

acronym

**ACHIEVEMENTS OF MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE
YOUTH AND SPORTS PRESENTED TO NIGERIA
GOVERNORS' FORUM SECRETARIAT ON THURSDAY,
25TH MARCH, 2010 AT THE BANQUET HALL, TARABA
MOTEL, JALINGO.**

The DG to enter the
Excuse - 1
Please see

With gratitude to Almighty God, I am pleased to welcome you to Taraba State. I wish to brief you on the achievements of our Ministry since the inception of this administration. This briefing marks another mile stone in Governor Danbaba's administration's policy of openness, justice, equity, transparency and accountability in the conduct of Governance.

1. This Ministry is concerned with the development and supervision of policy formulation and organization of programmes for the Youth and disabled as well as co-ordination of all Sporting activities in the State.

In summary, our activities can be highlighted from three broad areas i.e. Sports Development, Youth Development i.e. empowerment as well as social responsibilities.

2. May I inform members of these Governors' Forum Secretariat that Governor Danbaba's achievements in the field of Sports development are numerous during the period under review. Starting with the Sports Complex, I wish to proudly say that Taraba State has one of the best Sports Complex in the Country, fully furnished and equipped with all necessary Sporting facilities

put in place. The stadium was duly completed and handed over to the State Government by Shelter Development Company Ltd at the cost N4,115,046,180.14. The balance of N1.6 billion has been approved by the State Government and would soon be released to the Contractor; however the entire structural and landscaping work including furnishing has been full completed.

Furthermore, the State government sponsored three delegates to the All African Games in Algiers at the cost of N3,411,943.00.

4 | Similarly, our Badminton players represented Nigeria at the All African Junior Badminton Championships in Botswana at the cost of N5,296,500.00. The team won silver medals in the doubles category and bronze medals in boy's single. More so, Jinkam Ifraimu, from this State represented Nigeria at the All African Games and won Gold Medals in men's double. Equally too, the State Government sponsored the same players to an International Badminton tournament in South Africa at the cost of N2,550,000.00. The team emerged victorious at the tournament.

3. In may, 2009, the State Government sponsored three Senior championships in Kenya at the cost N2,189,000.00. Jinkam Ifraimu represented Nigeria and won silver medal in men's single and paired one Ola Fabgemi to win silver in Men's double event, while Minaphee Isaac, also from this State won bronze in the Men's double event. It may interest you to know that these

tournaments are used in ranking Badminton players as well as being avenue for qualifying for the Olympics. With the latest ranking by BWF, Jinkam Ifraimu is now ranked African number one after the last tournament.

4. The State Government released N316,000.00 to this Ministry to enable officials attend the reception in honour of Golden Eaglets in Abuja, where one of our Sons, Chrisantus Macaulay, won the golden boot at the World Cup under 17 football tournament. The Government equally released the sum of N400,000.00 to enable the Ministry host NFA league inspection team to Jolly Nyame Stadium Complex and further released the sum of N412,000.00 to host National Sports Commission's technical team to the same stadium complex for further inspection.

In March, 2008, the State hosted its first ever Sports festival since the creation of the State at a modest cost of N9.75m. In the same vein, the second State Sports festival was held from 29th Nov; to 5th December, 2009 at the cost of N16m. The State Government also camped and purchased Sporting equipment for the intra-zonal team Sports elimination for the North-East zone at a modest cost of N9,775,000. The Government further released the sum of N24.51 million to enable State participate at the National Sports Festival, Kaduna, 2009. The State won eight medals; one

gold, and seven bronze medals. This is our best performance in the history of Sports festivals in Nigeria.

5. The State Government equally released the sum of N977,000.00 to enable the State attend the National Council on Sports meeting in Kaduna in 2008.

Furthermore, in order to promote sporting activities both within and outside the State and to encourage the patronage of our Sports Complex, the Government awarded a two year contract to a Sports Consultant P.J Gyest at the cost N15 million. Part of the dividend of this sound judgment was the staging of a friendly football match between the Super Eagles of Nigeria and F.C. Taraba which ended in a one all draw. ^{a request was received} Meanwhile, from Adamawa State Government to Co-host an International Seven Border State Football Competition approved by the Nigeria Football Association NFA. The participating Countries are Nigeria, Cameroun, Tchad and Niger while the participating State are Borno, Yobe, Sokoto, Katshina, Adamawa, Taraba and Cross River in Nigeria, Ngaoundere, Garoua, Marouam and Bamenda in Cameroun, Njamena in Tchad while Niger has Tawa, Maradi and Damagaram.

The State Government sponsored Youth to cheer U-17 Eagles in World Cup encounter with Argentina at Bauchi on

30/10/09 where N1,846,000.00 was expended. The game ended 2-1 in favour of Nigeria.

In 2008, the State Government released the sum of N740,000 for hosting the State Challenge Cup and another N1,697,710 to two Clubs to represent the State at the preliminary rounds of the F.A Challenge Cup. N3,433,000.00 was also released to the Ministry for purchase of Sports equipment and organizing a friendly football match during the 2008 Democracy Day Celebration.

6. Finally on Sports, the State Government sponsored some delegates to the National Election of various Sports Associations held in Abuja at the cost of N295,000.00. The cheering news about this is that two of our delegates were elected into National Boards of two Federations viz. Bulus Hussaini for the Nigeria Tennis Federation and Hassan Adamu for the Nigeria Table Tennis Association. This is the beginning of good tidings for the State.

7. In the Youth Development sector, the State government has recorded success in Youth empowerment, mobilization, management and training activities. My colleague in the Ministry of Co-operatives and Poverty Alleviation will give you details information on our successes in Youth empowerment projects.

During the period under review, the Government released N3,960,000 for the celebration of 2007 International Youth Week celebration. Similarly the sum of N2 million was released for the

2007 Independence Day Anniversary. This Ministry also coordinated the Federal Youth Empowerment programme where 280 Youth across the 16 Local Government Area's of the State benefited in the Federal Agricultural Programme. The State Government released the sum of N461,000 as its assistance to Youth towards the Programme.

8/1 - In November, 2009, the sum of N1.3 million was released for hosting of Northern Leaders National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) in Jalingo.

- The Government also released N468,800.00 to sponsor an inspection team led by a Federal Director General to Gembu to inspect a site for establishing a Federal Citizenships and Leadership Training Centre on the Mambilla Plateau.

9
The High altitude training ground
- The sum of N884,000.00 was released to sponsor Taraba State Stakeholders to attend the 2nd National Council on Youth Development Meeting at Calabar in 2008 while the sum of N751,000.00 was also released for the 3rd Council Meeting held in Abuja from 3rd to 8th May, 2009.

- The Youth Department attended a National Workshop on NEPAD at Cida Hotel, Abuja in 2008

10/1 8. The Secretariat may further wish to be informed that this Ministry supervises activities of NYSC in the State.

The Government has been consistent in its support to NYSC in the State.

11 | During the period under review the Government spent the sum of N16,179,000.00 on NYSC orientation and passing out for batches A, B and C Corps Programmes.

- In order to improve the condition of our NYSC during Camping period, the State Government released the sum of N15,108,290.00 for procurement of Dunlop mattresses and beds for NYSC.

12 | 9. In the social sector, the State Government provided social services towards the improvement of the quality of life of our people especially the neglected, disabled and destitute. For instance, in 2009 the Ministry was able to repatriate three people to the various States in Jigawa and Lagos and have since re-united them with their families.

- The Ministry was able to nominate three indigenes for one year vocation training at Ikeja Farm Craft Centre for the blind.

- Plans are at advanced stage for the renovation of blind Workshop in Jalingo and Wukari.

- In March, 2009, the Government released the sum of N180,000.00 for baseline survey of persons with disabilities in four Local Government areas of the State i.e Jalingo, Bali, Wukari, and Lau.

- Above all, the Ministry, through the Social Welfare Department has been able to settle family disputes among several matrimonial homes across the State and have rescued many children for Social decadence.

CONCLUSION:

May, I at this juncture thank you sincerely for giving me the opportunity to brief you on the achievements of my Ministry during Danbaba's regime and to wish you a successful tour.

May God continue to guide and protect us all in our various fields of endeavour. Wishing you journey mercies.

Thank you.