

House Order: Count Ondo Out

The Ondo State government has said the Resolution by the House of Representative on the withdrawal of allocation to some states is not applicable to it. It also added that the resolution must have been made by the house without due regard for the realities in the respective states.

In a statement yesterday, Commissioner for Information, Mr Ranti Akerele said the issue of Local Governments on which the house resolution was premised has since been decided upon by a competent court of law with respect to Ondo State, adding that it will only be an academic exercise, if not a subtle attempt to ride roughshod on the rule of law, for the House of Representatives to have decided on in respect of Ondo State.

Further stressing the peculiarity of the Ondo State Local Government dissolution more than a year ago, Akerele said, "the PDP government under Dr Olusegun Agagu conducted elections into local government offices in clear disrespect and disregard for a subsisting court order against such.

"It was therefore the right and proper thing to reverse the illegality, an action that was carried out without any regret and which has been validated by a competent court of law."

On the propriety of the order of the House with respect to Edo and Ekiti States, Akerele said he would advice the House to be more concerned about the fact that the local governments functionaries in the two states, being legacies of an illegal era, should be dissolved to pave the way for a truly democratic dispensation in the two states.

Signed.

Ranti Akerele

Hon. Commissioner

Ministry of Information