ADDDRESS DELIVERED TO THE PEOPLE OF KATSINA STATE BY HIS EXCELLENCY MALAM DIKKO UMARU RADDA, Phd IN COMMEMORATION OF ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY ON 29TH MAY, 2024

Assalamu Alaikum,

Dear Good People of Katsina State.

In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent and the most Merciful.

It is with great pleasure and immense gratitude to Almighty Allah, that I address you today to commemorate one year in office and to brief you on the achievements of this administration within the period under review.

As you are all aware, in the course of our electioneering campaign, several promises were made as contained in the blueprint [Building Your Future] developed towards uplifting the living condition of the citizenry of Katsina State. I am glad to inform you that, with Almighty Allah's guidance, your support and cooperation as well as your consistent prayers and goodwill, we are able to record modest achievements across all sectors of our socio-economic endeavors.

I would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the good people of the state for the confidence reposed on us and for their unwavering commitment in supporting our vision and mission for a better and more prosperous Katsina State.

It is my sincere belief that, moving forward with such zeal, determination and cooperation, we shall be able to undertake more meaningful policies, programs and projects that will improve the quality of lives of our people.

I wish to inform you that from May 29th 2023 to date, a lot of achievements have been recorded especially in the areas of Security, Education, Health, Agriculture, Institutional reforms and other relevant sectors for the socio – economic development of the state.

To hit the ground running, Government embarked on institutional reforms aimed at providing framework for successful implementation of the blueprint of this administration. To this end, the State Ministry of Justice has issued executive orders/legal notices for the reorganization/mergers of some MDAs as shown below;

1. Reorganized/Merged MDAs as follows;

   i. Upgraded the Department of Security to a full-pledged Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs.

   ii. Reorganized the Ministry of Lands and Survey to Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning.

   iii. Restructured the Ministry of Education to Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.

   iv. Renamed the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources to Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.

   v. Merged the Ministry of Rural Development to Ministry of Rural and Social Development.

   vi. Upgraded the Department of Youth Development to a full-pledged Ministry of Sports and Youth Development.

   vii. Restructured and Upgraded the Department of Higher Education to a full-pledged Ministry of Higher, Vocational and Technical Education.

   viii. Restructured the State Board of Internal Revenue.

2. Scrapped MDAs to eliminate duplication/overlap of mandates;
    i. Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation.
    ii. Ministry of Resource Development.
    iii. Department of Skills Acquisition and Vocational Training.
    iv. Department of Economic Empowerment and Social Intervention.
    v. Katsina State Afforestation Project Unit (KTAPU).
    vi. EEC/KTSG Project Unit.
3. Created MDAs -The State House of Assembly passed laws for the creation of the following MDAs;
    i. Katsina State Enterprise Development Agency (KSEDA) to serve as focal agency that will promote and coordinate all NSME related activities.
    ii. ICT Directorate to facilitate implementation of E-Governance and to simplify its operations.
    iii. Irrigation Development Authority to promote and encourage all year round farming activities.

iv. HISBA Board established to inculcate good values and check societal vices.

v. Zakkat and Wakaf Board to promote equitable distribution of wealth and socio-economic development.

vi. Fiscal Responsibility Commission to promote transparency and accountability in governance.

vii. Katsina State Development Management Board to coordinate all development partner projects in the State.

viii. Katsina State Erosion and Water Shed Management Agency to sustain, monitor and execute erosion control projects.

ix. Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Agency to enhance provision of water in small cities and sanitation related activities.

x. Katsina Geographical Information System (KATGIS) for the smooth administration of land matters.

4. Other agencies created for implementation of specific policies includes;

i. Strategic Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Department to ensure proper monitoring and implementation of all projects as contained in the blueprint.

ii. Office of the Economic Adviser to the State Government to promote economic diversification, attract investments and enhance the overall economic wellbeing of the state's residents.

iii. Public Service Administration Reform Department established to coordinate and sustain ongoing reforms aimed at modernizing and rejuvenating the service for enhanced performance.

My dear people of Katsina State, I would like to begin by giving you highlights on some of the modest sectoral achievements recorded so far within the year under review.

Security

One of the cardinal objectives of this administration as contained in its blueprint is to have a State that secures the lives and properties of its citizens.

You will agree with me that, insecurity has been of great concern not only to the people of Katsina State, but the Nation at large, is receiving tremendous attention by this Administration. This is one area that even the advanced countries are seriously grappling with at the moment.

Katsina State Government under my leadership has come up with a home grown solution to decisively address the menace bedeviling our communities. The rising cases of kidnapping, Armed Banditry, Cattle Rustlings, and other forms of criminalities which have taken the centre stage of our daily lives are being systematically tackled.

To reinvigorate the security architecture and strategy in tackling insecurity challenges, the State Government has established the Community Watch Corps, to complement the efforts of security

agencies, which has now become a model to our sister States. Under this security arrangement, a total of 1,466 Corps were trained and equipped to provide support in curtailing the menace of insecurity amongst our communities.

Government has within the period, procured 1,900 units of tactical combat equipment for the Katsina State Community Watch Corp at the total cost of **N1,520,000,000.00** as well as sustaining the payment of monthly security operations allowances to security personnel in the State to the tune of **N208,000,000.00**. This is in addition to constant engagement with security service chiefs to facilitate effective collaboration and operations. In a related development, to improve routine surveillance, Police Patrol Vehicles were overhauled at the total cost of **N50,000,000.00**.

Moreover, to further facilitate the efficient services of security agencies, the State Government has procured and provided 10No. Armored Personnel Carriers, 65No. Branded Hilux vehicles, 700No. Motorcycles, drones, communication network, trackers and other related working materials at the total cost of **N10,869,717,918.88,** additional

3No. Armored Personnel Carrier vehicles were also procured for effective routine operations at the cost of **N630,000,000.00.**

Fellow good people of Katsina State, Government has recognized the importance of community participation in the fight against insecurity and has therefore engaged 918 No. Local Government security committee members and 9,747 No. ward security committee members across the State.

In a bid to inculcate good values and morals for the betterment of our society, the State Government has recently established Hisbah Board to check societal vices. We have already commenced monthly payment of allowances to 7,545 Jumu'at Imams, Naibis and Ladans, 6,652 Ward Heads as well as allowances to Security Committees including Vigilantes at Ward and Local Government levels, amounting to the total sum of **N343,325,000.00** across the State.

Also established, is the committee on encroached cattle routes and grazing reserves to checkmate farmers-herders conflict. Furthermore, a joint Security Operations Communication Centre was established to

improve intelligence gathering and assist security agencies in carrying out operations at all the security flash points in the State.

Government has also shown concern on victims of banditry and cattle rustling by expending the sum of **N333,357,541.00** to address their plight. To improve the working condition of the judiciary towards the dispensation of justice, the sum of **N158,162,700.00** has been expended for the renovation of some shari'a courts.

I would like to assure the good people of Katsina State that Government is fully committed to put in more efforts and resources to restore peace, stability and progress in our dear State within the shortest possible time.

Education Sector

Among the objectives of this administration is to have an education sector that will provide efficient learning which will contribute towards socio-economic growth and development of the State.

In this regard, education being a vital instrument for any meaningful development has received a boost through provision of

infrastructure, recruitment of teachers, sponsorship of students to study abroad, teacher training, payment of scholarship and several other interventions.

I am happy to inform you that within the period of our stewardship, Government has paid mobilization for the construction of 75 new Secondary Schools across the State at the total cost of **N5,688,693,220.38**, under the AGILE Program to kick start the construction.

Moreover, Government has approved the disbursement of Mega grant to 15No. Secondary schools for Phase I, to the tune of **N1,500,000,000.00,** in addition to disbursement of grant to 100No. selected secondary schools across the state in Phase II, where each school received **N44,750,000.00,** totaling the sum of **N4,475,000,000.00.** We have also paid **N547,410,000.00** to first and second cohorts of 54,741 CCT beneficiaries to enable them attain 70% attendance rate and to gain promotion to upper grade during the third term of 2022/2023 academic session.

Similarly, Government has disbursed the sum of **N245,855,000.00** for the third cohorts of Girls Scholarship to 49,370No. mothers and caregivers across the State.

Under the Better Education Service Delivery for All (BESDA) Program, Government has procured equipment and grants for primary schools across the state to the tune of **N1,833,025,146.00,** while the sum of **N2,240,281,377.80** was spent for the rehabilitation, construction and supply of furniture under UBEC program.

In a bid to ease the burden of payment of examination fees by parents and students, Government has within the period under review, paid the sum of **N1,390,861,100.00** as examination fees for WAEC, NECO, NBAIS and NABTEB for the year 2023. The sum of **N177,023,211.00** was also settled as outstanding liability for NECO Examination fees. This is in addition to the payment of **N73,118,500.00** and **N43,711,611.00** for the conduct of Basic Examination Certificate and conduct of Qualifying examination for SS II students respectively. Similarly, the sum of **N14,482,250.00** was expended for the rehabilitation of CBT Centres at Dutsinma, Daura and Malumfashi.

Government has also settled the outstanding payments of **N146,578,788.00** for the rehabilitation of structures at GDSS Jikamshi, GDSS Kambarawa, as well as GDSS Zango.

The importance of instructional materials in the development of education sector cannot be over emphasized. Accordingly, the sum of **N271,665,000.00** was expended for the procurement of customized instructional materials for distribution to primary schools across the State. Continuous Assessment Booklet for Junior and Senior Secondary Schools were also printed and distributed at the total cost of **N150,000,000.00.** The Government has also constructed and delivered 42 units of 2-seater chair for pupils and 2 sets of teacher's furniture in 60 different primary schools at the cost of **N122,200,000.00.**

In view of the need to encourage integration and enhance representation in Unity and Federal Government Secondary Schools, Government has paid the sum of **N15,048,000.00** as school fees for new intake students at Federal Government Colleges for the year 2023/24 and **N95,562,531.00** as school fees for sponsored returning students at Federal Government Colleges for the year 2023/24. Government has

also within the period approved the conduct of census of primary and secondary schools across the State at the total cost of **N92,823,500.00**. We have also been able to settle the outstanding payment of **N79,025,300.00** of sponsored students at Federal Government Colleges. There was also the release of **N441,834,416** for disbursement of scholarship allowance to 33,492 students of tertiary institutions of the 2021/2022 session.

My dear people of Katsina State, this administration has ensured the payment of **N37,111,620.00** as running cost to secondary schools in the State, in addition to settlement of **N92,779,050.00** as outstanding running cost liabilities. For boarding students, the sum of **N355,773,600.00** was expended to feed them within the period. Government also disbursed the sum of **N4,054,720,687.30** to 150 primary schools for construction and renovation of some structures under the Transforming Education System at State Level (TESS) Program.

Government has employed the services of 7,320 teachers under Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education and SUBEB in order to

address manpower needs in this sector. In addition, the sum of **N405,000,000.00** has been approved for the training of 10,000 teachers including the newly recruited ones.

Health Sector

The intention of this administration is to provide healthcare services that is pro-poor to improve and maintain the well-being of its citizens.

My dear brothers and sisters, this administration has made frantic efforts to improve the quality of healthcare of our people. Therefore, within the period under review, government has approved the sponsorship of 41No. medical students to study MBBS, the sum of **N774,344,600.00** has been paid as their two years tuition fees and upkeep allowances. We have also recruited additional 94No. health personnel for the Secondary Health facilities in the State, including Medical Doctors, Nurses/Midwives, Medical Lab Scientists and Pharmacists. Moreover, the entry point for Medical Doctors was enhanced, while the Residency Allowance was also reviewed upward.

Aside from human resource development, provision of additional health facilities also received desired attention through the construction and equipping of 12-bed capacity dialysis center at General Amadi Rimi Specialist Hospital Katsina at the total cost of **N681,104,727.72**. Government has also renovated and upgraded some hospital facilities across the State to the tune of **N49,905,622.00.**

Faskari Comprehensive Health Centre was also upgraded to a full-fledged General Hospital at the cost of **N599,985,000.00,** while Dandume and Charanchi PHCs were approved for upgrade at the total cost of **N1,417,196,552.66** and **N1,408,578,441.41** respectively. In a related development, approval has been granted for the upgrading of 102 Primary Health Centers to Comprehensive Health Centers, in 34 LGAs at the total cost of **N8,669,086,629.91**

The administration has also procured Hospital equipment and other medical supplies to the tune of **N95,976,784.00.** Similarly, E-health solution was deployed to 7No. health facilities within the State for enhanced efficiency in healthcare delivery service. Furthermore, the sum

of **N200,000,000.00** was paid as counterpart funding to UNICEF for Nutrition Commodities.

In order to improve the capacity of ward focal persons and LGA's cold chain officers in monitoring and supervision of routine and outreach immunization activities, in collaboration with UNDP, the sum of **N217,800,000.00** was expended for the procurement and distribution of 198No. Motorcycles. Government has also distributed Laptop Computers to LGA monitoring and evaluation officers to enable them manage data for evidence-based decision making in healthcare delivery at the cost of **N17,100,000.00.** The sum of **N46,000,000.00** was also spent for the procurement and distribution of commodities for containment of Diphtheria outbreak, in addition to procurement and distribution of vaccine carriers through GAVI Health system strengthening to the tune of **N16,500,000.00.**

The State Government has also procured and distributed hospital equipment through KTSCHMA reserve funds and Basic Healthcare Provision Fund [BHCPF] direct facility funding at the total cost of **N42,000,000.00.** Under this scheme, 150No. Midwives were engaged at

the cost of **N20,657,500.00.** The administration has also procured 1No. brand new Mobile Clinic Birth Delivery Ambulance for Health Service Management Board at the cost of **N145,000,000.00.**

As part of non-polio supplemental immunization activities conducted in October last year, a total of 2,216,573 eligible children were reached at the cost of **N78,159,116.00.** Healthcare workers on integrated management of childhood illness were also trained at the cost of **N40,000,000.00.** Also the sum of **N18,565,000.00** was expended for COVID-19 Ramp-up as part of preventive measures against the Covid-19 infection.

Within the period under review, we have conducted a training program for transitioning of Voluntary Community Mobilizers to Community Health influencers, promoters and service provider in order to improve access and equitable coverage of primary healthcare services at the cost of **N65,440,000.00.** The monthly Oral Poliovirus Vaccination was also carried out at the cost of **N150,163,116.00.**

The State Government has also initiated, pursued, and obtained a donation of Hospital equipment from the World Medical Relief, USA worth **N10,000,000,000.00.**

In an effort to revolutionize Health Sector, Government has approved the construction and equipping of state of the art imaging center at Gen. Amadi Rimi Specialist Hospital at the total cost of **N545,402,196.93**

Water Resources

In line with the common mantra that water is life, we have among others, avowedly committed to revitalize the water resource sector of the State during our electioneering campaign.

Let me at this juncture, reaffirm the commitment of this Administration to the provision of potable water to the good people of Katsina State. Consequent thereof, the State Government has come up with a plan of action that would ensure proper provision of sanitary water supply to both urban, semi-urban and rural communities across the State, as encapsulated in our Blueprint document.

To ensure continuity in governance and in order to boost water supply to Katsina metropolis and its environs, we have facilitated the completion of the contract for the maintenance of 3No High Lift Pumps at Ajiwa Water Treatment Plant which was initiated by the previous administration with payment of the remaining **N33,459,753.98** out of the **N111,532,516.87** contract sum. In a similar vein, the sum of **N107,150,461.22** was expended for the procurement and installation of Plant Raw Water Submersible Pump. In a related development, Government has rehabilitated Ajiwa water pumping station and pipeline at the cost of **N235,720,922.22.** The State further procured water treatment chemicals for 9No. water treatment plants from June 2023 to date at the cost of **N789,600,390.00.** Similarly, the repairs of operational plants and vehicles was carried out at the cost of **N101,678,153.72.**

Government has also continued with the funding of Danja Earth Dam which was inherited from the previous administration by gracing the contract finance with monthly payment of **N172,557,818.75** from June, 2023 to date. Equally, the sum of **N167,150,461.22** has been paid

as liability for the procurement and installation of Plant Raw Water Submersible Pump and 7.5MVA 33KV/11KV Injection Sub-Station at Ajiwa Water Plant.

We have also commissioned Consultancy Services for the Design of Zobe Phase 1B that includes the survey and design of the Dutsin-ma-Karofi-Radda-Kafin Soli-Kankia-Charanchi Clean Water Supply from Zobe Dam. Accordingly, the Consultant was engaged at contract sum of **N180,031,286.70,** out of which **N72,012,514.68** has been paid. We have also undertaken an emergency repair of Dutsin-ma Dam at the sum of **N28,778,000.00,** and as well supplied 1No. MARAPKO 6,000 series Generating set at the same water treatment plant at the cost of **N76,942,872.50.**

This administration has within the period under review, expended the sum of **N699,847,000** on the Supply of 650,000 Litres of Diesel to all the water works in the State for their daily operations.

Under the SURWASH/Urban Program, the Administration has from inception to date spent the sum of **N5,235,402,111.95** on the

improvement/rehabilitation of Water Distribution Network, construction of additional boreholes as well as rehabilitation of mini-water booster stations at various locations within the Katsina metropolis and its environs.

Social Care

In order to respond to the plight of the poor, Government has made adequate plans to ensure more dividend of democracy to our people through various social intervention programs. A total of 95,000 and 78,000 bags of assorted grains were purchased by the Local Governments and State respectively at the total cost of **N10,677,125,000.00** and sold to the general public at subsidized rates. We also purchased 40,000 bags of 50kg rice at the total cost of **N2,100,000,000.00** and distributed as palliatives to the vulnerable groups (women, elderly and people with special needs) across the State, with stipends amounting to **N100,000,000.00.** Additionally, SEMA distributed materials worth **N63,042,400.00**.

Under the State Social Intervention Program, the sum of **N3,400,000,000.00** has been approved as MSME Revolving Fund to be managed in partnership with the Bank of Industry (BOI). Also the sum of **N58,600,000.00** was spent for mechatronics apprentice support program to 3,000 youths drawn from 34LGAs of the State. At this juncture, I am happy to inform you that the State Government has paid its contribution to the tune of **N2,000,000,000.00** to NG-Cares Program under three results areas of KASEDA, FADAMA and CSDA. Under this program, 6,100 beneficiaries received cash grants worth **N300,000,000.00.** The State Government has also approved the sum of **N800,000,000.00** for re-capitalization of State owned Micro Finance Bank in addition to procurement of IT equipment worth **N230,000,000.00.**

As part of efforts in providing support to the orphans and empowerment to widows of banditry attacks, the sum of **N333,357,541.00** was spent within the period under review.

A data-base for the poor and vulnerable households is being updated to cover the entire State with a view to addressing the socio-economic needs of these group of people.

In order to meet the demand of intra-state and Katsina City Services, Government has purchased 47No. fairly used TOYOTA HIACE Buses at the cost **N600,652,000.00** to add up to the fleet of Katsina State Transport Authority (KTSTA) mass transit program.

A clean and safer environment is also a pre-requisite for better life and improved living condition. In that regard, Government has undertaken maintenance of 25No. waste disposal trucks at the cost of **N75,024,000.00** to ensure evacuation and disposal of waste in our communities.

Payment has been made to the tune of **N573,086,331.67** in respect of various flood and erosion control projects across the State. Furthermore, construction of Storm Water Drainage Management in Katsina Metropolis phase II is progressing at the cost of **N11,249,217,635.25.** In the same vein, the construction of Phase II intervention Riverbank protection for Jibia town, flood control

emergency site to the tune of **N10,845,240,547.57** is steadily progressing.

In order to reduce the cost of governance, contract has been awarded for the provision of solar mini-grid to serve General Hospital Katsina and Government House at the cost of **N1,993,623,305.05**

Agriculture

Our desire is to have a State with well-developed Agricultural potentials that create wealth, employment, industrialization and food security.

It is a known fact that Agriculture is a mainstay in our economy, hence the decision to reorganize the sector in order to revamp Agricultural production. To achieve this, Government has supplied 1,170 farmers with agricultural inputs worth **N140,106,330.00.** Also 12,250 farmers received agricultural equipment worth **N763,199,500.00** under KT-Cares intervention.

More so, Agricultural inputs were distributed to 2,040 Dry season farmers. This is in addition to 204 water solar pumps, 204 tube wells

and capacity building for 2,040 beneficiaries at the total cost of **N1,962,203,197.50.** The sum of **N299,531,550.00** was also spent on the construction of small earth dams at Dan-chaffa, Kankara and Dandume.

Similarly, in an effort to revive Agricultural extension service in the State, a total of 722 Agricultural extension workers have been trained and provided with a motorcycle and sprayer each, amongst others. To enhance food production in this year's farming season, Government has recently launched the distribution of 20 metric tons of fertilizer which was procured at the total cost of **N21,646,980,000.00**

Internally Generated Revenue

The goal of this administration as spelt out in our blueprint is to have the most efficient technology-based revenue collection system that is responsive, transparent and accountable to be managed by professional and highly motivated personnel.

To achieve this, the State Government has recently approved the implementation of Treasury Single Account (TSA) in order to block all revenue leakages. Approval has already been given for the provision of

Turnkey solution for the enhancement of revenue generation at the total cost of **N516,000,000.00.** These measures have since started yielding results. I am glad to inform you that, so far the sum of **N4,082,099,957.65** has been internally generated in the first quarter of 2024 as against **N1,790,679,834.76** collected in the same period of 2023.

Workers Entitlements/Welfare

Government has considered public service as an engine room for the implementation of policies and programs. To this end, this administration has sustained payment of salaries to workers as at when due in addition to payment of monthly pensions. So far from June 2023 to date Government has expended the total sum of **N27,540,732,121.38** as salaries to workers under the state service. Similarly the sum of **N627,930,000.00** was paid as wage Award/Sallah package to State workers and in addition the sum of **N849,317,638.72** was paid as allowances to certain categories of workers in the State.

It is worthy to note that, Government has disbursed **N6,499,082,453.49** as monthly pension to State retirees from June 2023

to date. While the sum of **N1,312,047,044.96** was paid out of the total outstanding gratuity to retirees.

With regards to entitlements for workers under Local Governments and SUBEB, the sum of **N28,811,195,539.57** and **N21,620,543,689.02** was paid as salaries of Local Government staff and SUBEB staff respectively. While the sum of **N769,875,000.00** and **N842,895,000.00** was paid as wage grant/Ramadan package to the staff of Local Government and SUBEB from June 2023 to date respectively. In addition, Government has paid the sum of **N6,499,082,453.49** and **N8,570,405,101.85** respectively as pensions to retirees of State, Local Governments and SUBEB from June 2023 to date. Furthermore, the sum of **N1,312,047,044.96** and **N2,014,388,612.48** respectively was paid out of the verified backlog of the gratuity for the State and Local Government retirees. Similarly, this administration has from January this year commenced the disbursement of **N1,829,877,486.40** and **N3,264,446,595.64** as backlog of death benefits to the families of deceased workers, which accrued from October 2019 to August 2023.

This exercise is expected to be completed by June 2024 for both State and Local Governments.

As part of the measures adopted by the State in institutionalizing the Public Service, Government has subjected all recruitments under State and unified Local Government Service to merit-based test and interviews. Similarly, this administration has re-introduced promotional examination. In addition, a merit-based selection procedure for appointment into the position of Permanent Secretaries was introduced.

On the issue of workers welfare, Government has given priority to training and retraining of workers. To this end, 2,264 workers benefitted from training, workshops, seminars and in-service training in which the sum of **N139,058,354.00** was expended in that regard for the period under review. In the same vein, palliatives has been extended to workers in the State and Local Government where 5,000 bags of rice and 900 bags of maize have been distributed to workers as part of Ramadan package. The Refurbishing loan to civil servants also got a boost with the release of additional **N200,000,000.00** on the already revolving **N250,000,000.00.** Also approved for the good of the civil servants in

the State, is the implementation of Contributory Pension Scheme for sustainability of the payment of retirement benefits.

As part of the measures to sustain government labor relationship 3No buses have been supplied and donated to organized labor in the State with a view to alleviating transportation of workers to their working places.

To ensure continuous and smooth running of governance, over **N4,000,000,000.00** was spent for the procurement of assorted brands of vehicles for the convoys of His Excellency the Governor and his Deputy, their aides, members of the State Executive Council and some MDAs.

The administration has also carried out the renovation and furnishing of Governor's Office and lodge at Government House, Katsina at the cost of **N320,614,299.35** as well as the renovation of structures at the Deputy Governor's lodge in Katsina and Abuja at the total cost of **N435,108,069.71.** Similarly, for the first time since its commissioning in 2004, Katsina State Secretariat complex was rehabilitated at the total cost of **N360,420,149.28.** Also, the proposed

Katsina State Pension Commission office complex was rehabilitated at the cost of **N77,841,000.00.**

Renovation works were also carried out at the official residences of the SGS, first lady's office complex, commissioners' quarters, official residence of Governor's aides all in Katsina and the Governor's lodge in Kaduna at the total cost of **N737,270,960.95**

The former headquarters of the Katsina State Science and Technical Education Board has also received a boost with its renovation at the total cost of **N98,947,530.15,** for utilization of the offices by some MDA's. Moreover, the former RUWASSA Office Complex was renovated and upgraded at the cost of **N66,803,633.63** to accommodate some MDAs.

Urban Renewal

It is the desire of this administration to have cities with defined addresses and comprehensive master plan. Consequently, government has established Katsina Geographical Information Services Law of 2023

and restructured the Urban and Regional Planning Board to meet the needs of the present situation in the state.

I would like to reiterate the commitment of this administration to commence the urban renewal project, thus the decision to restructure the Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning, URPB and establishment of KATGIS to effectively execute such mandates. To achieve this, Government has expended the sum of **N725,000,000.00** for the procurement of development control machines and equipment for Urban and Regional Planning Board (URPB). A takeoff grant for the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS) and procurement of equipment in the sum of **N240,113,790.00** was provided. In addition, the sum of **N51,975,000.00** was spent on provision of needed stationaries in collaboration with Security and Minting Company Ltd. A befitting office accommodation was also provided to house KATGIS. In order to ensure seamless takeoff of urban renewal program in the State, government has granted approval for the recruitment of technical staff for both URPB and KATGIS through a merit-based recruitment process.

In a bid to provide an enabling environment for business to thrive in the State, the Umaru Musa International Airport has received Government's special attention by expending the total sum of **N633,339,329.50** as compensation for the expansion of the Airport and construction of Central Airforce Flying School at Modoji.

Works

In our effort to ensure proper implementation of the New Katsina Master Plan, government has embarked on massive projects aimed at decongesting Katsina city-center. To this end, contracts have been awarded for the construction of the following roads:

- Dualisation of Kofar Soro - Kofar Guga Roundabout at the cost of **N3,553,914,426.60** out of which the sum of **N1,421,565,770.64** was released as mobilization fees.
- Construction of 24km Eastern bypass dual carriage road from Dutsin-ma Road - Kano Road - Mani Road - Daura Road - Yan Daki Town and dualisation from Katsina Central Mosque - Kofar Marusa - Kiddies - WTC Roundabout at the

cost of **N34,655,732,172.49** out of which **N13,864,292,868,99** was released as mobilization fees.

This administration has settled road projects liabilities awarded by the previous government to the tune of **N3,724,189,739.46** as follows;

- Payment of liability for Certificate of Valuation (CV) No.5 in respect of Bumbum - Kasanki - Dankama Road project in the sum of **N505,130,186.64**
- Payment of liability for CV No.3 in respect of Bumbum-Kasanki – Dankama Road to the tune of **N281,649,415.95**
- Payment of liability for construction of GRA roundabout flyover to the tune of **N556,888,883.34**
- Payment of outstanding for construction of Kafur - Rugoji – Dantutture – Kagara Mahuta Road in the sum of **N774,806,966.03**
- Payment of liability for construction of Kofar Kaura and Kofar Kwaya Underpass to the tune of **N487,875,425.56**

- Payment of Liability for the upgrading of Comprehensive Health Centre Kafur to General Hospital to the tune of **N140,222,325.53**
- Rehabilitation of Batsari – Jibia Road to the tune of **N420,202,360.55**
- Payment of CV No.2 for the rehabilitation of Karfi - Kurin Gafa – Yar Kasuwa Road to the tune of **N218,708,984.85**
- Payment of CV No.7 for the construction of Marabar Musawa – Gingin – Tabanni – Kano State Boarder to the tune of **N163,085,603.55**
- Payment of various consultancy services for road projects to the tune of **N175,619,587.46**

Let me at this juncture inform you that Government has embarked on many projects and programs in other sectors of the economy that time would not permit us to mention, I wish to further assure the good people of Katsina State that Government will continue to implement programs, policies and projects that will impact positively on the citizenry of the

State. Government would also continue to respond to the yearnings and aspirations of the State's populace and this would be vigorously pursued in the subsequent years of the administration, Insha Allah.

Democracy is about the people and for the people, we shall therefore not relent in our unwavering commitment to serve the people of the State through constant engagement for the improvement of their lots.

I will like to conclude by thanking members of the Legislative Arm of Government for their excellent cooperation with the Executive in the interest of the people of Katsina State. The timely passage of over ten Bills on creation of new Agencies as mentioned earlier and that of 2024 Budget, is an indication of our collective commitment to earnestly pursue laid down programs in the blueprint for optimum service delivery to the citizens of the State.

Governance is a collective responsibility, therefore needs all hands on deck for greater result. Accordingly, I wish to express our appreciation to the Judiciary, Public Servants, Traditional Institutions, Religious Bodies, business community, women and youth groups as well

as all relevant stakeholders in Building Your Future Project. It is my belief that by working together, Katsina State will witness tremendous progress, growth and prosperity. Let's therefore endure and work as a team for a befitting legacy for our people and subsequent generations.

Thank you very much, and May Almighty Allah Bless you all.