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Provost denies claims on college workers' death

Sunday Nwakanma, Umuahia

THE Provost of Abia State College of Education, Technical, Arochukwu, Dr Phillips Nto, has denied media reports that four employees of the institution died of hunger as a result of non-payment of salaries.

Nto, in a statement he issued in Umuahia, regretted that enemies of the college were on a satanic mission to tarnish the image of the college for political reasons.

He also dismissed claims that the non-remittance of school fees of final year students was stalling their graduation from

Abia State University, Uturu.

The provost noted that out of four workers alleged to have died of starvation, three had already left the services of the college, while there had not been an autopsy by the family of the serving staff to determine the actual cause of death.

Nto described as untrue the allegation that workers were being owed 32 months arrears of salaries.

According to him, whereas the college is actually in arrears of salaries like other federal and state institutions as a result of the global economic crisis, those bandying the outrageous figures were engaging in vicious propaganda.