

## Nigerian government warns strike leaders

*by UPI*

ABUJA, Nigeria - The Nigerian government has warned strike leaders not to force individuals or groups to join their nationwide labor stoppage.

Officials for the National Labor Congress -- a leading workers group in Nigeria -- estimated that 75 percent of the Nigerian labor force had already joined the strike, Nigeria's Vanguard newspaper reported Thursday.

A general strike over rising fuel costs gripped Nigeria this week after talks between union and government officials broke down.

Despite being the largest producer of oil on the continent, Nigeria must import fuel for domestic consumption due to refineries that have gone offline because of officials' corruption and continuing attacks on oil installations.

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