

Go to your constituencies, Mimiko charges appointees

Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko on Thursday handed down a strong warning to all political appointees in the State who failed to make regular contacts with their constituencies, saying such appointees would face serious sanctions.

In the same vein, the national Chairman of the Labour Party (LP), Chief Dan Nwanyanwu threw his weight behind the proposed sanction, saying the attitude had placed extra burden on the Governor, who has to attend to every minor issues that ought to have been settled at the constituency level.

Dr Mimiko, who stated this at Ore in Odigbo local government area of the state during the defection of some over one thousand chieftains of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) into Labour Party, said that both the elected officers and political appointees were in office to serve the electorate.

He explained that the Labour Party government in the state got its mandate through the popular support of the people in their quest for total change of governance, saying that it would amount to regret if the electorate was kept in the dark concerning government's programmes that are aimed at turning around their living standard.

The Governor therefore mandated the appointees to hold regular meetings with the people of their constituencies so as to facilitate mutual understanding and linkage between government and the people, adding that his administration had put in place ample opportunities that would assist farmers and entrepreneurs to grow and also youth to utilize their potentials. His words: "the Labour Party government in this state got its mandate from the people and we must do everything possible to satisfy them. Our administration has done a lot in the last two years; we have touched all aspects of life. Our people must be well informed about all these opportunities that we have created for them and you must not stay away from them. Go home and hold regular meetings with them; interact with them and let them feel your impact. I want to tell you that any appointee that fails to go home for meetings will be sanctioned and I mean it".

While receiving the defectors led by Mrs Akinwale Felix, Alex Makinwa, Femi Olaoye, Idebi Michael, Segun Araromi, Alfa Mujem, Azeez Ayinde and Mrs Taiwo Aderemi among others, Barrister Dan Nwanyanwu, maintained that the new members have equal rights and privileges with the former members, adding that there would be no discrimination in the party as all members belong to the same family.

He warned against constituency abandonment by political office holders, stressing that such act would not be tolerated. "Labour Party will no longer tolerate a situation whereby somebody after given an appointment will run away from his community. He must listen to the complaints of his people, if he cannot solve them, then the matter will be taken up at the state level. We are going to set up a monitoring committee to assess the performances of all the appointees," he added.