

Mimiko rallies media towards 2010 elections

The Nigerian media has been told that the strict performance of their professional duties remained one of the basic ingredients to determine the credibility and otherwise of 2011 elections.

Ondo State Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko gave the charge while playing host to the Minister of Information and Communication, Prof. Dora Akunyili during the minister's courtesy visit to him in Akure on Friday.

According to a press release from the office of the Governor, the governor preached the sermon of unwavering professional practice and sustenance of professionalism.

Dr. Mimiko said "there will be challenges as we go into election year, no doubt about that, 2011 is critical to the political life of Nigeria, NTA and other media houses have a sacred duty by playing your noble role before, during and after the elections.

According to him, "quick and vast information dissemination is a significant development in Nigeria, the ruralisation and democracy in Nigeria is a good policy which is highly appreciated.

"When state owned media stations became tools in the hands of those at the helm of affairs in the past, it is on note that NTA provided the alternative, even when people thought and saw it as a government organ that will always do its biddings, NTA never behaved as the megaphone of the government.

"Today now in Ondo State, OSRC is no more the government megaphone since the people know that they would listen to criticisms against government unlike the situation in the past when such never happened".

Dr. Mimiko expressed government's irreversible and irrevocable commitment to changing the face of Ondo State by removing the people from the shackles of poverty.

Speaking earlier, Prof Akunyili told the governor that the commissioning of NTA Okitipupa brings the number of NTA Stations in the country to 79.

She linked the development to the commitment of President Goodluck Jonathan to the provision of critical facilities for the people especially in the information and communication sector.

The minister applauded the achievements of the state government in various sectors of human endeavours.

"Going through what you are doing, every good Nigerian will feel proud of you, there are great changes in the state and I can see that you are truly rebranding Ondo State even with these little resources.

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