

Over 5000 members of opposition parties in Ondo joins Labour Party (LP)

Over five thousand members of opposition parties including Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) in Odigbo, Okitipupa and Irele local government areas in the Southern Senatorial District of Ondo State at the weekend dumped their parties for the ruling Labour Party (LP) citing the leadership quality and achievements of the State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko as their major attractions to the party.

Among the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) stalwarts, who joined the LP with their supporters were Mrs Ronke Oladun, Mr Richard Adenikinju, Mr Isaac Olaleye, Mr Femi Aju (former Okitipupa local government interim chairman and secretary under PDP), Mr Ogunja, and Dr Francis Igbasan (former chairman of the state scholarship Board under the immediate past administration of Dr Olusegun Agagu).

Speaking while receiving the decampers at Ore and Irele, headquarters of Odigbo and Irele local government areas, and Igbotako in Okitipupa council area, Governor Mimiko, who was accompanied by the state deputy chairmen of Labour party, Chief Dele Akinyele(south) and Mrs Aduke Olugboja (north) assured the new members of equal treatment and opportunities with old members.

The Governor noted that there would be no discrimination among members, saying every member belonged to the same family with the singular motive to take the party to greater heights.

"I want to thank you for your decision to join the winning party. The party of the majority. I can assure you that you will not regret your decision to join Labour Party. This is the party chosen by God to liberate our people from poverty, a party with numerous people-oriented programmes. I want to appeal to all of you to make sure that we put our house together so that there will be no room for division among us," the Governor pleaded.

He described the new entrants as men and women of proven integrity to move the party forward, saying that they would not regret their wise decisions.

Mimiko, however, warned against internal crisis among members and called for unity and cooperation so that the party could record success in the forthcoming elections.

He equally used the occasion to debunk insinuations by those hellbent on criticising his government due to their alarm over the landmark achievements it had made by enumerating on some of the developmental projects embarked upon to include upgrading of health facilities, roads construction and rehabilitation, construction of ultra modern markets and construction of mega schools to boost education.

He assured that the Agric village in Ore would soon be completed to engage about 300 graduates, adding that the sum of N100 million has been earmarked to upgrade facilities at the Comprehensive Health Centre Igbotako to complement health delivery system at the State Specialists Hospital Okitipupa.

He added that academic activities had begun at the State University of Science and Technology Okitipupa (OSUSTECH) in fulfillment of his administration's promise to the people of the area.

Dr Francis Igbasan and Mr Femi Aju, who appreciated the role of the Mimiko administration in alleviating the suffering of the people, commended the government for bringing their age-long dream of having a tertiary institution in the southern senatorial district into reality adding that they would do all in their powers to contribute their quota to the overall development of the State and ensure the victory of the LP in all subsequent elections in the area and in the State as a whole.

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