



NEWSLETTER

A TAX PAYER IS A RESPONSIBLE PERSON - EMIR ILESHA BARUBA



The Emir of Ilesha Baruba Prof Halilu Abubakar has described a tax payer has a responsible person, who sees taxation as a statutory obligation levied for development of the community and described tax evasion as crime that should be treated rigorously.

Prof Abubakar stated this during an interview with KWAREVE NEWS team in his palace at Ilesha Baruba, Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State. He said “taxation is not a new phenomenon; it has been in existence during the colonial era, and there is no distinct difference in tax collection now and how it used to be but the process has changed. It

is just that those taxes were not exploited but they existed inside the books”.

The Emir added that in terms of tax administration and effort, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) has brought a dynamic approach characterized with result orientation and professionalism in the discharge of her duties.

The Emir of Ilesha Baruba lamented on neglect of taxes during Nigeria oil wealth boom which resulted to the country's loss of tax consciousness and taxes were not charged on people, properties and goods appropriately.

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Executive Chairman's Quote

“For the two years of operations, 2016/2017, the PRESS framework, turned strategy, endeared us into the heart of the government and people of Kwara State. And even beyond. This became evident in the various direct intervention programmes that we introduced through our Community Impact Programme, particularly at the early days to convince the people that we feel their pulse”.



DR. AWODUN CONFERRED AS PEACE AMBASSADOR

The Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin has conferred the Executive Chairman of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) Dr Muritala Awodun as a Peace Ambassador. The award was presented to him during the Director of the Centre, Prof Noah Yusuf during a Courtesy visit of the service to the Centre.

In his welcome address, the Director of the Centre, Prof Noah Yusuf, admonished the recipient (Dr Awodun) to preach peace at all times. He sought for collaboration and working relationship between the Centre and the Revenue Service stressing that collection of taxes and revenue can only be achieved when there is relevant peace in the society. “It is only a secured citizen that can pay tax and through tax payment, a citizen can be secured”.

Prof Yusuf commended the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS for his commitment and hard work towards the successful reform of revenue mobilization in Kwara State. He posited that the face of tax in Kwara State had changed for the better.

Responding, Dr Awodun said “No Peace, No Revenue” and the Service understands the position of the centre in ensuring peace and stability in Nigeria. Dr Awodun also said the Revenue Service will synergize with the Centre in funding Researches that will aid the

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Responding to a question on role of tax in nation building, Prof Halilu Abubakar highlighted 3 roles of taxation in the society as; the revenue generation, income redistribution and economic stabilization. He said there is a need to close the gap between the rich and the poor by taxing the poor less and rich more. He further stated that these monies can be used to provide basic infrastructure for the people resident in the State. Also for economic stability, Prof Abubakar said when there is inflation, some certain goods could be taxed to stabilize the economy.

“This is the right time for KW-IRS to operate because there is no other better time but one like this when oil revenue is not sufficient, Government needs money to pay salaries and embark on developmental projects; there is no other way of achieving this but through taxes” he said.

Prof Halidu I. Abubakar is a Professor of Economics, the Emir of Ilesha Baruba and the Chairman of Harmony Holdings, Kwara State.

performance of the Service, emphasizing that KW-IRS is an organization founded on the base of Academics in terms of being a performance-driven organization building a new army of public servant that will change the face of civil service in the State.

The highlights of the event was the decoration and Certification of Dr Muritala Awodun as a Peace Ambassador by the President of the Student's Association of the Centre.

KW-IRS EMBARKS ON COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAMME ALONG UNIVERSITY ROAD, TANKE

Over the years, Tanke axis has experienced incidents of flood during the rainy season as a result of blocked drainages caused by illegal dumping of refuse along the water ways by residents of the area.

Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), as part of its Community Impact Program centred on “Environment” which is one of the five Es (Employment, Empowerment, Environment, Education, Enterprise), embarked on clearing of drainages from Tipper garage through University of Ilorin main gate in a bid to forestall further occurrence of flood and prevent the outbreak of infections and diseases such as Malaria and Cholera just as another rainy season is about to set in.

Residents of this area are hereby enjoined to change their attitude towards indiscriminate dumping of solid waste and ensure safe environment as this will go a long way to prevent the hazardous effects of improper waste management, reduce Government spending on repair of damaged roads and provide an opportunity to channel public funds to other sectors of the economy beneficial to and desired by us all.



KW-IRS EMPOWERS LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS



Information gathering, processing and storage with the aid of Information Communication Technology (ICT) is significant in all professions and Revenue Administration is not an exception as it serves as a data bank and means of communication as well as for systematic reporting.

For Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) to operate at par with counterparts worldwide, it is important to apply global best practices in the Revenue Administration. It is well known that the reform model of KW-IRS has been People, Process and Technology (PPT). KW-IRS has transformed the Revenue Administration process with the use of technology which has enabled increased efficiency, blocking of leakages, real time monitoring & reporting as well as seamless operations across Directorates.

To this effect, KW-IRS donated new sets of computers and printers to all the sixteen (16) Local Government Area Councils (LGACs) in Kwara State. The objective of this donation is to increase efficiency and accountability in the Local Government

revenue collection as well as aid record keeping.

KW-IRS has purposefully empowered the LGACs to enable them leverage on the platform of the State and to drive their online collections, particularly Citizenship which has been automated.

Speaking on behalf of other LGAC Chairmen, having received the gadgets, the Chairman of Moro Local Government, Hon. Saka Mumini Eleyele expressed his profound gratitude to the Management of KW-IRS for the kind gesture. He emphasized that the provision of computer systems will aid the accuracy in revenue reporting, efficiency and speed in operations and provide a platform for proper monitoring of activities which would minimize the chance for fraud.

Honourable Eleyele assured that the LGACs would use the assets appropriately as they are committed to the betterment of their people and development of their Areas.

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Muritala Awodun, PhD, ACTI
Executive Chairman

Adenike Babajamu
Director, Admin & Operations

Omolara Ojulari, ACA
Asst. Director MDAs

Habibah Aiyelabegan
Manager, Corporate Affairs

Fareedah Abdulwahab
Media Correspondent

Bolaji Abdullahi
Media Correspondent

Olufemi Oguntokun
Media Correspondent

DoYinsola Akande
Media Correspondent