

THE 2013 BUDGET SPEECH DELIVERED TO THE KWARA STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, BY HIS EXCELLENCY, ALHAJI ABDULFATAH AHMED, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KWARA STATE ON THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER, 2012.

Courtesies

Mr Speaker Sir, Honourable members of the Kwara State House of Assembly, I thank you for admitting me into this hallowed legislative chamber once again. It is with great pleasure and honour that I present the 2013 Appropriation Bill before this esteemed house for consideration and approval. When I presented the 2012 Budget, I emphasized that it was designed to build on the laudable achievements of the previous administration as the foundation for long-term growth and development of our State. I am pleased to report that we have made significant progress in this regard in spite of the financial constraints experienced during year.

Mr Speaker, permit me to familiarise the distinguished house with the theme of the 2013 Budget: **Sustained Prosperity**. Sustained Prosperity not only reflects the overarching framework for our developmental aspirations but also our determination to up scale the progress achieved last year while ensuring sustained improvement in the well-being of our people. Thus, the 2013 budget proposal is principally designed to boost social and physical infrastructure, accelerate agro-led wealth creation, provide job opportunities and generate cross-sector growth through a systematic focus on our interlinked priority areas.

Distinguished members, the 2013 Budget estimates were formulated against the background of the current national economic situation arising from the slow pace of global economic recovery. The proposals are therefore based on realistic economic forecasts and current realities of the Nigerian economy. Notwithstanding, I want to reiterate my total commitment to the social and economic advancement of Kwara State by leveraging on our areas of strength, strategic planning and the implementation of people-focussed programs.

Our resources may be limited but our resolve to overcome these challenges and provide good governance for the benefit of the people is boundless. Mr Speaker, before going into the highlights of the 2013 Proposed Budget, a review of the 2012 Budget implementation is pertinent.

REVIEW OF THE 2012 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

In the 2012 Budget, Government outlined some programmes and projects that were to be implemented in key sectors of the State in order to improve the livelihood of Kwarans. I am pleased to report that we have made considerable progress in the last year.

1. AGRICULTURE

During the 2012 fiscal year, government continued to implement agricultural programmes which have impacted positively on the lives of the citizenry. Government ensured the disbursement of One Billion Naira to farmers under

the KWSG/CBN commercial agriculture credit scheme to increase farmers' productivity and production capacity. In order to support small holding farmers and enhance food security, a total of 3,000 metric tonnes of fertilizers worth Four Hundred and Fourteen Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira were procured by the State Government for the Growth Enhancement Scheme (GES).

Also, a sum of Five million, Six Hundred Thousand Naira (₦ 5,600,000.00) was expended on mass vaccination of rural poultry against deadly diseases while Twenty Five Million Naira was spent on Malete Youths Farm Centre for the realization of government objectives of Youth involvement in agri-business.

In line with our determination to build an agro-led economy, government partnered Cornell University, New York for the Kwara State Agricultural Modernisation Masterplan (KAMP), thus becoming the first sub-national body in the world to do so. The Masterplan contains a 5-year road-map for evolving research-based, agro-led economic growth, creating food security and thus make our state the hub for agriculture in the sub-region.

We seek to achieve these objectives through a partnership with the private sector, academic institutions, relevant international organisations and, of course, farmers. As a first step, government will next year establish an Agricultural Innovation Unit which will incorporate a soil, plant and water analysis

laboratory to stimulate the production of high-yield crops and other advances in commercial farming.

2. WORKS AND TRANSPORT

Tremendous progress was made in the works and transport sector in the outgoing year. At the beginning of this fiscal year, attention was focussed on the 33 on-going road projects with a total of 189.67 kilometres. As at last October, the sum of N3, 466, 498, 55 had been released for the projects. So far, 9 (i.e.71.8km) out of the 33 roads road projects have been completed. The remaining 24 are at various stages of completion.

Furthermore, 20 new road projects covering 75.3 kilometres were commenced with five completed and the remaining 15 at various stages of completion. In the area of rural/feeder roads, 40 new roads covering 361.9 kilometres were awarded for construction at a cost of N2, 114, 803, 767.00. Regarding road rehabilitation, we have strengthened Kwara Road Maintenance Agency (KWARMA) with modern equipment and a monthly subvention of N30 million. In the last eleven months, the agency has rehabilitated 48 roads and intervened on 62 roads under Operation No Potholes.

3. WATER SUPPLY

The 2012 budget was predicated on the policy thrust of 500 metres accessibility radius to potable water supply for every resident in the State. Towards this end,

a total sum of Thirty-Three Million, Three Hundred and Forty-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty-Five Naira was approved for the secondary and tertiary reticulation of Ilorin, the State Capital. The project is a follow-up to the on-going pipe network reticulation of Ilorin metropolis which is expected to be completed in 2013

This reticulation network will enable residents to connect to the Asa Dam water scheme when completed. Also, a total sum of Five hundred and Nineteen Million, Six Hundred Thousand Naira (₦519, 600,000.00) was approved for the on-going rehabilitation of 14 waterworks. In the rural water sector, a total of 220 boreholes were drilled in different locations of the State during the 2012 fiscal year thus taking us to 800 metres accessibility.

4. HEALTH

Recognising the importance of quality health care delivery to the people, Government commenced a comprehensive rehabilitation of five General Hospitals at Ilorin, Offa, Omu-Aran, Share and Kaiama with a total sum of One Billion, Three Hundred Million Naira in the outgoing fiscal year. Government intends to complete these hospitals in the first quarter of next year and commence the overhaul of another set of five general hospitals.

Similarly, Government released a total sum of Sixty-One Million Naira (₦61, 000,000.00) as counterpart fund to the Health System Development Project

(HSDP II) for the rehabilitation of sixteen (16) health facilities in the State. The effort is aimed at achieving improved access to quality health care services. In addition to the provision of drugs, dental and x-ray materials, twenty-one (21) blood banks were procured and distributed with a total sum of Twenty-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy-Five Naira.

5. EDUCATION

In the year 2012, we continued to make steady progress in ensuring that our education system produces self-reliant students whose skill sets match international standards. Towards this laudable goal, I laid the foundation of International Vocational Centre (IVC), Ajasse-Ipo during the outgoing fiscal year. When completed, the centre will be able to provide our youths as well as graduates from our technical colleges with world-class training moderated by the United Kingdom's City and Guilds.

We also made significant progress in improving the infrastructure facilities in our schools. A total of 200 classrooms in 58 schools were renovated in our post-primary schools at a cost of Two Hundred and Ninety Million Naira. At the primary level, 100 blocks of were constructed across the Sixteen LGAs while 166 classrooms were renovated.

In the same vein, 720 sets of furniture were distributed to students in pre-primary, primary and junior secondary schools to ease the problem of inadequate furniture. Additionally, science equipment worth Four Hundred and Eleven Million, Two Hundred and Seventy-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Naira were procured and distributed to primary and secondary schools across the state.

During the outgoing fiscal year, we made education free at primary and post-primary schools to increase access to education for every child in the state and to relieve parents of the burden of school fees.

THE 2013 BUDGET

The 2013 Budget is underpinned by the following objectives which reflect government's prudent economic policies in an uncertain global economic environment:

- 1) Prudent management of available resources for sustained economic development and growth;
- 2) Implementation of viable initiatives capable of generating employment, wealth creation and fresh investments.
- 3) Intensification of internal revenue drive and the improvement in the efficiency of revenue collection to ensure less dependence on the Federation account;

- 4) Execution of infrastructure projects, especially those in the priority areas of Agriculture, Health, Education, Water Supply, Energy and Road Development.

With the broad policy objectives as outlined above, I shall now present the sectoral highlights of the 2013 Budget.

Mr. Speaker sir, the following is the breakdown of the 2013 proposed Budget;

- 1) Total Recurrent Revenue: Projected Recurrent Revenue for 2013 financial year is Fifty-Eight Billion, One Hundred and Eleven Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand, One Hundred and Two Naira with Internal Generated Revenue of Seventeen Billion, One Hundred and Eleven Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand, One Hundred and Two Naira and State share of the Federation Account of Forty One Billion
- 2) Total Recurrent Expenditure: Fifty-One Billion, Seven Hundred and Ninety-Four Million, Six Hundred and Sixty Thousand, One Hundred and Forty-Five Naira.
- 3) Total Recurrent Surplus (Transfer to Capital Development Fund) Six Billion, Three Hundred and Sixteen Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Three Thousand, Nine Hundred and Fifty-Seven Naira

- 4) Total Capital Receipt: A total Capital Receipts of Forty-Two Billion, Six Hundred and Nineteen Million, One Hundred and Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Nine Naira is projected for the 2013 financial year. This is made up of Recurrent Budget surplus, expected drawdown on external loans, grants, term loan and refunds.
- 5) Total Capital Expenditure: Forty-Two Billion, Six Hundred and Nineteen Million, One Hundred and Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Nine Naira. From the foregoing, the total Budget size for 2013 as proposed is Ninety-Four Billion, Four Hundred and Thirteen Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Seven Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Four Naira as against Eighty-Five Billion, One Hundred and Fifty-Three Million, Nine Hundred and Thirty-One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty-One Naira for 2012. This shows an increase of 10 per cent.

The detailed recurrent expenditure profile is as shown below:-

- 1) Personnel Cost: Ten Billion, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty-Three Naira;
- 2) Overhead Cost: Fifteen Billion, Six Hundred and Sixty One Million, Eight Hundred Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-Two Naira

- 3) Consolidated Fund Charges: Twenty-Five Billion, One Hundred and Seventy Million, Six Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Twenty Naira
- 4) Total Recurrent Expenditure: Fifty-One Billion, Seven Hundred and Ninety Four Million, Six Hundred and Sixty Thousand, One Hundred and Forty-Five Naira
- 5) Transfer to Capital Development Fund (Recurrent Surplus) Six Billion, Three Hundred and Sixteen Million, Five Hundred and Ninety Three Thousand, Nine Hundred and Fifty-Seven Naira

Similarly, the proposed Capital Expenditure for 2013 financial year is Forty-Two Billion, Six Hundred and Nineteen Million, One Hundred and Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Nine Naira. This is as against Thirty-Two Billion, Two Hundred and Twenty-Three Million, Seventy-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Seventy-One Naira (₦32, 223,075,871.00) for 2012.

The Sectoral breakdown is as follow:-

- 1) Road Development: Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and Fifteen Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Five Hundred and Four Naira
- 2) Water Supply: One Billion, Nine Hundred and Twenty-One Million, Eight Hundred and Seventy-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Five Naira

- 3) Education and Human Capital Development : Seven Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Seven Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Naira
- 4) Tertiary Education, Science and Technology : Four Billion, Three Hundred and Fifty-Four Million, Two Hundred and Nineteen Thousand, Eight Hundred and Ten Naira
- 5) Energy : One Billion, Two Hundred and Fifty-One Million Naira
- 6) Health: Three Billion, Three Hundred and Seventy Million, Three Hundred and Seventy-Two Thousand, Three Hundred Naira
- 7) Agriculture Development: Four Billion, Three Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Thirty-One Naira
- 8) Sport and Youth Development: One Billion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Eight Million Naira
- 9) Housing and Urban Development: Two Hundred and Forty-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira
- 10) Commerce and Cooperatives : One Hundred and Eighty-One Million

- 11) Information and Communications : Four Hundred and Twenty-Nine Million, Seven Hundred Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Three Naira
- 12) Environment and Forestry : Seven Hundred and Ninety-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seven Naira
- 13) Industry and Solid Minerals : Eighty-Five Million Naira
Social Welfare, Culture and Tourism : One Hundred and Ten Million Naira (N110,000,000.00)
- 14) Other sectors: Eight Billion, Four Hundred and Fifty-Eight Million, Six Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand, Seven Hundred and Ninety-Seven Naira
- Total = Forty-Two billion, Six Hundred and Nineteen Million, One Hundred and Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Nine Naira (N42, 619,107,829.00)

HIGHLIGHT OF SECTORAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

The highlights of 2013 Sectoral Policies and Programmes are as follows:-

ECONOMIC SECTOR:

The Economic Sector takes a total of Fourteen Billion, Nine Hundred and Nine Million, One Hundred and Thirty-Two Naira, Two Hundred and Thirty-Five Naira (₦14,909,132,235.00) or 34 per cent of the overall Capital expenditure.

AGRICULTURE:

The policy thrust of this administration in this sub-sector is to facilitate greater participation of private investors in commercial farming and agro-allied industrial businesses. In line with this, the State government has put a number of measures in place to sustain the current tempo of increased food production in the State, and position commercial agriculture as a tool for employment and wealth creation. Enabling conditions will also be created to drive the growth of agriculture and related agro-allied industries as well as support small holding farmers to boost food production and enhance food security.

During the 2013 financial year, concerted efforts will be made to develop Grazing Reserves in strategic locations and provision of other incentives in order to settle the herdsman and their animals. This will eradicate the incessant crises and clashes between crop farmers and herdsmen in the State and ensure peace and harmony among our crop farmers and herdsmen. A total sum of One Hundred and Two Million Naira has been earmarked for the project.

Furthermore, government intends to make significant commitment in the areas of investment in rice project under Public Private Partnership collaboration which is expected to attract the sum of One Billion, Five Hundred Million Naira in year 2013 with a view to enhancing rice production in the State. Efforts would also be geared towards reconstruction and desilting of lakes and canals at Duku-Lade irrigation scheme in order to boost all year round farming season. The sum of Ten Million Naira (₦10,000,000.00) will be committed to the project.

In order to forestall the likelihood of food shortage arising from the effect of 2012 flood disaster that destroyed several hectares of farmland, the Buffer stock scheme will be strengthened. Surplus grains and others food items will be purchased and stored for onward sale to the Public at affordable prices during the period of scarcity. The sum of Thirteen Million, Six Hundred Thousand Naira (₦13,600,000.00) has been earmarked for the programme.

ENERGY:

Improvement in power and electricity Supply will continue to attract government attention in view of its importance in facilitating social economic development. In this regard, efforts will be intensified to achieve more robust improvement in rural electrification in 2013 financial year. Communities that

are yet to be connected to the national grid would be considered under the Phase III rural electrification project in 2013.

In the light of the foregoing, a total sum of One Billion, Two Hundred and Fifty-One Million Naira has been proposed to be expended in 2013 financial year among various projects in the sub-sector such as electrification of towns and villages, transformer dropping, rehabilitation of some existing street lights across the state, construction of injection sub-stations and power evacuation lines/feeders as well as traffic lights.

WORKS AND TRANSPORT:

A total budgetary vote of Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and Fifteen Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Five Hundred and Four Naira is allocated for the execution of the programmes and services in this very vital sub-sector. Priority will be given to the completion of all various ongoing road projects in the State and upscaling the strides attained in the construction/rehabilitation of rural roads.

A total sum of Two Billion Naira has been earmarked for the completion of all on-going projects while a total sum of One Billion, Two Hundred and Four Million, Thirty-Two thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty-Eight Naira has been allocated for the completion of Kosubosu-Chikanda Oyo boundary road.

Efforts will be intensified on road rehabilitation, maintenance and reconstruction in line with the “Operation No Pothole”

During the 2013 financial, efforts would be geared towards the completion of the world-standard Cargo Terminal Complex with Apron and Taxi-way. In line with international best practices, attention will be focused on further equipping the international Aviation College by purchasing two additional aircrafts for practical training of pilot students.

COMMERCE & COOPERATIVES:

The major role of government in this subsector is stimulation of industrialization through the promotion, development and encouragement of strong and organized small and medium scale industrial activities. Government also intends to focus on partnership with the private sector to drive growth and commerce. In this regard, government will lay more emphasis on providing the necessary enabling environment for increased private investment.

Towards this end, a total sum of One Hundred and Eighty-One Million has been earmarked for major project activities under the sub-sector in the 2013 financial year.

SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR

The social services sector takes Seventeen Billion, Four Hundred and Fifty Million, Five Hundred and Fifty Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty-Eight Naira or 40 per cent of the total capital expenditure.

EDUCATION

Education is no doubt the bedrock of development and a veritable source of the manpower requirement of the state. In order to enhance the quality of education at all levels, Government will provide necessary infrastructural facilities in our educational institutions and complete ongoing projects at all levels during the 2013 financial year in order to create a conducive learning environment.

In line with the government policy thrust on vocational education, which aims at building self-reliance and entrepreneurship at post primary schools and our tertiary institutions, efforts will be made to procure trade equipment for secondary schools in order to enhance learning of at least three trades in each school. Efforts will also be geared to ensure that the International Vocation Centre at Ajase-Ipo is completed during the 2013 financial year.

In the same vein, the ongoing conversion of six secondary schools Science Schools will be completed in 2013 financial year. Furthermore, the State Government will establish three (3) Mega Secondary Schools, with a view to providing quality and standard learning environment for our children in public

schools. A total sum of One Billion, Five Hundred Million Naira (₦1,500,000,000.00) has been allocated for this project.

HEALTH

In pursuance of the Government policy towards enhancing the provision of quality health care and medical service delivery to the people of this State, Ilorin, Offa, Share, Kaiama and Omu-Aran General Hospital will be completed, fully equipped and adequately staffed in 2013. In addition, renovation work will commence on another set of five General Hospitals while a new General hospital will be constructed in one of the three Local Government that presently have no General Hospital.

To further improve accessibility to health care service delivery in the State, twenty comprehensive health care centres spread across the sixteen Local Government Areas of the State will be built in the 2013 financial year. A total sum of Three Billion, Three Hundred and Seventy Million, Three Hundred and Seventy-Two Thousand, Three Hundred Naira has been set aside for all the projects and activities to be implemented in the Health Sector in 2013 financial year.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

This administration recognises the fact that prompt information dissemination is a valuable tool for effective governance. Consequently, this administration will

continue to encourage provision of effective public information services to our people in a manner that will appropriately inform them on the activities and programmes of Government.

To bridge the information gap between the government and the governed and to promote the image of the State as a centre for private sector investment, an enabling environment would be put in place in order to attain this lofty objective. A total sum of Fifty-Six Million Naira is set aside for this purpose.

In the same vein, Kwara Television will be repositioned and strengthened in order ensure that its signals reach all parts of the state and beyond. In addition, a sum of Forty-Nine Million Naira (₦49,000,000.00) has been earmarked to the Kwara Printing and Publishing Corporation (The Herald) to strengthen and reposition it for effective performance. Radio Kwara will be strengthened to function adequately with the provision of new equipment and spares.

SPORT AND YOUTH

It is pertinent to express this administration commitment to sporting activities as means of promoting healthy and physically fit citizens, and as a tool of national unity. Accordingly, government will address the issue of sports development with a view to preparing our sport men and women for participation in national and international sporting activities.

Government will also continue to support Kwara United Football Club and Kwara Football Academy with grants with a view to giving them the necessary encouragement to enhance their performances. Furthermore, Government will accord priority attention to Youth Development through economic empowerment of the Youth in order to reduce unemployment. A total sum of One Billion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Eight Million Naira has been set aside for this subsector.

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY

The policy thrust of this administration in this sub-sector is to make Kwara State a model clean and green society and to drive beautification of the State environment in a manner aligned with the State's commercial and investment strategies as well as to ensure tree and forest preservation and conservation for environmental sustainability.

Consequently, in the 2013 financial year, serious efforts will be geared towards forest protection and preservation by providing necessary support and to maintain the city beautification project. The State Government shall also ensure that the State's environment is immune to the vagaries of climate change and green house emission through the establishment of communal woodlots programme.

The city beautification project would be expanded to cover four more additional routes which include:

- 1) Geri Alimi Roundabout to Eiyenkorin
- 2) Gaa Akanbi Junction to Michael Imoudu
- 3) Offa Garage Roundabout to Asa Dam Road
- 4) Ministry of Agriculture Roundabout to Fate/Basin Roundabout
- 5) Tanke Roundabout to the new GRA at Budo Osho

Similarly, ten roundabouts within the state capital metropolis would be landscaped and beautified.

WATER SUPPLY:

The present administration has continued to place high premium on water accessibility and supply in the right quality and quantity. In the 2013 financial year, government intends to consolidate on the achievement recorded in the outgoing financial year by expanding and rehabilitating semi-urban and urban water schemes as well as secondary and tertiary reticulation of Ilorin metropolis and the completion of ongoing pipe network project in Ilorin metropolis.

Government is committed to ensuring that not only is adequate drinkable water supply available but that it is accessible within 500 meters radius. This

administration will, therefore, continue to maintain all the water works in the State with the provision of the necessary maintenance materials. To further ensure adequate water supply to nooks and crannies of the State, the programme of three boreholes per ward scheme will commence with one in each ward in the 2013 financial year.

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

As part of the strategy for the overall development of the State, my administration will continue to encourage Public Private Partnership in the provision of houses and infrastructural facilities to the people. In 2013, we shall focus on the development of the Greater Ilorin Master plan to ensure that development and expansion of the capital city in the future is carefully controlled.

Government also intends to embark on neighbourhood upgrading towards slum reduction and control of haphazard development thereby achieving Millennium Development Goal of slum eradication. The Housing Corporation will also be strengthened through capital grant for efficient and effective performance. A total sum of Two Hundred and Forty-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira has been allocated to all programmes and projects of this sub-sector in 2013 financial year.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The major focus of Government in this sector is the provision of adequate infrastructural facilities, equipment and training of personnel to cope with the security challenges of the present day development. Government will also continue to place premium on the positive role of the public service towards the prosecution of its policies and implement all measures designed to enhance the welfare of public servants and boost their morale. I hope public servants will reciprocate with improved performance and commitment to the welfare of the people of this State.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Members will observe from the details which I have put before you that the main objective of the 2013 Budget is to scale up the economic advancement of our state while enhancing the people's well-being. My administration is therefore highly committed to the actualization of the tenets of this budget. Consequently, a Monitoring and Evaluation directorate in the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development has been established and empowered to monitor the physical implementation of all ongoing projects.

Finally, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let me seize this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to this Honourable House for its cooperation with my Administration, which has contributed in positive way to the achievements recorded during the outgoing financial year. I also wish to place on record the noble roles and contributions of our royal fathers, religious and community leaders in the maintenance of peace, law and order in the State throughout the year.

I hereby solicit for continued support from all and sundry so that we can collectively achieve the Kwara of our dreams. Mr Speaker, Honourable members of the House I thank you for your kind attention and pray the Honourable Members for an expeditious consideration and passage of these budget proposals. May God bless you all, and bless Kwara State and Federal Republic of Nigeria.