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KOGI AND NIGER

Kogi begins pilot school feeding for 46,119 pupils

From Itodo Daniel Sule, Lokoja

The pilot phase of the implementation of the federal government's Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSEFP) has commenced for about 46,119 pupils in public primary schools across Kogi State.

Programme Manager of HGSEFP in Kogi State, Hajiya Khadijat Karibo, who disclosed this in an interview with our correspondent, said the pilot implementation began on February 8, 2019 across public primary schools in 18 out of the 21 LGAs of the state.

She explained that the pilot school feeding was supposed to cover all the 21 LGAs but the implementation was yet to commence in Adavi, Dekina and Ankpa LGAs due to mismatch in the BVNs provided by some of caterers recruited to feed the school children in the affected areas.

Hajiya Karibo, however, said that the issues were being regularised in the banks and expressed optimism that the remaining three local government areas would soon join in the programme.

She said according to the timetable drawn for the programme, pupils are to be fed rice, beans and fish on Mondays; pasta and eggs on Tuesdays; jollof rice and beef on Wednesdays while milk



■ Some pupils of LEA Primary School, Ijalu Egbe taking their meal

and energy biscuits are to be served on Fridays.

According to her a total of 850 caterers were earlier recruited and trained for the pilot programme in the first phase but 223 of them were yet to access their payments

to enable them commence feeding due to issues of mismatch in their BVNs.

On the issue of monitoring, Hajiya Karibo said Desk Officers, Coordinators, N-Power beneficiaries were on ground across the

various local government areas to ensure effective implementation of the programme.

She expressed optimism that the school enrolment across public primary schools in the state would increase

following the implementation of the school feeding programme.

According to her, the second phase of the programme is expected to commence by the time the children resume from the Easter holidays.

IBB varsity matriculates 3,500 students for 2018/2019 session

From Ahmed Tahir Ajobe, Minna

The Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai (IBBUL) has matriculated 3,500 students for the 2018/2019 academic session.

The Vice Chancellor of the university, Prof. Mohammed Nasiru Maiturare stated this yesterday after administering oath of admission on the students, urging them to shun acts capable of disrupting their studies.

He said that 3,289 students got admission through UTME out of

which 3,244 were registered while 379 others got admission through direct entry adding that 704 students were also registered as for the various Part Time programmes.

The Vice Chancellor called on the students to take their studies very seriously and charged them to shun cultism, examination malpractices and other social vices.

“You should count yourselves lucky to be matriculating today as students of the university because many others were not lucky to get admission this academic session.

However, you should know that many other students who were involved different vices have been expelled from the university. Thus you should avoid anything that will affect your academic studies,” he said.

He commended the state government for its support thus far especially in the constant release of monthly overheads.

Maiturare, who said the institution is having some challenges bothering on inadequate hostel accommodation and shortage of power supply as the institution runs on generating

sets, however revealed that the state government promised to provide two hostels each for both females and males students, adding that the gesture would go a long way in mitigating the shortages currently faced.

He said the school would soon complete its 1,000 capacity ICT centre.

The vice chancellor said efforts are ongoing to woo more private investors to partner with the university in addressing the acute accommodation challenge it is currently facing adding that government alone cannot solve the lingering problem.

CSOs task Kogi govt on 80% budgetary allocations to Agric sector

II

FG fails to appreciate Suleja's role in emergence of FCT - Emir of Suleja

IV