

## **Ondo rehabilitates Unity Schools with 600million, assures on quality education**

In his determination to bring about a total transformation to the Ondo State public schools, make them conducive for teaching and learning, the Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko at the weekend disclosed that his administration was spending a sum of N600 million on the total rehabilitation of structures and provision of facilities at the state-owned Unity Secondary Schools in the state.

Governor Mimiko, during an unscheduled inspection visit to St Peter's Unity School, in Akure the State capital expressed sadness over the decay of infrastructural facilities in the school, including hostels, dining hall and classrooms among others.

Mimiko, who was conducted round the school by the State Commissioner for Education, Dr Pius Osunyikanmi, vowed to make public schools in the state conducive for teaching and learning with a view to producing competent and proud future leaders for country.

According to him, the wealth of the country was not in her mineral resources but in the human capital that will be developed through quality education so as to guarantee a sustainable future for the country.

His words "Our wealth is not in the granite that dots our landscape, our wealth is not in the bitumen that is in the bowel of our land, although we have the second largest bitumen deposits in the world; but our wealth is in the human capital that we are able to build. That is the guarantee for sustainable development and assurance for us as people and when you talk about human capital, the structure and foundation itself is education.

"That is why we are investing in education, we came on board with clear policy directions and we recognized the need to provide incentive the workforce that was why we did not hesitate to accede to demand of our Teachers for 27.5% increment when we came. I thank you teachers that since we came on board, I've found out that most of you have been up and coming, most of you have taken your duties very seriously I thank you. We will continue to provide incentives and we can.

"Part of the incentives is the working environment; everybody wants to work in an environment that is beautiful and attractive. So the renovation we are carrying out actually is part of our incentive package. Then we are renovating the staff quarters, by the grace of God by the time we are through there, water will flow 24hours, we are building new hostels, landscaping the environment, you can even invite your colleagues from anywhere in the world to come and see where you are working. So the incentive is not in the salary alone.

"We need to bring back the glory of education in this state that is why we set up the Education Quality Assurance Agency to bring back inspection. Infrastructure has broken down completely, we just went round and saw the state of things here, I'm sure you are not proud of the situation here, no parents will want their children to be in such environment, the work environment, the classrooms, the hostels, that is why we are doing total overhaul of infrastructure in this school.

"In this school alone, we are carrying out 57 projects and by the time we are through, there will be no building here that will not wear new look, the roofing, other facilities and everything. We are spending N600million here alone and we are still going to spend more because while going round we saw some improvements that we have to make. As we are doing for you, we are also doing for other Unity Schools in this state. We have more than 101 projects going on in our Unity Schools; we want our students to live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century environment".