

**Mimiko says current revenue allocation against true federalism**  
**...calls for enactment of new legislation by incoming Federal Law makers**

Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko has described the current revenue allocation formula in Nigeria as crippling of development and subversive of the federal arrangement and oppressive to the constituting states. The immediate antidote to this development, the Governor said, was for the in-coming members of the National Assembly to enact legislation on forced compliance with the principles of true federalism.

Mimiko, who made this call while declaring open an Induction workshop for members-elect of the National Assembly in Akure on Wednesday, insisted that a review of the current revenue allocation formula becomes compelling in consonance with the fiscal federalism that ought to underpin the distribution of resources in a multi-ethnic federation like Nigeria.

His words: "A situation where a disproportionate percentage of national revenue goes to the Federal Government is crippling of development, subversive of the federal arrangement and oppressive to the constituting states." According to the Governor, the revamping of the energy sector was a major route out of the unemployment market as its stability will make the current alarming rate to take a plunge downward.

"You should creatively devote greater time in revamping the energy sector as well as resuscitating our moribund industries as a way of creating more new jobs and possibly mopping-up the army of unemployed youths in the country.

"Nigeria is a federation of states. You must make laws that will make the component states to harness their own national resources and develop at their own paces. Ondo State is naturally blessed with the largest bitumen deposit in West Africa and it is crying for exploitation which falls within the exclusive list of the Federal Government," he stated.

He also charged the NASS members-elect to facilitate the process of bitumen exploitation in the State to serve as a viable alternative to petroleum as the mainstay of the nation's economy.

Mimiko who also spoke on the nation's current electoral fortunes cautioned leaders to prevent the loss of the opportunity of making Nigeria great once again.

"Nigeria has a new breath of democratic life. As leaders therefore, we must not allow this golden opportunity of making Nigeria great once again, to slip through our hands. We can only do this by being true representatives of our people and by extension, ensure that our people enjoy the real dividends of our hard-earned democracy" he added.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Speaker of the Ondo State house of Assembly, Hon. Samuel Adesina said choice of the state for the induction workshop was informed by the fact that it has become a leading light in the efforts to sustain true democracy in Nigeria.

Represented by the Clerk of the legislature, Mr. Jaiye Dada, the Speaker told the gathering that the high credibility of the recent general elections as attested to by the international community has placed a task of its sustenance on all Nigerians for a better socio-economic and political future.