

**BEING SPEECH BY THE HON. COMMISSIONER MINISTRY OF WORKS,  
HOUSING AND TRANSPORT ON THE OCCASION OF FAMILIARIZATION  
TOUR OF TARABA STATE BY THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM AS  
FROM 24<sup>TH</sup> – 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2010.**

**PROTOCOLS**

I am indeed honoured and privileged to give you brief achievements of the Ministry of works, Housing and Transport. As you are all aware, the Ministry is strategically placed to turn around the fortunes of the people by providing dividends of democracy.

2.0 The main responsibilities of the Ministry include interalia:-

- (a) Mobilization of human, material and financial resources for effective Service Delivery.
- (b) Infrastructural Development e.g. Roads and Airports.
- (c) Provision of Accommodation (Offices/residential)
- (d) Provision of Transportation (Land, Air and Water)
- (e) Supervision and Running of Mass Transit schemes (city, intra and inter states)
- (f) Vehicles / plants acquisition, maintenance and certification (E.g. Vehicles Certification).
- (g) Road Traffic Administration e.g. motor vehicles testing for issuance of National Drivers license and certificates of Road worthiness.
- (h) Design, installation and maintenance of electrical works.
- (i) Regulating the activities of commercial motor cycles operators in the state.

3.0 **MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS**

Since the creation of Taraba state in 1991, Ministry of Works, Housing and Transport had never been so busy as under the Danbaba dispensation. Let us begin with infrastructure:-

(a) **CONSTRUCTION OF BALAIFI – KARIM LAMIDO WITH A SPUR TO JEN ROAD PROJECT.**

This is a 42 Kilometre road project. The contract was awarded to Messrs Qumecs Nig ltd at the cost of Three billion, seven hundred and forty nine million, six hundred and ninety nine thousand, five hundred and twenty Naira (₦3,749,699,520.00) work is progressing steadily. This road, when completed will open up Karim Lamido, Jen and environs and will facilitate easy movement of people, goods services and ideas. This is the best thing that has ever happened to the people of NEGLECTED Karim Lamido and their well wishes.

(b) **CONSTRUCTION OF MARRARABA – BAISSA – ABONG ROAD.**

In an effort to bring succour to the people of Donga and Kurmi Local Government Areas, and to tap the enormous resources of the area, the Danbaba – led Administration took the bull by the horn and awarded the 82.5 kilometre Federal Government Road project to Messrs Qumecs Nig Ltd at the cost of Seven billion, one hundred and eighty nine million, one hundred and ninety two thousand, Nine hundred and twenty six Naira, thirty kobo (N7, 189,192,926.30). The state Government also engaged the services of Messrs Allied Tropical Consultants, a firm that designed the road for the Federal Government to supervise the project. Works on the project are on course.

(c) **CONSTRUCTION OF JALINGO TOWNSHIP ROADS AND FIVE BRIDGES.**

The greatest development that has occurred in Jalingo since state creation is the on- going construction of township roads and bridges by the Danbaba Government. The contract for the project was awarded to a reputable company, Messrs P.W. Nig. Ltd at the cost of Nine billion, Nine hundred and Sixty six million, three hundred and Eighty Eight thousand four hundred and forty six Naira, seventeen kobo (N9, 966,386,446.17) only.

The details of the project are as follow:-

- (i) Construction of bridges over River Kpanti-Napu
- (ii) Construction of bridges over River Lamurde and Mayo Gwoi at Nyabun Kaka.
- (iii) Reconstruction of second Mayo Gwoi bridge.
- (iv) Construction of specialist Hospital – Karofi University (ATC) Road.
- (v) Construction of the dualization of Mile – Six - Donga road with spur to Jolly Nyame Stadium. Work is progressing steadily on the project. This project, when completed, will not only open up and beautify Jalingo but will promote development, enhance security administration and facilitate easy movement of people, goods and services. In fact, Jalingo is being transformed into a modern state capital.

(d) **ESTABLISHMENT OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AGENCY.**

The Danbaba Government established the Taraba state Road Construction and maintenance Agency (TARCMA). TARCMA is rehabilitating some Township roads in Jalingo and even outside the state capital. The outfit has relatively adequate staff and machinery/equipment.

(e) **ESTABLISHMENT OF TARABA STATE ASPHALT / CRUSHING PLANT COMPANY.**

The Danbaba Government established the crushing / Asphalt plant company at Sibere. The project has been completed, commissioned and put to use. It is producing asphalt and assorted chippings for the construction industry. The company is equipped with state of the earth equipment.

(f) **GROUNDING AIRCRAFTS**

The Danbaba Dispensation inherited two grounded aircrafts namely Do-328 and Do- 228.

- (i) The Do 328 underwent maintenance checks in Germany and has since been serviced and flown back to Nigeria and airworthy.
- (ii) The Do 228 has been reactivated and is awaiting Test flight in DANA Kaduna.
- (iii) Some Aviation Assets like fuel Dispensing vehicle and ground Power unit were recovered, reactivated and are ready for use.
- (iv) The state Government has nominated Pilots to be trained for the operation of both Aircrafts Do 328 and Do 228 under Air Taraba. I am glad to inform you that Air Taraba has been incorporated appropriately.

(g) **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TARABA STATE COMMERCIAL MOTOR CYCLE MONITORING AGENCY.**

The Agency was established to regulate and coordinate the activities of the commercial motor cycles operators with a view to bringing public order and safety in the provision of commercial motor cycle services.

(h) **RENOVATION PROJECTS**

In order to boost staff morale and productivity, offices were either constructed or renovated for all Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

The Gembu Catering Rest House was also renovated by the current dispensation.

(i) **RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION**

Accommodation was provided for foreign Doctors, Engineers, and Top Government functionaries and principal officers of the state University.

(j) **JALINGO TOWNSHIP TAXI SCHEME**

In order to reduce accident rate occasioned by commercial motor cycles operators and suffering of commuters within the state capital, as well as providing employment opportunities, the Danbaba Government floated the Jalingo Township Taxi scheme. Sixty Peugeot 307 taxi cars, Eighty one Golf cars and forty three 18 seater Toyota Hiace buses were injected into the scheme. Official statistics show that accident rate in Jalingo has reduced by 80% because of the introduction of the scheme. Commuters now prefer the Government Taxi to other taxi cabs.

(k) **ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW DIRECTORATE**

The present Dispensation established the directorate of transport services to coordinate land, Air and water transportation as well as supervise the Taraba Transport corporation and run the Jalingo Township Taxi scheme.

(l) **DESIGN OF ROADS**

The Danbaba Administration awarded contract for the designs of dualization of Jalingo City Gate (Kpanti-napu) to Jauro yinu Gate Road, Pamanga – Dakka as well as Fikyu Kpambo road to Allied tropical Consultants works in progress.

(m) **REPAIRS OF LANKAVIRI BRIDGE**

- (i) I am pleased to inform you that the collapsed Lankaviri Bridge was repaired during the period under review.
- (ii) The Ministry also reduced the number of 'U' turns within Jalingo metropolis in order to reduce accident rate and promote safety
- (iii) We purchased equipment for our Civil Engineering Laboratory for soil testing for the construction industry.
- (iv) The ministry executed the improvement of the A.A. Kassa Road project in Jalingo and old Akate Road in Donga.
- (v) We undertook the landscaping and provision of road network at the new commissioners quarters. The quarters were also furnished by the Minsitry.

(n) **PROVISION OF SERVICES TO M.D.A'S**

It is important to note that Ministry of works, Housing and Transport provides technical supervisory and consultancy services to other ministries, Departments and Agencies in the state.

(o) **ROAD TRAFFIC ADMINISTRATION**

During the period under review, 3654 persons were examined and issued with the National Drivers License while 9,213 number of vehicles were inspected and issued Certificates of roadworthiness.

(p) **REVENUE GENERATION**

Between 2008 and 2009, the Ministry generated the sum of three hundred and sixty seven million, fifty seven thousand two hundred sixty five Naira twenty three kobo (N3067, 057,265.23 representing 118% of its targeted Revenue for the two years.

*CHALLENGES - funding / staffing*

**CONCLUSION**

We are grateful to God Almighty for these giant strides. We are highly indebted to the Executive Governor for providing the enabling environment, members of the Executive Council for cooperation, my staff for commitment to duties and the general Public for understanding and support. I have given you the tip of the iceberg. I would like to assure you of our readiness to provide details and clarification on the issues raised, if you so desire. Thank you and God Bless.