

S.East, S.South get 4 Sickle cell centres

BY PETER OKUTU

ABAKALIKI—THE Federal Ministry of Health has established four national centres, including the Federal Medical Centre, FMC, Abakaliki, where analysis, control, and prevention of sickle cell disease would be given due attention in the South-South and South-East geopolitical zones.

Other centres include FMC Keffi, FMC Gombe and FMC Ebute-Meta.

The measure was necessary for the education of the general public in the zone who were still ignorant of the scope, nature and preventable strategies of the disease.

The Chief Medical Director of FMC, Abakaliki, Dr. Paul Ezeonu, who disclosed this yesterday during the World Sickle Cell Day organised by the Centre, noted that although sickle cell disease was yet to have any global cure, it was preventable.

Boy beats up mum, dies in sleep

BY CHIDI NKWOPARA

OWERRI—HOMICIDE detectives have commenced investigations into the death of one Ngozi Onyia Onuneme from Ogeri, Isiala Mbutu, Aboh Mbaise Local Government Area of Imo State.

Vanguard gathered from a villager, who pleaded anonymity, that trouble started when the deceased had an argument with his mother, Mrs. Gladys Onuneme, who wanted to know why he had injured some other person.

According to the eyewitness, "the argument eventu-

ally snowballed into Ngozi beating up his mother."

The source told Vanguard that on hearing the agonising cry of his mother, Ngozi's elder brother came out, rescued his mother and, thereafter, beat up the "unruly boy".

Continuing, the villager

said Ngozi sustained injuries but was not treated before he went to bed, adding that the family woke up the next morning to behold the lifeless body of the young man.

Spirited efforts to get the Police to comment on the incident failed as the Police Public Relations Officer,

PPRO, neither picked his calls nor responded to the text message sent to him.

Cleric calls for public officers' pay cut

BY CHIDI NKWOPARA

OWERRI—THE Anglican Bishop of Egbu Diocese, Professor Emmanuel Iheagwam, has appealed to President Goodluck Jonathan to quickly initiate the process of drastically slashing the jumbo salaries and allowances of elected and appointed public office holders in the country, in line with the realities of the time.

Iheagwam equally reasoned that the insurgents operating in some Northern states of the country and Abuja pose serious threat to the corporate existence of Nigeria and urged the perpetrators of the bomb blasts to allow peace reign.



MEETING: Governor Peter Obi of Anambra State (right) and Senator Anyim Pius Anyim, Secretary to the Government of the Federation, SGF, at the South-East political leaders meeting in Enugu, Monday.
PHOTO: Hitt Ezeugwu.