

Nigerian Presidential Election Update

February 15, 2023

Thanks to **Akinwale Falodun** for an Update, given below:

Ramping up campaign; series - 2

Nigeria Presidential election is 11 days away and the campaign rallies, by the 3 major political parties, have intensified. The Independent National Electoral Committee (INEC), the umpire for the general elections has already assured that the elections will be held as scheduled despite pockets of unrest in some parts of the country. Earlier on Monday February 13, 2023, the INEC chairman Professor Mahmood Yakubu told Nigerians that voting will not take place in 240 polling units across the country. The cancellation was due to insecurity as no voter has expressed a desire to cast votes in the affected polling units or to transfer to the affected polling units.

Editor's Comments: www.DiGiNews360.com feels sad that even after the Presidency of Muhammadu Buhari, an ex-Military Officer, the Law-and-Order situation is not as desired. We do hope that the Governors of all the States and the next President will take Law and Order as their first priority. But miscreants, however well organised they may be, cannot be permitted to hijack the democracy in Nigeria. Therefore, Professor Mahmood Yakubu's decision is a proclamation that the democracy in Nigeria will continue to become stronger.

Labour Party: Increased tempo of its campaign: Early last week, on Monday 6th February, 2023, Obi and the campaign council were in Ilorin, North Central Nigeria. The rally was held at the metropolitan square, Ilorin. He promised to tackle unemployment especially among youths.

On Tuesday February 7, 2023, Obi and the campaign Train berthed in Abuja, the Nigeria's seat of government. He spoke at the book launch of "The Challenges of Good Governance and Leadership in Nigeria". Later in the day, at a mega rally organised at the old Parade ground, Abuja he assured of his desire to lift youths out of joblessness and poverty. Obi claimed that he has what it takes to turn the country around. He said that Nigeria has vast land for cultivation and the youths will be supported to engage in agriculture.

At Damaturu, Yobe State, North Eastern Nigeria Obi continued His emphasis on the agricultural revolution as the only way to resolve the food crisis in Nigeria.

According to Peter Obi, agriculture engagement will reduce crime and the number of children out of school.

The Labour Party moved its campaign to Lagos, South West Nigeria on Saturday, February 11, 2023. He was at Alaba international market in Lagos where Igbo traders engage in electronics and household sales.



It was a homecoming for Peter Obi and his entourage. He drove along the motorway with cheers from the traders. In the afternoon of Saturday February 11, 2023, he was at Tafawa Balewa Square, venue of the main campaign in Lagos. He was greeted with lots of entertainment. He told the cheering crowd that Nigeria belongs to all and every Nigerian has a right to live and work in any part of the country.

APC: Last week, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu started the campaign in Katsina, Katsina State, North Western Nigeria. The APC flag bearer promised to carry forward the legacies of President Mohammed Buhari. He said he would continue with vigour the campaign against kidnapping and terrorism and make the society safer.



President Buhari Campaigning in Katsina State

On Wednesday February 8, 2023, Asiwaju and his campaign train was in Lokoja, Kogi State, North Central Nigeria. Tinubu promised to educate Nigerian youths at all levels. He promised credit facilities in the form of student loans to indigent students in tertiary institutions. He promised to change the fortunes of the multibillion dollars Ajaokuta Steel industry which has remained comatose since its establishment in 1999 by the Sheheu Shagari civilian government.



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On Thursday, 9th February, 2023, Sokoto was the next stop for the APC candidate's visit. The APC flag bearer visited the Sultan of Sokoto, Muhammadu Sa'ad Abubakar. He requested the revered monarch to pray for his successful campaign in the State.



*Deputy Governor of Sokoto State, North West Nigeria left his party for APC.
Sokoto State has a PDP government.*

Asiwaju and his team later addressed a mammoth crowd at the Kangiwa square, Sokoto. He promised a safer society and employment for the youth.

In Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State, North Western Nigeria, Asiwaju Ahmed Tinubu promised to help the State with an agriculture revolution, *to bring back the famous Argungu fishing festival* and to harness the tourist potential of Kebbi State. He wanted greater cooperation between Lagos State and Kebbi in agriculture.



Abuja was the next point of call on Saturday in the evening. The party faithful were on ground despite the late arrival of party chieftains at Eagle Square, venue of the campaign. The APC flag bearer promised to continue on the good legacies of President Muhammadu Buhari, to fight insurgency and to make Nigeria safe.

PDP: Atiku Abubakar, PDP Presidential candidate and the PDP campaign train started the week with a campaign in Otukpo, Benue State ,North Central Nigeria on Monday 6th February, 2023. Atiku Abubakar assured the people of the State a rapid infrastructural development. He promised an agricultural revolution in the state. Atiku Abubakar said that Benue State was the food basket of the nation and his government would develop agriculture, which was the main occupation of the Benue people. He also promised better security of life and property if elected as president.

Bauchi, Bauchi State, North Eastern Nigeria was the next state, which Atiku visited on Tuesday, 7th February, 2023. Atiku promised to continue the oil exploration in the State.

Thursday, February 9, 2023 was the turn of Kano people in North Western Nigeria. Atiku Abubakar lashed at the APC government for poor implementation of the Naira swap, which had brought hardship to Nigerians. He promised to improve security and bring peace to Kano which is the commercial hub of Northern Nigeria.

Saturday February 11, 2023 was the date for Umuahia, Abia State, Nigeria. Atiku Abubakar promised to reactivate the Abia dry port and make it commercially viable to improve the economy of South Eastern Nigeria. The PDP flag bearer said that he would tackle insecurity headlong and drive away bandits from Eastern Nigeria, which had witnessed several cases of mayhem during the last 4 years.