

Nigerian workers not to be drawn into the battle of the ruling class.

Chief Obasanjo had written a letter to the president and raised vital national issues bordering on corruption, insecurity, the 2015 election, the divisive North-South as well as

respond to issues raised by former President Olusegun Obasanjo after President Jonathan's reply. Meanwhile, workers should remain alert and vigilant, and should not be drawn into the battle of the ruling class."

closed the participation of the three affected states in 2015. But one important thing we should not ignore as a sovereign country is that suspending national election such as that of 2015 in any part of the 36 states and the FCT on

affected by the insurgents, should be the main focus for conduct of the 2015 elections by INEC so that we can send a clear message to those who want us to go into extinction that we will not cave in to their violent needs, we will move on."

2 dead, 11 injured in bullion van crash

SYLVANUS EZE-AWKA

A bullion van belonging to a new generation bank crashed and killed two persons, including a police officer while 11 persons sustained various degrees of injury in an accident at Tarzan Junction, Nkpor, Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State on Tuesday.

The police officer who was among the eight policemen on the convoy of the bullion van died on the spot along with the driver of the vehicle. This was confirmed by the police and the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC).

The armoured personnel carrier bullion van crashed onto an articulated truck on motion and a **Toyota Hilux** van with registration number AAA 87 BZ which was also on motion.

The timely arrival of the police and officers of the FRSC prevented the hoodlums who had

wanted to steal the cash in the bullion van and set it ablaze.

The bullion van was coming from Awka when its tyre burst and the driver lost control, hitting a moving articulated truck with registration number Delta XA 928 ASB and the Hilux

van.

The Unit Commander of the FRSC, Nteje, Mr Hyginus Omeje, blamed reckless driving, overspeeding and wrong overtaking by the bullion van driver as the cause of the accident, adding that the burst tyre was the impact of the

crash.

The Anambra Police Command PPRO, DSP Emeka Chukwuemeka, confirmed the incident and regretted the loss of life of the police officer. He wished the injured, who had been taken to hospitals quick recovery.

FG moves to end ASUP strike

CLEMENT IDOKO, ABUJA

THE Supervising Minister of Education, Mr Nyesom Wike, on Tuesday, called on the Committee of Pro-Chancellors of Federal Polytechnics to mediate in the impasse between the Federal Government and the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP) to ensure that Nigerian students return to lecture rooms.

Wike, addressing the pro-chancellors at a meeting in Abuja, said the Federal Government had met over 80 per cent of the de-

mands of ASUP, with the release of the White Paper.

He said that contrary to insinuations by the union, the Federal Government holds polytechnic staff in high esteem, hence the setting up of the Needs Assessment to determine the level of decay in the institutions and how much would be needed by the Federal Government to revive them.

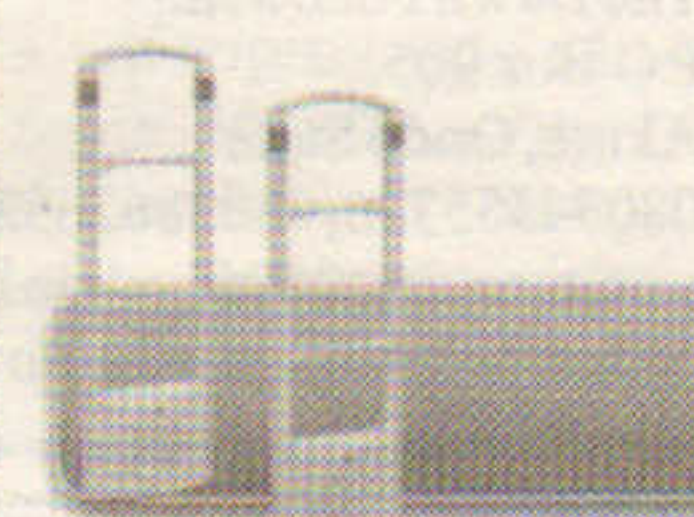
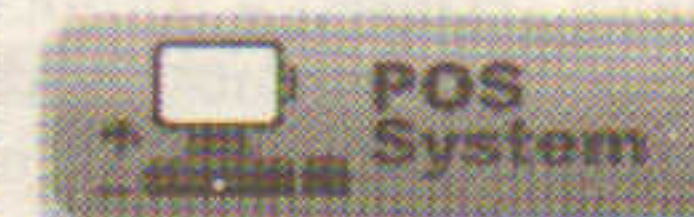
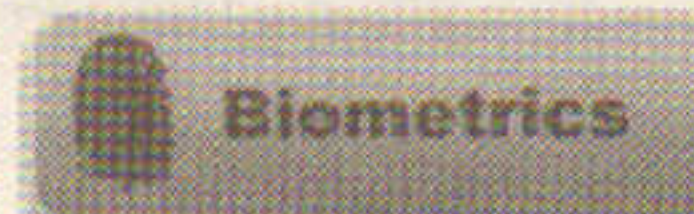
The minister noted that the Federal Government has started the process of paying the N20.8 billion arrears owed polytechnic

staff, pointing out that the funds would be released as soon as the procedures were concluded.

He, however, urged the Committee of Pro-Chancellors to work towards ensuring that the institutions return to their original mandate of producing skilled medium-level manpower to drive the economy.

Earlier, the Chairman of the Committee of Pro-Chancellors, Chief Ebenezer Babatope, called on the minister to facilitate the resolution of the strike by the ASUP.

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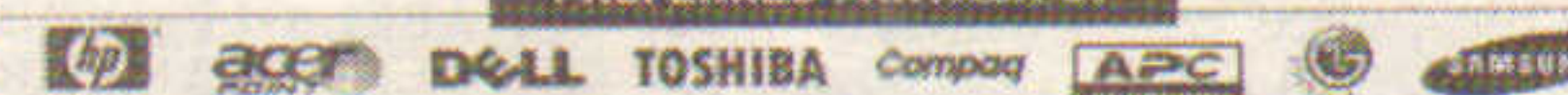
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