



FINISHING WELL

...bowing out gracefully

TEXT OF THE STATE-OF-THE-STATE ADDRESS

By

His Excellency

DR. KAYODE FAYEMI, CON

Governor, Ekiti State, Nigeria

on the occasion of the

**4TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DR. KAYODE FAYEMI ADMINISTRATION'S
SECOND TERM IN OFFICE (JKF2.0 @ 4)**

House of Assembly Complex, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State | Friday, October 7, 2022



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Protocols

1. Ekiti-Kete, I am delighted to address you today to give account of our stewardship, on this special occasion of the fourth and final anniversary of my second term as Governor of our dear State.
2. The Bible says there is a time and season for every activity on earth: a time to start and a time to end a race. We collectively embarked on the journey to reclaim our land and restore our values about four years ago. It is, therefore, my honour and privilege to present this State of the State address today for the last time as your Governor.
3. I thank God Almighty for His grace upon us as a people, State, and government, and I congratulate all the sons and daughters of Ekiti State on this auspicious occasion of a seamless transition; the first of its kind in Ekiti State. Finally, we have broken the jinx of a political party not succeeding itself in Ekiti State. Congratulations to all of us!
4. You would recall that in keeping with our philosophy of accountability to you, the people, we have, in the course of rendering our stewardship in the last four years, provided and given feedback on the mandate you entrusted to us. Every year, I come here to give an account of our activities in office - providing details of how we worked to rebuild the foundations of good governance – and galvanise our people to understand and support our agenda. By so doing, we have institutionalised this act of accountability starting with the first 100 Days in office, and later, First, Second, Third and Fourth State of the State Addresses.
5. This periodic feedback has availed us the opportunity to constantly keep our people abreast of all relevant activities, processes and outcomes. All through the first year, we WALKED THE TALK, with a focus on restoring our values and enhancing our impact. In the second year, we took STEADY STRIDES, and impacted more lives and initiated new legacy projects, despite the advent of COVID-19 and its attendant global disruptions. In the third year, which was our year of CONSOLIDATION, we built more for socio-economic transformation and optimized the gains of the previous years.
6. In Walking the Talk, we reinforced and refocused our Civil Service; gave direction to governance, corrected the wrongs of the past, and commenced the process of restoring our values as a people and enhancing our potential, individually and collectively. We also laid a solid foundation for our legacy projects, many of which have been completed and made available for the use of our people. Evidence abounds that all through the first year of this administration, we indeed walked the talk and fulfilled the promises we made to Ekiti people.
7. Our Steady Strides were not truncated despite the realities of that period. The second year of this administration was a period the whole world stood still due to the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 altered plans and projections at the levels of governments, organizations, and even households and individuals. Ekiti state was no exception. However, despite the challenges occasioned by this dreadful pandemic, we remained committed and completed all unfinished projects by the previous administrations, while following through on those we initiated. I am glad to inform you today that we do not have abandoned projects in Ekiti State again as all the abandoned projects of my predecessors have been completed. We have done this to demonstrate that, regardless of our partisan leanings, Ekiti State remains our common heritage, and we must do all we can to lay a foundation for her sustainable development.
8. In the third year, which was for Consolidation, we were able to make up for the lost ground caused by COVID-19 in 2020, with the completion of many projects, and the commencement of several new ones. The year witnessed more collaborations with development partners and leaders in various fields of agribusiness and knowledge economy.

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It was, indeed, an eventful year for us despite the obvious challenges. The period recorded the highest number of successfully implemented programs and policies, as well as the inauguration and commissioning of completed projects.

9. As a government, every sector of our social life and economy received adequate attention. Social services, Education, Healthcare, Agriculture, Water Supply, and Road Construction were prioritised and given the deserved attention. Without sounding immodest, we can confidently state that we have remained faithful to our campaign promises and their fulfilment. This does not, however, imply that all our problems have been solved. There is no government, no matter how resourceful, that can solve all the problems of a people. Government is a continuum. However, prudent management of the people's commonwealth must be woven around policies, programmes and projects that make life more meaningful for the generality of the people and drive rapid socio-economic development.

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10. In keeping faith with my promise to work till my last day in the office, earlier today, I signed five (5) bills the House of Assembly recently passed into law. These laws were promulgated today in our collective and collaborative quest to make life better for our people. The newly signed laws are: Ekiti State Audit Service Commission (Second Amendment) Law, 2022; Ekiti Knowledge Zone Authority Law, 2022; Ekiti State Economic Development Council (First Amendment) Law, 2022; Creation of three Local Council Development Areas in Ekiti State Law, 2022 and; Ekiti State Polytechnic, Isan Ekiti Law, 2022.
11. The fourth year of this administration has been devoted to "Finishing well" and bowing out gracefully. Whatever has a beginning must surely have an end. Therefore, from October 16, 2018, I was conscious of the limited time at my

disposal to serve Ekiti State for the second and the last time. This accounted for how we hit the ground running from day-one, leaving no stone unturned with a purposeful and impactful agenda. In retrospect, considering the realities of the period, I am glad to report back to you that, indeed, we have finished the race well with legacy policies, programmes and projects.

12. The journey we started on October 16, 2018, will end in the next few days. We made the best of the mandate given to us by Ekiti people and evidence abounds that a great future awaits us as a people and State. We came to office on the promise of restoring the values and dignity of our people, tackling infrastructure decay, and developing the economy. We have remained focused on this mission and fulfilled our promises along the lines of our 5-point developmental agenda and are honoured to bring you the following feedback:

GOVERNANCE

13. All over the world, what sets a visionary government apart from others is its quality of governance. Governance operates at the level of vision, intellect and the will-power to take decisive steps in the best interest of the governed. As someone who has spent much of my life in the advocacy and public policy sector, I recognise the place of good governance in the delivery of my developmental agenda for Ekiti people and thus, from the outset of this administration, I paid deliberate attention to public institutional reforms.
14. Therefore, the JFK2.0 administration has bequeathed a governing template to Ekiti people that successive governments can own, improve upon and deploy for the general well-being of our people. Part of our campaign promises in 2018 was the entrenchment of good governance and we have successfully fulfilled this promise. It is, therefore, my honour to highlight some of the gains of the entrenchment of good governance systems by this administration:

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- We put structures in place to end the menace of project abandonment in Ekiti State. With the Ekiti State (Transition) Law 2019, we have made sure that even in cases where there is a change of baton from one political party to another, succeeding administrations would have enduring templates that ensure seamless continuity of the vision, the completion of projects, and the upholding of commitments validly entered into.
- We crafted a 30-year State Development Plan 2021 - 2050 which would serve as a critical road map to successive administrations and ensure that regardless of electoral outcomes, Ekiti would always win.
- We implemented a number of successful Public-Private Partnerships projects such as the Ikun Dairy Farm now being run by Promasidor Limited, and the Ire Burnt Brick Factory which has been revamped now and is being run by a competent core investor operator, among others. These companies are functioning well and have created jobs for our people.
- Accountability and Prudence in public spending are integral components of good governance, and these are the foundation of our accounting process. Our records of achievements in Good Governance have ensured considerable improvements in the ease-of-doing-business, and earned us the second national position in the Disbursement Linked Indicators mileage of the World Bank/FGN backed State Fiscal Transparency Accountability Sustainability (SFTAS).
- Ekiti State Government is now in partnership with Facebook/Meta for the establishment of Ekiti State Digital Skills Academy with a view to producing a pipeline of talent that will uplift the Ekiti Knowledge Zone Project.
- The State government, within the period under review, paid compensation of about one billion naira to landowners affected by the ongoing infrastructural development of Ekiti State. Some of these claimants are the owners of the land acquired for the Airport Project; and for dual-lane new Ado-Iyin Road, land acquired for the Ekiti Knowledge Zone, among others.
- This administration removed all the bottlenecks hitherto associated with the processing of Certificate of Occupancy in Ekiti State by digitizing the process of issuance. This is strategically designed and created to encourage landowners while also improving on the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy to interested land owners at a reduced cost and with little stress. On Monday, May 16, 2022, we presented the first set of Certificates of Occupancy to 237 landed property owners in the State.
- We revamped public procurement and its process in Ekiti State with a view to ensuring that Public Procurement in the state conforms to the acceptable standards across the globe. As a result of our adoption of the global best practice in our Procurement process, Ekiti State received series of awards and grants likes: three million and five hundred thousand dollars (US\$3.5M) from State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) program; thirty thousand dollars (US\$30,000) from Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) on promoting the inclusion of Women-owned Businesses and Women-led Business in the contracting process in Ekiti State; Award for advancing Gender Equality and advocating for the inclusion of Women by African Women Program Network (AWP) and several others.
- The goal of this government is to build a reliable, robust and competent workforce within the Civil Service. In pursuance of this, we have left no stone unturned in the quest to ensure that strategic and holistic capacity development programmes are undertaken to enhance the competencies and effectiveness of employees of government at various levels across all MDAs in the Ekiti State Civil Service. Within the period under review, we have also strengthened the workforce through

recruitment; motivated the civil servants with regular promotions; encouraged the service through payment of salary and allowances when due; approved local and international training for deserving workers; and disbursed Car and Housing loans to interested civil servants, among other things.

- We conducted elections across all the Sixteen (16) statutorily recognized Local Government Areas (LGAs) and the newly established nineteen (19) Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) on Saturday, 4th December 2021. This was done to ensure that the local government is effectively managed by executives elected by the people in full compliance with democratic ethos.
- In the quest to enhance the performance of the elected Chairmen of all the 35 LGAs/LCDAs, the government also purchased official vehicles for them.
- The administration has paid Furniture and Severance Allowances of past Political Office Holders from 1999-2022. We did this without political bias or consideration. The arrears were paid across board.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

15. We accorded priority attention and made considerable investments in agriculture and rural development, and built on the standard we set during my first term in office. Top on our agenda at the inception of this administration was to revolutionize the agricultural sector with a view to lifting it from the subsistence, rudimentary farming system, to a commercial viable enterprise that will improve the production level of the State. We didn't just rejig the sector, we initiated a complete turnaround to make up for the lull created by my absence between years 2014 and 2018. For the first time in the history of Ekiti as a State, agribusiness, which is the mainstay of our economy, became the focal point of government.
16. Agriculture and agribusiness related issues have therefore featured effectively in almost

all areas of the state government's policies, programs and projects in the past four years. It has positively affected our curriculum activities, industrial and infrastructural development, social investment and humanitarian services, rural and even urban development. Most of the activities of the government were geared toward maximizing our comparative advantage in agriculture. In pursuance of this goal, we made considerable inroads and recorded significant achievements within the period under review through relevant agencies to support both Brownfield and Greenfield agribusinesses, and also develop our rural communities. These include, but not limited to, the following activities:

- As a government, we have successfully positioned Ekiti State as a major hub for rice production in Nigeria in partnership with Rice Growers Association and industry leaders of the sector. In our quest to enhance the performance of Rice growers in Ekiti State, the government constantly mops up excess paddy rice and transfers same to processors for value addition. This is to ensure that there is ready market for the output of rice growers at all times. This intervention encourages rice growers and also avails the residents of Ekiti state and environs the opportunity of enjoying stone-free local rice delicacy. We have raised the quality of locally produced rice to international standard through modern processing methods.
- We are in partnership with the World Bank/FGN sponsored Agro-processing Productivity Enhancing and Livelihood Improvement Support Programme (APPEALS) to transform the Agriculture Value Chain in Ekiti State by modernizing and upgrading existing traditional and drudgery propelled agro processing centres for maximum productivity from 2020 to 2025.
- We established Special Agriculture Processing Zone (SAPZ) of 40,000 hectares for Agriculture value chain with focus on production, processing, sales, marketing,

branding and warehousing that will support the exportation of agro products. This programme is targeted at rice, cassava, dairy, cocoa, cashew and maize processing, and is projected to provide more than 10,000 direct and indirect jobs for our youths in Ekiti State on the long-run.

- We distributed Cocoa and Cashew seedlings to varieties of Farmers whose plantation got burnt during the dry season of last year and also for new farmers under the Ekiti State Cocoa and Cashew Renewal Programme.
- We rehabilitated the irrigation pilot scheme in Ikosu, Moba Local Government to ensure continuous farming activities all year-round. This project is established on 45.1 hectares of land.
- Ekiti State farmers benefited from agricultural inputs distribution carried out to cushion the effects of flooding in selected Local Government Areas in the State. Herbicides, pesticide, growth enhancer, rice seeds, maize seeds, Water Pumps and Sprayers were distributed to farmers in Ado, Ido/Osi, Ekiti East, Ijero, Ise/Orun, Ikere, Oye, Moba and Ekiti West LGAs.
- Ekiti is one of the four States (Ekiti, Kebbi, Kwara and Kano) in Nigeria selected by the Islamic Bank Development to participate in the second phase of National Programme for Food Security (NPFSS). The program was created to support three (3) agro-commodities: Rice as food security commodity; Cassava as export potential crop and Poultry production as livelihood crop.
- Ekiti is one of the seven states chosen by the World Bank to participate in the Sustainable Urban and Rural Water Supply sanitation and Hygiene program that will make Ekiti overcome her water and sanitation challenges. The program is currently ongoing.
- Good road networks are a necessity for agricultural development, hence the decision of this administration to take part in the World

Bank co-sponsored Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP). The principal goal of RAAMP is to provide reliable rural access and cost-efficient transportation services that will facilitate the delivery of agricultural inputs and increase production.

- As a pre-requisite for enlisting in the RAAMP initiative, each State government is required to construct some pilot roads for the Project. Consequently, we provided funds for the construction of the six pilot roads. The six (6) pilot roads, Iyin-Odo Oro- Aroto road and Ago Aduloju-Kajola Road (Ekiti Central Senatorial District), FMS farm, Oke Ako road and Itaji – Imojo-Orisunmibare (Ekiti North Senatorial District) and, Ogotun – Alagbede road and Imesi – Kosomolate – Ipole (Ekiti South Senatorial District), are spread across the three (3) senatorial districts of the State and they are in various stages of completion.
- At the inception of the administration, we carried out verification and assessment of uncompleted/abandoned community self-help Grant-in-aid assisted projects across the State. Thereafter, we worked in partnership with Community Development Associations in the State to finish the uncompleted projects which we started in my first term but were abandoned by the succeeding administration. Subsequently, within the period under review, about three hundred million (N300m) was released and disbursed to 70 Communal self-help projects across the state as part payment for the completion of the abandoned projects.
- Ekiti State government, in collaboration with the United States of America, acting through the United States African Development Foundation (USADF) has commenced a programme primarily designed to promote the growth and improve the market competitiveness of farmer cooperatives, producer associations, and Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Ekiti State.
- The scheme is aimed at positively impacting small agricultural enterprises as

well as youth, women entrepreneurs, create jobs and improve the livelihoods of citizens in Ekiti State. The two million dollars (US\$2m) Scheme is being funded through USADF and Ekiti State at equal counterpart contribution of \$1,000,000 each, respectively throughout the programme for five years. The scheme has commenced and targeted beneficiaries are Farmers that specialize in rice and cassava production.

SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

17. Governance is all about effective management of resources for the benefit and wellbeing of the people in a sustainable manner. The crux of social investments revolves around benefit and wellbeing; governance could be said to be incomplete without a sustainable social investments agenda. Philosophically and ideologically, we have worked since our first term in office to consciously ease the burden on the weak and the vulnerable segments of our population. The social investment that makes people feel the impacts of government include, but not limited to: access to effective and efficient healthcare delivery, security of lives and property, provision of safety-net for the citizenry and functional social amenities. All of these are encompassed in the social investment programmes of this administration and were vigorously pursued in the overall best interest of our people.

18. Our social investment programs have impacted the lives of youth, women, aged, the poor, people living with disabilities and the citizens of Ekiti State at large. This was done without political bias across the 16 LGAs and 19 LCDAs in the State. Several impactful achievements were recorded within the year under review through several MDAs.

- Health is wealth! A healthy populace drives a wealthy nation. This informed our decision to constantly make the wellbeing of Ekiti people a major priority through the numerous investments, interventions and innovations in

the health sector of Ekiti State. In pursuance of this, we increased our capital budget for health by 200% to invest more in healthcare and epidemic preparedness/response. This allowed us to renovate 14 high-burden General and State Specialist Hospitals with the provision of relevant and modern equipment. This development has resulted in increased demand for services, improved quality of services and boosted staff morale. Most importantly, these facilities are now model referral centres for the State's network of primary and basic healthcare centres.

- We have also revamped the dental and ophthalmology centres and built an ICU, a new Public Health Laboratory and three Sexual Assault Referral Centres at EKSUTH in Ado Ekiti as well as the State Specialist Hospitals in Ikole and Ikere.

- We rehabilitated most of the primary health facilities across the State, rehabilitated and equipped our specialist and general hospitals, put in place a molecular laboratory and a world-class public health laboratory, and sustained our free healthcare programme. Therefore, it did not come to us as a surprise when Ekiti State was recognized as having the best-performing disease surveillance system in Nigeria.

- The State has a COVID-19 vaccination rate of about 13,500 eligible persons daily. As of mid-September 2022, the State has vaccinated 37% of the State's population.

- The Ekiti State University Teaching Hospital has witnessed phenomenal growth and more importantly, earned full accreditation by the relevant authorities.

- We have successfully implemented the policy of, at least, one Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) per ward in line with the Primary Health Care under One Roof (PHCUOR) policy. All the 177 wards in Ekiti State have, at least, one functional PHC.

- In the latest MICS result, our routine immunisation was ranked 85%, the 4th best in

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the country and the highest in the South West. Our under 5 mortality has also dropped to 4 percentage points.

- We recorded a significant increase in the utilisation of PHCs as a result of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF) implementation. Expectant mothers do not have to pay for childbirth when delivering in PHCs and this has reduced the burden of complicated childbirth in secondary and tertiary facilities.
- We also strengthened our drug supply system by establishing a drug management agency, to guarantee supply of good quality drugs at cheaper prices, by purchasing directly from manufacturers. This approach has made the agency less dependent on Government for its operational functions and has since become a net income contributor, with a turnover of N242m in the last 9 months.
- Ekiti State government, in collaboration with Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP), acquired 2 units of Amphibious Excavated and Lowbed trucks; constructed 20x32 metres span bridge and 6,550 metres storm water drainage in Irele and Ipao Ekiti, constructed 8,951.5 Metres erosion control work at Afao/Oriebe communities, Ikere Ekiti; constructed 4,000 Metres erosion control works at Kajola/Temidire communities, Ikere; constructed 2,300 Metres erosion control works at Bisi-Aloba/Adunogbon communities, Ikere Ekiti; among others.
- Our collaboration with our development partners, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) produced the Ekiti Elderly Peoples' Resort, Ado-Ekiti. The building has been completed and will be commissioned in the next couple of days.
- We created Ekiti State Industrial Estate in Ikere Ekiti. This is meant to encourage Greenfield investors to come to Ekiti State. A large expanse of land was acquired for this purpose and it is being allocated to interested

industrialists for the industrial and economic development of the State.

- This administration facilitated the establishment of a branch of Bank of Industry (BoI) in Ekiti State to help in financing industrial activities in the State and more commercial banks are establishing branches in the state, the latest being Providus and Premium Trust Bank.
- We established Ekiti Development and Investment and Promotion Agency (EKDIPA) as an Investment One-Stop Shop (OSS) to situate, in a single location, all relevant MDAs who interact with businesses in Ekiti or those intending to do business in the State. This is part of our efforts toward ease-of-doing business in Ekiti State.
- As a government, the development of our youth is our major concern because the future belongs to them. This is evident in the number of areas where this administration has placed the interest of youth on the front burner, be it in health, education, agriculture, sport, tourism or ICT.
- This administration always considers the interest of the youth far and above others. Within the period under review, we invested in the development of our youth and exposed them to national and international competitions. For instance Ekiti State's sporting contingent attended the 6th edition of National Youth Games held in Ilorin, Kwara State from October 7 - 20, 2021 where Ekiti State finished 16th with 13 medals, 2-gold, 9-silver and 2-bronze. Our team also participated in World Athletics Judo championship held from August 1 - 7, 2022 in Colombia, among others.
- We facilitated the Ekiti State Transit Home and Vocational Centre for Women and Girls. This facility was created to serve as a temporary abode for abused women and children until a permanent solution is proffered for such victims. This facility is already serving its purpose by giving

temporary succour to some victims before their final resettlement by the government.

- This government successfully resettled some occupants of the Transit Home and empowered them with furnished apartments, kitchen utensils, household materials, empowerment tools like grinding machines and cash to start up a business, among others, in a bid to ensure a good start for them and make them self – reliant.
- Ekiti State is now well known as a State that takes the rights of women and children very seriously. My administration has maintained a zero-tolerance stance on all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, and we have created an enabling environment for women and girls to thrive. Ekiti State has some of the most robust laws and policies for the promotion and protection of women in Nigeria, and we have invested time, personnel and resources in the implementation of all these legal and policy frameworks. In addition, our gender mainstreaming approach has ensured that women have a voice in leadership and decision-making, right down to grassroots level.

KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

19. As a government, we made knowledge economy one of the pillars of this administration and subsequently made considerable investments in it, because we are conscious of the fact that the quality of the minds of a people within a given population, determines the quality of governance. We deliberately put amenities, programmes, reforms and policies in place to enhance the quality of lives of the people to be sufficiently knowledgeable. Within the period under review, we did not only give tertiary education in the state a pride of place through prompt release of subventions, we sustained payment for WAEC public examination with the distribution of free JAMB forms. We also gave considerable attention to primary, secondary and technical education in the state. This is evident in the strong showing of our

candidates, particularly in Jamb and WAEC/NECO examinations throughout the period of this administration.

20. We came up with the plan to develop a curriculum that could sustainably instil the cherished values, history and vision of Ekiti in the young ones right from early child education to the secondary school. This informed our decision to establish a sustainable mechanism for Ekiti Value Orientation roadmap. I am glad to report that our Government has moved the talk around values education from rhetoric to sustainable policy and programmes. We have developed a comprehensive policy document called Ekiti Values Orientation Roadmap which highlights the different strategies, programmes and activities to ensure that the society is properly oriented towards the intended character of the Ekiti person. The development of Ekiti Values Education (EVE) is therefore, a fulfilment of the central theme of my electoral campaign for the second term which was centered on restoring the values of Ekiti. It is also in many ways, a response to the concerns of prominent Ekiti people home and abroad about the observed decline in the general character of the young Ekiti person of today and the deficit of a formal educational content that teaches Ekiti history, culture, and values.

21. Our remarkable feat in this sector has also boosted the school enrolment records in Ekiti State public schools across board. The number of enrolment in public schools in Ekiti State keeps increasing yearly since the inception of this government due to the continued human and material investments in the education sector. In the year 2021, for instance, total enrolment in Ekiti State public primary was 141,982, but it increased to 145,323 in 2022; total enrolment in public secondary in 2021 was 109,140, it increased to 113,464 in 2022 and; total enrolment in Technical colleges in 2021 was 2,021; it increased to 2,505 in year 2022. As a government, all through the four years of JKF2.0, we recorded significant

milestones through the knowledge economy and the fourth year was remarkable with indelible impacts.

- The Ekiti Knowledge Zone (EKZ) with its 955.65 hectares of land allotment, located between Ago Araromi and Ijan, along Ado -Ijan road, is a full-fledged investment ecosystem. It is noteworthy that the Zone is already attracting Anchor investors in the areas of Space Tech, Agro-Nuclear investments and support funding from African Development Bank. We recorded tremendous progress on this project with the attraction of a Defence Space Satellite Communication Centre, a Gamma Irradiation facility to EKZ under PPP arrangement framework.
- Our administration, in partnership World Bank, has strengthening technical education through Innovation Development and Effectiveness in the Acquisition of Skills (IDEAS). This programme involves enhancing skills development system in formal and informal system in Ekiti State. Specifically, the project is expected to address youth unemployment and open opportunities for productive engagement of the youth. The programme has strengthened three (3) of our technical colleges: GTC, Igbara-Odo Ekiti with intervention on block making and Concreting Craft, Catering and Hotel management Craft and Computer Craft; GTC, Ijero – Ekiti with intervention on Cosmetology Craft, Electrical Craft and Garment making Craft and; GTC, Otun – Ekiti with intervention on Agric Mechanics Craft, Welding and Fabrication Craft, and Mechanical Craft.
- Within the period under review, the government completed 274 projects through joint UBEC/SUBEB intervention. In four years, this administration constructed and renovated more schools than any of the preceding governments.
- It is noteworthy to state here that one of the completed schools is the Harding Model College Ado Ekiti, a two-storey, 36-classroom edifice with staffrooms, administrative offices,

a large examination hall, chemistry, biology and physics laboratories, as well as an ICT and home economics laboratories. Other facilities provided in the two- storey edifice include: 50 toilets, perimeter fencing, a football pitch, a basketball court, parking space and water treatment plant among others.

- This government understands the importance of Basic Education in providing the platform for educational development among the future generations and that is why we continued to invest heavily in the sector. Ekiti blazed the trail as the first State in the Federation to pay the 2020 and 2021 UBEC/ SUBEB Matching Grants. This paved the way for the early commencement of UBEC/SUBEB Intervention Projects in the state in 2022. The payment of the matching Grants by the State Government set the stage for the procurement of another 4,274 units of pupils and Teachers' furniture, 96 units of playground equipment (merry go round and swings), while contracts for another set of 141 projects were awarded in 2022 that are at various stages of completion now.
- Another giant stride of this administration is the construction the two-storey Ekiti SUBEB Headquarters Building at the State Secretariat complex Ado-Ekiti, after many failed attempts since the creation of the State in 1996. Ekiti SUBEB would finally be relocating from the blocks of classrooms temporarily released to it at the inception of the state in 1996 at the premises of the Emmanuel Anglican Nursery and Primary School, Ado-Ekiti to the ultra-modern Ekiti SUBEB Office Building at the State Secretariat Complex.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

22. Infrastructure and Industrial Development are the pinnacles of sustainable development. Ekiti State government provided the needed conducive environment through policies, programmes and projects to address the hitherto infrastructure and industrial deficiency in Ekiti State. As part of the moves

to give a solid base to industrial development, we revived the commercially and technically viable abandoned projects across the state and initiated new ones. Most of these projects have been completed, commissioned and made available for the comfort of Ekiti people. We equally embarked on massive infrastructure Development to open up Ekiti State to increased economic development and becoming competitive in the global markets. Despite the global economic meltdown, we were able to record successes in infrastructure and industrial development due to the shrewd management of the limited resources at our disposal.

- Ekiti International Agro-Allied Cargo and Passenger Airport is a dream come true, not only for this administration, but also for Ekitikete and for the generation yet unborn. The idea of having a functional and desirable Airport in Ekiti State dates back to April 12, 2010 when the then administration of Engineer Segun Oni communicated its intention to the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority. The project could not take off for some avoidable bottlenecks.
- Upon assumption of office in 2018, I met this obstacle but immediately dealt with it directly by appointing Aviation industry personnel to drive our vision of a viable Airport project for Ekiti State. Afterwards, the Airport project began and was purpose-built to an excellent standard. Though projected to be an Agro-Based Cargo airport, this does not foreclose commercial passenger operations. The Airport boast a CAT-9 4E category with capacity for wide bodied Aircraft like Boeing 747-400 and a runway length of 3.2km.
- This airport will open Ekiti to the world and stimulate the growth of other sectors such as tourism, agriculture and commerce. There are also medical tourist opportunities using the world-class facilities at Afe Babalola University. Ekiti Agro-Cargo Airport will complement the Muritala Mohammed International airport in Lagos in service, most

especially the agro-dominated South Western region of Nigeria. This is in addition to increased economic activities through provision of employment by annexing the commercial draw down values associated with air transportation. Despite the lean resources of the state, with prudence and natural endowment, the oak has sprung up in the desert. Ekiti has been well positioned on the Aviation world Map with this vision. I welcome you all to Ekiti Agro-Cargo International Airport, Ado-Ekiti. Certainly, a dream has come true!

- From inception to date, we did not lose focus in our continued quest to bequeath a solid foundation for the anticipated economic growth of Ekiti State. Consequently, the administration, through the Ministry of Works and Transportation, made concerted efforts to improve the infrastructure base of the State, especially in developing road projects. Within the period under review, we embarked on many priority projects, some of which have been completed, while others are ongoing. Completed projects include dual-lane new Ado-Iyin road; construction of Ekiti State Governor's Lodge, Asokoro, Abuja; reconstruction of Agbado-Ode-Isinbode road; rehabilitation of Ilupeju-Ire-Igbemo-Ijan road; construction of Aramoko-Erijinyan-Ikogosi road; construction of Oye-Ayede-Iye -Otun road and and; construction of Ilupeju-Ire-Igbemo-road.
- This complements several roads rehabilitated during my first term in office such as: Igede - Awo - Osi - Ido road, Ijero - Ipoti - Ikoru - Ayetoro road, Otun - Osun - Ikoru, Efon - Ipole Iloro - Ikogosi road, Ilawe - Erijinyan road, Ilu Omoba - Ijsha Isu - Ikole road, Odo Owa - Oke Ila Road, Iludun - Obo Ayegunle Road, Isan - Ilemeso Road, Ikere - Ise. - Emure road, Ilupeju Ijan - Ise road, Itawure - Okemesi Road just to name a few
- Our administration also built an ultramodern Bus Terminal and Pedestrian Walkways in Ado Ekiti in the first phase of the

Central Business District rehabilitation in our continued quest to develop the state and make life better for the generality of our people. This was done to create a parking space in the hub to solve the problem of on-street parking and traffic congestion; put on ground an ultramodern and effective transport management system in the state capital; provide employment opportunities for citizens of the state and; increase the Internally Generated Revenue IGR in the state. The project is a befitting edifice and one of the several legacy projects of this administration that generations yet unborn will forever appreciate.

- As a government, we paid serious attention to the inadequate power supply in Ekiti State. This made us entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TCN to construct a double circuit 132/33kv transmission line from the existing 132/33kv line in Akure, Ondo state as a relief pending when Ekiti state would be finally connected to 330/132kv supply from either Osogbo or Benin via Akure. Afterwards, the sites handover and ground-breaking ceremonies were held at Ijesa-Isu Ekiti site on Wednesday, August 10, 2022. The impact of the project will increase bulk of power supply to Ekiti state and further strengthen the national grid. It is worthy of note that the contractor has started work on the three sites with all his equipment and men on ground.
- This administration continued to prioritize water as a major social amenity that must be made available to the people of Ekiti State. To this end, apart from the routine activities like regular maintenance of water facilities, supply of chemicals and diesel for water production, some funds have been invested through partnership with International Donor Agencies (IDA) such as World Bank and European Union, all in a bid to ensure that Ekiti people have unfettered access to potable water.
- Our development goals and targets on water are to increase access to improved water supply services, eradication of open

defecation, strengthening of WASH institutional framework and to develop mandates of sustainable private investment participation among others. In pursuance of these goals and targets, the government has rehabilitated Ero Water Supply scheme; replaced transmission mains Pipeline from Ifaki to Ado-Ekiti; constructed 2000cu meters reinforced Ground Level Concrete Reservoir at Fajuyi, Ado Ekiti; rehabilitation of Ayetoro & Isan Booster Stations; installation of over 9,000 household prepaid meters in Ado-Ekiti; among others.

23. Your Excellences, ladies and gentlemen, that we have done this much does not imply that we have tackled all our developmental challenges. I will be the first person to admit that a lot still needs to be done, especially given the weight of the ever-increasing needs of our people. The cheering news, however, is that we have made tremendous progress in some areas and laid the much needed foundation for successive administrations to build on. Things are looking up for us as a people and State, and it can only get better.

KEEPING EKITI WORKING

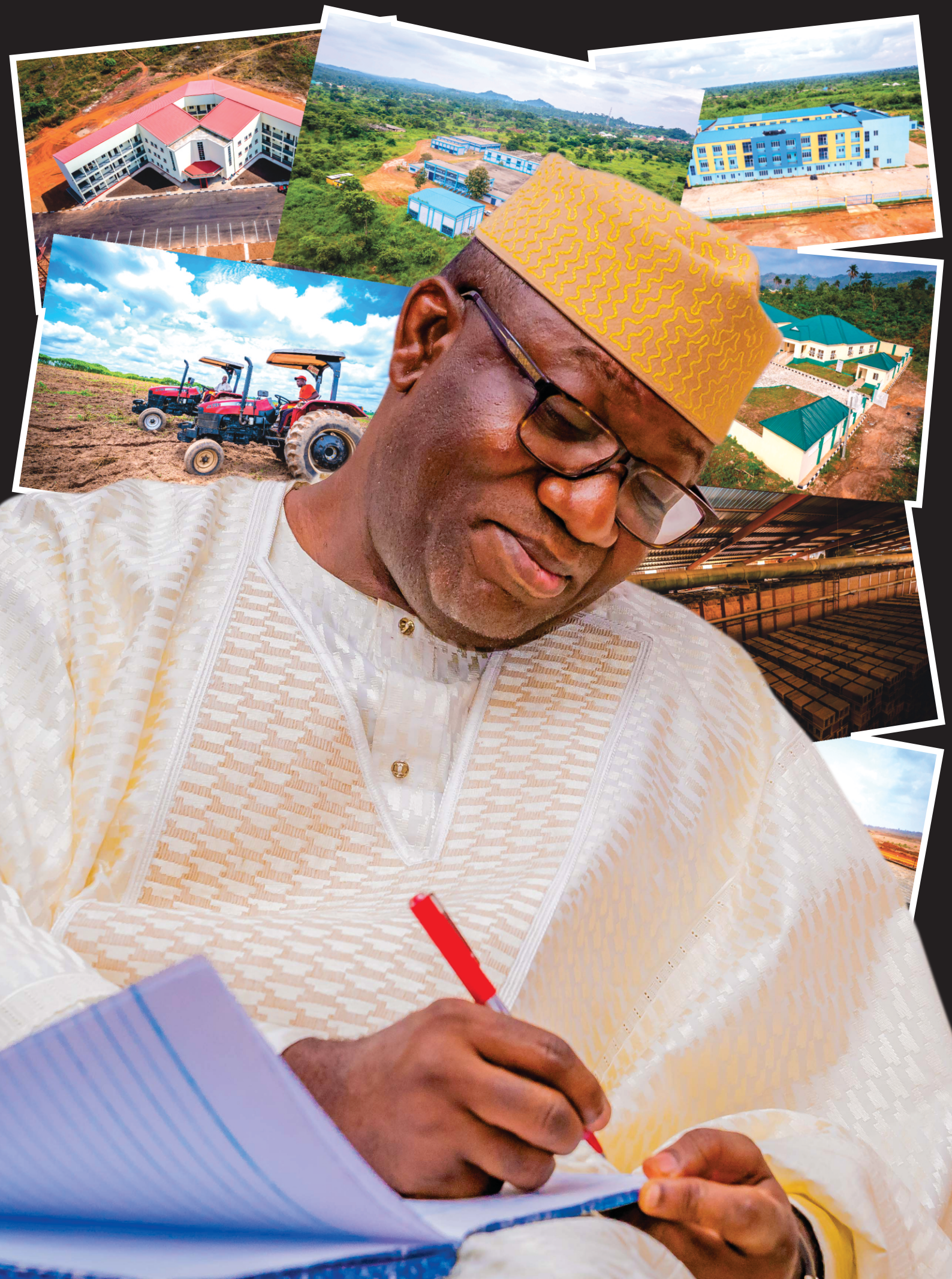
24. Keeping Ekiti working is our collective responsibility. We already have a strong start with the victory of our Governor-elect at the poll. His victory is significant not only for the All Progressives Congress (APC), but for Ekiti-Kete. This is the first time a political party will be succeeding itself in our dear State. Luckily, our Governor-elect, Mr. Biodun Oyebanji, was an integral part of all the developmental feats recorded by this administration. What this holds for us as a State is that the path to enduring socio-economic and political progress already mapped out by this administration will be followed through with renewed vigour and dedication.
25. A tree, our people say, does not make a forest. I am, therefore, using this medium to appeal to Ekiti-Kete and all our development partners to rally round the incoming administration in the overall best interest of

our people. With your prayers, support, suggestions, guidance and constructive criticism, the incoming government will make the best of the foundation we already laid and surpass our record of performance. I urge you all to join hands with Mr. Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji and Chief (Mrs.) Monisade Afuye our Governor-Elect and Deputy Governor-Elect respectively, to consolidate on the work we have done so far and keep Ekiti working in our collective interest. Mr Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji (BAO) has the character, competence and compassion to achieve all he has promised to Ekiti-Kete.

THANKSGIVING AND APPRECIATION

26. Ekiti-Kete, I thank you all for your love, prayers, support, trust, as well as your constructive criticism, and suggestions. We were able to achieve this much because you stand with and believe in us. I sincerely cannot thank you enough.
27. I want to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of all my predecessors: Otunba Adeniyi Adebayo, Mr. Ayo Fayose and Engr. Segun Oni. Each and every one of them made their impacts felt on the development of Ekiti State. They all did their best during their time, respectively. Our history as a State can never be complete without acknowledging how God used each of them at one point or the other to shape our dear State into what successive administrations will continue to build on. May posterity be kind to them. We are all pencils in the hands of the Creator, and He uses us as He deems fit.
28. I appreciate His Excellency, Otunba Bisi Egbeyemi, the deputy governor Ekiti State for your dedication, commitment and selfless service to Ekiti State. Your maturity and experience played vital roles in our government's stability and enhanced our performance. May good grant you many more years on earth in good health and sound mind.
29. I specially thank Mr. Speaker, Rt. Hon. Funminiyi Afuye and all the members of the 6th Assembly. The harmonious relationship amongst us was pivotal to our success stories as an administration. The 6th Assembly is acknowledged to have passed or initiated more private bills than the previous Assemblies in Ekiti State. This is a feat that is worthy of a applause. I thank you all and I am looking forward to seeing you do more with my successor.
30. I equally appreciate the unflinching support of members of the State Executive Council, the Judiciary, and of course, the Ekiti State Civil Service. Thank you all.
31. My appreciation goes to our royal fathers, religious leaders, development partners and all stakeholders in the Ekiti project. I sincerely appreciate each and every one of you. Your immeasurable contributions made all the difference in the life of this administration, for which we are eternally grateful.
32. In closing, let me openly acknowledge and appreciate my wife and partner in service, the outgoing First Lady of Ekiti State, Her Excellency, Erelu Bisi Fayemi for her invaluable contributions and support. At each bend, when the road was tough and there was the compelling need to trudge through the fog, you were always there to urge me on, you cleared the fog and prayed me through the muddling road. Alone on the road, I would have been weary, buckling under the sheer weight of the adventure. But your presence along the way provided the needed impetus to stay true to the pact made with Ekiti people. Thank you for using such wisdom, substance and grace to redefine the role of First Ladies. 'Labisi, you made the journey effortlessly worthwhile. I just cannot thank you enough.
33. Once again, I sincerely thank Ekiti-Kete and everyone that has contributed in one way or the other to the success of this administration and made it memorable. I enjoin you all to support the incoming administration, even more.
34. Alale Ekiti a gbe a o!

Dr. Kayode Fayemi, CON
Governor





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