

GOVERNOR ISA YUGUDA'S TWO-YEAR STEWARDSHIP IN BAUCHI STATE

YOUTH AND WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

The major challenge faced on assumption of office of the Yuguda administration in May 2007, was on how to manage the large number of unemployed youth and women who actively participated in the political revolution that brought in the administration into power in the state. Before the April 14, 2007 elections, there was youth restiveness which manifested itself into youth gangsterism, commonly referred to as 'Sara-suka', which was the wanton use of lethal weapons in minor social and political disagreements.

Consequently, the administration embarked on aggressive youth and women empowerment programme to address the unfortunate situation and meet the expectation of the people by establishing the Bauchi State Agency for Youth and Women Rehabilitation and Development (BAYWARD) in July, 2007. The agency was placed under the direct supervision of the governor's office.

From the 2007 to 2009 academic years, the agency was able to find placements in various tertiary institutions across the country for indigent students who possessed the requisite qualifications. Extramural classes were provided for those who had no requisite qualification to enhance their admissibility into the tertiary institutions.

The administration was able to pay for about 2,200 students to re-write their NECO/WAEC as well as U.M. Examinations. In addition to social and educational intervention, the agency also developed appropriate programmes for Youth and Women empowerment through skills acquisition, resettlement of trainees in various vocations and entrepreneurship training, preparatory to absorption into private and public enterprises.

Not only that, in an effort to get the youth and women off the streets and to improve their economic well-being, government approved through public/private partnership the engagement of about 4,000 unemployed youth and women in sanitary and security duties. It is gratifying to note that with the steps taken towards youth empowerment, the incident of youth gangsterism is now history in Bauchi State.

HEALTH

In an effort to address series of inherited health problems in the state, the administration embarked on the reconstruction and upgrading of important health institutions that include; the general renovation and upgrading of general hospital Tafawa Balewa, as well as re-equipping them with modern facilities. In the same vein, general hospitals Ningi and Jama'are were completed and commissioned. In addition, general hospitals Kafin Madaki and Katagum were relocated to more suitable sites where they are under going construction. The new general hospitals in Azare and Giade were commissioned. Similarly, general hospitals Dambam and Bogoro were renovated, now waiting commissioning. Contracts for the reconstruction of the general hospitals Toro and Bayara are at advanced stages of completion while construction works at Bauchi specialist hospital, male/female and Paediatrics wards were completed and put to use. Furthermore, a new accident and emergency unit of international standard was completed and commissioned by Mr President, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua. Similarly, a Dialysis (Renal) Centre equipped with State- of- the- Art facilities and the second of its kind in the North-East sub-region has been completed and commissioned. In the same vein all the 23 General Hospitals in the State were provided with brand new generating sets to ensure constant and steady supply of electricity to the hospitals. The Yuguda administration

had embarked on rehabilitation/renovation of over 24 Primary Health Centres across the State and recruited over 2,000 medical personnel/health workers of all grades as well as 30 Egyptian doctors to improve the health sector.

Ten shuttle buses were provided to the State Specialist Hospital Bauchi, while Azare Urban Maternity and General Hospitals Toro and Dass were provided with a bus each. In addition, 30 State-of-the-Art ambulances have been purchased and are about to be distributed to the General Hospitals in the State. Government has also improved the salaries of health workers through the adoption of HATISS/CONTISS as well as improved the drug revolving fund through private public partnership (PPP). Free health care services are now being rendered to women and children under the age of five. The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) successfully took-off in the State. With the state government release the sum of N45million monthly for beneficiaries to access special care health in designated hospitals across the state. Twenty-three girls and fifteen boys were sponsored by the Government to train as medical doctors in Egypt.

With all sense of modesty, the effort of the administration in improving the standard of health services in the state is responsible for the approval granted by the federal government for the establishment of a College of Medicine and the commencement of medical sciences programme at the Abubakar T/Balewa University as well as the establishment of a teaching hospital in Bauchi, which is the second in the northeast sub-region. Consequently, Bauchi Specialist Hospital and the School of Agriculture have been handed over to the Federal Government for the take off of the Teaching Hospital and College of Medicine, respectively.

Government has facilitated through the provision of accommodation and equipments for the establishment of the Specialists Eye Centre in partnership with the World renowned Al-basar Foundation. Similarly in partnership with Saudi Arabian authorities a Cardiac Centre will soon be established in the State which is the first of its kind in the Sub-region.

EDUCATION

When the administration took over the governance of the State in May 2007, it found all that an important sector like education was being allocated only N2.6 billion in the annual budget.

This was temper immediately reviewed upward the budgetary allocation of the Ministry of Education to N11.6 billion in 2008 to provide and the required funds for proper reforms. Government also awarded contracts for the total renovation of A.D. Rufa'i College of Legal and Islamic Studies and renovation and upgrading of eighteen other secondary schools and the Sa'adu Zungur Primary School of which have been completed and commissioned, while Sa'adu Zungur is rearing completion. Six of the secondary schools were equipped with 350kva generators to ensure steady electricity supply to the schools. Government also recruited over 200 teachers on contract and over 1000 fresh graduates to boost the teaching staff strength of schools. 54 schools were provided with functional boreholes and another 23 are being provided with the same facility. Rate for feeding of students was increased by 100%. The state Universal Basic Education SUBEB was provided with additional 900 NCE/Graduate teachers absorbed from the National teachers scheme, while the Girl-child education has received a boost from a pilot project in 6 Local Government Areas in the State under the phase I project which has now been replicated to all the Local Governments in the State. This project includes feeding and augmenting the cost of learning material to the Girl-child.

About 20 Vehicles were procured and presented to the Ministry of Education for effective supervision and control of schools. Six secondary schools for married women, with each all the six

emirates, are almost of establishment. Plans are underway to establish a Teachers' Academy with a view to improving the quality of Teachers service in the State. 20,000 twin desk and furniture for 62 schools principals were procured and distributed to the schools. Government has also renovated five laboratories in some selected secondary schools and equipped them and paid NECO and SSCE exams fees for a total of 21, 000 students. Over 6 million copies of assorted text books were procured and distributed to public schools in the state.

In order to provide more qualitative tertiary education for the people of the State, Government approved the establishment of a State University with the main Campus at Azare and two campuses at Misau and Bauchi. Already an implementation Committee for the establishment of the University has been appointed. The State Government is also sponsoring the establishment of a Medical College at the Abubakar T/Balewa University and to this end; the college of Agriculture of the State Polytechnic has been given and to ATBU to were as of site the College of Medical Sciences, while, contract for the building of the new college of Agriculture at Kangere has been awarded and work has since commenced.

Scholarship for indigenous students in tertiary institutions was reviewed upward by 100% and 21 students are in the USA for piloting and aircraft maintenance engineering [programme which cost the administration N160 million annually. 23 Girls and 15 boys are currently in Egypt studying medicine at Ain-shams University and University of Alexandria respectively at an annual cost of N80 million.

The Sum of N610,566,786.00 was disbursed as scholarship to indigenous students of Bauchi State for the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008/ academic years. Furthermore, the sum of N105,000,000:00 was contributed to the School of Remedial Studies Funtu'a in Kaduna, in accordance with the resolution reached at the meeting of the Northern Governors' Forum in Kaduna.

Additional sum of £88,130, \$326,863 and N290, 791, 000. 00 was approved and released for the 2008/2009 academic year. Other indigenes were sponsored to study advanced welding and fabrication at the Nigerian Naval College Sapele in Delta State.

3. The total sum spent on scholarship by the present administration from inception include; N1, 222, 609, 532, £88,130:00 and \$326,863:00 respectively.

CIVIL SERVICE

The State Civil Service prior to the inception of the Yuguda Administration in May, 2007 was characterised by inadequate working equipment, moderate and poor remuneration. The situation led to a demoralised and unproductive civil service. Conscious of the fact that the civil service is the major tool for the implementation of government policies and programmes, the administration embarked on the provision of basic incentives to the civil servants include; upward review of salaries and provision of 1,000 brand new cars to senior officers at 50% subsidy and 5,000 motorcycles to junior workers at 20% subsidy. The government also effected payment of pension arrears it inherited from the previous administration to the tune of 600 million naira as well as upward review of pensions to 50% from what it inherited. The Yuguda administration inherited a debt of 100 million naira as accumulative and unpaid charges for the period of eight years under the previous administration, while this government for the period of the two years it has stayed, spent 97 million naira for workshop, training and re-training within and outside the country. The construction of 800 housing units that are nearing completion through PPA and are to be allocated on owner occupier basis when completed. The re-introduction of car revolving scheme to the tune of 200 million naira for officers on GL 7-13 to cater for the cadre that did not qualify for the car loan scheme. Promotion

in service was frustrated, however during the period of report, 428 officers were promoted to senior cadre.

Provision and installation of communication gadgets (PBX) connecting all the ministries and departments in the state secretariat was executed at 100 million naira.

Installation of power generating set of 1250kva was done to correct the epileptic power supply to the state secretariat. In the same period, the administration introduced the promotion examination for the-would be qualified senior civil servants to eradicate the declining productivity.

This is in addition to the reinvigoration of owner-occupier of government houses scheme with downward review of 30% from the point the present administration inherited the scheme.

AGRICULTURE

In an effort to provide the teeming farmers in the state with their fertilizer requirements, Government purchased 30,000 metric tons of fertilizer for the 2008/2009 farming season and on additional 44, 200 metric tones was ordered, and government is promoting the use of organic fertilizer. In addition to the 25% subsidy by the federal Government, the state Government has further subsidized fertilizer by 40%. To ensure that fertilizer reaches the farmer at the grassroots, 70% of the commodity was allocated to wards and Local Government Areas for even distribution and to further boost agricultural activities in the State, 23 brand new tractors were purchased from the federal government and 1,200 power tillers were also purchased from Steyr (Nig) Ltd., out of which 50 were allocated to each of the local government areas in the state. 20 inherited broken down tractors were also refurbished and palter are. Furthermore, the abandoned 4,000 metric tons grains Silos project at Boto in T/Balewa L.G.A and commissioned while completed. Similar ones were also completed in Bauchi and Azare towards. Arrangement for the construction of 10,000 metric tons Silos at Kangere is at an advanced stage. Government has also sold 16,000 metric tons of grains to members of the public at subsidized rates to cushion the effect of hardship in order to reduce farmer/reasons conflicts in the state, government embarked on the rehabilitation of grazing reserves located at Udubo, Yautare, and Jirr in Gamawa, Darazo and Tafawa Balewa local government areas respectively. While similar, plans are underway to develop 2,000km of stock routes across the state and the phase one of the project will soon commence.

The administration also constructing six veterinary clinics at Dass, Alkaleri, Dambam, Ganjuwa, Itas and Zaki Local Governments in addition, the sum of N39 million was committed for the veterinary drugs revolving fund.

Government has also re-introduced the abandoned annual vaccination programme for cattle while preparation for a standard abattoir for Bauchi town and environs, as well as pest control programme are in the pipeline.

WORKS AND TRANSPORT

In an effort to ensure easy movement of people and goods from the rural to urban areas in the state, government embarked on the construction of 65km Azare-Isawa-Giade-Kurba-Basirka road, 88km Alkaleri - Futuk road, and 113km Ningi - Burra road. Contracts for these projects were while work has reached advanced stages. The Azare - Isawa - Giade stage of the project has been completed; work on the other two projects has reached advanced staged. The administration also embarked on the construction of offices for political appointees, renovation of Commissioners' Quarters, renovation of four grounded fire fighting vehicles, renovation of Bauchi airport terminal,

repair were of washouts at Luggudi/Bawari and Burga as well as Misau/Hardawa roads. Government is also handling the preparatory work for the development of Bauchi International Airport with two Engineers from the Ministry sponsored for post graduate diploma Earo Dome engineering course at the Singapore Aviation Academy.

Furthermore, in an effort to boost our transportation sector, government purchased twenty 14-seater buses, 10 Canter Vans, 2 Peugeot Partner, 1 Ambulance, 1 Towing Vehicle and 1 Toyota Corolla to serve the state flout and also to purchase two Macopolo buses and additional twenty 18-seater Busses in the 2009 fiscal year. For the state transports company, Yankari Express.

WATER SUPPLY

Government had within the last two years, constructed water supply schemes in 54 schools and 28 hospitals and clinics across the state. Similarly, affective water schemes were provided in the towns of Gololo, Kari and Bogoro while the Bauchi specialist hospital water supply scheme was upgraded. Other water supply schemes executed by the government include the Bayara water scheme and that of the NDLEA state command. The Liman-Katagum water scheme was also upgraded. Other Contracts that are ongoing include the construction of water schemes at 38 different locations in the State by Messrs China Zhonghoa while the Gubi dam water treatment plant is now producing at its ten million gallon per day capacity due to complete turn around and rehabilitation by the present administration. The abandoned 2.5 million Gallons per day plant at Gudum is under rehabilitation and expansion to meet the demands of the metropolis. Government has also identified six irrigation pilot projects across the local government areas of Zaki, Alkaleri, Darazo, Dambam and Shira. It is intended to scout for more to start small scale irrigation practices. Moreover, Misau water supply scheme is also being improved.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Two Billion Naira start-up capital was approved by the Government for small scale commercial enterprises who could not have access to banking facilities due to lack of collateral. N500,000,000:00 was released out of the total amount approved. This gesture will also be extended to trade unions and associations while a loan management committee was appointed to manage the scheme. In an effort to attract foreign investors with a view to investing in the state, government embarked on updating the Investment potential booklet of the state which was last published 1992. Survey has been conducted on the five state hotels whose contract for rehabilitation will soon be awarded. Government also provided N25million Naira each to 10 erstwhile Community Banks owned by some Local Government Areas in the state for recapitalisation and upgrading to Microfinance Institutions. The same gesture will be extended to all the 20 Local Government Areas. Government also facilitated the establishment and take-off of The Nigerian Stock Exchange trading floor in Bauchi and the sum of over N64 million was provided for the project. The Bauchi Meat Products Company has been reactivated and the installation of granulator at Bauchi Fertilizer Blending Company was reactivation of ceramic company of Misau have been effected. To save the State of the trouble of long delayed in procurement, supply and distribution of its furniture, reasonable the State Government has established the Bauchi Furniture Company and this act alone now, the administration produces, supplied and distribute all secondary schools with quality and durable furniture. The company is also diversifying in the production of home furniture. Plans are in the pipeline for the award of contract for the construction of the Dindima water project, which would be used for Hydroelectricity Power Generation and Irrigation. The Bauchi Inland Container Depot, a Petroleum Refinery, a Mini Sugar Company, Honey Processing Factory and the renovation and upgrading of Zaranda Hotels are also receiving government attention. One thousand tricycles were procured and given out to individuals on hire purchase basis for commercial transportation.

BUDGET AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

Government has successfully implemented the Bauchi State Economic and Empowerment Development Strategy (BASEEDS) which now forms a practical roadmap to sustainable growth and development of the state. Another important development is the sourcing of vision Africa of the USA which provides link for support to the state in a lot of developmental ways. Government has also addressed the unpaid counterpart funds; to many donor agencies to the tune of N98, 527,579.00 signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Woods International LLC, a Consulting Firm, for the economic transformation of the state.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Government is currently undertaking the construction of 20 new solar powered water schemes in the local government areas in addition to the drilling of 200 hand pumps boreholes in the 20 Local Government Areas. Eight Local Government Areas have been linked to the 132/33 KVA substation in Azare while the State general hospitals were provided with transformers and 40 assorted distribution transformers for various communities and government agencies were procured and another 50 units. Contracts for the construction of rural roads from Gamawa to Alagarno, Soro-Miya and Rishi - Hayin Kanawa were awarded and are on going.

Recently the contract of the upgrading and resurfacing of Magama Gumau-Rahama and Rishi-Tama road 100km was awarded and the rehabilitation of broken Network of rural electrification across the State. Provision of sub-stations at Waya-Dam Small hydro electric power stations and linking of 3 communities of Kimi, Gilliri and Ruwanda in Bauchi LGA was successfully accomplished.

YANKARI POWER AND KAFIN ZAKI DAM PROJECTS

Arrangement reached an advanced stage between Bauchi State Government and a German Company to dredge/develop Dindima Dam with a view to generating Electricity and Irrigation facilities. When completed the Dindima Dam project will generate 100 megawatts of electricity which is more than the requirement of Bauchi State that is 70 megawatts. The state will therefore have an excess of 30 megawatts which would be sold to neighbouring states, to boost its revenue generation.

The State Government also entered into an agreement with Dangote firm to complete the abandoned Kafin Zaki Dam. This will also be used for irrigation and generation of electricity. All these are done by the Yuguda administration with a view to creating enabling environment to attract both Domestic and Foreign Direct Investment.

NOMADIC EDUCATION

One of the problems of Nomadic Education during the previous dispensation was inadequate budgetary provision. For instance, when the Yuguda administration assumed office in May, 2007, only N15 Million was provided for Nomadic Education in that year's budget. In order to ensure adequate funding of the Nomadic Education programme, the Administration made a budgetary provision of N60 Million during the 2008 fiscal year raised to N110 Million for the 2009 fiscal year.

6. It is the desire of the administration to provide conducive learning environment and facilities for our nomadic schools within the resources available. To this end the government will spare no effort in ensuring the total and comprehensive overhaul of the dilapidated and obsolete structures in nomadic institutions. It is its intention that by the end of our first term in office, all Nomadic schools

would be equipped with relevant facilities to hasten the process of learning. To this end, textbooks worth N30Million were procured for distribution to Nomadic Education Primary Schools throughout the State, two 4-Wheel drive vehicles were also provided to boost the fortune of nomadic education in the State.

7. For proper understanding of issues and articulation of policies, the government engaged the services of a seasoned consultant on nomadic education in the person of Professor Ardo Chima Ezeomah. Furthermore, it established a fully pledged Nomadic Education Agency with an office complex which was renovated and provided with furniture items at the total cost of N20,757,554.10.

YOUTH AND SPORTS

In a bid to secure the hosting right of the FIFA U-17 World Soccer Tournament slated for Nigeria in September, 2009, the State Government awarded contracts worth about N657,234,315.00 for the general upgrading of Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Stadium, Bauchi to meet FIFA standard. This includes installation of artificial turf, renovation and upgrading of main gallery, medical centre, supply of medical equipment, construction of Presidential Stand, supply and installation of FIFA standard LED display and energy saving floodlight, Electronic Scoreboard and construction of media centre. Work at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Stadium (ATBS) is completed and the Stadium is now ready for use. Zaranda Hotel Bauchi was also renovated with all the facilities to meet the FIFA standard.

RULE OF LAW AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL ARMS OF THE GOVERNMENT

In our current democratic set-up in Bauchi State, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary see each other as partner in progress. This is because of the belief that the three arms constitute the tripod on which the system stands.

There has never been any conflict or misunderstanding amongst and between the three. The Executive, has the rule of law, transparency and accountability the guiding principles which prompted the government to establish Public Procurement and Price Intelligence Unit with a well constructed and fully equipped office. It might interest you to know that through the act and services of the Due Process Unit government was able to save over N1.8 billion. Considering the posture on the rule of law, it also took it upon itself to continue to consolidate the existing relationship with the Legislature and the Judiciary. As a practical demonstration of this harmonious relationship, the State Government is doing everything possible to provide conducive- working environment for members of the Legislature and Judiciary to discharge their constitutional responsibilities. To this end, the entire Bauchi State House of Assembly complex was renovated. While the main Chamber was completed and put to use, the administrative block has reached an advanced stage of completion. Vehicles were provided for all the members of the Assembly to ease their transportation problems. All the bills proposed by the Executive Arm were passed into law by the Honourable House.

The Judiciary was prior to the advent of this present administration in the state, several of operational problems. In an effort to address these problems, the administration purchased and supplied new brand 60 KVA and 40 KVA Generators to the residences of the Hon. Chief Judge, Grand Khadi, Judges, Khadis and Chief Registrars of the High court and Shariah court of Appeal. Also a 50 KVA Generator was installed at the High Court and Shariah Court of Appeal premises. It reviewed upward the remuneration of Judges of the Lower Courts and also improved and introduced new allowances for the staff of the Judiciary, in addition to providing official vehicles to the Magistrates.

For the first time in the history of Bauchi state, every Local Government Area now has a Magistrate Court and approved the purchase of law books for the High Court Library.

Within the last two years, this administration awarded about 64 contracts for the renovation, furnishing and supply of equipment to Government offices and residences including the three liaison offices in Abuja, Kaduna and Lagos as well as some palaces of traditional Rulers. Government also procured and allocated some communication gadgets to the State Police Command and the Armoured Corps Centre and School, Bauchi.

About 600 brand new vehicles were procured and allocated to various offices, political appointees and top government officials for efficient discharge of official responsibilities.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

A Debt Management Office was established to handle all debt related matters. About 1,000 civil servants on GL. 07 benefited from the motor vehicle loan while about 3,000 GL. 06 staff so far enjoyed motorcycle loan schemes. The construction of the treasury and Board of Internal Revenue complex was completed and furnished with modern State-of-the-art furniture and equipment.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Bauchi State Government is fully committed to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. The commitment was clearly demonstrated by our administration by putting a permanent structure to coordinate all Millennium Development Goals activities in the state.

With the Project Support Unit (PSU) of the Millennium Development Goals fully in place, Bauchi State Government applied and accessed the 2007 Conditional Grant Scheme (CGS) of One billion Naira from the Federal Government for the Provision of 100 Solar Powered Boreholes across the 20 Local Government Areas of the State. To further demonstrate its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals Water Projects, the State Government released the sum of N200 Million as its counterpart funding for the provision of 200 hand pumps also across the 20 Local Government Areas of the State. The entire sum of N1.2 billion was channelled towards the provision of water. Gentlemen of the press, with all sense of modesty, I am proud to say that we have during the last two years executed projects that touch the lives of the people in the nooks and crannies of the State. As a matter of fact what I have enumerated in this text are by no means exhaustive of our achievements during the last two years. I want to use this forum to assure the good people of Bauchi State of our relentless and irrevocable commitment to up-lift of their well being through the provision of infrastructural facilities and social amenities.

I however appeal for understanding by the people due to the dwindling resources at the disposal of the government occasioned by the current global economic meltdown. It is a fact that no meaningful development can take place without peace. I therefore call on the good people of Bauchi State to continue to live peacefully with one another irrespective of their ethnic, religious and political differences.

They should not allow themselves to be misguided into any act that is capable of breaching the peace under any guise. Government is very much aware that there are some few selfish and disgruntled politicians who want to take advantage of our differences to cause confusion and disorder in the state. Let me therefore warn this group of politicians to refrain from such tendency in their own interest, as the government would not standby and watch them perpetrate their evil

machinations. The full wrath of the law would be brought to bear on any person or group of persons whose utterances or actions are capable of breaking the peace.

Finally, I would like to appeal to the good people of Bauchi State to continue to support and pray for the Government in its effort to deliver democracy dividends. We should also pray for peace, progress and development of Bauchi State in particular and Nigeria in general.

Thank you and God bless.