

MWUN cautions incoming administration against sabotaging local content in maritime sector

THE Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) has urged the incoming administration to prioritise the maritime industry by ensuring protection of local content.

The President-General, MWUN, Adewale Adeyanju stated this as the country commemorated the Workers' Day celebrations in Abuja.

Adeyanju lamented that the local content is not effective in the maritime industry, adding that impunity has become the order of the day owing to the negligence of the outgoing administration.

The President-General frowned at the activities of some maritime operators who bring in expatriates to the work that could be handled by Nigerians.

"What does the law of local content say? Do you bring an expatriate to come and take over our jobs? This is what we are saying that government must look into the law of local content, where some operators will bring in an accountant from another country; there are so many

Nigerians that can do the job better than the foreigners.

"We are not saying foreigners should not come and invest in our country, they should respect the law of the land. Impunity is always the order of the day in the maritime sector.

"You remember the issue of on-board security men and tally clerks that we have been on the matter for the past five to six years and nothing has been done.

"Also the IOCs believe in impunity, the minister will give directives and the IOCs will not obey the law, so this incoming administration must be visible in the maritime sector," he stated.

Adeyanju charged the incoming administration to be more proactive and look into the welfare of the workers who have suffered a lot in the hands of the outgoing administration.

He noted that the outgoing administration was not visible enough in the ports, while giving so much authority to the employers of labour, who have no regards for the workers.

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