

## ECONOMIC MELTDOWN: ONI CANVASSES SUPPORT FOR IGR

Contributed by Media Team  
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Ekiti State Governor, Engr, Segun

Oni has called on the people of the State to support the effort of his administration to increase the State's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) in view of the dwindling revenue accruing to it from the Federation Accounts.

A media aide to the governor, Mr.

Lere Olayinka said in a statement issued today that Governor Oni who made the call while playing host to members of the Ekiti Club, a non partisan organisation in Ado-Ekiti, urged the people of the state to be more enterprising and shun negative tendencies that are hampering economic growth in the State..

He identified the negative tendencies to include, leasing of cocoa and other cash crop farms to migrant farmers from other States by Ekiti farmers, diversion of fertilizer, agro-allied chemicals and other farm inputs obtained from government at subsidized rates to other states by some fraudulent farmers and selling of government contract papers to third parties for execution by some Ekiti contractors.

Oni who said that Ekiti people are known worldwide as hard working and industrious people with a good farming culture wondered why farming and other lucrative businesses had suddenly been abandoned by the people for non indigenes.

The Governor said all hands must be on deck to diversify the State's economy in view of dwindling revenues from the federal accounts adding that Ekiti workers, farmers, artisans, lecturers, saw millers and entrepreneurs must contribute to the nation's Gross

Domestic Product (GDP).

Earlier the president of the Ekiti Club, Chief Ayo Omodara noted that the club which was founded 20 years ago has been championing the cause of Ekiti people since its formation.

He pledged the commitment of the club to the socio-economic development of the state

Meanwhile, Governor Oni has also reiterated the commitment of his administration to the transformation Ita-Ido Junction in Efon Local Government Area of the State to a major stopover point for travelers along the Abuja-Lagos route.

The Governor, who gave the assurance during a visit to the Alaaye of Efon, Oba Emmanuel Aladejare disclosed that an American investment company had already shown interest in the project.

According to him, the project would comprise the construction of shopping malls, restrooms, public toilets, filling stations and restaurants, at Ita-Ido Junction where travelers would be able to refresh themselves and refuel their vehicles while traveling along the ever-busy route.

Oni said the viability of the project was not in doubt because of the strategic location of the junction.

Responding, Oba Aladejare commended the governor for his developmental efforts to and respect for traditional rulers in the State.

While promising the support and cooperation of the people of the community to the Oni-administration, Oba Aladejare urged the governor to assist in pressurizing the federal government in ensuring that the Efon-Iwaraja-Erinmo Road is completed on time.

Governor Oni who later inspected the road alongside Oba Aladejare commended the contractor for the pace and quality of work done. He also hailed the contractor for re-aligning some sharp bends on the road.

General Manager of NTA, Ado Ekiti, Mrs. Adenike Olufade and Principal of Baptist Grammar School, Igede Ekiti, Mr. Oyebanji Isaac presenting the Trophy won by Master Babajide Akomolafe, who came second in the 2009 National Expo Science Competition held in Abuja recently. With them 2nd left is Master Akomolafe