



**AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF CROSS RIVER
STATE, SENATOR LIYEL IMOKE, AT THE 1ST MATRICULATION
CEREMONY OF THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY, CALABAR,
ON FRIDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 2008**

Your Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Cross
River State, Barr. Efiok Cobham

The Chairman of today's occasion

Your Lordship, the Chief Judge of the State

Honourable Speaker of State House of Assembly

Honourable Deputy Speaker

Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly

Members of the State Executive Council

Chairmen of Commissions and Boards

Your Royal Highnesses

My Lords Spiritual and Temporal

Chairmen of Local Government Councils

Permanent Secretaries

Special Advisers/Assistants

Chairman and Governing Council Members of the College

The Provost, Staff and students of College of Health

Technology Gentlemen of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

Today marks the beginning of a new era in the history of our own College as we all gather to witness the first Matriculation Ceremony since the School assumed a collegial status. I commend the efforts of the Provost and the entire staff for making this day a reality.

To you the matriculants, I congratulate you on your admission into the College. You must have realized that the way in, was not very easy. I therefore implore you all to work hard to excel in your various fields of endeavour.

The present Administration has a strong desire to provide adequate health care delivery system with relevant facilities. Attention will also be paid to training and development of relevant manpower. This has to hinge on the quality of relevant human resources such as the lecturers employed into the College.

The training in the College, as we all know has to do with the primary health care services in the prevention, promotion and restoration of the health of the citizenry.

On our part, we will continue to provide financial support to the College to ensure that all the academic programmes are properly accredited. So that all Higher National Diploma (HND) graduants will be given the chance to go for National Youth Service Corps, paving way for employment opportunity both within and outside the country.

In this regards, I would like to mention that Government in its effort to provide quality and proper care to its citizens, has released the sum of ₦100,000,000 (One Hundred Million Naira) as take-off grant and an additional ₦1,000,000 (One Million Naira) imprest for the College to develop decaying facilities.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, let me at this juncture, commend the Commissioner, Provost and Staff of the College once again for their efforts so far. I must also add that they cannot rest on their Oars until the best is achieved. They must put in extra efforts to help government achieve the objectives of the health-care programmes for the state.

Finally, I want to congratulate the matriculants once again on today's occasion and wish them the best. I also wish the Commissioner for Health, College Provost, Staff, Students and everyone else involved with today's occasion a most rewarding experience.

Thank you and God bless you all. Amen.