SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY, MALAM DIKKO UMARU RADDA, PhD, CON (THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KATSINA STATE) AT THE LAUNCHING OF 20,000 METRIC TONS OF FERTILIZER FOR THE YEAR 2025 WET SEASON FARMING, ON 5TH MAY 2025 AT KUSADA LGA SECTRETARIAT.

Distinguished guests, esteemed farmers and fellow citizens of Katsina State, I am honored to stand before you today to launch the fertilizer distribution for the year 2025 wet season farming.

2. This Program is a testament to our Government commitments toward supporting our farmers and promoting Agricultural Development in our State.

3. As we embark on this new farming season, I am proud to reflect on the achievements of our Government in the Agricultural Sector. Last year, we have procured 20,000 metric tons of fertilizer, which was distributed to our farmers across the State. This initiative resulted in a significant increase in crop yields and a bumper harvest, which not only improved food security but also boosted the incomes of our farmers.

4. In addition to fertilizer distribution, we have recently launched the Katsina State Agricultural Mechanization Centre, equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, including tractors, combine harvesters and other machineries, to provide our farmers with access to modern farming technologies and techniques, in order enhance their productivity and efficiency. We have also distributed 4,000 power tillers and 4,000 solar-powered water pumps to our farmers. These mechanized farming tools have greatly improved the efficiency and productivity of our farmers, enabling them to cultivate and irrigate their lands more effectively.

5. The impact of our initiatives was evident in the bumper harvest we witnessed last year. The increased use of fertilizer, combine with the adoption of mechanized farming practices, resulted in a significant increase in crop yields. This, in turn, improved food security, boosted the incomes of our farmers, and contributed to the overall growth of our state's economy.

6. As we launch the fertilizer distribution today for the year 2025 wet season farming, I am confident that our farmers will continue to benefit from our support. This programme is designed to provide our farmers with access

to high quality fertilizer at subsidized rates of N20,000.00k/Bag, so as to enable them to improve their crop yields and increase their incomes.

7. I also encourage our farmers to continue adopting mechanized farming practices and to explore new technologies that can improve their productivity and efficiency.

8. In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to the Honorable Commissioner Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and his team including the state and local governments' steering committees for their hard work, dedication for the successes recorded in the Agricultural Sector. And to all our farmers for their hard work and dedication to Agriculture. I am confident that with the continued support of our Government, we can achieve even greater success in the Agricultural Sector and improve the lives of our citizens.

9. Thank you, and I wish you all a successful farming season.

God bless Katsina State and God Bless our farmers.