery.
The expansion and dualization of Ossah Road, Umuahia, which is redefining the capital's urban outlook.

The clearing of decades-long salary and pension arrears, bringing justice and dignity to civil servants and retirees.
Massive reforms in digital governance, enhancing transparency, accountability and service delivery.

Ongoing revival of education and healthcare infrastructure, giving new hope to future generations.

Bold strides in security architecture and economic revitalization, laying a table foundation for investment and prosperity.

These are not just projects—they are monuments to your vision and legacies of your unwavering commitment to Abia's rebirth.

At **ADCOM**, we are particularly proud of your open-door policy and your inclusive approach to governance, which gives diaspora Abians renewed confidence to engage, invest, and partner with your government in driving sustainable development.

Your Excellency, your stewardship has given substance to the dream of a New Abia—a state that works, a people that thrive and a future that inspires.

As you enter the next phase of your tenure, we assure you of our continuous collaboration, prayers and support from across the globe. We remain confident that the best is yet to come.

Congratulations once again, our beloved Governor and reformer of destiny.

May God continue to endow you with divine wisdom, good health and the courage to finish strong.

With deepest respect and admiration,

Rev. Dr. Annie N. Onu

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

Abia State Diaspora Commission (ADCOM)



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News

Obi commends Gov Otti's achievements in Abia State

By Amarachi Uzoukwu

The Presidential Candidate of the Labour Party in the 2023 election, Mr. Peter Obi, has commended the achievements of Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, describing his two years in office as "two years with a difference."

Speaking at a Special Anniversary Sabbath Service held at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Aguiyi Ironsi Layout, Umuahia, Obi said Otti's visible performance makes media hype unnecessary.

"We have come to celebrate two years with a difference. People have always said that they need eight years, they need 10 years, they need 20 years. But I've always said one day can make a difference."

"Everybody is seeing it in Abia. You don't need to tune the radio. You don't need people to tell you. There's a difference. And that's what we're celebrating today," Obi stated.

He urged Nigerians to pray for leaders, especially those trying to serve the people genuinely, like Governor Otti.

"It is difficult to govern



■ Mr. Peter Obi

Nigeria, especially when you want to do it right. Continue to remember the governor and the commissioners, those who are helping him, in prayers. Do the same thing for Nigeria.

"That God should touch all of us who are leaders. Touch our hearts to use public money for public good. It is not our money. We are just trustees. Like it's happening in Abia. We want it to happen everywhere in Nigeria."

"When I say to people, I'm not desperate to be a president. I'm desperate to see Nigeria work. We want future leaders like him (Governor Otti)," Obi further stated.

In his speech during the service, Governor Otti credited God as the driving force behind his

administration's achievements, as the state marked two years of his leadership.

Governor Otti said all progress made would have been impossible without divine backing.

"I think it's 1 Corinthians 3, verse 6. I'm going up to verse 7, and it says, I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."

"And verse 7 goes further to say, neither he who planted is anything, nor he who watered, but God who gave the increase."

"So because we recognize that everything we have done is of the Lord and is God's assuredness, we return all the thanks to Him," Governor Otti said.

He thanked all government officials, including those in the legislative and judicial arms,

for their support for the "New Abia" project and also appreciated Mr. Peter Obi for his consistent encouragement.

Earlier in his sermon, the former President of the Abia North Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pastor Enyinnaya Uguru, advised leaders to remain focused on the future and avoid being consumed by present achievements.

Pastor Uguru, who spoke on the topic, "At the Fullness of Time," reflected on Governor Otti's journey to the governorship, saying God's plan manifested after several failed attempts.

He urged the governor not to relent and expressed hope in Abia's continued transformation.

"With Governor Otti on the saddle, Abia would continue to prosper," he said.

Pastor Uguru prayed for more wisdom and understanding for the governor to offer selfless service to the people.

The Special Sabbath Service drew notable dignitaries and featured prayers for the state's continued progress.

Children's Day: President Tinubu reads riot act against child bullying

From Sophina Ovuike, Abuja

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has issued a powerful message urging Nigerians to unite in the fight against bullying as the country commemorates Children's Day 2025.

In a release from his Media Office today and made available to newsmen, his statement reaffirms government's commitment to protecting children's rights and fostering a safe, nurturing environment for every child in Nigeria.

The theme for this year's celebration, "Stand Up, Speak Up: Building a Bullying-Free Generation," reflects the urgent need to eradicate bullying in all its forms — physical, psychological, social, and online.

He said: "The pride and future of our great nation," and reaffirmed the government's dedication to safeguarding their welfare.

"Across every school, community, and home, you are the heartbeat of Nigeria's future. It is our constitutional and moral duty to protect your rights and nurture your dreams," he said.

The President highlighted troubling statistics: globally, more than one in three children experience bullying regularly, while in Nigeria, up to 65% of school-age children have faced some form of aggression.

"This is unacceptable. A child who learns in fear cannot learn well. A child who grows in fear cannot grow right," he stressed.

Under the Renewed Hope Agenda, Tinubu outlined ongoing and planned initiatives to combat violence against children, including full implementation of Nigeria's National Plan of Action on Ending Violence Against Children (2024-2030).

He noted that 36 states have domesticated the Child Rights Act, with efforts underway to review and strengthen relevant legislation such as the Child Rights Act (2003) and the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2015).

He revealed that government is scaling up the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) for real-time tracking of abuse cases and expanding community-based child protection programs. Efforts also include leveraging the Cybercrime Act to address online bullying and exploitation.

Abia Medical City To Glup \$1.3 Billion

By Amarachi Uzoukwu

The Abia State Government has announced that the proposed Medical City, a flagship quaternary healthcare initiative by the present administration, would gulp a total investment of \$1.3 billion.

The project is aimed at transforming Abia into a regional hub for advanced medical services, as well as Nigeria's most comprehensive healthcare ecosystem upon completion.

The Commissioner for Health, Professor Enoch Ogbonnaya Uche, disclosed this Saturday, when he led journalists on a tour of the 200-hectare project site around Owerri, Isialangwa South LGA.

Prof. Uche revealed that a globally reputable engineering procurement construction consortium, known as the MKP International Holdings, has been contracted by the State Government under a Develop, Build, Operate, and Transfer agreement to fund and deliver the project within 24 months.

"The Government is contributing land and goodwill, assets that are critical. That's part of what the government of Abia State has brought to the table," Prof. Uche noted.

He said that the Medical City, designed to meet global standards comparable to medical cities across the world, will feature a 1,000-bed ultramodern hospital, a state-of-the-art oncology center, a digital diagnostics hub, and surgical and transplant facilities capable of handling complex procedures such as robotic and organ surgeries.

According to the Commissioner, the complex will also include facilities for medical tourism, with a five-star hotel, a step-down hospital, and luxury accommodations for patients and their families.

"The idea is that people, when they are sick and they are seeking care here, their families can come and have a holiday, a medical holiday," Prof. Uche explained.

The Commissioner cited the staggering \$1.6 billion lost annually to outbound

medical tourism as a major motivation behind the initiative, adding that the project would help curb the 'Japa' syndrome among doctors and nurses leaving the shores of the country due to poor working environments.

"We will have facilities that can cater for the tourism aspect of healthcare. We're also going to have an ultra-modern oncology center. As you may well know, cancer care is one of the reasons people leave this country for care abroad."

"Whether you are talking about radiotherapy, you're talking about radiosurgery, radio-oncology, you're talking about emerging therapies, you're talking about the newer chemotherapeutic agents and their momentum for delivering those."

"All those are going to be available here with the best-in-class medical experts that can come in from all parts of the globe to be part of the workforce in this place."

"So this ecosystem will also house a modern surgical center that can take care of laparoscopic

surgeries, robotic surgeries.

"It will also take care of all forms of brain, spine, orthopedic, organ transplantation, cardiac transplant, cardiac surgeries—name it, any level of surgery."

"There will also be a place for cosmetic surgery. You know that a lot of people travel to go and have bariatric surgery, to go and have liposuction, to go and have nose jobs and all that."

"All those things will be done here in this place. And that will help to reduce the number of people going for such surgeries outside. Of course, while giving them the best-in-class qualitative service available anywhere in the world."

"We're also going to have an ultramodern children's hospital in this place, a fertility center. You will also have a place where you have the best-in-class ophthalmology center that will cater for the eye health needs of people. So name it—whether it's organ transplantation, whether it's orthopedics, whether it's neurology or neurosurgery or cardiac surgery,

interventional cardiology.

"And then it's also going to have a diagnostic center that is second to none in West Africa—perhaps in Africa. So they're going to have MRIs, PET scans, and the modern radiological diagnostic equipment and services that you find anywhere in the world."

"This center is also going to have a hub for digital health technologies. Of course, you know today that you have AI, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and augmented reality. All these are now part of what doctors and nurses use anywhere in the world to support diagnosis and care of complicated cases."

"So you're going to have metaverse hospitals. Metaverse refers to virtual reality, augmented reality. So you're going to have all that in this place."

"There's going to be a helipad there that will ensure that we can have air ambulance services connecting with hospitals across this nation. And then, of course, there's also an intention to ensure that the air ambulance service will be

active," Prof. Uche further explained.

He said that the Medical City will serve as a top-tier training institution, partnering with international universities and catering for students and residents from within and outside Abia State.

"This is going to be the apogee of a training institution. Our students will be exposed to the highest level of care and the best protocols globally."

"And beyond that, we're going to have research institutes that will be affiliated with the best hospitals and universities in this world, on the globe. As I'm talking to you, we have already received expressions of interest from top-class universities in the U.S. who want to partner with the medical city."

"So we will have a place where our children can be trained, where our old people can be looked after, our young people can be looked after, in an ecosystem that supports healthy living."



DE LATINOS CONCEPTS LIMITED



His Excellency
Dr. Alex Chioma Otti (OFR)
Executive Governor, Abia State

Your Excellency,

On behalf of De Latinos Management and Staff, we extend our heartfelt congratulations and deep appreciation to you for your exemplary leadership and outstanding performance as the Executive Governor of Abia State.

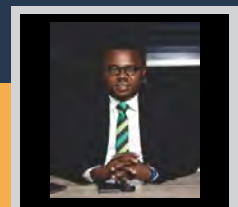
Your commitment to infrastructural development, economic growth, youth empowerment, and transparent governance has not only brought renewed hope to the people of Abia but has also positioned the state as a model for progressive leadership in Nigeria.

Your vision, dedication, and tireless efforts are evident in the transformational strides being made across the state, from improved road networks and healthcare services to the revitalization of education and support for local industries. These achievements speak volumes of a leader truly in touch with the aspirations of the people.

As you continue to steer Abia State on the path of sustainable development and inclusive growth, We pray for continued wisdom, strength, and divine guidance. May your tenure leave a lasting legacy that generations to come will look upon with pride and gratitude

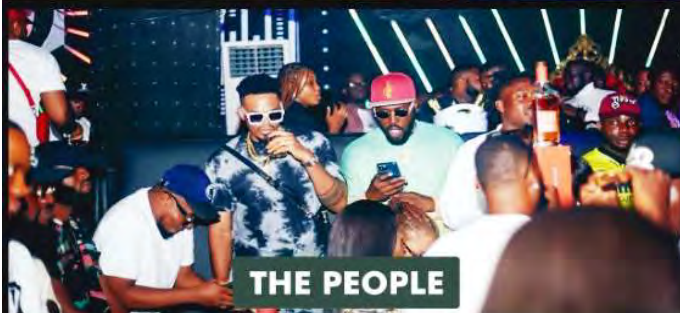
Once again, congratulations, Your Excellency. Abia is indeed rising under your leadership.

SIGNED
EMMANUEL OKENINI (E-BELLO)
Chief Executive Officer
De Latinos Concepts Limited





DE LATINOS CONCEPTS LIMITED



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News

Change of Name

I, formerly known as Justina Ejiaka Okoronkwo, now wish to be known and addressed as ORJI NDUBUISI JUSTINA UZOAMAKA. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ORJI NDUBUISI JUSTINA UZOAMAKA.

Reconciliation of Name

This is to affirm that Ukandu Blessing Ojong and Ukandu Onyenbuchi Blessing is said to be same person. I now wish to be known and addressed as UKANDU ONYENBUCHI BLESSING. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

UKANDU ONYENBUCHI BLESSING.

NDLEA, HOIO sign MoU to strengthen fight against illicit drugs

From Sophina Ovuike, Abuja

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and the United Kingdom's Home Office International Operations (HOIO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at intensifying the fight against transnational organized crime, especially illicit drug trafficking between Nigeria and the UK.

The MoU was signed recently, at the NDLEA headquarters in Abuja.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Regional Manager (West Africa) of HOIO, Mr. Ian Cunliffe, expressed his appreciation for the strong collaboration between the two agencies. He acknowledged the productive relationship established by his predecessor, Christopher Hawksfield, and reaffirmed his commitment to building on that foundation.

"I'd like to thank the chairman for his time and the gracious welcome. The relationship between HOIO and NDLEA has been really productive, and I'm keen to enhance that as we enter this new phase of partnership," Cunliffe said.

N D L E A Chairman/CEO, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (ret'd), described the MoU as a reaffirmation of mutual trust and cooperation.

He added that the NDLEA has continued to scale up drug control efforts in line with the National Drug Control Master Plan and that the new agreement provides a structured framework for intelligence and data sharing, aligned with international conventions, national laws, and global best practices.

"This partnership strengthens our capacity to interdict criminal suspects, dismantle trafficking networks, and trace illicit financial flows more efficiently," Marwa noted.

He emphasised that stronger intelligence sharing translates into more effective enforcement, expressing optimism that the partnership will deepen collaboration in addressing drug-related crimes and safeguarding public health and safety in both countries.



Newly reconstructed Aba Port-Harcourt Road, rebuilt by Dr. Alex Otti

Abia Police Command rescues 12 children, arrests couple for suspected child trafficking

By Dickson Paul

The Abia State Police Command has rescued 12 trafficked children and arrested two suspects.

A 49-year-old woman, Blessing Emebo, and Sunday Emebo, 42 years old, were apprehended on May 19, 2025, following an intelligence report.

The Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Maureen Chinaka, Abia State, confirmed this in a press statement.

The rescued children include Ojugo Caleb (14), Christian Okoro (12), Samuel Okoro (13), Clinton Nkemakolam (9), Godwin Emmanuel (10), Osinachi Nkemakolam (6), Marvelous Emmanuel (5),

David Emmanuel (7), Testimony Emebo (2 months), Ogechi Nkemakolam (9), Chinaza Okoro (9), and Anointing Okoro (7).

The suspects were operating an unregistered motherless babies' home in their apartment, located on Ikot Ekpen Road, Aba.

The children, who came from various villages in

Arochukwu, have been handed over to the Ministry of Women Affairs for proper custody.

Investigations are ongoing, with the suspects currently being interrogated at the State CID, Umuahia. They will be arraigned in court once investigations conclude.

Police authorities reiterated their commitment

to reducing crime and urged the public to stay vigilant and ensure children's safety. They warned against leaving children with unfamiliar persons.

Members of the public are encouraged to report suspicious individuals with children via the following police hotlines: 08035415405, 08079210004, 08079210003, 08079210005.

Reactions continue to trail Gov Otti's historic completion of Port-Harcourt Road

From Nwokoma Blessing, Oninyechi Ibem and Grace Uzoigwe

Reactions have continued to trail the completion of the dilapidated Port-Harcourt Road in Aba, Abia State.

Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, officially completed and delivered the long-abandoned 7.6-kilometer Port-Harcourt Road in Aba, fulfilling one of his major campaign promises and breaking a jinx that plagued the area for some decades.

Once notorious for its deplorable state—with overgrown weeds, refuse heaps, and collapsed infrastructure—Port-Harcourt Road had been a symbol of neglect, crippling businesses and branding

Aba as the "dirtiest city" in South-Eastern Nigeria.

However, Governor Otti's decisive action has not only restored the road but also rejuvenated economic activity in the area.

Following his election victory in February 2023, Governor Otti swiftly engaged the services of Julius Berger, an internationally acclaimed construction company, to take on the massive reconstruction. The results have been widely praised by residents and business owners alike.

President of ASMATA and a property owner along the road, Chief A.E. Udeigbo, expressed deep gratitude, stating, "One million thank you very much to Governor Otti!"

He recounted the years of hardship—living amidst stinking refuse, enduring

mosquito infestations, and witnessing business closures due to the impassable road.

Udeigbo emphasised that the new road, which he personally monitored during construction, is built to last over 30 years and is worth every naira spent.

He advocated for constitutional amendments to allow a third term for Governor Otti by 2031, citing the transformational leadership the governor has shown.

Councillor representing Enyimba Ward 3 in Aba South, Hon. Ihuoma Joseph Okechi, likened the previous state of the road to the infamous Badagry-Seme Expressway.

He lauded the governor's prudent management of public funds and the people-centred projects springing up across

Abia State. He also noted the renewed investor interest in Port-Harcourt Road, with property values soaring and demand for space at an all-time high.

A generator dealer, known simply as Akaonyenwetara, echoed these sentiments, celebrating the revival of commerce.

He urged residents to maintain the infrastructure by avoiding indiscriminate waste dumping and destructive practices like burning tires or using harmful chemicals on the road.

A phone accessories dealer at 81 Port-Harcourt Road, Mr. Ifeanyichukwu, shared that business has bounced back, with customer turnout at record levels. He criticised past administrations for their neglect and urged Governor

Otti to remain focused despite political distractions.

A Keke operator, Mr. Uchenna Francis (Ntu), also praised Gov Otti's administration. He asserted that the Port-Harcourt Road project, among others, has already secured the governor a second term in the eyes of the people.

Chief painter, Mr. Kanu Ebucha, confirmed that the road meets international standards and commended the governor for his bold and visionary leadership.

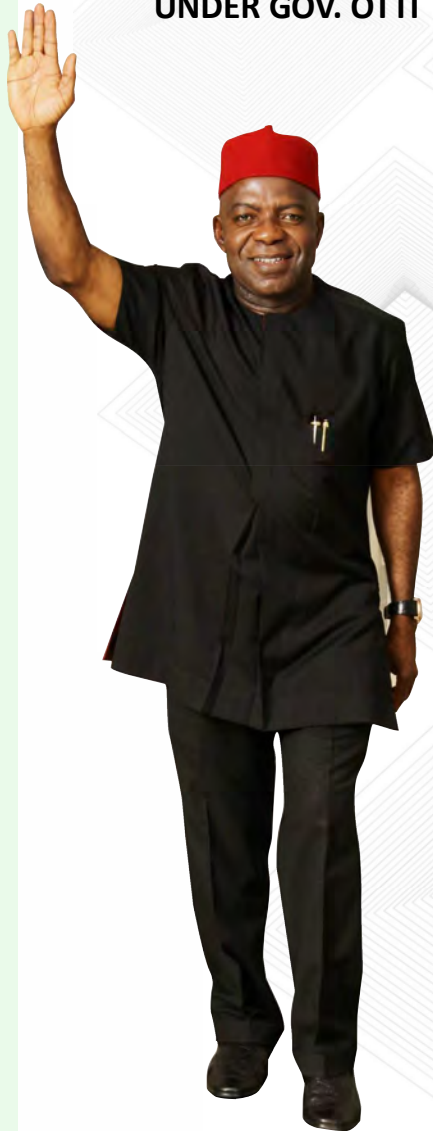
"The successful reconstruction of Port-Harcourt Road stands as a landmark achievement for Governor Otti, signaling a new era of accountability, infrastructural development, and economic revitalization in Abia State," he stated.



ABIA STATE OIL PRODUCING AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ASOPADEC



CELEBRATING TWO YEARS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ABIA UNDER GOV. OTTI



I, Venerable Dr. Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike, the General Manager, Abia State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission (ASOPADEC) On behalf of my family, staff and the good people of the oil and gas communities joyfully felicitate with the State Governor, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR as he marks two years of impactful good governance in Abia State.

Your Excellency, Sir we are happy to identify with your doggedness and unwavering courage and commitment that have yielded results of massive landmark achievements in two years in office. You have shown capacity and capability to serve and chat a new cause for Ndi Abia.

The change mantra is a reality and the new Abia is here. Your superlative developmental activities have touched all the sectors of the economy and Abia is working to the admiration of all and to the glory of God.

We have no doubt that more packages of dividends of democracy are on the way. Please keep up the good work.

At ASOPADEC We are working assiduously on our mandate to complement your towering transformation agenda. Our intervention activities span across reconstruction of roads, renovation of market stalls, construction of civic centers, school blocks; provision of water-boreholes, agricultural inputs, scholarships, environmental cleanliness, health care services and social welfare. We are inspired by your dynamic and impactful leadership traits and will not relent to do more.

Your Excellency, Abians, especially, the oil and gas producing communities are happy with your strives in governance.

Congratulations sir. Ride on!
We are solidly behind you.

Venerable Dr. Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike,
FCAI, FICMC, FIOGRS
General Manager.



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News



Governor Alex Otti (middle), First Lady of Abia State, Lady Priscilla Otti (right) and First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, represented by the Wife of the Vice-President, Hajia Nana Shettima during the launched Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI) Food Outreach in Abia State

First Lady's Renewed Hope Initiative Food Outreach hits Abia State

By Amarachi Uzoukwu and Chibunna Ikeokwu

The First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, has launched the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI) Food Outreach in Abia State, with the distribution of food items to vulnerable citizens, particularly those affected by economic hardship.

The food items distributed under the Renewed Hope Initiative Social Investment Programme include spaghetti, semolina, and rice.

Speaking at the event, held at the International Conference Centre, Umuahia, Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, lauded Senator Tinubu for her compassion and unwavering support for vulnerable Nigerians amid the current economic challenges facing the country.

The Governor highlighted his administration's commitment to social welfare, noting that one of his first actions in office was the creation of the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection.

According to him, the ministry collaborates with international and local partners to implement holistic programs that support women, youths, and vulnerable groups across the state.

"In several communities, women co-operative groups have been set up to access grants and zero to low interest rate facilities to establish businesses along the agricultural value chains.

"Our conviction is that many of the individuals living in economic vulnerabilities can still add value to our GDP by engaging in productive ventures," Gov. Otti said.

The Governor expressed support of his administration for the Renewed Hope Initiative, emphasising that while palliative programs are valuable, long-term solutions are essential.

He stressed the need for a "realistic path" to overcome poverty, joblessness, and economic hardship.

"The goal at all times should be to keep reducing the number of persons living below the poverty line by offering the population a path to economic sustainability and ultimately independence," he noted.

In her address earlier, Sen. Tinubu said that the food outreach scheme, which began on March 8, 2024, in the Federal Capital Territory, has since reached 11 states and the FCT, including Benue, Cross River, Oyo, Delta, Edo, Ekiti, Gombe, Kano, Kogi, Kwara, and Nasarawa.

Represented by the Wife of the Vice-President, Hajia Nana Shettima, the First Lady said that the next states to benefit from the food outreach scheme are Enugu and Kaduna States.

She also announced a 200,000 naira grant each for 250 persons with disabilities in every state to support their small businesses and the planned distribution of 10,000 packs of sanitary pads per state to encourage young girls to stay in school.

"Under our economic empowerment, we will be giving a grant of 200,000 naira for 250 persons with disabilities to recapitalize their existing small businesses in the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory.

"Under our Education Programme, we will be introducing Floor with Confidence, during which we will distribute 10,000 packs — a year's supply — of sanitary pads to each of our young girls, particularly those in rural communities in each state to encourage them to remain in school during their menstrual cycle.

"These programmes aim to further complement the Renewed Hope Agenda of the Administration of His Excellency President Bola Tinubu, GCFR, in making life better for our people," Mrs. Tinubu stated.

She implored beneficiaries not to sell the food items as they are intended to support their families and thanked the state's RHI Coordinator, Mrs. Priscilla Otti, for her support toward the Renewed Hope Initiative activities.

In her welcome address, the First Lady of Abia State, Lady Priscilla Otti, expressed appreciation to the RHI and the First Lady of the nation for their enduring commitment to lifting families out of poverty and hunger.

She announced that the Abia State Government has provided 3,000 bags of 10kg rice to support the programme and assured that the items would be distributed to vulnerable citizens across the state.

The event attracted the presence of the First Ladies of Anambra, Ebonyi, Imo, and Ogun states, among other notable dignitaries.

2027 Polls: Peter Obi to run on Labour Party Platform

By Ngozi Ndubueze

The Labour Party (LP) presidential candidate in the 2023 election, Peter Obi, has confirmed his intention to contest the 2027 general election under the LP banner.

In a seven-minute, 16-second video circulating on the party's WhatsApp platform, Obi addressed young supporters, reaffirming his commitment to the Labour Party despite ongoing internal challenges.

Speaking recently, Obi attributed the crises within

the LP and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to deliberate interference by the government.

"What is happening in the Labour Party and the PDP is caused by the government. Quote me anywhere," he stated.

Drawing from past experience, Obi recalled resolving a similar LP crisis during the administration of late President Umaru Yar'Adua, who intervened to ensure stability. He contrasted this with the current situation, alleging that the government is intentionally destabilizing opposition parties to

weaken them.

Obi emphasised the need for strong opposition to ensure a functional democratic system, vowing to address such issues if given the opportunity to lead.

"These are some of the things I want to clean up if I have the opportunity. Parties will function very well because you can't have a system working without a strong opposition," he said.

The former Anambra State governor urged Nigerian voters, particularly youths, to take responsibility for ensuring their votes count, noting that

while political parties may deploy agents to protect their interests, the ultimate power lies with the electorate.

He encouraged resilience in the face of resistance from beneficiaries of the current system, assuring supporters that positive change, though challenging, is achievable.

Commenting on his political future, Obi, who will be 65 by the 2027 election, expressed a preference for a retirement age for politicians, stating he would not wish to contest elections in his 70s. (NAN)

We Want Our State Back – Rivers Women

Rivers women under the platform Rivers Women Unite for Sim (RWUS) have voiced deep concern over the current state of affairs in the state, calling for a return to peace, economic prosperity, and genuine democratic governance.

At their monthly prayer gathering held at the Ecumenical Centre in Port Harcourt, the women — drawn from all 23 local government areas — expressed hope that ongoing

reconciliation efforts among political leaders would lead to lasting stability.

"We want our state back — the Rivers State we once knew, thriving in business and in life," said Comfort Jeremiah, a member of the group.

"As mothers and caretakers, we are among the most affected during times of crisis. That's why we come together weekly to seek divine intervention for our leaders and for peace to reign," she further stated.

The prayers, which have become a routine gathering, are aimed at seeking God's mercy and guidance for the state and its political leadership.

Adding her voice, Adata Bio-Briggs, former Chairperson of the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Rivers State Chapter, emphasised the group's demand for the restoration of democratic structures and respect for the will of the people.

"We are praying for the restoration of true democracy, where our elected leaders can serve without fear or conflict. Reconciliation must be genuine, and that's what we are believing God for," she said.

The group urged leaders at all levels to put the interest of the state above personal ambition, stressing that unity and stability are essential for economic recovery and social progress in Rivers State.

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We heartily Congratulate **HE, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, (OFR)**,
on the occasion of the celebration of his
2ND ANNIVERSARY

We are happy to be associated with you on the
numerous achievements recorded by your
administration within this short period of time.

We pray that God will continually grant you the Strength to
plot the affairs of the state.

Best wishes sir.

SIGNED
Management



HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE



OGBONNAYA ONU POLYTECHNIC ABA



Hearty Felicitations Sir

On behalf of the Governing Council,
Management, Staff and Students of
the Ogbonnaya Onu Polytechnic, Aba,
may I extend very hearty felicitations
to you on the

2nd Anniversary

of your tenure as
Chief Vision-Bearer
for God's Own State

HIS EXCELLENCY

DR ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE

Your Excellency Sir, We at the Ogbonnaya Onu Polytechnic, are delighted to be in the very front-burner, the very centre-stage of your transformational leadership, the type that this state has not known in all its history.

Through our Institution, you have demonstrated that education, particularly technological education, remains a driver of unlimited people-oriented development.

We have no doubt that the next two years will be greater.

Signed
Engr Dr Christopher Kalu Okoro
FNATE, MNSE, MCOEN, MNIEEE, MIAL, MACM
Rector





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Felicitation!!!

The management and Staff of **Kelin Hotels Ltd, Prichio Tech. Company Ltd and Kelin Technologies Ltd** wish to use this medium to congratulate the Executive Governor of Abia State

Dr. Alex Chioma Oti OFR on his two years in office anniversary.

His Excellency, you have indeed proven your mettle as a development minded administrator. Your two years in office is remarkable and we are glad to identify with you.

Within this short period, you have outdone your distractors.



We do not need to tune to the radio to bear witness to your good works. It has been two years of outstanding feat, especially for us in Umunneochi where you handled insecurity almost immediately you assumed office. Your collaboration with the people of Umunneochi has left us endeared to you. We wish you more success as you continue on your mandate.

Once more, congratulations to you
Chioma ndi Abia.

Signed:

High Chief Kenneth Uzoigwe (Osike Umunneochi)

MD & CEO, Kelin Hotels Ltd,

MD & CEO, Prichio Tech. Company Ltd,

Fmr SSA Southeast (Political) to the Speaker of House of Reps.





ABIA STATE UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL

P.M.B. 7004, ABA

email: absuthmgt@gmail.com
07072944962, 07080443513

Felicitations on **Governor Alex Otti's 2nd year in office**

As Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, the Executive Governor of Abia State, celebrates his second year in office, the management and entire staff of Abia State University Teaching Hospital (ABSUTH) Aba, wish to express our sincere gratitude to His Excellency for his excellent leadership and the positive impact his administration has had, not only on our state generally, but on the Teaching Hospital in particular. We are especially grateful to you, Sir, for prioritizing the health sector and placing health professionals at the forefront of your development agenda.

We hail you, Sir, for the following:

- the ongoing new ABSUTH complex project aimed at ameliorating the accommodation challenges confronting the Teaching Hospital;
- the takeover of the payment of the Teaching Hospital's electricity bills by the State government;
- your donation of a 500 KVA transformer to the Teaching Hospital for direct linkage to the 33 KVA power transmission line;
- your approval for the invitation of the relevant national and subcontinental Colleges for the reaccreditation of the Teaching Hospital's clinical departments for postgraduate medical training in tandem with the administration's aim of strengthening the foundation of the state's health system through targeted, sustainable interventions;
- prompt and early payment of salaries to the staff;
- payment of accumulated backlog of salaries owed by the previous administration;
- clearance of owed backlog of accumulated promotions;
- landmark approval of the 100% Consolidated Medical Salary Structure (CONMESS) for doctors in the state employ;



- approval for the recruitment of needed healthcare professionals to boost efficient and qualitative service delivery in the Teaching Hospital;

We identify with Your Excellency's dedication and exceptional commitment to improving the lives of our citizens within two years - a truly remarkable feat!

We also want to acknowledge Your Excellency's commitment to progress and positive change, including but not limited to your ability to work collaboratively with the Teaching Hospital and diverse stakeholders to foster a sense of unity and shared purpose within the healthcare ecosystem.

Your Excellency, Sir, your vision for a vibrant and dynamic ABSUTH is inspiring, and we are proud to support your efforts in realizing it.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to further enhance the progress of our state and the Teaching Hospital in particular.

This is to wish you continued success in the years ahead.

Well done, Sir.

Sincerely,

Prof. Ijeoma Nduka
Chief Medical Director
ABSUTH, Aba.





ABIA STATE OIL PRODUCING AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ASOPADEC

CELEBRATING TWO YEARS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ABIA UNDER GOV. OTTI



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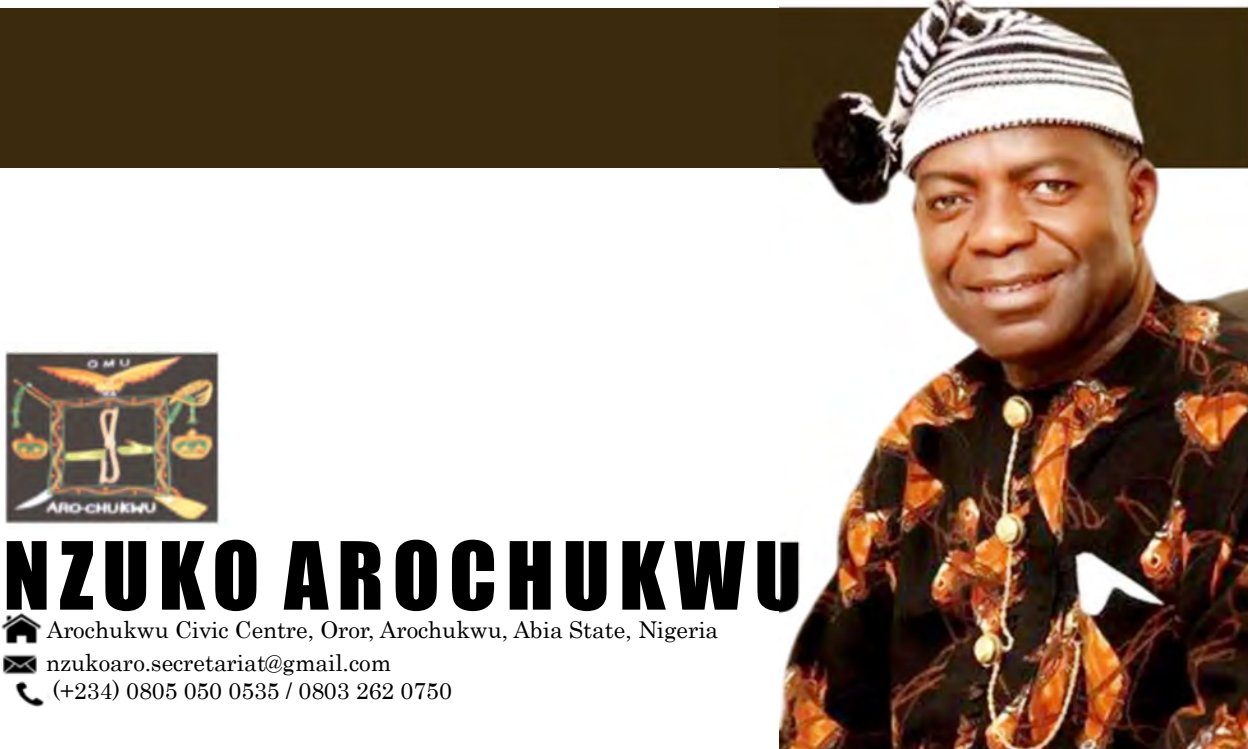
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Congratulations sir. Ride on! We are solidly behind you.

Venerable Dr. Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike,
FCAI, FICMC, FIOGRS
General Manager.

08033570895
mail@asopadec.com



NZUKO AROCHUKWU

Arochukwu Civic Centre, Oror, Arochukwu, Abia State, Nigeria

nzukoaro.secretariat@gmail.com

(+234) 0805 050 0535 / 0803 262 0750

His Excellency,
Dr. Alex Chioma Otti
Executive Governor, Abia State
Nigeria

May 27, 2025

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

Nzuko Arochukwu Worldwide very heartily congratulate you on your second year Anniversary as the Executive Governor of Abia State. We are indeed witness to your transformative leadership that has raised the bar of what dedicated leadership should be in a democracy. This is a real revolution beyond our wildest imaginations, and it seems, in the words of Prof. Chinua Achebe that *'It is Morning yet on a Creation Day'* Your quiet and resourceful approach to leadership at the Governorship level in Nigeria has set national and global standards many states are struggling to emulate and achieve, even at its lowest scale. We can only be grateful to Almighty God, who in his infinite mercies granted you this very rare opportunity to serve our people and demonstrate to the whole world that transformative leadership with proven results is possible in Nigeria, amid genuine Nigerian citizens doubts.

Nzuko Arochukwu Worldwide takes pride in your proven competence and capacity to discharge the duties of the Office of the Governor of Abia State creditably. Your proven astute public financial management that has conserved resources to fund gigantic projects and programs without debts, and delivered in record time in education, road infrastructure, health care, hospitality, industrialization, power, Aviation, and Security are sterling examples of what progressive leadership entails globally. We do not, therefore, harbor any doubt that the remaining two years and possibly even beyond, will witness the total transformation of Abia into a modern, peaceful, industrialized, economically prosperous state that posterity and history will remember you forever.

Your Excellency, Nzuko Arochukwu assures you of their total support and solidarity always as you blaze the trail of purposeful leadership in our country, state and community. We are also heavily invested in impactful prayers to God to grant you good health, safety and abiding knowledge that will see your transformational leadership dreams for Abia State development materialize in its full promise. We are not in doubt that you are by all standards the 'Man of the Moment' and that you have all it takes to courageously confront all obstacles on the way through prayers, hard work, dedication and abiding faith in God that will always guide you to accomplish the aspirations of the founding fathers of our dear God's Own State, ABIA.

Your Excellency, once more, ACCEPT our CONGRATULATIONS

Sir Nnadozie Udensi (Ugwu Aro)
President General, Nzuko Aro World-Wide

Mazi Dr. Kanu Ohuche (Ugwu Aro)
Secretary General, Nzuko Aro



HE HAS COME TO SERVE, AND NOT TO BE SERVED

(Matthew 20:28)

Geometric Power rejoices with the Abia people on the **second anniversary** of Dr Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, as a trail-blazing governor.

Signed,

Management,

His Excellency
Dr Alex Chioma Otti, OFR



Congratulations



I, Pastor Caleb Ajagba, Ph.D, the Chief of Staff to the Governor, on behalf of my family, Management, and Staff of Government House Umuahia, heartily congratulate His Excellency, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, the Executive Governor of Abia State, on the remarkable occasion of his two years anniversary in office.

Your Excellency, your administration has been a beacon of purposeful leadership, marked by transformative strides that have redefined governance in our dear state.

From the massive road constructions, prompt payment of workers' salaries and pensions, ongoing reformation in the transport sector, support to Abia farmers, improvements in our education and healthcare systems, coupled with the training and empowerment of our youths in digital technology, has not only boosted productivity but also positioned the state for a tech-driven future.

These and many more achievements bear testimony to your passion, integrity, and dedication to the growth and well-being of Abians.

Congratulations, Your Excellency, and may your tenure continue to bring prosperity and progress to our beloved state.

SIGNED

Pastor Caleb Ajagba, Ph.D
Chief of Staff to the Governor



THE PEOPLES' PARLIAMENT

Congratulates

DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, CFR,
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE, ON HIS



The Peoples' Parliament, an advocacy group committed to the promotion of good governance, joyfully extends its warmest congratulations to **His Excellency, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR**, Executive Governor of Abia State, on the momentous occasion of his second anniversary in office, marked on May 29, 2025.

The Peoples' Parliament applauds the massive infrastructural and economic development currently underway in the State under your stewardship. Of particular note is the remarkable improvement in security, especially in the border local government area of Umunneochi, which had long suffered neglect.

Your promise to rehabilitate the long-abandoned Mmam Bridge, a vital link between Abia and Enugu States, is a bold and strategic move that reflects your deep understanding of regional integration and economic growth. This milestone is not just a celebration of time, but a testament to the transformative and visionary leadership that Your Excellency has brought to bear on Abia State. In just two years, your administration has distinguished itself through purposeful governance, characterized by transparency, accountability, and an unwavering commitment to the welfare of the people.

Your Excellency's people-focused policies and dedication to development have not gone unnoticed. The Peoples' Parliament is proud to stand in solidarity with your administration and hereby pledges its unwavering support as you continue to pursue the noble mission of transforming Abia State.

We also use this occasion to pray that the Almighty God will continue to endow you with divine wisdom, strength, courage, and sound health as you lead Abia State to greater heights.

Once again, congratulations on your second anniversary in office. The future is bright, and the people of Abia State are indeed blessed to have you as their governor.

Long live Abia State!
Long live Dr. Alex Otti!!
Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria!!!

Signed:
For: **The Peoples' Parliament**

1. **Chief Richard Ikpe**- National Chairman
2. **Chief Kingsley Madu**- Deputy National Chairman
3. **Mr. Rommy Imah**- National Secretary
4. **Mr. Obi Ikpe, Esq.**- National Legal Adviser
5. **Mr. Leo Ekeh**- Director, Media & Publicity
6. **Onowu Richard Chuks Imah**- Director, Protocols
7. **Ogbuehi Chichebe Obiaka**- Head, Political Unit
8. **Chief Chima Alagor**- Director, Contacts & Mobilisation
9. **Ogbuehi Ugochukwu Mba**- Director, Diaspora Affairs
10. **Chief Fred Ojeh**- National Political Adviser



CHIEF NWABUNNA ACHU

(AKUBUILO)

Congratulates

HIS EXCELLENCY,

DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, CFR,
Executive Governor of Abia State,

on the Occasion of his Second Anniversary in Office

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my family and the good people of Umuobasi Autonomous Community in Mbala-Isoochi, Umunneochi Local Government Area, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to you on the occasion of your second anniversary as the Executive Governor of Abia State. We join the entire people of Abia State in celebrating this remarkable milestone, which reflects your steadfast commitment to good governance, transparency, and transformational leadership. I am particularly grateful to Your Excellency for the restoration of peace and security in Umunneochi LGA since you assumed office. Your decisive actions have brought a sense of safety and relief to our people, and for that, we are profoundly thankful.

Your giant strides in infrastructural development across the state cannot go unnoticed.

In particular, the ongoing construction of the Mbala-Umuaku-Ngododo Road and your promise to rebuild the damaged Mmam Bridge are testaments to your dedication to inclusive development and rural integration.

As you mark this significant anniversary, we pray that God will continue to strengthen you with wisdom, courage, and good health to deliver even more dividends of democracy to our dear state.

Once again, congratulations, Your Excellency.

Signed: **Chief Nwabunna Achu**
(Akubulo 1)
Chairman/CEO,
KEN NAB & SONS NIG. LTD



A M E S S A G E O F

Congratulations to

GOVERNOR ALEX OTTI (OFR)



On this momentous occasion of marking two years in office as the Governor of Abia State Dr Alex Chioma Otti (OFR), the Labour Party in Abia State wishes to take a moment to reflect on the journey so far and the strides your administration has made. Your leadership has brought a renewed sense of hope and purpose to the people of Abia, and your commitment to progress and development is truly commendable.

Your vision for Abia State is one of inclusivity, innovation, and sustainable growth. Through your policies and initiatives, you have shown a deep understanding of the needs of the people and a determination to address them. From infrastructure development to healthcare, education, and economic empowerment, your administration has worked tirelessly to lay the foundation for a brighter future.

As you celebrate this milestone, we acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead and the hard work that has gone into achieving the successes of your first two years. Your leadership is a beacon of hope for the people of Abia, and your dedication to public service is an inspiration to many.

We look forward to the continued progress and development of Abia State under your capable leadership. May your administration continue to be guided by the principles of integrity, transparency, and accountability. May the people of Abia State continue to reap the benefits of your visionary leadership.

Once again, congratulations on this significant milestone. We wish you continued success in your endeavours and pray for God's guidance and protection over you and the people of Abia State.

Happy 2nd Anniversary, our Executive Governor, **Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR**

Signed:

Hon. Sir Emmanuel Nwaeze Otti
State Chairman, Labour Party Abia State



ANDY SILK**RESORT INTERNATIONAL.***Home of Excellent Hospitality*Ozu Abam- Amuru Road,
Ozu Abam, Arochuku LGA, Abia State**Congratulations
To The People's
Governor**

The Management and Staff of

ANDY SILK**RESORT INTERNATIONAL**

here by

Congratulates**HE Gov. Dr. Alex Otti, OFR**

on His Transformational

2 Years in Office

Thank you for building a

"New Abia"

God bless you abundantly

Signed:
Management



THE MANAGEMENT, STAFF, AND STUDENTS OF ABIA STATE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY ABA,

Felicitations!

ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE MANAGEMENT, STAFF,
AND STUDENTS OF ABIA STATE COLLEGE OF HEALTH
SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY ABA,
WE HEARTILY FELICITATE WITH OUR BOSS AND VISITOR TO THE COLLEGE,
HIS EXCELLENCY, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE

DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR,
ON HIS TWO YEARS ANNIVERSARY.

YOUR PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITHIN THESE TWO YEARS
HAS TRANSLATED INTO GIANT INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS.

WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE
THAT OUR COLLEGE IS A MAJOR
BENEFICIARY OF YOUR
EXCELLENT LEADERSHIP ABILITIES,
GUIDANCE AND MAGNANIMITY.

OKEZIE ALOY E.
RECTOR
(ABSCOHMAT).



NATIONAL Ambassador

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₦250 VOL. 28 NO. 007

June 1, 2025

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL: PSG, Inter Battle for Glory

By Joseph Jacob

Paris Saint Germain of France and Inter Milan of Italy will go head to head in the UEFA Champions League final on Saturday at the Allianz Arena in Munich, Germany.

While the French side are searching for their first triumph, with their best performance being losing in the finals in 2020, their opponents from Italy are gunning for their fourth title after they emerged champions in 1964, 1965 and 2010.

PSG finished 15th in the League Phase after winning four, drawing one and losing three matches. They went through the play-off, where they got their rhythm, smashing fellow French side 10-0 on aggregate.

The confronted English teams in the

next three stages and eliminated all. They started with Liverpool in the round of 16 and went through 4-1 on penalties after full and extra-time ended 1-1.

They took on stubborn Aston Villa in the quarter-final and escaped by the skin of their teeth 5-4 on aggregate.

They eliminated Arsenal 3-1 on aggregate in the semi-finals to book their place in Saturday's final.

Inter Milan finished fourth in the league Phase. They won six, drew one and lost only one match. They scored 11

goals and conceded only one goal. They hammered Feyenoord 4-1 in the round of 16 before eliminating Bayern Munich 4-3 in the quarter-finals.

Their semi-final clash with Barcelona ended 7-6 on aggregate and equalled the record for most goals in Champions League knockout tie. Recall that Liverpool defeated Roma 7-6 in the semi-final of the 2017/18 season and Bayern Munich thrashed Sporting CP 12-1 in a round of 16 match in the 2008/09 season.

Besides the trophy, The winners will also earn the right to play against the winners of the 2024/25 UEFA Europa League, Tottenham Hotspurs in the 2025 UEFA Super Cup. Both finalists have already secured places in the league phase of next season's Champions League..

SUDOKU

Puzzle By: Prince Blessing Lazarus

	4			9				
			1	4			6	
	8		6				9	7
		3			1			6
			4			8		
5				3				
							8	
		1		7			3	2
			2			4		

All you have to do is fill the grid in such away that every 3X3 box and row and column, contains the numbers 1-9.

...History Favours PSG

The final of this season's UEFA Champions League will hold at the Allianz Arena in Munich on Saturday, May 31, 2025. Either PSG or Inter Milan will be crowned the champion in Munich. However, history points to the emergence of a first time winner-PSG.

In the 1979 European Cup final hosted at the Olympiastadion, two teams who had never won the competition-Nottingham Forest of England and Malmo FF of Sweden battled for the trophy. Trevor Francis headed in John Robertson's cross in the first half of the extra time after full time had ended goalless. Nottingham Forests thus won their first European title.

Fourteen years later, the European Cup final returned to Munich with Marseille up against AC Milan. While Marseille were chasing their first European title, AC Milan were going for their fifth title. Basile Boli scored the only goal in the 44th minute as Marseille claimed their first European title.

In 1997 another first time winner emerged when German side Borussia Dortmund defeated Juventus 3-1 in Munich. The Italians were already two-time champions, so it was not surprising that the Germans won their first title. Karl-Heinz Riedle put the German side in front in the 29th minute with a low shot from inside the six yard box. Before the break, Riedle made it two when he headed in Andreas Moller's corner kick.

In the second half,

Juventus' hit man, Alessandro Del Piero came in as a substitute and pulled one back with a back-heel after a cross from the left channel by Alen Boksic to keep Juventus' hope of a comeback alive. But, in the 71st minute, 20 year-old Lars Ricken sealed the victory for Dortmund.

In the Champions League era in 2012, Chelsea took on home side, Bayern Munich, who had won the competition four times. The home side outplayed Chelsea but failed to convert their chances until the 83rd minute, when Thomas Muller headed Toni Kroos' cross down, the ball bounced over Petre Cech in goal for Chelsea, hit the crossbar and entered into the net. With two minutes to the final whistle, Chelsea won their first corner of the game, which was taken by Juan Mata. Didier Drogba's powerful header went past Manuel Neuer for Chelsea's equalizer. Extra time ended with no goals and Chelsea had to play another penalty shootout in a Champions League final after they lost on penalties in the 2008 final to Manchester United.

Chelsea won on penalties despite Juan Mata missing Chelsea's first penalty kick.

This year's final is returning to the Allianz Arena, whether you believe that history has a way of repeating itself or that people repeat history, all eyes will be on the final.

With Inter Milan having won the Champions League thrice, PSG is historically favoured to win their first Champions League title on Saturday.

Officials

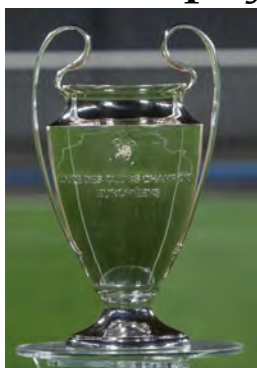
The UEFA Referees Committee has appointed Romania's István Kovács to referee the 2025 UEFA Champions League final between PSG and Inter Milan.

The 40-year-old, an international referee since 2010, will be officiating his third UEFA club competition final after his appointment as the referee for the 2024 UEFA Europa League final in Dublin, Republic of Ireland, between Atalanta and Leverkusen, and the 2022 UEFA Conference League final between Roma and Feyenoord in Tirana, Albania. He has refereed seven Champions League matches this season, including the round of 16 second leg between Liverpool and Paris.

He will be assisted by his countrymen Mihai Marica and Ferencz Tunyogi. The fourth official is Joao Pedro Silva from Portugal and the reserve Assistant Referee is Bruno Miguel Alves Jesus from Portugal.

The VAR team is led by Dennis Johan Higler from Netherlands. He will be assisted by Catalin Sorin Popa from Romania while Dutchman Paulus van Boekel is the VAR Support official.

The Trophy



The UEFA Champions League trophy stands 73.5cm tall and weighs 7.5kg. "Everybody in football is keen to get their hands on it," said creator Jürg Stadelmann.