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Seven states okay 27.5% salary increase for teachers

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Seven states have agreed to pay the 27.5per cent increase demanded for by striking teachers. Also the Akwa Ibom State Executive Council has ratified the decision of the Governor Godswill Akpabio to pay the new salary agreed to implement the new wage policy as a way of ending the strike embarked upon by the teachers. The states are; Niger, Jigawa, Gombe, Rivers, Kano and Cross River.



Photo file
Minister of Education, Dr. Sam Egwu

Consequently, teachers in the seven states have opted out of the industrial action. But while teachers in these states are rejoicing, their counterparts in the other 29 states including Lagos, Edo, Kwara and Bayelsa, are still on strike with a view to pressuring their employers to commence implementation of the new wage.

Speaking on Thursday shortly after the SEC meeting in Uyo, the Commissioner for Information and Social Re-orientation, Mr. Aniekan Umana, explained that the upward review in the teachers' salaries would affect both examination, hazards, learned society and teaching inducement allowances.

Umana stated that the 27.5 percent increase in teachers' salaries was based on the prevailing basic salaries of the teachers. He disclosed that the increase was meant for only professionally trained and qualified teachers in the state.

The commissioner charged the teachers to be hard working and dedicated towards a complete realisation of the free and compulsory education policy of the current administration.

Meanwhile, the executive council has warned that it will not entertain any form of contract variations on projects currently being executed in the state. It also warned contractors against undue delay in the completion of projects, urging them to complete their jobs to specification and within stipulated time limits.

The Akwa Ibom SEC expressed shock over the news of the death of the PDP women's leader for Uyo Senatorial District, Mrs. Maria Ikpe.

Ikpe was said to have been murdered by unknown gunmen at her residence near Uyo on Tuesday. The council condemned the unwholesome act and called on the police and other relevant security agencies to bring the culprits to book within reasonable time.

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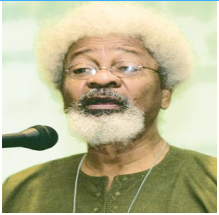
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