



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF POWER, WORKS AND HOUSING

OPENING REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE, MINISTRY OF POWER WORKS AND HOUSING, HONOURABLE MUSTAPHA BABA SHEHURI AT THE FLAG-OFF EVENT OF THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION CONTRACTORS IN NIGERIA HELD AT FEDERAL MINISTRY OF POWER AUDITORIUM, POWER HOUSE, ZAMBEZI CRESCENT, MAITAMA, FCT, ABUJA ON THE 26TH JULY, 2016

It is my honour and privilege to attend this all important flag-off event of the National Certification of Electrical Installation Contractors in Nigeria organized by the Nigerian Electricity Management Services Agency (NEMSA) today the 26th July, 2016. I wish to congratulate NEMSA on this well thought out, planned and organized flag-off which is very timely as it is coming at a time we are working assiduously towards ensuring incremental, regular and uninterrupted power supply in Nigeria.

2. It is worth noting here that without qualified/certified electrical installation contractors who are conversant with the standard installation and construction practice, we shall continue to witness this type of bad/substandard network we see everywhere today and thus achieving regular/stable and finally uninterrupted power supply will be a mirage.

Frequent and sudden collapse/failure of substandard/badly executed networks will hinder the Government's well thought out plan of providing regular, stable and uninterrupted power supply to Nigerians. Also, the frequent incidences of electrical fire in homes, offices etc. and accidents in our networks will be unabated in Nigeria. Therefore, I want to stress that this certification of electrical installation contractors is a serious assignment before NEMSA because these personnel are expected to be first line safety officers in the electrical construction and installation industry in power sector.

3. I want to sincerely thank the President, Mohammadu Buhari, GCFR, for his passion and unrelenting effort in bringing about the needed change in every sector of the nation's economy, particularly in the power sector, in order to achieve the expected target of providing 24/7 steady/uninterrupted power supply to Nigerians. Also, I wish to commend the effort of the Honourable Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, and the top management of the Ministry for sharing Mr. President's change vision and also for their tenacity in driving this process toward achieving incremental, stable/regular and uninterrupted power supply in Nigeria.

4. Ladies and gentlemen, the importance of certifying electrical installation contractors working in the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry and other allied industries/workplaces cannot be over-emphasized at this crucial stage of the Power Sector Development. It is imperative that only skilled, experienced and competent professionals should be engaged for execution of electrical installation works in Nigeria to ensure that Government's plan of providing regular, stable and uninterrupted power supply is achieved and sustained. When uncertified/quack electrical installation contractors are stamped out in the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry, then the safety and security of supply, reliability and quality of service along the electricity supply value chain will be guaranteed.

5. Finally, I like to warn all certified electrical installation contractors to always ensure strict compliance with rules, regulations and standard construction practice, otherwise this government will not hesitate to invoke all appropriate sanctions in line with the law and NEMSA's ACT 2015.

6. Thanks and God bless.

Honourable Minister of State
Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing
26th July, 2016