

The Rivers State Government says its policy of building model secondary schools in each of the 23 Local Government Areas of the state will encourage cross ethnic interaction among the youths.

Commissioner of Information, Mrs Ibim Semenitari stated this today while



Governor Amaechi

Cross Ethnic Interaction Good For Youths

~RSG

conducting a team of foreign journalists, who are in the state for the on-going ION International Film Festival, round some parts of the state.

Mrs Semenitari, who explained that the government's free education package covers tuition, books, accommodation, uniform among others, said the present administration was doing a lot to revive the infrastructural base of the state which had been neglected for many years.

According to her, Rivers State is about the only state in Nigeria that spends almost 80 per cent of its budget on capital projects.

Taking the foreign journalists along the water fronts, the Information boss told them that government had decided to demolish the shanties and convert the area into a habitable environment.

On the entertainment industry, she said government believes that the industry should be private sector driven adding that it was the reason government went into partnership with Silverbird group to develop entertainment centres in the state

capital.

Speaking at the Ogoni-Andoni-Opobo Road, the Director Civil in the Ministry of Works, Engr. Power Maeba said 13km out of the 43km road has been completed up to Asarama in Andoni Local Government Area while 5 out of the 10 bridges on the whole has been built.

In an interview with newsmen, one of the journalists Mr Babatunde Epega said they were happy with the warm hospitality extended to them by Rivers people.

Mr Epega who, is also the International Public Relations Agent for the ION International Film Festival in Port Harcourt, said they have come to see the diverse culture of Rivers people, "what Port Harcourt is at the moment" and to learn more about the film industry in Nigeria.

He stated that within the short time they have been around, they have realized the regeneration going on in the state, especially with what governor

Amaechi was doing with his team.

Also speaking to newsmen two of the foreign journalists, Poole Fnotea and Dr Gianluca Cerasola said this was their first time they were visiting Nigeria, describing the country as a wonderful place.

They chanted slogans about freedom and justice, but riot police stopped them about 100m up the road firing tear gas, our correspondent says.

The opposition Ummah party told the AFP news agency that one of its senior members had been arrested - though there was no confirmation of their claim.

Last week similar protests in Khartoum and Omdurman were suppressed by the authorities, who said the demonstrators had not gained the proper permits.

Several senior SPLM officials were briefly detained by police during that rally, raising concerns about its participation in the power-sharing government.

Analysts say the build-up to next April's national election appears to have galvanised opposition to Mr Bashir's rule.

The protests have been organised by southern politicians, but the northern opposition has been increasingly involved.

Yar`a dua Suffers Mutism

..... & why his kitchen cabinet is after Goodluck Jonathan

Information made available to huhuonline.com reveals that there is no end in sight to President Umaru Yar`a dua's hiatus. However, sources within King Faisal hospital, says that he now suffers from mutism, (the condition of being unable to speak) and has been unable to communicate. It is uncertain if this condition is acute or chronic as at press time. Nevertheless, his continued absence has created a power vacuum and Nigeria is now a rudderless ship, sailing against the tide of constitutionalism into the Stone Age.

Confusion and trepidation are two words that permeate the political environment, as politicians are unsure of what is next. Having polarized the presidency, and made public ridicule of the political machinery that brought him to power, many in Yar`a dua's camp now sleep with one eye open. His son-in-law, Isah Yuguda, who flaunts himself as the heir apparent of the Yar`a dua presidency is at logger head with the SGF, Ahmed Yayale. It is certain, the falcon cannot hear the falconer, yet they seek a solution, not knowing when it will come. The thought of the return of the military, huhuonline.com learnt makes their blood pressure rise, nevertheless the military is broke.

Even the security operatives have joined this bandwagon, as unauthorized wiretaps and bugging of telecommunication systems, with the intent to capture dissenting views have now become their modus operandi. Yar`a dua's family wants power and they are willing to allow Umaru Yar`a dua to continue in power, even as a vegetable. "They want to return him to Aso rock as soon as possible" said a source. However, they console themselves in the fact that the National Assembly will go on recess soon, thus the assembly will not be able to institute impeachment proceedings against President Yar`a dua.

For a man who professes to operate a government, where "rule of law" is carved in stone, this attitude of jetting off for health reasons, with out following due process is unbecoming of Mr. Yar`a dua. His friends in the media have attempted to insult the sensibilities of one hundred and fifty million Nigerians, by offering lame explanations for this lewd and wanton behavior, saying "He did write a letter to

the national assembly, but his aide did not deliver the letter due to politics". What a lame excuse, please try something else.

Questioned about the day to day running of government, Yayale said "every other aspect of government is being conducted well, and the Vice President as usual is in charge, on issues that require Mr. President's express approval, contacts are being made and such approvals do come."

However, the Nigerian constitution says, "The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall not be governed, nor shall any person or group of persons take control of the Government of Nigeria or any part thereof, except in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution."

Recall that during the 8 day unconstitutional incarceration of Emmanuel Asiwu, by the state security service (SSS) in 2008, the refusal of President Yar`a dua to hand over to Goodluck Jonathan during his maiden health hiatus was a major bone of contention. Mr. Asiwu had written and published an article on huhuonline.com, in which he condemned this conduct, and demanded that Goodluck Jonathan should come to blows to right the wrong done him. Consequently, his captors (SSS), asked him to provide proof that President Yar`a dua did not hand over before departing to Saudi Arabia. He felt this was a stupid question, and asked his interrogators, four in number, to show him proof that he handed over power.

However, in order to move the Q&A session forward, he quoted section 145 of the Nigerian constitution, which states;

"Whenever the President transmits to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that he is proceeding on vacation or that he is otherwise unable to discharge the functions of his office, until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such functions shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President."

This Yar`a dua did not do then, and still has not done now, for the simple reason that his kitchen cabinet does not want Goodluck Jonathan as President. They suddenly have shifted alliances and are now in cahoots with the evil genius, General Babangida. Specifically Sayyid Abba Ruma and Isah Yuguda at different times have

visited IBB in Los Angeles, California in the past month.

Gang of four!

Recently some politicians returned from Saudi Arabia and informed Nigerians that they spoke to the president. The question now is which president did they speak to. It was certainly not President Yar`a dua as huhuonline.com can authoritatively report that none of them were able to see the president.

However, upon returning from their futile journey, the gang of four, namely Aliko Dangote, Bukola Saraki, James Ibori and Isah Yuguda made overtures to the national assembly to covertly lure the Vice president to sign the budget, this they did by acting as though they were against President Yar`a dua's constitutional breach. They thus encouraged Goodluck Jonathan to sign the 2010 budget, however thus far, he has refused. Their calculation was to lure the VP, to sign the budget, which constitutionally, he is not allowed

to, and then initiate impeachment proceedings against him.

Why they don't want Goodluck Jonathan

Huhuonline.com gathered that for the past two years, this gang of four has treated the office of Vice president with contempt. In their estimation, Goodluck Jonathan should only be seen and not heard, they see him as an outsider, as Obasanjo's man. Ironically the Yar`a dua/Goodluck ascension to the presidency was the handiwork of Obasanjo. Recall that Yar`a dua had planned to return to polytechnic, when Obasanjo enlisted him into the presidency and handed him over to James Ibori.

The gang huhuonline.com learnt have seized every opportunity to reiterate to President Yar`a dua that Goodluck Jonathan must never be trusted. They have also cunningly created bad blood between Turai Yar`a dua and Patience Goodluck, hence the continued refusal of President Yar`a dua to hand over on two different occasions.

Since Yar`a dua assumed office, James Ibori using the Governor's forum, led by his friend and business partner Bukola Saraki has fought vehemently to wrestle the control of PDP from former President Obasanjo.

Although according to a PDP insider, none of these men can even deliver their own ward in a free and fair election". For fear of retribution, this gang of four has continued to encourage President Yar`a dua to continuously undermine the Nigerian constitution.

Bukola Saraki, huhuonline.com learnt seized the last cabinet reshuffle exercise to demonstrate to Goodluck Jonathan that he had President's ears, as he masterminded the removal of Mrs. Alison Madueke from the ministry of transport and installed his own candidate, who has since forged a business alliance with the monopolist Aliko Dangote. Recall that for twenty four years Aliko Dangote aspired to get on Forbes List of billionnaires, and was only able to accomplish this life long ambition through the help of President Obasanjo. Little wonder, that the same Aliko who benefited enormously from Obasanjo, and even financed Obasanjo's third term bid, will now turn around to champion the "anti Goodluck for acting President" Campaign, simply because Obasanjo catalyzed his political ascension. This goes to show in politics the guiding principle is interest as there are no permanent friends or foes.



President Yar`Adua