

TAKING SECURITY SERIOUSLY

In recent times, South West, Nigeria as well as other regions have been faced with series of high profile crimes ranging from farmers/herdsmen clashes, kidnapping, particularly kidnap for ransom, armed robbery, home invasion, Jailbreaks, carjacking, rape, killings, cybercrimes, vandalism of farm lands and a host of illicit acts that have continued to instill fear, uncertainty, pain and even considerable trepidation of the well-being of the people. The situation in the Southwest is a glimpse of the worrisome insecurity, nationwide. Hence, Overseas Security Advisory Council Review Report (2020) placed Nigeria at Level 3, indicating that travelers need to re-consider the choice of traveling to Nigeria due to high rate of crimes.

The report specifically warned travelers not to travel to some States in the Eastern and Northern parts of the Country. Attesting to the level of insecurity in the country, Governor of Ondo State,

Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, at a forum, opined that "there is hardly any state that is immune from the negative impact of insecurity. It has become very embarrassing that reports of security breaches occur on a daily basis that one can predict with exactitude where these unfortunate disturbances would take place. From banditry, terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery, jail breaks, herdsmen-farmers clashes to ritual killings and cybercrimes, the current situation in the country demands pragmatic and proactive solutions", These and many more are the reasons for public outcry over insecurity in Nigeria, as the people seem to have become hapless, living at the mercy of potential attackers.

Before now, Ondo State had its fair share of insecurity as it was turned to a crime-centre. There were rampant cases of kidnap-for-ransom, farmers/herders clashes and armed robberies, among others. **Contd. on Pg 3.**

Editorial

SECURITY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Security is one of the most important needs of human beings. In fact, Abraham Maslow, one of the authorities on human psychology categorizes **Safety, Protection and Security** as one of the fundamental needs of man in his often referenced 'Pyramid of Needs'. Over the years, men have always found conscious ways of protecting their lives and what they have acquired through conquests, trade and invention. It is therefore a truism that only through the presence of adequate security is peace usually guaranteed.

The place of security in human society is sacrosanct. It is taken as the main function of government. Section 14 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended, states that **"the security of the people shall be the primary purpose of government"**. Bearing in mind that we currently operate a democracy where the constitution is the grundnorm, and that democracy is popularly defined as a "government of the people, by the people, for the people"; it is therefore sufficing to say that security of lives and properties is a collective effort. Of a fact, the criminal elements are our people who live among us, but harm us.

Before the new development, the provision of intelligence, funding, training, and recruitment, for national security have been the prerogative of the federal government. However, with the growth in domestic and international terrorism activities, no responsible government can fold its arms and allow a slide into anarchy and criminality. Security has taken on a more hands-on and collaborative approach. It is the realization of this paradigm shift that prompted Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, our dear governor and his counterparts in Western Nigeria to take the bull by the horns to spearhead the establishment of a home-grown Southwest Security outfit known as Western Nigeria Security Network a.k.a AMOTEKUN Corps, to complement the effort of the Federal Government in combating the nefarious activities of criminal cattle herders, who destroy farmlands and others who engage in kidnaping and all sorts of criminal activities in the Southwest.

The Amotekun initiative is akin to community policing, to ensure protection of lives and properties. Having indigenes who know the language and terrain of the environment, coupled with their relationship with members of the community, ensuring early detection of criminal intents.

Mr. Governor, having studied the security trends and the need to make Ondo State safe, unequivocally included **Maintenance of Law and Order for Adequate Security** as one of the cardinal focus of his Administration's programme tagged the REDEEMED Agenda. As Public Servants and citizens of our dear Sunshine State, we owe it a duty in our respective official and communal spaces, to help accomplish a safe and secure Ondo State. Therefore, all hands must be on deck to confront insecurity frontally. ■



'Niran Adeyemo, mni.
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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TAKING SECURITY SERIOUSLY

(Contd).

Famous among them was the abduction of the former Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Chief Olu Falae and attack on his farm and workers, abduction of monarchs, murder of the daughter of the leader of the apex Yoruba social-cultural group, Afenifere, Pa Reuben Fasoranti, killing of a first class royal monarch, the Olufon of Ifon, Oba Adegoke Adeusi, kidnap and killings of academics, students, businessmen, etc – all within the State. Thus, aiding serious negative effects on the socio-economic and political activities of the people of the Sunshine State.

Without wasting time, the courageous Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, who leaves no stone unturned to secure the lives, properties, heritage, socio-political and economic strength of his people took the bull by the horns, by advocating the call for better security of not only the people of Ondo State but also the people of South West, Nigeria. Also, other Southwest Governors having realized the gap in the nation's security architecture and failure to stop the menace which was festering in their domains, swung into action in order to ensure that the section of the country remains the most peaceful geo-political region in Nigeria.

Consequently, all the South West Governors converged on Oyo State and agreed on the establishment of a joint security network - the **South West Security Network**, codenamed **Amotekun**. Shortly after the declaration, there were numerous challenges from State actors querying and discrediting the establishment of Amotekun, but all were courageously confronted by Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN not because he is the Chairman of South West Governors' Forum, but because of the love he has for his people and his passion to speak the truth at all times in the business of achieving a better Nigeria, for the benefit of all. Just after that, Honourable Speakers of the Houses of Assembly and Attorneys-General of the South West States collectively ensured that the initiative was given a legal framework which enables the Outfit to operate independently in each of the South West States.

As a driver of a sane society who is dedicated to leaving Ondo State better than he met it, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN gave the needed impetus to members of his government and the first Security Summit in Ondo State was organized. The Summit demonstrated the readiness of the administration to fight insecurity in the State to the barest minimum and make it more habitable, thus, signifying that all hands must be on deck to address the current imbroglio. The Summit played host to a consortium of security experts, including

Late Professor Femi Odekunle (Professor of Criminology), bureaucrats, community and religious leaders and all stakeholders in the business of securing of lives and properties.

This, no doubt was a step in the right direction, owing to the fact that security is germane to economic development of any State or Nation. All stakeholders and State actors came to the realization that a safe atmosphere needed to be created for development to happen.

While x-raying the problems, the present administration in Ondo State realized that contrary to the widespread notion that the Police, Military and other security agencies of the federal government are ineffective and undisposed to safeguarding the lives and property of the people, the security paraphernalia were actually overwhelmed. The increasing growth in population of the Country and the corresponding low rate of employment was taking its toll on the Federal Government structure. Therefore, the need arose to complement their efforts through a home-grown approach to policing. The approach would require a legislative framework for local security arrangements; it will mitigate sabotage of security intelligence by involving locals to map crime terrains.

The foregoing led to the establishment of the Ondo State Security Network, Amotekun, not as a rival security agency but to complement existing security architectures in the State. Its objective is to firm-up Federal government's security arrangement and strengthen Ondo State security framework. It is in recognition of this that necessary legal and administrative frameworks were emplaced to guarantee a better and safer environment both for Ondo State citizens and those who come for investment purposes. Such frameworks took cognizance of the cultural diversities and topographical imbalances of the State. So far, Amotekun Corps of Ondo State, has been able to strengthen its local intelligence gathering. Impediments such as mechanical strategies, some of which are due to language barriers have been jettisoned and more dynamic methods have been introduced to gain the trust of the indigenes in various areas of the State, thus making it possible to extract the much needed information.

Since the establishment and provision of legal framework for the Ondo State Security Network (AMOTEKUN) on 14th March, 2020, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, has continued to provide the needed administrative and logistics support to the Corps. Recently, a new administrative building was commissioned for the Ondo State Security Outfit, while the present administration also bought surveillance and crime fighting tools and equipment for the Corps, which includes 20 new Hilux patrol vehicles. With these facilities and tools,

Ondo State Security Network has been able to effectively combat the menace of kidnapping, highway robbery, farm destruction and other violent crimes.

The Amotekun initiative is a pilot scheme in the clamour for State Police. The successes recorded on this scheme so far is a pointer to the fact that scaled up to achieve a safer Nigeria. Rather than seek to clamp down on the initiative, other States and arms of government should understudy, partner with, and strengthen the Corps to achieve one of the fundamental duties of government – the protection of lives and properties.

The Corps has also recruited and trained more personnel who have been subsequently deployed in the nooks and crannies of the State. This has ensured the clean-up of Ondo State, drove out miscreants and deviants from the State's Forest Reserves, drafted roadmap on internal and border security of Ondo State. Also initiated is the establishment of Security Trust Fund which was recently passed into law by the Ondo State House of Assembly. This is expected to cater for the funding and logistic gaps in the State security matters. In addition, the Ondo State Security Network, Amotekun, has ensured that owners of livestock that encroach on farmlands pay due compensation, thus, mitigating the current spike in the cost of food and livestock items, which was hitherto occasioned by deviant herdsmen who destroy farms and human lives.

Furthermore, the Corps has arrested 1,000 suspects including two sets of illegal Gold miners, waded into 515 herders/farmers clashes, foiled 35 kidnap cases and arrested several kidnappers. The Corps has also impounded 26 cars and over 1000 Okadas, totalling 2,633 cases from May 2020 to September 2021. In addition, it has handled 55 court cases.

In view of these achievements, it is therefore necessary to see security as a collective business and support the Amotekun Corps in achieving its objectives of ridding Ondo State of unpleasant occurrences due to insecurity. ■

This article was prepared with inputs from the Ondo State Western Nigeria Security Network, (AMOTEKUN).



Ondo State AMOTEKUN Commander, Chief Adetunji Adeleye and Ondo State Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN.

ODSIP PHOTO SPEAK



Ondo Deputy Governor, Hon. Lucky Aiyedatiwa and the Head of Service, Pastor 'Niran Adeyemo, mni at the 2021 Public Service Day Lecture, held at the DOME



L-R: Guest Speaker, Prof. Samuel Adebayo Oluwadare; Chairman of the Occasion and former HoS, Barr. 'Toyin Akinkuotu; Head of Service, Pastor 'Niran Adeyemo, mni



Head of Service, Pastor 'Niran Adeyemo, mni addressing a cross-section of Civil Servants at the Interactive session, marking the 2021 Public Service Week



Head of Service, Pastor 'Niran Adeyemo, mni and some Permanent Secretaries during the Press Briefing with Journalists on activities marking the 2021 Public Service Week

ODSIP Update

- Adewale Omomowo
- Olumuyiwa Akinkuolie

ONDO CELEBRATES 2021 PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK

Ondo State celebrated its Public Service week between 23rd and 25th of August, 2021. The theme for this year was “Deploying Technology to sustain and Enhance Service Delivery in the Face of this COVID-19 Pandemic Climate”.

As usual, the week began with a press briefing and then an interactive session with officers on grade 13 and above and grade level 12 and below respectively. The Grand-finale of the event was the Public Lecture which was attended by top bureaucrats from within and outside the State.

6TH EDITION OF HOS INTERACTION WITH CHANGE AMBASSADORS

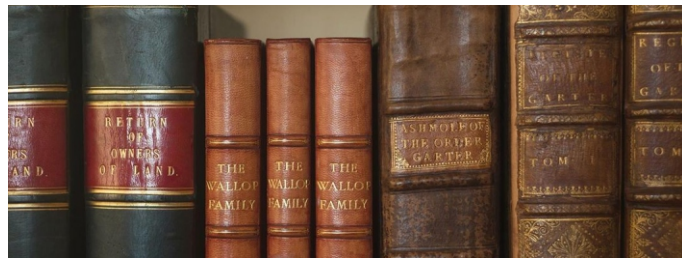
The sixth edition of the service-wide Head of Service Interaction with Change Ambassadors was held on the 31st of August, 2021 at the Senior Staff Club Hall, Akure. It was the maiden edition for the new Administrative Secretary of the Reform Office, Mr. Festus Adewale Omomowo who took over from Mr. O.S Akingbasote, the pioneer head. The interaction, in its usual fashion featured two seasoned resource persons, Mr. Chris Kolawole, NPOM, a retired Permanent Secretary and the immediate erstwhile Permanent Secretary of the Reform Office, Mr. O.S Akingbasote. The duo spoke on Personal Efficiency in the Workplace and Deploying Reform and Technology for Improved Service Delivery respectively.

While giving his remark, the Head of Service, Pastor Niran John Adeyemo, mni urged all the Change Ambassadors to take on disciples of Change in their respective MDAs, so as to propagate the functions and activities of ODSIP and also the effect sustainable change. The Head of Service extoled the efforts of the Reform Office and emphasized that “government is a continuum”, therefore, the change in leadership of the Reform Office should not change anything; rather, it should drive them to deliver on their schedules more effectively. The Head of Service reiterated the commitment of government to the welfare of workers, especially in the area of payment of salaries, which got a boost for 100% payment. In his words, “better days are here”.

The new Administrative Secretary of the Reform Office, Mr. F.A Omomowo pledged his dedication and avowed commitment to Service Improvement on all fronts through undisruptive reform activities that will have positive impact on the Service. He therefore solicited the support of Change Ambassadors in making the dream a reality. **Contd. on Pg 6.**

YOU and the RULES

■ Aderemi Olabode



DISCIPLINE, MISCONDUCT AND PUNISHMENT (Contd.)

The following are the punishments that could be given to any officer who commits infraction on rules of service.

- **Dismissal:** When an officer is dismissed, he/she loses all claim to retiring benefits such as gratuity and pension. It is the ultimate penalty for serious misconduct; no notice is given to the officer. The effective date is the date when the officer is served the notice even though he/she may refuse to acknowledge receipt of the notice.
- **Suspension:** When an officer is accused of a gross misconduct, he/she may be stopped from carrying out the duties of his/her office pending the conclusion of investigation into the misconduct. In addition, he/she is denied the right of enjoying his/her salary and allowances during the period he/she is under suspension.
- **Interdiction:** When a serious case that may lead to dismissal has been initiated against an officer, the Permanent Secretary/Head of Extra-Ministerial Department may interdict him/her on not more than half of pay pending the determination of the case. When an officer is interdicted, he/she shall cease to report for duty
- **Reprimand:** When an officer is reprimanded, he/she loses one promotable year. Reprimand takes effect from the date the decision is communicated to the erring officer and it will last for a period of twelve months. Such officer shall not be considered for any promotion during the period of the reprimand. Two special reports shall be rendered on the erring officer at six months interval. He would, at the end of the effect of reprimand, be considered for promotion, subject to the two good reports and availability of vacancies which must be approved by the Office of Establishments and Training. Any such promotion enjoyed at the end of reprimand shall take effect from a current date.



ODSIP Update Contd.

REFORM OFFICE EMBARKS ON DIGITIZATION OF EXTANT CIRCULARS

The Department of Public Service Reform and Development (DPSRD), Office of the Head of Service in fulfilling one of its cardinal functions of process improvement towards enhanced productivity embarked on the Digitalization of Extant Circulars within the Civil Service of Ondo State.

The Reform Office noticed the reoccurring trend of the inability of officers to access relevant Circulars that address topical issues within the service and the expression of ignorance by some officers on the existence of key Circulars in Service, it became pertinent to make the Circulars which are like appendages of the existing Regulatory Books readily available for all and sundry. The idea, which is in tandem with the Digital Revolution of the REDEEMED agenda of Mr. Governor, is geared toward decentralizing information and helping all Civil Servants have access to trends within the Service at the click of a button. The digitization, when completed, will enhance storage referencing, linkage of related circulars and so on.

To effect this, circular No. DPSRD2/1/31 was issued and efforts are underway to collate, sort and upload Extant Circulars and previous ones from various MDAs for the benefit of the Public Service.

ONDO STATE CIVIL SERVANTS TO BENEFIT FROM FEDERAL MORTGAGE HOME RENOVATION LOAN SCHEME (FHRL)

The Ondo State Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federal Mortgage Bank to enroll willing and qualified Civil Servants into the Federal Mortgage Bank Home Renovation Loan Scheme (FHRL). The Scheme is geared towards easing the housing conundrum, facing civil servants in Nigeria. Some of the modalities for qualification for the loan are listed below:

- The applicant must be in the employ of Ondo State Government
- The applicant must be a contributor to the National Housing Fund Scheme
- The maximum loanable amount shall not exceed 1,000,000.00 Naira
- The loan tenor shall be a maximum of five (5) years or employee's remaining years of service, whichever is less

- Repayment of the loan shall be by monthly repayment from salaries of the beneficiaries for a tenor not exceeding five (5) years, via direct deductions
- The interest rate shall be 6% for the duration of the loan

All other information concerning the initiative and copies of the Registration Forms are available at the State Housing Loans Board. All interested and qualified Civil Servants are enjoined to avail themselves of the scheme.

ONDOHRM TO BE LINKED WITH SALARIES AND SIFMIS

Pursuant to his resolve to deliver a fully automated Human Resource Management system so as to boost efficient service delivery in the Public Service, the Head of Service has been meeting with major stakeholders in the State Civil Service. One of the objectives of the engagements is to chart a clear and definite pathway to establishing the exact number of Civil Servants and their distribution across age, gender, cadre, local government and all other indices, including salaries.

One of the veritable platform which is geared towards achieving the above objective is the Ondo Human Resource Management Software (ONDOHRM). The development of the software which is already in its second phase is aiming at being linked with the state salary system at the Accountant General's Office. Also, with the resuscitation of the State Integrated Financial Information System (SIFMIS), all data will be integrated for a robust and fully automated Human Resource Management System.

By this innovation, cases of duplication of names, double salary payments and even ghost workers, all of which are contributing to the constant increase in the wage bill of the State will be reduced to the barest minimum or even eradicated totally. Therefore, MDAs are expected to clean up their personnel data in earnest. Please, visit www.ondohrm.org

ARAKUNRIN SIGNS ANTI-OPEN GRAZING BILL INTO LAW

The Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN in line with the resolution at the last Southern Governors' Forum, held in Lagos has signed the Anti-Open Grazing Bill into law.

In a statement by the Commissioner for Information, Mr. Donald Ojogo, the Law is aimed at stemming instances of skirmishes, conflicts as well as infractions on the enviable peaceful disposition of the good people of Ondo State. ■

ODSIP Lens

IDANRE GENERAL HOSPITAL GETS CIVIL SERVANT MIDAS TOUCH

ODSIP Lens has been notified of an exceptional development at the General Hospital, Idanre where the Chief Medical Director (CMD), Dr. Omishogbon Kayode Azeez, has been leading from the fore to transform the medical facility. Eyewitness reports that his Midas touch has birthed Ten (10) new departments namely: Eye clinic, Chest Clinic, Chemistry Lab, Histopathology Lab, Community Health Dept., Laundry Unit, Tailoring Dept and Maintenance Dept.

The General Hospital now enjoys new infrastructure such as a Laundry building, a Public toilet, ANC building, new and bigger Mortuary, new Administrative block, new GOPD block, and a new operating theatre.

Other equipment that has set the hospital apart and helped it gain unprecedented milage are call rooms for medical staff, 60KVA generator for steady power, a new Ultrasound machine, a new X-ray machine, a new chemistry analyser and a new staff bus and boosted the Hospital's IGR tremendously. All of these between October 2018 and now.

The grapevine reveals to ODSIP Lens that the hospital is being considered for Specialist Hospital status. We believe it is well deserved. Kudos, CMD!

Words on MARBLE

"Whoever desires constant success must change his conduct with the times"

NICCOLO MACHIAVELLI

Letter to the EDITOR 

NOTE: All letters to the Editor should be directed to: odsipnewsletter@gmail.com OR WhatsApp 08160622636

P U Z Z L E

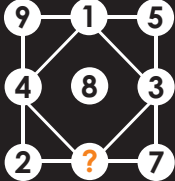
What goes into the last box?

1	3	5
2	4	?

Hint: It is not 6

A

Which letter replaces the question mark?



B

You can send your answers to the Managing Editor. Handsome rewards await the winners.

ODSIP Lens contd.

WORKING TOOLS FOR HUMAN RESOURCE PERSONNEL

It has come to the notice of ODSIP Lens that some Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) have not been providing the necessary tools or logistics for Personnel Officers and those working on the Human Resource Management exercise. This has resulted in out-of-pocket expense for data purchase and borrowing for some of these officers.

Hmm... Human Resource is the soul of administration and this exercise is already at its second phase, which will interface with salaries and the State Integrated Financial Management Information Systems (SIFMIS). The stakes are getting higher and the importance of this, more cogent.

ODSIP Lens understands that there is paucity of funds at the moment, due to the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Accounting Officers are please enjoined to do the needful by providing the needed tools and logistics, reasonably, for these officers to do the job, so that the Ondo State Public Service can be the cyosure of all eyes in terms of Human Resource Management. █



Arakunrin
Oluwarotimi
Akeredolu, SAN



**MAINTENANCE OF
LAW AND ORDER
FOR ADEQUATE
SECURITY**

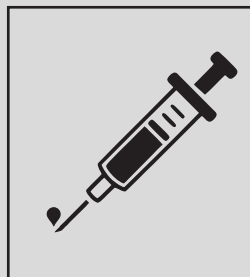
R E D E E M E D

COVID-19 IS STILL VERY ACTIVE

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KEEP SAFE



VACCINATE!



MASK UP!



WASH UP!

Published and Printed by
Department of Public Service Reform and Development (DPSRD),
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