SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY, MALAM DIKKO UMAR RADDA, PhD, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KATSINA STATE AT THE OFFICIAL FLAG-OFF CEREMONY OF THE 2024/2025 DRY SEASON DISTRIBUTION OF 80 TRUCKS ASSORTED FERTILIZERS, 4000NO POWER TILLERS AND 4000NO SOLAR WATER PUMPS TO KATSINA STATE FARMERS HOLDING AT PEOPLE SQUARE, KATSINA GOVERNMENT HOUSE ON 23RD DECEMBER, 2024

PROTOCOLS

It is with great pleasure and pride that I welcome you all to the official flag-off ceremony of the 2024/2025 dry season distribution of 80 trucks assorted fertilizer, 4000no power tillers and 4000no solar water pumps to our committed farmers in Katsina State.

2. As we mark the end of 2024 cropping season with remarkable success in bumper harvest which serve as a litmus test to our determination to attain food security in the state and Nigeria at large, this bring us to the beginning of another dry season 2024/25.

3. Our administration has prioritized agricultural sector as the mainstay of the state's economy by way of enhancing GDP, IGR, employment opportunities, investment, curving rural-urban drift, miming indolence and improved livelihood.

4. Our strategic collaborations and partnership with development partners such as NG-CARES, IFAD-VCN, RAAMP, ACReSAL, IsDB, AfDB-SAPZII among others has opened up green opportunities for investment into value addition, agro-processing, financial inclusion and stimulating the local economy.

5. Last year, we started dry season farming support programme where we supported farmers under six commodities viz: tomato, pepper, onion, cabbage, carrot and water melon with drilling of bore-hole, solar water pump, N.P.K fertilizer, urea fertilizer, herbicide and insecticide at six (6) clusters per LGA, across 34 local government areas of the state. A total of 2040 farmers were supported.

6. Today, we are doubling the number of solar water pumps and to be sold at ₦300,000 to a group of four farmers, power tillers at ₦450,000 to a group of ten farmers payable within a period of 12 months while for the fertilizer will be distributed at ₦25,000. All the mention farm assets & fertilizer prices are equivalent to 50% subsidy.

7. May I at this juncture commend the generousity of the Federal Government through CBN for donating 80 trucks of assorted fertilizers to Katsina State Government. These

inputs are meant to be distributed to genuine farmers to enhanced food production in the State.

8. These farm machineries are meant to reduce if not totally eliminate farm drudgery, build resilience of the farmers from reduced access to animal traction. It is an investment in your future, your families' future, our state's future and the future of our dear nation. By sustaining soil productivity and fertility with the fertilizers couple with tillage machineries and ensuring sustainable water application through the solar powered machines, you can have increased crop yields, translating to higher revenues and improved livelihoods without altering the ecosystem.

9. Before I conclude, it is very importance to highlight the projects we implemented under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development from January, 2024 to December, 2024 as follows:

S/N	PROJECT (S)	Total Cost	Quantity	Location	Stage of Completion	Project Status	Beneficiaries
1.	Dry Season Vegetable Farming across the 34 LGA's, in collaboration with Local Governments.	1,900,000,000.00		Across the State	100%	Completed	2,040 Farmers in the State.
2.	Procurement of Fertilizer for 2024 Farming season	21,436,000,000	20,000mts	Across the State	100%	Completed	350,000 Farmers
3.	Resuscitation of Songhai at Makera	53,000,000.00		Dutsinma	10%	On-going	
4.	Purchase of 722 Motorcycles/Knapsack Sprayers to Extension workers across the State.	839,021,760.00	722 Motorcycles/Knapsacck sprayers	Across the State	100%	Completed	722 Coopted Extension Agents
5.	Woman Empowerment on Agricultural Enterpreneurship.	146,219,283.00		Across the State	40%	Ongoing	4,426 vulnerable Women .
6.	Repairs of 3no Tractors at KTARDA	4,855,400.00		KTARDA HQ	100%	Completed	
7.	Conduct of two (2) days Capacity Building Training of 722 co-opted Local Government Agric Staff	53,633,200.00		Across the State	100%	Completed	722 Coopted Extension Agents.
8.	Minor Repairs of Daberam Dam, Daura	1,462,000.00		Daberam	100%	Completed.	
9.	Jibia Irrigation Activities, supervisions and water supply at Jibia Irrigation Schemes.	78,000,000.00		Jibia	100%	Completed	
10.	Minor Repairs at Bakori Irrigation Scheme	1,928,000.00		Bakori	100%	Completed	
11.	Rehabilitation of Sagawa	4,728,000.00		Sagawa	100%	Completed	

	Irrigation Scheme						
12.	Repairs of 3No Zonal Produce Stores at Funtua,Daura and Katsina.	2,550,000		Funtua,Daura and Katsina.	100%	Completed	
13.	Procure Agro-chemical & Spraying equipment for prevention and Control of Emergency outbreak			Across the State	100%	22nd July,2024	
14.	Purchase and Distribution the assorted improved Seeds for sales to farmers for the 2024 planting	46,607,600		Across the State	100%	Completed	350,000 Farmers
15.	Settle PPS to the Governor to cater for the exigencies of transporting 80 trucks of fertilizer NPK & UREA from Kaduna Port Harcourt and Kakuri respectively	72,500,000.00			100%	Completed	
16.	Demonstration Training on Enterprises development for Woman and Youth on Income generation activities	2,550,000		Daura Senatorial Zone	100%	Completed	150 Woman and Youth
17.	Demonstration Training on Enterprises Development for Woman and Youth. (IFAD CASP)	17,387,974.00		Across the State	100%	Completed	100 Woman and Youth
18.	Recertification of Cooperative Society Project	2,000,000.00			100%	Completed	
19.	Rehabilitation of Dutsinma Songhai Center	33,068,800		Dutsinma	10%	Ongoing	
20.	Resuscitation of Cotton Value Chain In the State	59,967,000.00		Funtua (WACOTT)	100%	Completed	2,000 Farmers
21.	Zoonotic Disease Control	9,660,000.00		Across the State	100%	Completed	
22.	Development of Pan African Control of Epizootic	6,425,000.00		Across the State	100%	Completed	
23.	Ranch Development	688,943,450.00		11 LGAs	70%	Ongoing	
24.	Transportation of Food Grains From Federal	39,924,840.00		Katsina	100%	Completed	

	Government						
25.	Agricultural Mechanization (Purchase of Agric Implements)	10,000,000,000.00					
26.	Purchase of Liquid Fertilizer	10,000,000.00			50%	Ongoing	
27.	Procurement of Solar Water Pump and Power Tillers	8,281,340,000.00	4,000 Solar water pump and 4,000 Power Tillers	Across the State	90%		

10. Ladies and gentlemen, let us all put our hands on deck to build our future through agricultural and industrial revolution. Finally, I wish all our farmers a successful dry season and crave your indulgence to work hard for excellence in your farming endevour.

11. Thank you. May Allahu (S.W.T) bless Katsina State, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.