

**A BRIEF BY THE HON. COMMISSIONER OF INFORMATION
CULTURE AND TOURISM, ALHAJI MUSA BUBAKARI KAMALE**

BACKGROUND

- It is a truism that for any society to project its proper future, it must understand its past and its present. Adamawa State no doubt has a past and a present that must guide it to a worthy future.
- The past as stated earlier by other papers has no nostalgia. In fact, it is common knowledge that the State's Democratic Past has been eight years of waste. What is more persuasive of this contention than that an outgoing Governor of the State would rather not handover to his predecessor but hurriedly sneaked out of the State in to safety.
- When this administration took over the reigns of government, all the institutions of governance nay infrastructure were in comatose. We inherited an empty treasury with a debilitating decay in all sectors.
- Our priority was therefore imposed on us by the emergencies on ground – from lack of water, collapsing hospital services, un-motorable road network, failed agricultural programmes etc; we had no choice than to quickly launch in to short and long term solutions.
- We embarked on massive repairs and renovation of the old Jimeta and Yola water treatment plants. We procured enough chemicals and we gave water to the capital for the first time in eight years. We expanded this programme to all the major towns of the State.
- We embarked on massive reconstruction/construction of roads in the State to open up the State for commerce. We massively procured agricultural inputs to help farmers go back to farms.

- In order to sustain the tempo for long term purposes, we continued to expand the road construction programme across the State. In the area of agriculture we have established Skills Acquisition Centres all over the State and Vocational Training Centres in three senatorial zones. All these have started yielding results.

- While these novel programmes were taking root, we were suddenly hit by the world economic meltdown. You all know what that meant. In a nutshell this is what government was apt and doing.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

The statutory role of the Ministry is to inform, educate and entertain.

- Our vision has always been in tandem with the National Broadcasting Commission of Nigeria, and that is to achieve digitalization of our electronic media by 2012. In line with this, we have bought a digital Transmitter 688m Tomcast Swiss Comp for our Radio Station ABC, carried out major repairs on ATV Harris Transmitter at the cost of N21m and we are working towards purchasing Studio Equipment for the two Media Houses while we are working on a 33KVA dedicated line to ATV Yola at the cost of N4.75m

- Before then, the three state owned Media Houses were grounded when we took over, so, we released N15m to ATV, N10m to ABC and N8m to APL as take off grants. We also gave the General Managers official cars to motivate them.

- In Addition, we purchased a 250KVA Generator for ATV at the cost of N12m. we also purchased two PA vans and one 36 Seater Coaster bus for Ministry of Information at the cost of N50m
- The multi billion Naira Yola International Hotel being renovated at the cost of N2.6billion will soon be commissioned.

OUR DETERMINATION

- We have discovered that the entire North east Zone is underreported for whatever reasons, our plan is to end this scenario by standardizing our media organs to meet the challenge.
- We are working on purchasing and installing a digital transmitter at ATV and installation of a transmitter for ABC at Mararraba Mubi to cover the entire State and beyond.
- We are determined to give APL a functional status very soon so that it can meet the challenges of modern journalism.
- Our objective in this over all effort is to overturn the negative report of events in Adamawa State nay the North east in a positive direction.
- Ladies and gentlemen, if you watch events unfolding in the National Media, you would be left with unfortunate impression that the Executive Governor of Adamawa State Admiral Nyako has been the only Governor who ever faced impeachment in the State or who ever married four wives as a Governor. This of course is the ill imagination of Abuja and the South west axis.

Thank you.

Hon. Kamale

Commissioner

Information Culture and Tourism