

NGF PEER REVIEW TOUR OF OGUN STATE
SUNDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY - THURSDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 2010

Brief History

Ogun State, created in 3rd February 1976, is a state in South-Western Nigeria with Abeokuta, the largest city in the state, as its capital. There are twenty local government areas accommodating 4,054,272, (2005 estimate) population of people in the state. The governor of the state is Otunba Olugbenga Daniel, a member of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

NGF Peer Review Team Arrival in Ogun State.

The peer review team of the Nigeria Governors Forum led by Mr. Asishana Bayo Okauru, Director-General, arrived Abeokuta, Ogun State on Sunday, 4th February, 2010.

Received by Mr. Adegbemi Onakoya, the Secretary to the State Government, the team began its mission to the state with briefing session by ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) of the state which enlightened members on the team on the various developmental programmes of His Excellency, Otunba Olugbenga Daniel since 2003 that he had been steering the ship of Ogun State.

It was vintage Otunba Olugbenga Daniel, who eloquently highlighted his socio-economic blueprint for the overall development of Ogun State when the team visited him in his office at the state secretariat in Abeokuta. The governor, who said his compelling vision in Ogun State was commitment to highest quality of service delivery, broadened economic base through expanded economic growth opportunities all of which had become manifested and measurable as the

once-upon-a-time civil servant state was gradually becoming a preferred destination for, foreign and local investors.

To further strengthened the state manpower capacity to drive the socio-economic growth of the new Ogun State, Governor Gbenga Daniel said an improved access to quality but proactive education became necessary. Hence, 26.7% of the state budget was allocated to education thus surpassing the UNESCO benchmark of 25%. At the same time, more institutions, strategic to the human capital development of the state, were established. These included 4nos ICT Monotechnics, a specialized university for education and another institution, Gateway Industrial Petrochemical Institute, to train and develop professionals in oil and gas to provide manpower for the Olokola Free Trade Zone and OK Deep Sea Port, an initiative which the state government projected would provide 100,000 direct employment, 200,000 indirect employment in over 1000 companies thus bringing about a multiplier development of the state IGR base.

The visit of the team was concluded with visits to some specific project sites of the Daniel led administration and a breakfast meeting with His Excellency, Otunba Gbenga Daniel where further advice from the team of policy consultants of the NGF was unfolded for the advantage of the state.

Human Capacity Development and Empowerment

- **Education**

Education sector in Ogun State, prior to the coming of His Excellency, Otunba Gbenga Daniel, was bedeviled with many seemingly insurmountable problems characterized with dilapidated infrastructures, low morale and inadequate teaching manpower as there was an indefinite embargo placed on employment by the previous administration which extended to negative impact on teaching and learning process in the state.

Those problems were taken as a major challenge and were confronted frontally by Daniel administration which rehabilitated the existing primary and secondary schools, effected the promotion of 3,294 school teachers to boost their morale, paid 10years accumulated pension and gratuity of retired teachers to give positive hope to those still in teaching service while over 35,770 teachers had been employed directly and through the Daniel administration Graduate/Voluntary Teachers Scheme Initiative.

The secondary education sector had received massive support from Daniel administration as 90% of the schools had been supplied with computer sets to boost their access to information via internet while provision of instructional materials, teaching aids, science equipment, 250KVA generators were the trends of supplies to secondary schools.

As part of measures to decongest classrooms and bring access to education nearer to the people, Daniel administration established 3nos new secondary schools namely St. Michaels High School, Ota, Community High School, Mowe and OGD High School, Makun-Omi.

Daniel administration extensive support to education in Ogun State had been complemented with establishment of additional tertiary institutions in Ogun State. In addition to Olabisi Onobanjo University, Moshood Abiola Polytechnic and Tai Solarin College of Education, the state government established ICT polytechnics in Itori, Ijebu-Igbo, Saapade and Igbesa while a specialized university for education was created from the Tai Solarin College of Education, Ijagun, Ijebu Ode thus necessitating separate campuses of Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijebu-Ode and Tai Solarin College of Education, Omu, Ijebu.

With 26.7% budget allocation to education and regular monthly payment of teachers and lecturers' salaries to the tune of ₦920million, and complementary

philanthropic donation of ₦200 million worth of library building in Ijebu-Ode by Chief Bayo Kuku and establishment of Gateway Readers Club, Ogun State is poised to remain as the education centre of Nigeria economic growth.

The team visited Moshood Abiola Polytechnic, Abeokuta (where 34nos massive building projects had been completed from 2003-2010 by Otunba Gbenga Daniel), Tai Solarin University of, Ijagun Ijebu-ode, (which started in 2005 but had quality infrastructures that could compete with any well-established universities), Abeokuta Grammar School (with teacher-pupil ratio of 1:45 and 22 units of computer sets) and St. Andrew Primary School, Ibara Abeokuta (where the state through SUBEB had installed functional computer laboratory and library as model for other primary schools).

At Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijebu-Ode the pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Prof Olukayode Oyesiku informed the team that the Daniel administration in Ogun State realized that funding of higher institutions could not continuously rely on state government, hence his administration had engineered the university to externally source for fund through endowments which had translated to over ₦1.4billion physical assets donation to the university by corporate bodies and individuals in Nigeria. Meanwhile, the state government spent ₦26million every year on human capacity development of academic staff in the university.

- **Health**

The health sector in Ogun State had had its fair share of positive intervention by Daniel administration. The present administration was committed to a consolidated and secured future for the indigenes and residents in Ogun State by approaching all of the many begging issues in the sector with prompt and adequate intervention.

To provide quick access to medical services by the grassroots citizens, the state government initiated Ogun Rural Medical scheme (OGRUMED) and constructed 3nos General Hospitals in Omu, Atan and Itori to fast track their access to secondary health facilities in addition to complete rehabilitation of the existing 18nos general hospitals in Ogun State.

The present administration had also intervened in providing conducive for students in the state health institutions. The institutions included School of Nursing, Abeokuta, School of Midwifery, Abeokuta, School of Nursing, Ilaro, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Ijebu-Ode and Ogun State University Teaching Hospital (OSUTH) where 14nos apartments had been completed to provide accommodation for resident doctors in the tertiary health institutions.

The team from NGF visited a number of health facility in the state to feel the state government intervention. At the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital popularly known as OSUTH, the state government had invested ₦8.7billion to construct a well equipped Accident and Emergency Ward, a modern mortuary facility of 4x18 freezer completed with a research area for forensic and hispathology practical class for medical students of Olabisi Onabanjo University, modern Radiology Centre in public private partnership with First Foundation and many more.

Similarly, A \$ E Hospital had been completed at the State General Hospital, Ijaye, Abeokuta where the Chief Consultant, Dr Nafiu Olatunde Aigoro conducted the team round the sophisticated facilities provided by Daniel administration.

The hospital building and equipment cost ₦35million and ₦2million respectively. Other A&E facilities were adequately provided with medical personnel's while more were being trained. OOUTH alone had 54 consultants and 89 resident doctors while another 35 resident doctors and 7 consultants

attended to patients at General Hospital, Ijaye Abeokuta not to mention medicals doctors in the 423 primary Health Centers across the 20 LGAs of the state.

- **Primary Health Care**

In an endeavour to provide quality health care services to the people in Ogun State, Daniel administration, according to Dr. Toye Alatishe, Executive Secretary, State Primary Health Care Board, had continued to provide adequate medical equipment and personnel support to the over 423 PHCs in Ogun State.

Daniel administration was complementing the PHCs with activities of OGRUMED, which took specialists and other health personnel to rural people for minor surgical operations and other specialists care, an effort that had improved access of the people to quality service delivery.

- **Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment**

Since inception in 2003, the administration of Otunba Gbenga Daniel had been combating poverty among the people of the state at all fronts through many initiatives that ranged from skill acquisitions, agricultural training to providing direct employment in various project sites in the state. Daniel administration – Governor Gbenga Daniel informed the team that his administration had established Ogun State Employment Generation Programme (OGEGEP) which took census of the different categories of unemployed people in Ogun State in 2003, an exercise which resulted in reawakening of the man settlements for agriculture enthusiasts, with many others trained in non-agricultural vocations with monthly stipend given to motivate them and soft loans to set them up after training. Over 50,000 unemployed had benefited from the scheme across Ogun State.

To provide access to micro credit loans to small scale farmers and other small medium entrepreneurs in Ogun State to revive many of them from weak capital base to boost their trades, the Daniel-led administration instituted Ogun State Agriculture and Multi Credit Agency (OSAMCA), an agency which had engendered wealth promotion and employment growth through credit supports to over 4,383 small scale farmers, 200 groups and 17,568 individuals. The agency had disbursed a total sum of ₦800,870,225 towards fulfilling its mandate to the people in Ogun State.

Daniel administration also generated employment for the good people of Ogun State through the Bureau of Transportation, an agency established in 2003 to articulate the transport policy of the state government. In order to create job and sustain the scheme, Otunba Gbenga Daniel imported at over ₦200million several cars, 200 buses and 60 long buses for tertiary institutions and workers to reduce fares paid by them. About 1,500 units of motorcycles had also been procured and distributed to empower many of the teeming youths in Ogun State.

The buses and taxi cars were given on franchise to private operators with an access fee as low as ₦200,000 depending on the value of the car and or bus to be allocated.

Infrastructural Development

▪ Roads

Governor Olugbenga Daniel's administration was committed to continuously providing critical infrastructure such as motorable roads to meet the needs of the constantly expanding population of Ogun State. To permanently solve the perennial traffic gridlock experienced in the state capital, the administration had concluded dualisation of most major roads in the state, especially, to add to the aesthetic quality of the state, Governor Gbenga Daniel

said all major entrances into the state capital had been marked for dualisation by the Ogun State Road Maintenance Agency (OGROMA). Otunba Gebga Daniel equally told the team that the agency had completed dualisation of 2Nos roads, constructed 25Nos new roads and achieved extensive rehabilitation of over 60Nos roads in the state.

According to Governor Gbenga Daniel, the dualisation of the 36.6kms Abeokuta-Sagamu, was constructed to satisfaction by OGROMA at the cost of ~~₦~~1.3billion while approval for ~~₦~~500million had been made for final asphalt overlay of the road by OGROMA. The governor informed that all road projects in Ogun State were executed by OGROMA through direct labour thus building the capacity of the engineers in the state.

So far, OGROMA had constructed and or rehabilitated a total 283Nos road of varying distance in all the three senatorial areas of Ogun State. The team visited the dualised Lalubu-Oke-Ilewo-Omida Road (1.2km, three lanes at ~~₦~~94million), the completed Phase I (8 roads, 3.7km) and Phase II (5 roads, 2.9km) Sagamu Township road project with an outstanding 5.3kms at ~~₦~~226million and Isaga Orile-Sokoto Express Way road projects completed at ~~₦~~2.5billion all of which were handled directly by the Ministry of Works through OGROMA.

In addition, the street lighting component of roads in all of the major roads in all parts of the state, according to Governor Gbenga Daniel were executed by the Bureau of Electrical Engineering Services (OGSEP). Governor Gbenga Daniel said his administration was committed to efforts boosting the economy of the state by promoting local content policy which ensured that the wealth generated from the various developmental initiatives in the state was retained in the state for investment in other economic activities.

Hence, in installing streetlights in the state, his administration through OGSEP contracted the construction of the streetlight poles to several local

welders in Ogun State which produced each of the poles at ₦28,000 in accordance to specification got from Julius Berger PLC.

- **Water**

The administration of Governor Gbenga Daniel, on assumption in 2003 met a water scheme that was characterized by aged equipment in a state of disrepair, ill-equipped and ill-motivated workforce and lack of effective control, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for quality and efficient service delivery in the water sector.

The administration of Otunba Gbenga Daniel, to drive performance and efficient delivery in the sector, launched a four-pronged strategic approach of emergency rehabilitation, improvement and expansion, institution development and sustainability. Already, the present administration had nearly completed the rehabilitation of six water schemes in addition to the provision of boreholes to provide potable water in several urban towns and remote villages.

The team visited two major water treatment plants in Abeokuta and Ijebu-Ode where Governor Gbenga Daniel had made tremendous progress at achieving regular water supply to every part of Ogun State. At Arakanga Water Works in Abeokuta and Yemoji Water Works, Ijebu-Ode, the present administration had worked extensively to restore the schemes to designed capacity of 82MLD and 15.5MLD respectively. The scheme in Ijebu-Ode which was on-going with replacement of old leaking pipes with new ductile iron pipes was awarded at the cost of ₦2.7billion according to Engr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Olajide, General Manager/Chief Executive Officer, Ogun State Water Corporation.

To effectively tackle the challenges of inadequate water supply in Ogun State, particularly in the development pressure zones, the government had proposed the construction of a regional water scheme which had necessitated

government decision to run water utilities on commercial basis with Private-Public partners.

- **Electricity**

The administration of Otunba Gbenga Daniel had recognized the inadequacy of power generation in the state from PHCN as potential bane to the economical growth of the state. Ogun State, which required about 350MW of electricity for sustainable economic growth but was getting a gross inadequate, irregular and unreliable 30-50MW daily allocation from PHCN.

The Daniel administration had therefore, evolved pragmatic energy programme and projects aimed at to bridge the power deficit to meet the development needs of the state and ensure efficient and reliable supply of electric power, by attracting to the state six licensed independent power producers by National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) through the state public private sector economic policy. The companies were Farm Electric Supply Ltd., Wescom Technologies and Energy Services Ltd., Bresson Nigeria Ltd., and Agbara Shoreline Power Ltd all of which would generate a combined capacity of 1660MW.

In addition, to complement the operations of PHCN in the provision of transformers to both rural and urban communities, the government through OGSEP, between 2003 and 2009, had procured and installed over 600 transformers and electrified over 500 communities in addition to providing street lighting facilities for 109 communities. The rural electrification project, which included extension of distribution networks, rehabilitation and provision of relief substation had cost a sum of ₦1,340,343,024.00.

- **Housing**

Governor Gbenga Daniel administration was equally committed to providing accommodation to people in Ogun State hence, provision of affordable housing for the low, medium and high income earners featured prominently in Daniel administration programme. Prior to inception of Daniel administration, there were only 4Nos housing estates but now, there were massive constructions on-going in different zones of the state.

Between June 2003 and May 2007, Daniel administration delivered 1,017 housing units distributed across the state in Ago-Iwoye, Ijebu-Ode, Sagamu and Abeokuta. With public-private partnership policy of the government, several private developers had embarked on housing development in over 50 estates within Ogun State, a development which had provided job opportunities for many youth in the state.

The Daniel administration planned to construct 1000 housing units for the state civil servants at Laderin Workers' Estate. His administration had completed 250units of the projections which had been allocated on owners-occupier basis.

The team visited Laderin Workers' Estate in Abeokuta which was sold to the workers at the sum of ₦975,000 per allocation upon 10% initial payment while the balance would be through the remaining years of the beneficiaries in civil service. The estate was provided with infrastructures such as electricity, water and networks of road paid for by the state government. According to Mrs, Jokotola Odebunmi, Commissioner for Housing, Phase II of the workers' estate which would comprise 1,000 units in collaboration with Public-Private Partnership was underway. The teeming workers in Ogun State had been provided access to loans to finance houses of their own from Gateway Savings and Loans set up by Daniel administration to provide mortgage facilities for workers in the state

Economic Development

▪ Agriculture

With extensive fertile soils suitable for the cultivation of both cash and food crops in Ogun State, Daniel administration agricultural development was geared towards boosting annual productive capacity of various farm produce and thereby assuring food security year round availability of raw material supply for industries.

The state government had been promoting from all fronts massive cultivation of cotton, rice, cassava and cocoa for which about 1.2million seedlings of cocoa were distributed free of charge to farmers to boost the production of cocoa in Ogun State. The Ministry of Agriculture had also established ten (10) centres to train farmers the new method and skills in cocoa production. efforts of Daniel administration at promoting agriculture for the purpose of providing raw materials for agro-based industries in Ogun State had begun to manifest in the state. As a result of bountiful harvests usually recorded in rice, cotton and cocoa produce in the state, three agro-allied companies had been established in Ogun State. First, was the establishment of Multitrex Cocoa Processing Ltd, followed by Golden Silk Industry and Ofada Veetee Rice Ltd., with capacity of 75,000 metric tones of rice per annum, an establishment that had provided employment for 200 Nigerians.

For sustainable growth in agricultural sector, the Daniel administration initiated the establishment of Plantgate Services Ltd., a parastatal that was capitalized to hire out tractors and other machineries to farmers and in conjunction with Parco which assembled tractors and other implements in Abeokuta. Plantgate had tractor, harvesters, plough, potato planter, maize thresher fertilizer spreader ready for farmers's use.

The farm machines were also available for outright purchase by LGAs, cooperative and individual farmers through Gateway Holdings Ltd which graduated the cost of the tractors for payment over a period of time.

▪ **Industrialisation**

Daniel administration had put in place robust incentives designed to encourage and stimulate private sector participation in the development initiatives of the state. These incentives included fast tracking the process of land acquisition, digital processing of title documents, registration building approval requests and extension of infrastructure to industrial sites while facilitating federal agencies waivers and or deferral of development levies. The administration had succeeded in the last few years to attract over six industries to Ogun State some of which were:

Leventis Snacks Ltd

Ofada Veetee Rice Ltd

Multitrex Cocoa Processing Ltd.

Nahman Gateway Asphalt Company

Golden Silk Industry

Sparkwest Steel Industry, etc.

To further facilitate the rapid industrialization of the state, the government had undertaken a number of initiatives to drive the process. These included the creation of economic zones with strong private sector participation e.g. Olokola Free Trade Zone and Deep Sea Port, Kajola Specialised Railway Industrial Free Trade Zone, Gateway Agriculture Cargo Airport, Laogo Island Development and Ogun Guangdong FTZ in collaboration with a Chinese consortium.

Trade and Commerce

Daniel administration had also initiated the process of developing several economic infrastructures throughout the state in order to improve the state competitiveness in attracting investors.

The state government had completed the first phase development of international markets at strategic locations and border towns which were designed to capture, promote and expand commercial activities in and around the state. Daniel administration had completed and put into use two of such international markets in Ajilete and Sagamu. The team visited Sagamu International Market which comprised of 430 locked-up shops and 450 open stalls, bank hall police post and fire service station.

Tourism

The economic development focus of Otunba Gbenga Daniel administration was designed to transform Ogun State into a major commercial and Industrial hub in Nigeria, a goal Daniel administration had identified the State potentials in agriculture, mineral resources and tourism as positive leverages to achieve that economic growth. Therefore, Daniel administration was doing everything possible to reposition tourism sector on Ogun State by intervening in a critical number of activities in the sector that would attract national and international attention and made Ogun State a preferred destination to tourist.

To further improve the attraction tourists had for the 137metres high Olumo Rock, the ascent of which was accessible through dangerous slippery traditional routes which discouraged many tourists from attempting to venture up the rock until Governor Gbenga Daniel's grand intervention.

Daniel administration spent a sum of ₦642million to motorize the ascent to the peak of Olumo Rock by installing 3Nos elevators in 2006. The popular tourist destination in Abeokuta had also been added with a museum, eatery and relaxation spots to provide comfort and value for money to tourists to the historic rock. The present administration was equally developing through the Gateway Tourism Development Board, other tourist destinations in Ogun State, especially the Bilikisu Sungbo tourist site in Oke-Eri via Ijebu-Ode where the biblical Queen of Sheba was said to have died and buried.

Administration and Sustainability

▪ Human Resources development

His Excellency, Otunba Gbenga Daniel informed the team of his administration efforts to strengthened manpower development programmes in Ogun State through initiatives such as Ogun State Employment Generation programme (OGEGEP), Human Capital Development programme (HUCAP) and Ogun Grads (a welfare programme for the unemployed graduates in the State).

The State has also continued to organized economic summits, retreats and workshops through which both public and private sectors participants were made aware of the economic potential for the State.

▪ Civil Service Capacity Building and Training

The administration of Otunba Gbenga Daniel had put in positive efforts at re-awakening the civil servants in the State and repositions them through motivation and challenges towards the realization of potentials for greatness lying untapped. As part of the measures to fully tap the potentials of the civil servants, Otunba Gbenga Daniel made use of them to execute must of the initiated projects in the State. Typical examples were Ogun State Road

Maintenance Agency (OGROMA) and the Bureau of Electrical Engineering Services (OGSEP) both of which had done superbly well in constructions of roads and installations of electrical facilities across the State.

Prior to Daniel administration, the civil servants had become largely despaired, untrained, ill- motivated with months of unpaid salaries, inadequate office space, irregular promotion while embargo was placed on employment thereby leaving gaps in the service delivery of the government engine room. All those ugly developments had been reversed with over ₦1.3billion accumulated pension and gratuity paid when Governor Daniel came on board.

Apart from the fact of workers earning their salaries regularly with promotions given to those who merited it, Daniel administration had changed the working of the civil servants from papers to electronic. The administration in collaboration with American government established the South- West Resource Centre for the training and retraining of the civil servants in computer skills. Now, the operations of the State government had been computerized with computer laptops provided for them.

Access to mortgage loans to finance personal building project had been put in place by the administration which established Gateway Savings and Loans Ltd. while 364Nos brand new and 253 Nos fairly- used cars were purchased for principal officers of the State. While government, as a way of boosting the morale of staff, paid 13th month salary as end-of- year bonus, it had also paid its pension contribution for the civil servants to their different PFAs to the tune of ₦545, 538, 751.16k. While 11, 541 pensioners were paid a total of ₦128, 843, 692. 03k in February 2010.

Inadequate office space had been frontally tackled with the completion of phase II and III of the State Secretariat complex, comprising 3floors of 50rooms each. The Phase IV of the project was on- going, the cost of which constructions

the governor put at ₦2.5billion. Over 7, 908 civil servants were sponsored to over 155 workshops and trainings out of which 45 officers were sent on overseas training programmes

▪ **Sports Development**

The intervention of Daniel administration was outstanding in the provision of sporting facilities to enhance the dreams of majority of the youth aspiration to become stars in various sporting activities. Between 2006 and 2010, Daniel administration had constructed 3Nos standard sports stadia in Ogun State with complete facilities in addition to complete overhaul of the existing stadium in Abeokuta.

Governor Gbenga Daniel, while addressing the team from NGF, said the peculiarity of the state had informed his administration decision to have a stadium located in each division of the state. To complement Gateway Stadium in Abeokuta, his administration had completed Gateway International Stadia in Ijebu-Ode, Ilaro while that of Sagamu was ongoing alongside the permanent orientation camp for National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) in Sagamu.

The 17,000 capacity stadium in Ijebu-Ode with its games village facility had hosted National Sports Festival, and several international football matches the peak of which was the Under-17 FIFA World Cup part matches that were played at the stadium in 2009.

Governor Gbenga Daniel said, the stadium in Ijebu-Ode with all the world class facilities which included an electronic scoreboard, 3Nos Astroturf pitches, floodlight and games village with several indoor and outdoor games facilities had cost the state government ₦1.6billion.

- **ICT Revolution**

At inception in 2003, Governor Gbenga Daniel discovered that computer usage and access to it was very poor even among the educated people and students. A situation that was worsened by the prohibitive cost of the gadget then. Daniel administration began to change the orientation of people in the state towards the benefit of taking the full advantage of the ICT and become part of the global ICT world by initiating a scheme through which computer sets were made available to all secondary schools in Ogun State.

The administration further enhanced the awareness and training in the use of computers in Olabisi Onabanjo University, Moshood Abiola Polytechnic and the College of Education while establishing specialized ICT Polytechnics for manpower development. Now, many citizens of Ogun State had become sufficiently enlightened about the trend worldwide by breaking away from their previous limitations.

In order to provide a befitting accommodation for the judiciary in Abeokuta, the state capital, Daniel administration was at the verge of completing the state Judiciary Complex at the cost of ₦800million.

- **Bureau of Project Monitoring and Financial Intelligence Control Unit (FICU)**

Daniel administration determination to ensure proper execution of projects according to specified standard and to ensure the state got value for its invested resources, quality delivery and accountability, the Bureau of Project Monitoring was established under the headship of a Permanent Secretary reporting directly to the Office of the Governor. No payment had ever been made to any contractor without detail assessment and recommendation of the Bureau.

In this same vein, the administration of Gbenga Daniel had localized the EFCC in Ogun State by establishing Financial Intelligence Control Unit, charged with responsibility to prevent fraud and graft in government operations.

- **Ogun State Property and Investment Corporation (OPIC)**

OPIC, which was formed in 1984, purposely to open up prime of the state and to carry on the business of property development was being repositioned by Daniel administration with the construction of a 12-storey office complex in Abeokuta to provide a befitting office space for the parastatal and more lettable office space to corporate organizations within Abeokuta metropolis.

According to Engr. Tokunbo Odebunmi, Permanent Secretary , Bureau of Project Monitoring, the commercial structure was awarded for construction at the cost of ~~N~~7billion.

- **Internally Generated Revenue**

Like many other states in Nigeria, Ogun State was largely dependent on the federation account for about 85% of its revenue. Daniel administration had recognized the need to significantly increase the state IGR to meet all recurrent expenditures, thus, the administration was set to improve by increasing the number of tax payers and the tax paid per person.

Apart from the significant achievements of Gateway Geographic Information System (GGIC) which had prepared cadastral maps of all urban areas in Ogun State, the administration had improved its IGR based through the many requests for land and Certificate of Occupancy of which over 30,000 had been issued. Thus revenue accruing to the state through GGIC had increased from ~~N~~200million in 2003 to over ~~N~~4billion in 2009.

▪ **Ward-to-Ward Assistant Tour**

In a bold attempt aimed at bringing government closer to the people, Otunba Gbenga Daniel initiated the ward-to-ward community development assessment tour through which his administration had regularly reached the grassroots for positive interactions.

Prior to Otunba Gbenga Daniel's election in 2003, His Excellency had twice toured the 236 wards in Ogun State to canvassed for votes which his administration had carried on to further enhance good governance in Ogun State. A major aim of the ward-to-ward tour was the opportunity of first hand assessment of the level of development and the impact of government programmes on the people and the areas visited. It also afforded the people to freely interact with the governor on issues begging for immediate attention of the government.