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Agritech Of Vietnam Starts Rice Production In Akwa Ibom

UYO - Transformation Agritech of Nigeria Limited a subsidiary of Transformation Agritech, Vietnam, is to start the cultivation of 10,000 hectares of rice farm in Akwa Ibom this month.

Prof. Etok Ekanem, the Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Akwa Ibom, made this known in an interview with the newsmen in Uyo.

“Recruitment of take-off staff is in progress and all the necessary equipment are on ground for large scale commercial production and processing of rice, cultured fish and other agro-products.

“There are no financial obligations on the part of government on the project.

“Our commitments are limited to the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) which we signed with the company in August 2009 and the provision of land and security,” Ekanem said.

He said that Agritech would start off with seed multiplication in Uruan, Oruk Anam and Ibiono Ibom Local Government Areas on about 10,000 hectares of land.

It would be recalled that when an MOU was signed between Agritech and Akwa Ibom government in August 2009, Dr. Sample Ibemerum, Group Operations Director, said that Akwa Ibom would be “self sufficient in rice production and export”.

The Agritech Director, who described Vietnam as the “second largest rice producing country in the world”, said that the Akwa Ibom project would create 4,000 jobs at its initial stage.