SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KATSINA STATE, MALAM DIKKO UMARU RADDA, PHD, CON, AT THE FLAG-OFF CEREMONY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE SHARGALLE-DUTSI-INGAWA ROAD

Protocols

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatul-Lahi Ta'al Wa Barakatuhu!

Today, we gather here to mark a significant milestone in our commitment to improving the infrastructure of Katsina State, specifically through the flag-off of the rehabilitation of the Shargalle-Dutsi-Ingawa Road, encompassing a stretch of 39 kilometres at the sum of 13.8 Billion Naira. This road, which has remained neglected since its last rehabilitation in 2004 under the administration of the late Malam Umaru Musa Yar'adua GCFR, is crucial for the connectivity and economic development of our communities.

I am profoundly aware of the challenges faced by residents and travellers along this vital route. The poor condition of this road has not only hampered the movement of people but has

also adversely affected trade, agriculture, and other socio-economic activities in our region. It has become imperative for us to take decisive action to restore this lifeline to its former glory.

The rehabilitation of this road is a key component of our 'Building Your Future Agenda' to enhance infrastructure across the State. Good roads not only facilitate the transportation of goods and services but also foster economic growth by attracting investments, creating jobs, and improving access to markets. This administration has prioritized infrastructure development as a means of stimulating our local economy and improving the quality of life for all residents.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Transport and contractor who have worked tirelessly to ensure that this project comes to fruition. We acknowledge that quality road construction requires

collaboration among all stakeholders, including local communities, to ensure that the final output meets our expectations and lasts for many years to come.

As we embark on this project today, I call upon everyone, community leaders, traditional rulers, and all citizens, to support this initiative by being vigilant and ensuring that the project is executed with integrity and diligence. Let us work together to hold the contractor accountable and to ensure that quality standards are met. This road belongs to all of us, and its successful rehabilitation is a testament to our collective efforts.

This ceremony is not just a flag-off; it is a promise, a promise that our administration is committed to the welfare of the people of Katsina State. It is a reminder that we are listening to your concerns and working to address them. We seek to empower our communities and uplift them through the power of infrastructural development.

Finally, I urge everyone to remain patient and supportive during the construction period. Let us keep our communities informed and engaged as we take on this ambitious project. Together, we will restore this road and pave the way for a brighter future for the people of Katsina State.

Thank you all for being here today, and may God bless us all.

Long live Katsina State

Long live Nigeria.