



KATSINA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

**2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION SPEECH TO THE
KATSINA STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY BY HIS
EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR, AMINU BELLO
MASARI, CFR**

PROTOCOLS

INTRODUCTION

BISMILLAHIRRAHMANIRRAHIM.

As you are all aware, this is the last time I will stand here before the Honourable Members of Katsina State House of Assembly to present the draft annual budget for Katsina State Government. This budget is therefore designed to consolidate on the achievements we recorded as Government of Katsina State in the last seven and a half years.

In the tenure of this administration from 2015 to date, the Government has experienced a number of challenges which in one way or the other affected our performance, zeal and determination to deliver all our campaign promises. These include but not limited to the Covid-19 Pandemic, Cattle Rustling, Banditry, Armed Robbery, Low revenue income, etc.

Alhamdulillah, despite all these, the State Government has successfully touched all the sectors of the economy in general and Restoration Agenda in particular.

When we were elected as Government of Katsina State, we came in with a blueprint on the Restoration Agenda, which was designed to fulfill our campaign promises on:

- i) Education
- ii) Health
- iii) Agriculture
- iv) Water Resources
- v) Environment
- vi) Roads and Infrastructural Development

It is on record that the present Administration has successfully fulfilled most of the campaign promises as designed under the Restoration Agenda. In other words, the successes were recorded as a result of the

support of Honourable members of the State House of Assembly through the provision of adequate funds in the Annual Budget Estimates.

Details on the revenues and expenditure of Katsina State Government from May, 2015 to October, 2022 will be made available in due course.

2022 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

The performance of the 2022 Budget as at 31st August, 2022 is as follows:

RECURRENT REVENUE

The total revenue collected for the period 01/01/2022 to 31/08/2022 is in the sum of

N114,538,934,772.41 which is comprised of:

- i. Independent Revenue (IGR): N10,670,229,951.37
- ii. FAAC N55,788,370,713.34
- iii. AIDS and Grants: N18,063,792,212.10
- iv. Capital Development Fund
(SUKUK, Bridging Facilities & RAAMP) N30,016,541,895.60

Total = 114,538,934,772.41

EXPENDITURE

Recurrent Expenditure	=	N 52,283,538,001.24
Capital Expenditure (FAAC & Bridging)	=	N 46,782,920,708.50
SUKUK FUNDS	=	<u>N3,410,105,973.81</u>
		<u>N 50,193,026,682.31</u>
Total	=	<u>N102,476,564,683.31</u>
Balance C/F	=	N 12,062,370,089.10
Grand Total	=	N114,538,934,772.41

SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

The State Government has recorded some progress in the implementation of the 2022 Budget. As at 31st August, 2022, the following were spent on the critical sectors of the State:

Education	=	N21,130,086,576.86
Health	=	N19,976,360,024.00
Environment	=	N 1,923,692,620.44
Works	=	N9,540,192,488.64
Water Supply	=	N4,669,124,064.47
Agriculture	=	<u>N 3,276,426,516.19</u>
		N60,516,059,290.90
Other MDAs	=	<u>N41,960,505,392.41</u>
Total	=	N102,476,564,683.31

The performance on Capital Services as at 31st August, 2022 is **22.55%**. Other details on the performance of the 2022 budget will be provided by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning during the Ministry's annual Press Conference.

THE 2022 BUDGET REVIEW

The State Government has under the 2022 financial year executed meaningful and people oriented projects and programmes across the State. Some projects that were ongoing have been completed, taken over and put into proper and effective use by the Government. These have serious impacts on the people, the communities and the State in general.

The following is the review of the sectoral performance of the State Government under the 2022 Budget:

ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

As I mentioned in so many fora, the Present Administration before taking over as Government of

Katsina State designed a plan of action for the construction of new roads and bridges as well as rehabilitation and upgrade of the existing ones across the State. The Government has been carefully executing the projects and implementing the policies and programmes as carefully planned.

Under the 2022 financial year, the Government has awarded Contract to M/S Mothercat Ltd for the construction of an Interchange Flyover at Hassan Usman Katsina – Isa Kaita Road, GRA Katsina Roundabout at an ETC of N4,327,129,296.55. The project has recorded over 70% completion stage. The project, when completed, will ease traffic congestion in the area thereby facilitating free movement of vehicles to their destinations.

Similarly, the Government has under the 2022 Budget awarded Contract to M/S Afdin Construction Nigeria Ltd for the construction of 900metres Kofar Guga – Sullubawa – Masanawa Road at an Estimated Total

Cost of N512,075,719.70. The project is completed and handed over to the State Government.

The Government has been funding the on-going projects for the construction and rehabilitation of roads and bridges across the State. We are confident enough that most of the projects will be completed and commissioned before the end of our tenure in May, 2023.

Similarly, the Government is executing various roads and bridges under KASROMA. Some of these projects were completed while others are at different stages of completion.

Some of them include the construction of 1.3km Double Coat Surface dressing road along Karanbanin Dan Abba in Dutsinma Local Government Area at the cost of N46,573,704.00, construction of 13.0km Double Coat Surface dressed road along Zango – Dargaje – Fununi – Barage Road in Zango Local Government Area at the cost of N260,723,700.00. Also the construction of asphaltic

pavement and asphaltting of Masari Bypass Extension (Phase II) in Kafur Local Government Area at the cost of N368,782,330.00 has reached an advanced stage of completion. Similarly, the re-construction of Tafoki Road in Faskari Local Government Area at the cost of N267,950,000.00 is recording progress.

Other projects still under KASROMA include the construction of 2.0km single coat surface dressed township road at Musawa town, Matazu town, Batagarawa town, Kankara town, Charanchi town and Mashi town each at the cost of about N60,000,000.00. All the projects will soon be completed for effective utilization by the people of Katsina State.

In addition, KASROMA has completed the construction of 0.5km double coat surfaced dressed road behind Katsina Township Stadium in Katsina metropolis at the cost of N22,065,790.00. The rehabilitation/upgrade of streetlight along W.T.C Katsina – Mani Road in Katsina town at the cost of

N42,873,620.00 has been completed. Pothole patching and washout repairs along Charanchi – Marabar Musawa Road at the cost of about N50,000,000.00 has almost been completed. Also, the construction of 1.16km surface dressed (Dual) road along Old Yari Bori Road in Kafur Local Government Area at the cost of N94,836,250.00 has reached an advanced stage of completion.

The Katsina State Rural Electricity Board has under the 2022 financial year awarded so many Contracts for electrification projects across the 34 Local Government Areas of the State. These include the repairs of Power lines at Tashar Kadir, Eka, Kadandani, Iyatawa, etc in Rimi Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, repairs of Power line at Tashar Huraira – Faru/Lankwasau in Jibia Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, provision of electricity to Kurtufa Village in Batagarawa Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, provision of Electricity

to Kukar Samu – Marina, Tashar Bokiti in Safana Local Government Area at the cost of about N40,000,000.00 and provision of Electricity to Gurdo Village at Bayan Police Station in Kofar Yamma, Kofar Gabas and Kofar Arewa in Zango Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00.

Other electrification projects awarded by the State Government under the 2022 financial year include the provision of Electricity to Fago Village, Rijiyar Tsamiya in Sandamu Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, the provision of Electricity to Tadi Maikoni – Yarogal, Mai’adua town in Mai’adua Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, provision of electricity to Dutsi town, Shargalle, Kayawa, Yamel and installation of 4No. Transformers in Dutsi Local Government Area at the cost of about N50,000,000.00, among so many others.

Some of these electrification projects were completed and put to effective use while others are at various stages of completion.

EDUCATION

It is our belief that the best way to develop a society is to educate it. Education has therefore received attention of the State Government under the 2022 financial year. We have succeeded in providing conducive atmosphere for teaching and learning activities in Primary and Secondary Schools as well as Tertiary Institutions across the State.

Government has awarded Contracts for the rehabilitation of Government Pilot Day Secondary School, Zango in Zangon Daura Local Government Area at the cost of N228,307,206.60, the construction of 6No. Blocks of VIP toilets at Government Girls College, Katsina at the cost of N22,288,588.85, rehabilitation and upgrade of some facilities at Government Day Secondary School

Ingawa at the cost of N30,991,051.84, rehabilitation and upgrade of some structures at Government Day Secondary School Jikamshi at the cost of N48,790,131.23, construction of wall fence at Government Day Secondary School Charanchi at the cost of N27,089,814.56. Also, the State Government has awarded Contract for the rehabilitation and upgrade of Government Day Secondary School, Funtua Phase II at the cost of N192,864,539.48, rehabilitation and upgrade of some structures burnt by bandits at Government Day Secondary School Yar Malamai in Faskari Local Government Area at the cost of N45,170,435.67, among so many others.

Our policy for payment of Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination Fees for qualified Students has continued to receive our attention under the 2022 financial year. The State Government has paid the WAEC,

NECO, NABTEB, NBAIS Examinations fees for 59,280 Students amounting to the sum of N541,073,150.00.

Similarly, the sum of N59,568,882.00 was expended on Qualifying Examination and BECE Examination while the sum of N194,934,140.00 was spent on the purchase and distribution of textbooks and instructional materials to School across the State under the 2022 financial year. In addition, the Government spent the sum of N100,244,004.17 under the 2022 financial year to sponsor Students from Katsina State to attend the recently established Command Secondary Schools Faskari and Barkiya as well as the Community Secondary School Musawa.

The State Universal Basic Education Board has within the 2022 financial year executed meaningful projects for the development of Primary education across the State.

Contracts for the construction of wall fence, blocks of 2 classrooms, office & store and blocks of 2-cubicles VIP toilets were awarded in 77No. Primary Schools across

the State at the total cost of N1,049,067,578.72, while Contracts for rehabilitation and upgrade of blocks of classrooms in 74No. Primary Schools were awarded at the cost of N790,138,497.91. Similarly, Contracts for the production and supply of 16,450 furniture for distribution to Primary Schools across the State was awarded at the cost of N611,513,253,253.89 in addition to the Contracts awarded for the supply of 859 ECCD furniture for distribution to Primary Schools across the State at the cost of N53,175,066.09.

Other projects executed by the Board under the 2022 financial year include the rehabilitation and upgrade of Muhammadu Buhari Primary School, Daura at an Estimated Total Cost of N206,893,982.87, construction of 1 block of 2 classrooms, wall fencing and rehabilitation of 2 blocks of classrooms at Sani Danlami Primary School, Katsina at the cost of N48,586,673.20, rehabilitation of Dankada Primary School in Mashi Local Government Area at the cost of N22,556,660.79,

rehabilitation of Saitawa Primary School in Mai'adua Local Government Area at the cost of N25,425,337.24, rehabilitation of School structure at Jange 'B' Primary School in Kafur Local Government Area at the cost of N20,378,108.79, among so many others.

Most of these projects were completed and put into effective use while others are at various stages of completion.

ENVIRONMENT

The Policy of the APC Administration in the Environment Sector of Katsina State has remained to ensure environmental sustainability through flood and erosion control, increased resilience to climate change effects, waste management and pollution control.

During the year 2022 and in line with our resolve to implement phased programmes for the control of flood and erosion, the multi-year phase V projects are being carried out in 42 communities across the state and have successfully attained 75% completion stage. The total

cost of all the interventions under Phase V is over ~~₦~~4.348Billion. These and other interventions in the previous phases which include the Urban Drainages constructed under the NEWMAP in Katsina, Funtua, Malumfashi and Jibia Towns have ***Significantly reduced*** to minimum incidences of flooding across the state.

Some of the Phase V Projects which have been completed include the construction of drainages, vehicular/pedestrian access, culverts and laterite fillings at Dungun Muazu and Sabuwa town in Sabuwa LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~160 million; Kabomo in Bakori LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~102million; Mabai in Kankara LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~71 million; Unguwar Samari Kafur in Kafur LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~105million; Karadua in Matazu LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~106million; Bilbis in Faskari LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~112million; Dabai in Danja LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~156 million; Rogogon Gabas in Zango LGA at the cost of over ~~₦~~71million; Kongolom in Mai'adua LGA at the cost of over

₦77million; Tunas in Ingawa LGA at the cost of over ₦65million; Yamel in Dutsi LGA at the cost of over ₦77million; Runka in Safana LGA at the cost of over ₦62million; Rawayau in Kurfi LGA at the cost of over ₦64million, Rimi Town in Rimi LGA at the cost of over ₦51million and Behind KTARDA Quarters Dutsinma in Dutsinma LGA at the cost of over ₦121million.

Under the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP) in Katsina State, the sum of ₦189.2million was expended in the construction and erection of perimeter fence along the project corridors at Malumfashi and Funtua. This project was executed to improve the security of human and animal lives and enhance safety and effectiveness of the drainages.

In preparation for the take-off of the World Bank Assisted Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes Project (ACReSAL), the State Government paid the mandatory expression of interest counterpart

funds in the sum of ~~N~~1Billion. Our vision under this intervention is to have our priority projects (Katsina Phase II, Jibia Phase II and other water conservation schemes) which we have already made designs for implementation.

With the coming into effectiveness of the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP), Government has effected payment of counterpart funds in the sum of ~~N~~500million. The Project had in September 2022, commenced the construction of 24.5kilometers Danja to Bazanga to Nahuce with spur from Bazanga to Kokami Demonstration Road in Danja Local Government Area at the Contract sum of over ~~N~~2.41 Billion with a completion period of 18 months.

The State Government has sustained collaboration with the Great Green Wall Agency's "**Greening Efforts**" towards halting deforestation by 2030 in conformity with the Glasgow 2021 commitment, which His Excellency,

President Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFR* signed on behalf of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The Government has also, through the State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), sustained the provision of waste management supplies, environmental assessment gadgets and conduct of environmental sanitation exercises across the State.

WATER RESOURCES

One of the priorities of the present Administration is the provision of potable drinking water. The State Government has awarded Contract for Lot 1, Treatment Plant Works at Malumfashi Water Supply Scheme, Phase II at the cost of N2,672,160,051.00 as well as the Consultancy Contract for the project at the cost of N158,082,077.09. Also the Consultancy Contract for Kankara Water Supply Scheme and completion of Zobe Regional Water Supply Phase 1B were awarded at the cost of N430,084,774.28 and N180,031,286.70 respectively. Other projects include the procurement of

1No. High-lift pump and accessories for Funtua Water Works at the cost of N45,519,626.00, procurement and installation of 10No. Submersible pumps and cables for Daura Water Works at the cost of N39,941,160.00, the procurement and installation of 2No. High-lift pumps, 2No. Electric Panels, 1No. Change over switch and Laboratory equipment for Dutsinma Water Treatment Plant at the cost of N27,966,125.25. Similarly, the Government has awarded Contract for additional scope to the rehabilitation of clarifiers, pump station, procurement and installation of Electro-Mechanical Equipment at Ajiwa Water Treatment Plant at the cost of N1,660,194,681.15, purchase of Water Treatment Chemicals at the cost of N701,904,938.00, among so many others.

The State Government has under the 2022 financial year continued to adequately fund the Danja Dam and Access Road project which was awarded under Contract Financing Agreement at the cost of N9,735,259,116.01.

The project has reached an advanced stage of completion.

HEALTH

The State Government has recently secured the approval of the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Health for utilization of the Federal Medical Centre, Katsina as the Teaching Hospital for the Faculty of Medical Sciences of Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina.

In an effort to meet up the requirements of the National Universities Commission on the establishment of Teaching Hospital, the State Government awarded Contracts for the construction of some structures and provision of some equipment at the Teaching Hospital.

These include the construction of Female Hostel at the proposed Teaching Hospital at the cost of N197,210,000.00, the construction of Male Hostel at the cost of N197,210,000.00, the construction of Classrooms at the cost of N152,340,000.00, the construction of

Laboratory at the cost of N56,810,000.00. Other projects awarded by the State Government under the Ministry of Health include the construction of 2No. Hostel blocks at School of Midwifery Malumfashi at the cost of N89,152,006.25.

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Speaker, Hon. Members of the State House of Assembly, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, as we all know Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of Katsina State. The State Government has continued with so many activities to support farmers and agriculture in general across the State. These include the rehabilitation of 10No. Irrigation Schemes across the State at the cost of N44,523,793.94, the purchase of Agro-Chemicals for distribution to farmers across the State at the cost of N18,660,000.00, training and capacity building on Agriculture for 361 unemployed youth from across the State at the cost of N24,204,500.92, production of certified seeds for distribution to Wet Season farmers

across the State at the cost of N18,509,425.00, fencing of Malumfashi, Kankia and Dutsinma Zonal Irrigation Offices at the cost of N23,786,047.00.

In addition the State Government has commenced the implementation of Ranch Development Programme across the State. Already Government had awarded Contracts for the construction of Proto-type Ranch Infrastructures in Jibia, Batsari, Kurfi, Dutsinma, Safana, Danmusa, Kankara, Faskari, Sabuwa and Dandume Local Government Areas each at the cost of N305,041,037.88 totalling to the sum of N3,050,410,378.80. Also, as part of the pastoralists empowerment programme to cushion the effects of banditry and cattle rustling affecting the pastoralists, the State Government procured and distributed animal feeds to famers in the 10No. frontline Local Government Areas amounting to the sum of N227,000,000.00. Furthermore, the State Government expended the sum of N108,000,000.00 on the conduct of Livestock Census in the 34 Local Government Areas of

the State. While some of these projects were completed others are at various stages of execution.

SECURITY

The year under review has been a period during which this administration introduced and adopted a number of security strategies in an effort to win the fight against banditry, kidnapping and other sundry crimes in the State. The strategies include: change in the pattern of security operations, installation of communication and information equipment, recruitment and training of vigilante personnel, engagement of a Special Hunters Squad as well as increase in the provision of logistics support to Security Agencies.

In continuation of our efforts and complementary role on provision of security and protection of lives and properties, the State Government is perfecting arrangements to launch a Special Joint Security Operation to deal with the recent surge in banditry and kidnapping in the frontline Local Government Areas, and

the recent threat being recorded in the peripheries of Katsina metropolis. Mr. Speaker, this is what prompted me to request for a Special Supplementary Budget provision of the sum of N1.5Billion to cater for this purpose, which the Honourable House has graciously approved.

As communication and intelligence gathering and sharing are indispensable to effective security operations, the State Government through active collaboration and partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has upgraded the Information and Communication Centre. The Centre has been staffed and provided with all the necessary working gadgets, and payment of monthly allowance to the personnel has been ensured.

In a bid to strengthen our drive on community policing and community participation in security management, the State Government has planned the recruitment of 3,000 Vigilante personnel out of which

1,100 have been successfully trained and deployed to assist the Security Agencies in the conduct of Joint Security Operations. The process of recruiting the remaining 1,900 personnel has also commenced. In the same vein, this administration has engaged the service of another 100 Special Hunters Squad who are currently aiding our Security Operations in the frontline Local Government Areas.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable members of the State House of Assembly, we are not relenting on our resolve to sustain the provision of logistics support and assistance to the Security Agencies in order to strengthen their operational capabilities. The State Government has during the period under review spent over N100m on provision of 10No. Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) that were refurbished and remodelled in Kebbi State. Similarly, the State Government is spending the sum of over N140million monthly in funding the various security

operations in the State by way of payment of Ration Cash Allowance (RCA), fuelling and maintenance of vehicles.

Furthermore, in our efforts to curb the menace of banditry bedevilling our States and neighbouring Niger Republic, the State Government has recently hosted the Governors of Sokoto and Maradi Region in Niger Republic and the Deputy Governors of Zamfara and Kebbi States at a Multilateral Meeting on Cross-Border Transhumance and Security in Katsina. The meeting, which will be on rotational basis, has charted a course of renewed action to deal with insecurity between our borders and the borders of Niger Republic.

With the impending Rapid Response Security Operation, the State Government believes that by the grace of the Almighty Allah, normalcy will be restored and our people will remain in their respective communities peacefully and have the opportunity to access their farmlands for agricultural activities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023 BUDGET

The 2023 Budget which is tagged “Budget of Transition” is designed to complete ongoing projects and initiate other capital projects that can be completed within the life of this Administration.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly, other invited guests, the total budget for the 2023 fiscal year is in the sum of N288,633,257,963.00 with 63.77% Capital Expenditure and 36.23% Recurrent Expenditure. In aggregate terms, the 2023 Budget is lower than that of 2022 revised budget by N34,662,962,998.00. The 2023 Budget is structured with a total recurrent expenditure of N104,580,485,996.28 which is equivalent to 36.23% of the total budget and capital expenditure of N184,052,771,966.72 which is 63.77% of the total budget.

RECURRENT REVENUE

The total amount projected to finance the 2023 Budget is the sum of N184,052,771,966.72 which comprises of N62,592,051,331.00 as Internally Generated Revenues from the State Board of Internal Revenue and other MDAs. The Revenue Receivable through the Federation Account is estimated at the sum of N119,021,024,430.89 with an Opening Balance of N12,062,370,089.11.

It is important to note that the 2023 recurrent revenue has increased by 7.33% over that of 2022 Revised Budget. Similarly, the capital expenditure in the 2023 Budget has decreased by 20.92% due to drop in Capital Receipts.

RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

The recurrent expenditure of the 2023 budget is broken into the following components:

i) Personnel Cost/CRF Salaries	=N34,891,130,414.28	
ii) Pension and Gratuity	= <u>N13,080,000,000.00</u>	= <u>N47,971,130,414.28</u> 45.87%
ii) Other Recurrent Expenditure (Debt Servicing, Self-Sustain Expenditure & Overhead Costs)		<u>=N56,609,355,582.00</u> .13%
Total		<u>=N104,580,485,996.28</u> 100%

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE:

The sum of N184,052,771,966.72 which is equivalent to 63.77% of the total Budget is estimated for the capital expenditure. In line with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) the following are the four sectoral allocations recognized by IPSAS:

SECTOR	ALLOCATION	%
i) Economic Sector	= N83,294,219,978.00	= 45.26%
ii) Social Sector	= N81,358,212,977.00	= 44.20%
iii) Administration	= N17,539,490,974.72	= 9.53%
iv) Law & Justice	= <u>N 1,860,848,037.00</u>	= <u>1.01%</u>
Total	= <u>N184,052,771,966.72</u>	= <u>100%</u>

RESTORATION AGENDA

The Restoration Plan of the Present Administration comprises of programmes, projects and policies implemented under Education, Health, Water Resources, Agriculture, Environment, Works, Housing and Transport Sectors of the State Government. As a result therefore, the 2023 Budget has provided adequate allocation of

funds to the Priority Sectors of the State Government (Capital) as follows:

i)	Environment	=	N31,748,186,500.00	=	17.25%
ii)	Water Resources	=	N29,207,394,335.00	=	15.87%
iii)	Health	=	N23,974,614,962.00	=	13.03%
iv)	Works	=	N20,995,858,882.00	=	11.41%
v)	Education	=	N18,632,987,897.00	=	10.12%
vi)	Agriculture	=	<u>N13,604,292,049.00</u>	=	<u>7.39%</u>
	Sub Total	=	<u>N138,163,334,625.00</u>	=	<u>75.07%</u>
	Other MDAs	=	<u>N45,889,437,341.72</u>	=	<u>24.93%</u>
	Total	=	<u>N184,052,771,966.72</u>	=	<u>100%</u>

CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker, I wish to seize this opportunity to assure the people of Katsina State that the Present Administration has done well within the available resources to uplift the living standard of the people of Katsina State. I am sure posterity will judge our Government on the meaningful projects, programmes and policies implemented during its tenure as government of Katsina.

I wish to invite members of the press, NGOs and the general public to approach relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies for records of our performance including the costs of all the projects executed by the present administration.

I will not hesitate to express my sincere appreciation to the people of Katsina State for giving us the opportunity to serve them for eight years. I am sure our performance in the first four years must have encouraged you to elect the APC for another term of four years.

Alhamdulillah, we did not fail in our responsibilities to improve your lives and the condition of your livelihood within the available resources.

My appreciation also goes to the Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly for their support and co-operation. Indeed, one of the things I will never forget is the cordial and brotherly relationship with Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly.

Our common goal is to serve our people, as such the Honourable House considers and gives expeditious consideration on issues we forwarded to them, especially the annual budget estimates.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the State Assembly, I hereby wish to categorically state that I will miss this excellent working relationship. I hope that the same treatment will be accorded to the incoming administration.

As I always mention, no government can succeed without a functional, dynamic and robust judiciary. The Judicial arm of Government has within my tenure as Governor of Katsina State came up with so many initiatives to address our security challenges. I therefore wish to thank the State Judiciary for the support and initiatives that contribute greatly in the successes we recorded as Government of Katsina State.

Similarly, my appreciation goes to Their Royal Highnesses the Emir of Katsina and Daura as well as

other Traditional Rulers in Katsina and Daura Emirates for their support and fatherly advice on issues affecting the people of Katsina State. I wish to express our gratitude to Allah (SWT) for the safe return of His Royal Highness the Emir of Katsina, Alhaji (Dr) Abdulmumini Kabir Usman, CFR from a medical trip abroad. We pray for his long life and prosperity. In addition, I wish to acknowledge the contributions, support and co-operation of the Business Community, our elders, the Ulamas, Students, the Press, Professional Bodies and other Non-Governmental Organizations for their support and encouragement.

Recently, our Party, the APC conducted Primary Elections during which Candidates for various positions emerged. Prior to the elections, we organized prayer sessions and prayed to Allah to select the best Candidates for the people of Katsina. Alhamdulillah, our prayers were answered and the best Candidates emerged in all the elective positions. I wish to call on all

those that lost to accept the will of Allah and try their luck next time.

As the 2023 elections draw nearer, I wish to call on the people of Katsina State to elect APC Candidates at all levels for continuation of the people-oriented projects, programmes and policies the APC Governments at all levels are implementing. I am confident enough that what transpired during the 2015 and 2019 elections during which APC Candidates won at all levels in Katsina State and indeed the Federal Government will repeat itself in the 2023 Elections Insha Allah.

Finally, I wish all of you safe trip back to your respective destinations. Thank you all and God bless Katsina State and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.