SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY, MALAM DIKKO UMAR RADDA, PhD, CON, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KATSINA STATE, AT THE COMMISSIONING OF THE DUAL CARRIAGEWAY ROAD FROM CENTRAL MOSQUE ROUNDABOUT-KIDDIES ROUNDABOUT-WTC ROUNDABOUT KATSINA & THE DIGITAL PATHWAY FOR KATSINA'S AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION — HELD ON SUNDAY, 21TH OCTOBER, 2025

Protocol:

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

It gives me immense pleasure and gratitude to Almighty Allah to welcome Your Excellency, the Vice President, and other distinguished guests to Katsina State for the commissioning of yet another key infrastructure project under our administration; the dual carriageway road from Central Mosque Roundabout - Kiddies Roundabout - WTC Roundabout Katsina.

This road, which spans 3.3 kilometres, has been completed at the cost of ₦4.8 billion. It is fully equipped with solar-powered streetlights, drainage systems, and road safety features. This project represents not just a new road, but a clear statement of our government's commitment to modernization, sustainability, and the transformation of Katsina's urban landscape.

Your Excellency, this road is part of our broader Urban Renewal Programme, a flagship initiative of this administration aimed at

rebuilding and modernizing Katsina's major cities. The Katsina State Urban Renewal Project alone consists of 10 major road networks within the metropolis, spanning over 55 kilometres, with a total investment of over ₦75 billion.

Beyond Katsina capital city, similar projects have reached substantial progress under the Funtua and Daura Towns Urban Renewal Programmes, as well as numerous road projects across the 34 Local Government Areas in the state. Altogether, this administration is constructing and rehabilitating more than 180 kilometres of roads across the state — connecting communities, opening up new economic corridors, and easing the movement of people and goods.

Our goal is clear:

- To improve road infrastructure across both urban and rural areas;
- To reduce traffic congestion in our growing cities;
- To modernize and expand our urban centres in line with current planning standards; and
- To enhance road connectivity that supports commerce, education, healthcare, and overall development.

Your Excellency, I am also pleased to inform you that the Eastern Bypass Dual Carriageway, spanning 24 kilometres, which forms part of the same Urban Renewal Project, has already been commissioned by His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR. This demonstrates the strong partnership and alignment

between our State and the Federal Government in delivering lasting development to our people.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, these achievements are made possible through careful planning, fiscal discipline, and our administration's resolve to ensure that every project contributes meaningfully to the well-being of our citizens.

I wish to appreciate the efforts of the Ministry of Works, Housing, and Transport, Contractors, Consultants, and all stakeholders for their dedication and commitment. I also thank the people of Katsina for their patience, support, and understanding throughout the execution of these projects.

Apart from that, we are launching another agricultural platform project.

Your Excellency, Nigerian agriculture is marred by the frustration that comes when effort is not matched by efficiency, when policy lacks precision, and when government lacks the data to decide wisely. That is what we want to change.

The Katsina Sustainable Platform for Agriculture (KASPA) is our state's flagship for a new era of agricultural governance. It combines infrastructure, software and support to integrate the entire agricultural value chain from field to market, from input to impact. Through it, we can see, plan and serve better.

Your Excellency, this administration has taken bold steps: we have revitalised extension services, we have distributed over 20,000 metric tons of fertiliser; invested in mechanisation centres; and partnered with national and private sector institutions to revive the rural economy. But we also recognise that no amount of spending or subsidies will transform agriculture unless we build the systems that sustain results. KASPA is that system. It is our commitment to precision, to accountability, and to empowerment.

What we are launching today is a bridge between the government and its farmers, between data and decisions, between hope and delivery. It will give our farmers visibility; it will give government the intelligence to act wisely; and it will give the private sector confidence to invest.

To our farmers; men and women across Katsina's villages and towns, this platform is yours. I want every farmer in Katsina State to be on boarded, supported and connected to KASPA. This dry season, we are targeting one million farmers across the state who will receive tailored e-extension services and support. All subsequent agricultural interventions of our government will be guided by the intelligence that this platform provides. Our young people also have an avenue to deploy their ingenuity in advancing our agricultural productivity.

Finally, to our distinguished guest of honour, His Excellency the Vice President, Kashim Shettima GCON; we are honoured to have you commission KASPA, because we know that both agriculture and technology are causes you care about. Katsina is ready to be a model, Your Excellency. With your support, we will show that when

governance meets technology, and data meets diligence, even the oldest systems can be reborn.

Together, with the continued support of the Federal Government, we shall build a modern, secure, and prosperous Katsina State for present and future generations.

Thank you, and God bless.

Long live Katsina State.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.