

KADUNA OUTLOOK

A Publication of the Kaduna State Government

VOL. 1 NO. 7 JULY 2024

Kaduna APC passes vote of confidence on Gov Uba Sani
Page 3

Tinubu's Aide thumbs-up Kaduna healthcare reforms
Page 21

Tudun Biri drone attack victims get N275m relief
Page 4

In this edition

Gov Uba Sani Applauds President Tinubu on North West Development Commission Bill Page 2

KDSG denies brutalizing Kano local politician Page 2

KDSG, FG committed to mass housing Page 2

We are not party to protest in Kaduna - SOKAPU Page 14

Features:

Fueling citizens engagement
Page 2

Expectations from the October 19 LG polls
Page 2

Local governments and aftermath of the supreme court judgement.
Page 2

Kaduna gears up for LG elections



KDSG gears up for LG elections

Following the landmark judgement of the Supreme Court on July 11, 2024, Kaduna State Government has put structures in place for a hitch-free LG poll. This is just as aspirants of the two dominant political parties, the All-Progressives Congress (APC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP), have commenced campaigns.

By Abdallah Yunus Abdallah

Since the 1999 Constitution became operational, the status of Local Governments has been in contention amongst politicians, scholars and lawyers in Nigeria. Amongst major stakeholders, there is confusion as to whether Local Government is a tier of Government or an administrative unit. In other federal systems of Government, the federating units are the Central and State

Governments and this is clearly spelt out because Local Governments or Counties are regulated by State Governments. However, in Nigeria, the issue is ambiguous and this has brought about some contradictions, which the 1999 Constitution has sustained. Section 7(1) states emphatically that "the system of local government by democratically elected local government councils is under this constitution

guaranteed; and accordingly, the government of every state shall, subject to section 8 of this constitution, ensure their existence under a Law which provides for the establishment, structure, composition, finance and functions of such councils". Yet, section 7 (6a) submits that "the National Assembly shall make provisions for statutory allocation of public revenue to Local Government Councils in the federation." Section 7 (6b) added more confusion to the status of Local Governments in Nigeria. It states that "the House of Assembly of a state shall make provisions for statutory allocation of public revenue to local government councils within the state". Furthermore, the confusion has been reinforced in Section 162 (6), where the Constitution established the State Joint Local Government Account for the purpose of payment of "all allocations to the Local Government

councils of the State from the Federal account and from the Government of the State". In Section 162(7), the Constitution directs State Government to pay to Local Government councils its total revenue on the terms prescribed by the National Assembly. Indeed, various attempts to remedy the situation by Constitution amendment have failed. In May 2024, the Attorney-General of the Federation, Lateef Fagbemi (SAN), filed suit marked SC/CV/343/2024 at the Supreme Court to

strengthen the autonomy of the Local Government areas. On July 11, the Apex Court delivered its verdict and in his judgement, Justice Agim directed that Local Government allocations from the Federation Account should be paid directly to them henceforth. In addition, the judgement restrained Governors "from collecting funds belonging to the Local Government councils when no democratically elected local



government councils are in place." Also, the Supreme Court ordered that "henceforth no state government should be paid monies standing to the credit of the local government councils." After the landmark judgement, most states started gearing up for the conduct of Local Government elections, especially where there are Caretaker Chairmen in office. In particular, Kaduna State Government is all set for the Council polls and the elections are billed to hold on October 19, 2024. In fact, the Kaduna State Independent Electoral Commission(SIECOM) has already issued a timetable to guide stakeholders. On July 16, SIECOM issued notice of Local Government Council General Election to registered political parties and the public. On the same day, it released election guidelines, election timetable and signalled the commencement of election campaign.

continue on page 19

Local governments and aftermath of the supreme court judgement.

By Emmanuel Ado

The wild jubilation that greeted the Supreme Court judgment of July 11, 2024, in the suit filed by Lateef Fagbemi (SAN), Attorney-General of the Federation, and Minister of Justice to strengthen the autonomy of the local government councils as guaranteed by the 1999 constitution, is understandable. But the judgment has unwittingly sustained the erroneous impression that the myriad of problems confronting the local government administration would be fixed with its “cure all” directive that the federal government should henceforth credit local government accounts directly. The other reason for the uncontrolled celebration, especially by some commentators who hold governors responsible for the poor state of the councils, is that having been finally set free by the apex court from the “suffocating apron strings” of the “notorious “state governors, the councils would witness rapid development. What a delusion!

In Nigeria, state governors have been singularly held responsible for the nation's apparent lack of development, while in fact the federal government, the real culprit, continues to get away with blue murder. Mere directors in the federal ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) have done more damage to the country than the 36 state governors put together.

The other decisions of the court include; the reaffirmation of democratically elected local government system as opposed to caretaker committees, declaring dissolution of councils illegal, and withholding of funds to councils without elected officials. But, as expected, the judgment affirming the financial independence of the 744 councils was the most celebrated because everything is about money.

While being cautious not to dampen the enthusiasm of the hosanna group, there is the need for them to temper their expectation with some reality checks. For instance, the fact that many of the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) have remained pathetically underdeveloped despite receiving their allocations directly and enjoying relative independence is enough reason for the hosanna choristers to temper their exuberance with extreme caution, because the judgment wouldn't substantially change the fortunes of the councils.

The grouse with the Supreme Court judgement is that it unfortunately and tragically reduced the fundamental problems confronting the councils; the lack of capacity, absenteeism, negative attitude to work, corruption and the weak structure of the local government system etc, into simply a funding issue. The fact remains that unless these issues are critically addressed, the hosanna songs would sooner than later turn into lamentations and an agitation for the return to

the much-derided joint account.

The Supreme Court judgment will not, by a stroke of the pen, improve the quality of candidates running the councils!

It's doubtful if the Supreme Court judges ever read the World Bank Report: *Attacking Poverty*. According to the report “poorly functioning Public Sector institutions (like local governments) and weak governance are major constraints to growth and equitable development in many developing countries”. So, it's not enough for the court to have made the consequential orders without taking into consideration the systemic problems that would definitely defeat the expected outcome. Without a systemic reform that would ensure improved quality of elected and public servants running the councils, the judgment would not achieve the intended objective.

The problem confronting the councils is certainly not the lack of financial autonomy, but the appalling lack of capacity. So, the focus should be on tackling headlong the lack of capacity, issues of over staffing, poor revenue generation, endemic corruption etc, which are responsible for poor service delivery and the acceleration of the socio-economic development at the grassroots. Financial autonomy can't make the councils responsive, nor accountable, just as the hood doesn't make the Monks.

Several studies by multilateral institutions have clearly established that “individual investment projects are less likely to succeed in a distorted policy environment and that neither good policies nor good investments are likely to emerge and be sustainable in an environment with dysfunctional institutions and poor governance.” It follows that if the purpose of governments at all levels is to accelerate development and reduce poverty, then reforms and strengthening of the councils that will ensure effective performance, must be undertaken especially at the level of the councils which Robert W. Flack describes as the “foundation of democracy.”

Unknown to many Nigerians, the glaring absence of capacity at the local government levels led to the introduction of the Primary Health Care Under One Roof policy and donor agencies demand that primary healthcare centers be managed by the state governments.

The Supreme Court judgment confirms the penchant of Nigerians to chase shadows, of motion without movement and refusal to address fundamental questions.

The nation seems to be afflicted with citizens with very short memories, hence they seem to have forgotten that the joint account was a reaction to the failure of the councils to meet their monthly obligations to teachers, health workers and the people. With certainty, you would want to predict that teachers and health workers will soon start having salary problems.

continue on page 18

Expectations from the October 19 LG polls

By **Abdullahi Yahaya**

Residents of Kaduna and environs have reacted to the Supreme Court Ruling granting financial autonomy to LGAs across the country.

Barring any last-minute change, Kaduna State Government on its part is set to conduct local government elections after an inertia of over three years.

The election, first to be held under the present administration of Governor Uba Sani is coming at a significant milestone in the history of local governments in the fourth Republic, considering the Supreme Court judgement affirming the financial independence of the third tier of government and mandating the federal government and other relevant fiscal allocation agencies to henceforth discontinue the joint allocation arrangement where local governments' monthly allocations are embedded in those of their state governments.

This has been an age-long development, which civil societies and stakeholders blamed for the slow pace of delivering of dividends of democracy at the grassroots level. This is more so that the local government is considered the closest to the people amongst the other tiers.

The Governor of Kaduna State Senator Uba Sani must be commended for taking a bold step of timely setting in motion measures to conduct of LG's election which many analysts and opinion leaders spoken to by the Kaduna Outlook believe will boost the credibility of his administration and earn it accolade among citizens.

Local government election though, conducted by umpires appointed by state governments go a long way in underscoring one of the fundamental principles of democratic experiment in our contemporary practice as it allows citizens the franchise to choose their leaders and equally gives the opportunity for emergence of popular candidates at the helm of affairs at grassroots level.

This will preserve the faith of people in

democracy and give them a sense of belonging as important stakeholders in the project of building the society via the present democratic experiment.

The Kaduna LG's election slated for October 19, 2024 will take place across 23 local government areas in 255 wards in the state which will produce 23 chairmen and 255 councilors as elected officials of their local governments and wards respectively.

People in the state, particularly at the grassroots level are already in the mood for election. Our reporters observed beehive of activities at various offices of political parties with series of meetings were being held in connection with the forthcoming election.

A potential aspirant of a major political party who pleaded for anonymity in an interview with this magazine expressed optimism in the forthcoming exercise, saying the election would elicit deep interest and huge enthusiasm in the history of local elections in the state.

"The latest development of making local governments financially autonomous will without doubt add flavour in the contest because the stakes are now believed to be high for whoever grabs the seat.

"Unlike in the past when chairmen of local governments were believed to have limited powers of how and when to get their resources which were under the full control of their state chief executives.

"Contestants and their parties, I believe will do a lot of campaigning to woo the electorates which will arouse interest and make the contest keen and interesting," he stated.

An official of one of the political parties noted that it was imperative for the umpire to uphold fairness in the discharge of its responsibilities in the forthcoming exercise to avoid post-election litigations that usually arise due to irregularities. He emphasized the need for a truly independent election umpire which he said must not be compromised. He commended Governor Uba Sani for taking the bold initiative among his peers of conducting an election at local government levels.

On his part, an opinion leader who simply identified himself as Musa Kajuru enjoined the electorates to shun violence during and after the exercise, adding that hooliganism could only lead to destruction and backwardness.

He also urged potential candidates and their parties to emphasize peace and orderly conducts during campaigns, saying it would go a long way in ensuring a rancor-free atmosphere all over the state.

Our correspondents who went to town sampling the opinion of citizens about the forthcoming election observed a growing enthusiasm, rising interest and willingness to contribute in the political discourse surrounding the upcoming exercise.

This wasn't unconnected with the financial autonomy granted local governments and developments that may follow, according to an administrative staff of a local government in a rural area of the state.

According to him, people are curious and eager to see how robust the implementation of the financial independence granted LGs will be vis-a-vis promoting and facilitating growth, prosperity, development and above all impacting positively on the welfare of communities, especially in these hard times of escalating prices of essentials items and goods.

He harped on transparency, accountability and judicious expenditure by the would-be chairmen of the post autonomy era of the closest tier to people.

The official who preferred to speak on anonymity said the whole essence of granting local governments autonomy could be defeated if the bosses of this tier failed to give priority to the welfare and the basic needs of the people at the grassroots, who should be the primary beneficiaries of the positive development of the new present dispensation.

continue on page 19

Kaduna APC passes vote of confidence on Gov Uba Sani

There was a notable absence of the immediate past governor of Kaduna State, Nasir El-Rufai, as the state executive council of the All Progressives Congress, APC, passed a vote of confidence on the administration of Governor Uba Sani.

It was observed that apart from Mr. El-Rufai, prominent leaders and elders of the party were in attendance at the meeting held at the Murtala Square Kaduna.

Prominent members at the meeting include the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Abbas Tajudeen; Kaduna State Governor, Uba Sani; former Kaduna State Governor, Mukhtar Ramalan Yero and; the northwest chairman of the APC, Garba Datti.

The Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Yusuf Liman; former deputy governor, James Bawa Magaji, serving and former members of the national assembly who are members of the party; and serving and former members of the Kaduna State House of Assembly were also in attendance

The council, unanimously passed a vote of confidence on Gov Uba Sani, singling out the governor's rural transformation initiatives and exemplary youth and women's empowerment programmes as some of the key successes of the state administration.

The meeting also reiterated the dedication of members to working for the unity of the state.



Prominent persons at the APC exco meeting in Kaduna



KDSG denies brutalizing Kano local politician

The Kaduna State Government has distanced itself from a viral visual where a local Kano politician was being allegedly brutalized by some unknown assailants allegedly on the directives of Gov. Uba Sani.

The Governor has since ordered an investigation into the matter which some commentators describe as a badly written and acted script meant to embarrass Gov Uba Sani.

A statement on the matter signed by Alhaji Muhammed Lawal Shehu, Chief Press Secretary to the Governor read in full:

“The attention of the Kaduna State Government has been drawn to a video that has gone viral showing one Dan Balki Commander being whipped by

unidentified persons. In the video, accusing fingers were pointed at the Kaduna State Government.

The Kaduna State Government wishes to strongly disassociate itself from the heinous act. It is not in our character. Such barbaric acts have no place in a decent society.

We stand for the rule of law and due process. Our administration is anchored on justice, equity, fairness, inclusivity and respect for the dignity of the human person.

Since assuming office in May 2023, Kaduna State Government under the able leadership of Senator Uba Sani has been working assiduously to rebuild trust and give all citizens of the State a sense of belonging. We accommodate all

shades of opinion and have created a conducive atmosphere for all political views to thrive.

The Governor of Kaduna State is a long-standing fighter for fundamental rights and freedoms. He has never wavered in his commitment to the promotion and protection of civil rights, rule of law and due process. He will not, under any circumstances, detail anyone to brutalize a person for holding a contrary opinion.

His Excellency, Governor Uba Sani has therefore ordered full investigation into the alleged incident. He is determined to get to the root of the incident and will ensure that the full wrath of the law is brought to bear on anyone found culpable”.

Tudun Biri drone attack victims get ₦275m relief



VP Shettima (left) Gov Uba Sani (2nd left) at Tudun Biri

Governor Uba Sani has said that 275 million naira of the money donated to the victims of the accidental military drone attack on Tudun Biri has been distributed in the community. He said at the ground breaking ceremony of resettlement scheme in Tudun Biri Friday that there are still some unredeemed pledges to the community.

Gov Uba Sani appealed to individuals, Public and private institutions who made pledges to please redeem them, as Mr. President and the Vice President had done.

He expressed the state government's appreciation to the President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, for picking Tudun Biri for the groundbreaking ceremony of the Resettlement Scheme for Persons Impacted by Conflicts. "This is a clear demonstration of Mr. President's commitment to wiping off the tears of the Tudun Biri people, and indeed the poor, vulnerable and underserved in our country. Mr. President feels the pains of the internally displaced persons and all those affected by conflicts in our country. He recognizes the fact that decent accommodation and essential infrastructure are critical

to the preservation of human dignity", the Gov further said.

"Since the unfortunate incident, we have supported the victims, their families and members of the community with relief materials through the Kaduna State Emergency Agency (KADSEMA). Direct cash support has been given. Medical and psycho-social support to the victims and their families are ongoing," he added.

Gov Uba Sani announced that a 6km asphaltic road to Tudun Biri Village was under construction which when completed, will open up Tudun Biri Village, link it to other communities, boost agriculture in the area, and ease the movement of persons and goods. He said, a Skill Acquisition Centre was under construction and a Clinic to cater for the medical needs of the people.

Gov Uba Sani recalled that shortly after the unfortunate incident, public and private institutions, as well as public-spirited individuals donated funds to alleviate the suffering of victims and families of those affected and extended gratitude to the institutions and individuals for their show of compassion and empathy.

He thanked the Committee led by the Dep Gov, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe for their commitment and thoroughness in the handling of the cases of victims.

The Gov commended the Vice President Kashim Shettima for effectively facilitating the strategic meetings that fine-tuned the Implementation Plan for the Resettlement Scheme, as well as the Chairman and members of the Steering Committee of the Resettlement Scheme for their commitment and dedication.

"This scheme is the brainchild of Mr. Vice President. He leveraged his experience in managing conflict and persons impacted by conflict in Borno State," Gov, Sani said.

He said that under the project, handled by NEMA, four Resettlement Communities will be built in Igabi, Ikara, Giwa and Kauru LGAs for internally displaced victims of banditry, adding that houses, hospitals and schools would also be built to enable the victims to start life afresh.

He said that Kaduna State Government has allocated lands to NEMA in Igabi, Ikara, Giwa and Kauru LGAs for the construction of the four resettlement communities, and that the land title documents have been perfected by the Kaduna Geographic Information Service (KADGIS).

He assured that the State Government was working closely with federal security forces to degrade and uproot bandits from their enclaves and restore peace and stability to our troubled communities. "We look forward to the day when displaced victims of banditry will return to their original communities and start the process of rebuilding their lives", he said.

Fueling citizens engagement

By Clement Shekogaza Wasah

A structured process of citizen engagement has been flagged off in the State.

Christened G2P/P2G (Government to People/People to Government), the initiative is the brainchild of Dr Abdul Isiaq, Special Adviser on Stakeholders Relations to the Governor, Sen. Uba Sani and synergetic collaboration of Special Advisers and Assistants on Stakeholders Relations, Community Engagement and Relations, Support Groups, and Public Affairs.

As the name suggests, G2P/P2G is a platform which beams government policies, plans, projects and programs to the people. In reverse, it views, needs and aspirations of the people to government. This is in line with His Excellency, Sen Uba Sani's avowed commitment to nurturing citizens engagement and rural transformation as the main pillar of Kaduna State Government which leads.

G2P/P2G is an inclusive and diverse mechanism through which stakeholders, including marginalised or non-represented groups receive authentic government information and provide input and feedback to government.

P2G/P2G will also empower stakeholders to implement nano and micro projects that pressing challenges. For instance, in the engagement with the leaderships of keke (tricycle) operators under the Amalgamated Commercial Tricycle, Motorcycle Owners Riders & Repairers Association of Nigeria (ACOMORAN), National Commercial tricycle and motorcycle owners and riders Association (NATOMORON), City Riders and other groups, policy and operational issues were placed on the table.

However, they poured encomiums on the State Government under Sen Uba Sani for engendering a conducive environment for operation, even as they call for review of the policy on their



Special Advisers and Assistants to the Governor during stakeholder engagement

prohibition in some areas.

Most pleasing to them was the fact they were being engaged in a friendly dialogue with government officials rather than being merely informed of government policies or restrictions or taxes, as was the case in the past.

They also pledged to be law abiding and step up self-regulatory measures to check bad behaviour of members.

Since the meeting with the a keke operators took place in the week when there was shortage of supply of premium motor spirit (fuel), it was no surprise that access to fuel at affordable price was the most pressing challenge they faced and would be glad to get support on.

Following the unanimity of the participants, G2P/P2G piloted a collaborative micro-project implementation with the leadership of keke operators in the four metropolitan local governments of Chikun, Igabi, Kaduna North and Kaduna South.

On Wednesday July, 17 and 18, 2024 the pilot micro project of fuel support to Keke operators was launched in Kaduna North and Chikun Local Government.

Igabi and Kaduna Local Government operators had their turn the following.

G2P/P2G aims to foster relationships within and without based on mutual respect, empathy, and reliability and encourage and enable community members to contribute their ideas and skills as they work.

G2P/P2G will support community capacity building and skills development.

On full throttle, G2P/P2G will have structures of implementation at state, local government, ward and street level volunteers, thereby fuelling seamless citizens engagement in Kaduna State.

Clement Shekogaza Wasah is SSA, (Community Engagement)



Stakeholders engagement in action

Gov Uba Sani an inspiration – VP

Vice-President Senator Kashim Shettima has said that Gov Uba Sani's inclusive approach to governance was an inspiration to others willing to enthrone peace among communities.

“His sense of inclusivity, his capacity, his courage to reach out to our brethren in southern Kaduna is worthy of special mention and commendation”, Senator Kashim Shettima said in a remark at the ground-breaking ceremony of a resettlement scheme for people impated with conflicts at Tudun Biri, Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State on Friday.



VP Shettima (Left) with Gov Uba Sani

He emphasized that the approach was not only a template for other state governors but also for the nation at large.

“The non-kinetic interventions

we have explored since taking office are best demonstrated by our state-governors, and Kaduna is a light of hope in this aspect”, Vice President, Shettima said.

ACF gets land in Kaduna after 20-year wait

Arewa Consultative Forum, a Northern voluntary advisory and the watch-dog body over northern affairs has heaped praises on Governor Uba Sani for his assistance in acquiring their ACF National Headquarters on Sokoto Road in Kaduna.

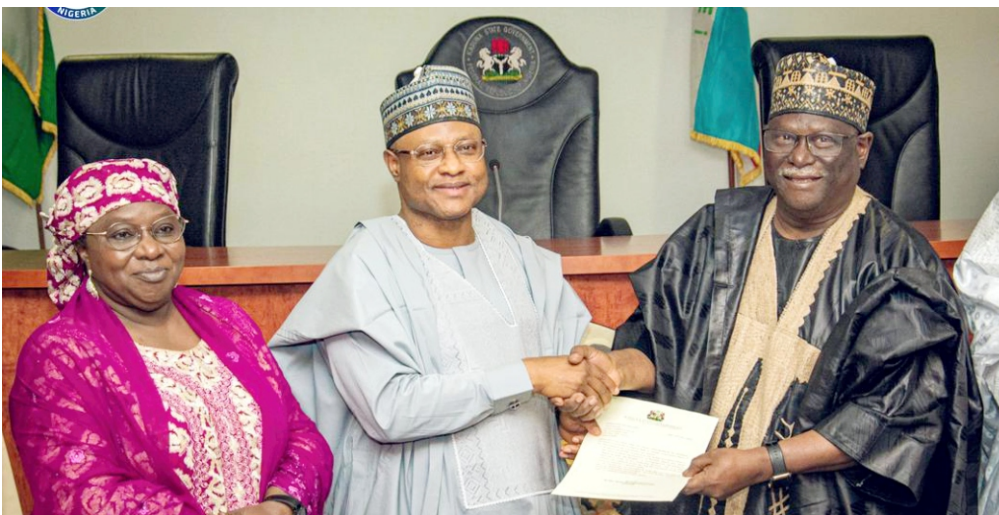
Members said they had been engaging with the Kaduna State Government for over 20 years for the acquisition of the property, which has finally happened during his time in office.

The ACF stated this when members paid a courtesy call on the Governor at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, Kaduna.

The Forum was led by its chairman Mr. Mamman Mike Osuman. “An issue that has lingered on for a very, very long time, with the speed of light, you have sorted it out. We thank you, we thank you very much indeed;” the chairman enthused.

Senator Ibrahim Ida Wazirin Katsina who was also on the team added: “We thank you; we thank you; we thank your government; we thank your team and we thank the good people of Kaduna State, on whose behalf you have done this.”

The forum commended the Governor for his innovative policies on rural development and reconciliation. Governor Uba Sani hailed the ACF for their efforts towards promoting development in the North and fostering unity amongst the people of the region.



Mr Osuman Chairman ACF (right) receiving the document on the Forum's property from Gov Uba Sani as Dep Gov Dr. Hadiza Balarabe watches

New Permanent Commissioners for Kaduna SIECOM

Three newly appointed commissioners of the state Electoral Commission SIECOM have been sworn in. Those sworn in are Alhaji Abubakar Sadik Musa, Alhaji Ahmed Yahaya, and Halima Sani Aminu.

Deputy Governor Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe who sworn in the new SIECOM members emphasized the vital role played by the commission in upholding democracy and underscored the necessity of ensuring fair and transparent electoral processes.

She called upon the newly appointed commissioners to uphold democratic values in their duties.

The swearing-in ceremony, which took place at the Council Chambers of Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, was attended by senior government officials, including the Secretary to the State Government and members of the State Executive Council as well as the families and friends of the newly appointed commissioners.



Dep Gov Dr Hadiza Balarabe with the new Commissioners and Govt Officials

FCSC Commissioner visits Kaduna, solicits govt support

The new Federal Commissioner representing Kaduna/Katsina in the Federal Civil Service Commission, Hajia Hindatu Abdullahi has commenced a familiarization visit of the state with a visit to Governor Uba Sani where she solicited for the support of the State Government to enable her work effectively.

The Federal Commissioner has also commenced strategic engagement with the Kaduna State Civil Service Commission to forge a strong and enduring partnership. While on a courtesy call on the Governor, Hajia Hindatu praised the Kaduna State Government for improving the welfare of workers in the state. She assured of her commitment to protecting the interest of Kaduna State in the Federal

Civil Service.

Governor Uba Sani while welcoming Hajia Hindatu reiterated his commitment towards strengthening the state civil service for better service delivery and ensuring the welfare of workers.

He also called for a stronger collaboration between the State and the Federal Civil Service Commissions.

Gov Uba Sani condoles Chief of Staff on loss of son

The death has accursed of Adam Liman Kila the son of the Chief of Staff to the Governor Uba San, Alhaji Sani Lima Kila MFR'

he died in Kano in the course of an illness

Governor Uba Sani has expressed sadness at the news of the demise of the late Adam, describing him as an intelligent energetic and respectful

young boy loved by all.

A conference message by the Governor reads:

With total submission to the Will of Almighty Allah (SWT), Kaduna State Governor Senator Uba Sani has received the shocking news of the death of Adam Liman Kila who was the beloved son of the Chief of Staff to the Kaduna State Governor, Alhaji Sani Liman Kila MFR. Adam, also fondly

called "Amir" was an intelligent, charismatic, energetic and respectful young boy who was well-loved by his friends, teachers, siblings and parents. On behalf of the people of Kaduna State, Governor Uba Sani has extended his deepest condolences to the entire family and has called for prayers from well-meaning Nigerians during this extremely difficult time. May Allah (SWT) grant young Adam Jannat-ul-Firdaus and forgive his shortcomings.

KDSG, Council of Chiefs discuss security

Governor Uba Sani has held a strategic engagement meeting with the Kaduna State Council of Chiefs focusing on development and security issues, with a view to forging a united and coordinated approach to addressing challenges confronting the state.

The Governor assured the Royal Fathers that the traditional institution will continue to hold a pride of place and therefore sought their support and cooperation to enable the government quicken the pace of development in Kaduna State.

The Governor informed the royal fathers of the State Government's readiness to comply fully with the judgement of the Court issued on 10th June 2024, restoring the Chief of Piriga Chiefdom, in Lere LGA, His Royal Highness, Jonathan Zamuna, back to his stool.

Responding the Chairman of the



Gov Uba Sani, Deputy Gov Dr Hadiza Balarabe with the Chiefs

Kaduna State Council of Chiefs, the Emir of Zazzau, His Royal Highness, Amb. Ahmad Nuhu Bamalli commended the State Government for its infrastructural drive and sustained efforts in security management and peace building.

While expressing delight that the

strategic interventions by the state government has impacted positively on the lives of people in the communities, he pledged the loyalty and support of the Council of Chiefs to the realization of the set goals and objectives of state administration.

Gov Uba Sani applauds President Tinubu on North West Development Commission Bill

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has expressed profound gratitude to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for the landmark signing of the North West Development Commission Bill. He described it as “a decisive step to pull the North West back from the brink”.

Governor Sani extended commendation and well wishes in a statement on Wednesday 24th July 2024. “I wish to express my profound gratitude to our dear President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR for signing the North West Development Bill into law. This is no doubt, the most significant piece of news I have received in decades. It clearly demonstrates

President Tinubu's deep concern for the North West and commitment to addressing its multifaceted developmental and security challenges.” Governor Sani said.

The Governor further lauded President Tinubu for his “uncommon support to State Governments in the North to effectively tackle their myriad challenges and set the region on the path to sustainable growth and development.”

The Governor urged leaders and people of the North West to see the signing of the North West Development Commission Bill into law as a call to action.

“We must come together and fashion a Marshall Plan for the development of

the North West. Our plan must be people - driven and all inclusive. The people that will be saddled with the responsibility of running the North West Development Commission must be men and women of transparent honesty, knowledgeable, creative and innovative. There must be no room for incompetence and lethargy,” Senator Sani said.

The North West Development Commission was established to address the challenges facing the seven states in the North West geopolitical zone with the aim of bringing the Federal Government closer to people in all North Western states.

Roads construction: Kaduna residents laud Gov Sani

Some Residents of Kaduna state are excited over the ongoing construction of critical roads and drainages by Gov. Uba Sani's administration, signaling an end to the hardship and losses experienced over the years due to their deplorable conditions. For a mechanic at PAN Drive, Mr. David Kabuk, the road became a death trap after the abandonment of the project by the former administration of Mallam Nasir El-Rufai, causing many people to lose their lives because of bad conditions of the road especially during the rainy season.

Mr. Kabuk recalled an incident when a tanker Driver lost control and fell on some okada riders. He said: "I am one of the people who rushed to the scene to help but we lost two of them and that is why we are grateful to God for giving us a Governor like Senator Uba Sani. "We pray for more wisdom for him as he moves Kaduna state forward to the promised state."

Similarly, an Okada rider, Abdullahi Usman, noted that conveying passengers from Television Garage to Abuja Junction is now easy and not as hard as it was before Senator Uba Sani came on board. according to a survey by *Peoples Daily* Newspaper

On her part, a resident, who gave her name as Madam Sarah Paul, roasting



Road construction, rehabilitation works in progress across the state

corn on the roadside, along the water Intake road leading to Maigero could not hold her excitement over the construction of the access road saying that the new development has added a boost to her business. Describing the Governor as 'a Man with the people at heart,' she said that her business has risen to the next level because of the increase of motorists on the road who now patronize her. In the same vein, a staff of Double Drip Hotel, Janet Amos opined that before the construction of

the road, coming to work for her was a difficult task but today the stress has been removed because of the construction of the access road leading to Maigero.

The newspaper reported that also, at the Panteka Market, the residents also showered praises on the Governor as they expressed their gratitude to him for not only the construction of roads but also for remodeling the market to function as the best learning hub in West Africa.

KDSG Schools Quality Assurance Authority monitors BECE

The Kaduna State Schools Quality Assurance Authority (KSSQAA) recently spearheaded the monitoring of the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) across the state. This exercise saw the participation of several key stakeholders, including the Teachers Service Board (TSB), Kaduna State Scholarship and Loans Board (KSSLB),

and the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).

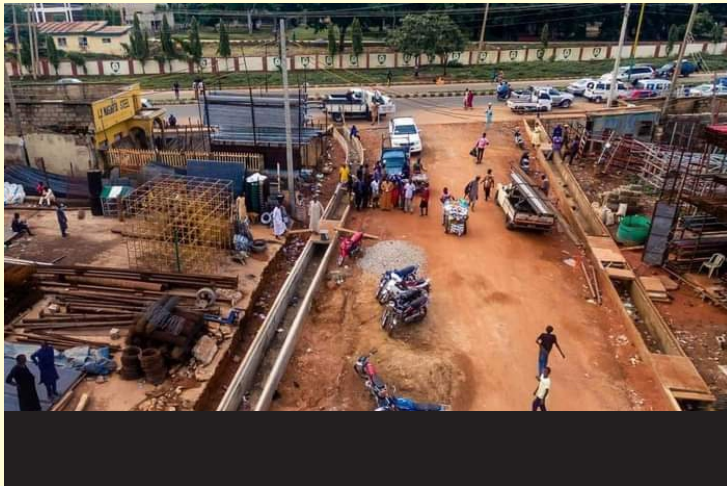
The comprehensive monitoring exercise was met with positive feedback, with teams ensuring strict adherence to all examination procedures and facilitating a smooth, seamless experience for both students and staff.

These efforts are in direct alignment with Governor Uba Sani's SUSTAIN agenda,

which prioritizes equitable access to quality education. Dr. Usman Abubakar Zaria, Director-General of KSSQAA, expressed his gratitude for the Governor's unwavering support, stating, "We are deeply appreciative of His Excellency for fostering an environment that empowers KSSQAA to fulfill its mission."



Update on the construction of a 6 km road from Rafin Guza to Hayin Iya to Kukumake, linking KASU Permanent Site in Kaduna,



KADUNA

Photo



PAN Drive Road in Kakuri, Kaduna. Construction of the road began in 2021 and has now been completed by this administration.





Participant at the Public Procurement Authority (KADPPA) media interactive session in Kaduna (4th from left) KADPPA DG Engr. Sanusi Yero



Governor Uba Sani recently received the Chairman, Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), Alh. Ibrahim Musa Gusau (2nd right) and other officials at the Govt. House

OUTLOOK

News



Chairman Uba Sani Media Forum, Eng Sani Danbarno, and other officials with the PPS Prof. Bello Ayuba during condolence visit over the demise of his younger brother ASP Aminu Ayuba in Zaria



Dep Gov Hadiza S. Balarabe, a recipient of the Extraordinary Women Advancing Healthcare Award by the LiveWell Initiative displaying her certificate



Dep Gov Dr Hadiza S. Balarabe (right) at the commissioning of Mando Inter-State Terminal Motor Park below.



Mando Inter-State Terminal Motor Park.

We are not party to protest in Kaduna - SOKAPU

Southern Kaduna People's Union, SOKAPU, has dissociated itself from any upcoming protest seemingly directed against the administration of Senator Uba Sani.

The National President of the Union, Mr. Tabara Kato revealed this during a courtesy visit to the Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim House.

The SOKAPU President expressed deep satisfaction with the policy trajectory of Governor Uba Sani's administration and lauded the equitable and inclusive execution of projects across the state.

Commending the administration's rural transformation initiatives, Comrade Kato emphasized that the implementation of the SUSTAIN

Agenda signifies a new era for Kaduna State and no son or daughter from Southern Kaduna will be part of the planned protest as the leadership of the Union is moving around to ensure no protest in the Zone.

He stressed the need for unwavering support instead of engaging in protests, stating, "All we need in this country and Kaduna State is what will stabilize it; enough of protest."

Mr. Kato highlighted the importance of fostering positive engagements with Nigerian citizens, focusing on the country's positive developments and challenges

While emphasizing their commitment to the Governor's SUSTAIN Agenda he urged security agencies to stay vigilant, cautioning that such protests might disrupt public peace.



Mr Tabara Kato

In her response, the Deputy Governor Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe expressed appreciation to the SOKAPU leadership for the visit, and called for collaborative spirit between the government and SOKAPU, fostering a platform for continued partnership in steering the state towards progress and development.

.... applauds reinstatement of the Chief of Piriga

Southern Kaduna Peoples' Union (SOKAPU) under the leadership of Comrade Tabara Samuel Kato has expressed its delight over the reinstatement of the Chief of Piriga, Chief Jonathan Zamuna of Lere Local Government Area of Kaduna State, by Uba Sani.

The Paramount ruler was dethroned by the former Governor of Kaduna State, Mallam Nasir El- Rufa'i on the 22/05/2023.

"SOKAPU leadership profoundly commends the Executive Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani for his pragmatic leadership and sense of justice, that brought about the reinstatement of the Chief" a statement by the union said adding:

"By this action the government has reinforced confidence in its relationship with royal fathers of the

region and the state in general."

It said the action would enhance seamless collaboration with various groups, institutions and interests between the government and the people as well as translate into peace, harmony and development in the state. SOKAPU in the statement Congratulated Chief Jonathan Zamuna on behalf of the Union and the entire people of Southern Kaduna and wished the traditional ruler a successful reign as royal father in the state.

Opportunity for Youths in Kaduna State!

Are you a resident of Kaduna State? If so, there is an opportunity for you. The Kaduna State Government has launched a digital skills training program for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), aiming to train 100,000 youths in the state. This initiative is a partnership with GFA Technologies and is part of the government's efforts to leverage digital opportunities for job creation and economic prosperity in Kaduna state.

To register, please click on the following link: t.ly/dWafq

Applications will close on August 2, 2024.

LGSB empowers employees through ICT training

In a bid to enhance the capacity of local government employees and foster efficient service delivery, the Local Government Service Board (LGSB) has successfully organized a four-day ICT Training for Assistant Directors of Establishment across the 23 Local Government Councils of Kaduna State. The training, conducted in collaboration with ICT Hub Kaduna, aimed to equip participants with essential skills to leverage technology, streamline data management processes, and enhance communication in their respective roles.

The initiative underscores the commitment of the Kaduna State Government, under the leadership of His Excellency, Governor Uba Sani, to strengthening the capacity of local government personnel towards driving rural transformation. During the opening ceremony, the Chairman of the Board, Professor Aminu Ladan Sharehu, OON expressed gratitude to His Excellency, the Governor, for his commitment to the advancement of local government employees. He further expressed gratitude to the

Commissioner, Ministry of Local Government, and the Chairmen of the 23 Local Government Councils for their relentless support and cooperation to the Board, stating that their collective efforts have been instrumental in ensuring the success of initiatives aimed at enhancing the skills and capabilities of local government employees.

During the training, participants

overall development of local government councils.

The training sessions covered various aspects of ICT, including data processing, management, and digital communication tools. Participants actively engaged in practical exercises and interactive sessions, gaining hands-on experience in leveraging technology to address administrative challenges effectively. As the training



LG senior workers at the ICT training session

thanked the LGSB for organizing such a valuable program, which, according to some of the participant, has equipped them with invaluable skills that will not only enhance their efficiency but also contribute to the

concludes, the LGSB reaffirms its commitment to continuous capacity building initiatives, aimed at fostering a skilled workforce capable of driving sustainable development at the local level.

Sen. Hunkuyi urges empowerment of party executives, members

Senator Suleiman Othman Hunkuyi, who represented Kaduna North Senatorial District in the 8th Assembly, has advised Governor Uba Sani to prioritize the welfare of the APC party executives and its members to prevent them from being influenced by other political opponents.

Hunkuyi made this call on Saturday, 6th July 2024 during the State Executive Committee meeting of the All Progressives Congress at Umaru Musa Yar'adua Hall, Murtala Square Kaduna.

The senator's statement came at a time when supporters of former Governor Nasir El-Rufai were reportedly aligning against the re-election bid of the incumbent Governor for the 2027 elections.

Senator Hunkuyi emphasized the necessity for Governor Uba Sani to safeguard the party executives and members and ensure their allegiance, asserting the governor's pivotal role as the party's leader.

He urged those around the governor to provide honest counsel and offer prayers for his success.



Gov Uba Sani injects fresh blood into state services

In a bid to reinvigorate his administration and quicken the pace of service delivery, Governor Uba Sani has approved fresh appointments into key positions in the state service as follows:

Abdurrahman Yahya, Ph.D - Director General, Kaduna State Urban Planning and Development Authority (KASUPDA)

Rev. Emmanuel Ayokunle Adebayo - SSA Resident Communities

Hon. Gambo Ibrahim - SSA Inter-Governmental Matters

Ahmed Kabir Aliyu - SSA Special Duties

Ismail Dikko - SSA Urban and Regional Planning

Usman Ibrahim Tabari - Director (Operations), Kaduna Mining Development Ltd.

A statement announcing the appointments by Alh. Muhammad Lawal Shehu said all the appointments were with immediate effect.

According to the statement Abdurrahman Yahya (Ph.D.), the new Director General of KASUPDA is a leading Building Engineer and a consummate Administrator. He is currently the Secretary to the Kaduna South Local Government. He had also served as Secretary to the Kaduna South Local Government from July 2018 to June 2021, and Technical Assistant to the Director General, Kaduna Geographic Information Service (KADGIS) from April 2017 to 2018. He holds a Ph.D. in Building Services from the Ahmadu Bello University Zaria.

Rev. Emmanuel Ayokunle Adebayo, the SSA Resident Communities is an entrepreneur, cleric and grassroots mobilizer. He has over 30 years work experience covering Electrical, Building and Civil Engineering/Construction. He has



been involved in several successful entrepreneurial ventures traversing Manufacturing, Agriculture, Trading and Engineering. He belongs to various Professional Bodies and Associations. He studied Electrical Engineering and Accounting at the Prestigious Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and University of Abuja. Rev Adebayo was a Member Presidential Support Committee under the Presidency during the 2019 and 2023 Elections. He was also a Member of the APC Campaign Council in 2019 and 2023 as the Coordinator Christian Matters. He is currently a Prominent Member of the Kaduna State Steering Committee on Christian Matters and a Supporting Staff of the Bureau of Interfaith.

Hon. Gambo Ibrahim, the SSA Inter-Governmental Matters, is a long-standing civil society activist, peace advocate and social entrepreneur. He is currently the National President of Arewa Youth Forum (AYF). He participated in the 2013 edition of the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) in the United States of

America (USA). A graduate of the USA International Institute of Professional Exchange Programme on the Impact of Change Makers on Social Entrepreneurship, Hon. Gambo Ibrahim has championed and led the drive and implementation of myriad of socio-economic, political, security and peace building programs. He holds a Diploma in Cooperative Studies, an Advanced Diploma in Marketing, and a Higher National Diploma in Business Administration.

Ahmed Kabir Aliyu, the SSA Special Duties is vastly experienced in policy development and administration, monitoring and evaluation, and Security coordination and strategic operations. He was a former Assistant Manager (Administration), Ministry of Defence - Defence Health Maintenance Organization. He holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy, and a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration.

Ismail Dikko, the SSA Urban and Regional Planning is the immediate past Director General, Kaduna State Urban Planning and Development Authority (KASUPDA).

Usman Ibrahim Tabari, the Director, Operations, Kaduna Mining Development Ltd is a disaster risk management expert and administrator. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Geography and a Master's Degree in Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies.

While congratulating the new appointees, Governor Uba Sani urged them to effectively deploy their skills and experiences to help the administration deliver on its mandate and wished them God's guidance in the discharge of their duties.

KADIHE: Kaduna sets the pace for housing reforms

By our correspondent

As Nigeria's population continues to grow, the demand for housing and urban infrastructure is rapidly growing. Increased urbanization necessitates more social amenities, housing and infrastructural developmental projects in Nigeria.

The rapid urbanization and natural population growth within urban areas will continue to be an essential demographic phenomenon shaping housing needs.

In a paper at the opening of the Kaduna International Housing exhibition Dr. Olayemi Rotimi- Shodimu, MD/CEO, Kaduna International Housing Exhibition/AREWA Construction Academy said the reforms will further transform the Northern Region.

He called for sponsorship, support from wealthy Nigerians adding that Kaduna State is ready to tackle the state's housing deficit.

According to him, "We are going to have two sets of houses apart from the mass housing that we are embarking on. We also have social housing, which will be affordable to all, even to low-income earners. I assure you that all houses will be affordable to every low-income earner in the state.

"Because of the population explosion, the houses you have presently may not be available in the next two to three years, so you must plan for housing," he said.

The exhibition showcases new technologies, products, services and housing projects across the region.

The maiden event also showcased cutting-edge housing and construction technologies, products and services, mortgage finance options and housing and construction projects across the state and northern Nigeria.

The day-two highlighted the unveiling of AREWA Construction Academy, signing up ceremony of the first Batch of Artisans of AREWA Construction Academy in partnership with Kaduna Bureau for substance Abuse, Prevention and Treatment Agency and Nigeria Directorate of Employment, unveiling of KSDPC Housing Cooperative Society/Membership Registration -Head

of Service, Kaduna

Also, during the event, the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria bagged the Best Sustainable Housing Innovation Award tagged KADIHE

1.0 organised by the Kaduna State Development and Property Company (KSDPC).

The university emerged winners, beating Kaduna Polytechnic, Nuhu Bamali polytechnics, as well as the Kaduna State University (KASU), which came second, third and fourth respectively.

It could be recalled that the Managing Director of the Kaduna State Development and Property Company (KSDPC), Abubakar Rabi Abubakara, an architect, at the opening of the exhibition, announced the launch of two social initiatives: the Arewa Construction Academy and the KSDPC Housing Cooperative Society, demonstrating the state's commitment to social investment, skills development, and addressing the housing needs of low and middle-income families.

The seven flagship projects unveiled at the exhibition, he said, "Represent a bold vision for Kaduna State's future, comprising the KSDPC Ultramodern Mechanic Village (Eastern Sector), which will revolutionise the automotive industry, while the 5-star hospital with doctors' quarters will provide world-class health care services. The Private International University (ABSAAR) will offer quality education, and the Building Materials Village (Eastern Sector) will cater for the growing demand for construction materials.

"Additionally, the Trucks and Heavy-duty Mechanistic Village will boost the state's logistics and transportation sector, and the KSDPC Housing Co-operative



Society will provide affordable housing options for citizens. The Kaduna Construction Academy will equip professionals with modern skills, ensuring a competent workforce for the state's infrastructure development."

The first batch of the Artisans of Arewa Constitution Academy, which is being established in partnership with the Kaduna Bureau for Substance Abuse, Prevention and Treatment Agency and the Nigerian Directorate of Employment were signed up at the exhibition.

However, announcing the winners of the competition, the Senior Special Assistant to Governor Uba Sani on Student Matters, Hajiya Amina Sani Bello, said the schools put up a good fight with their exciting innovations, but there can be only one winner.

She noted that five students each were picked from the Department of Architecture in the participating institutions on sustainable mass housing.

A representative of ABU students who participated in the competition, Zainun Abiden Alhassan, said it was challenging coming up with the idea in three weeks, and expressed happiness that their effort paid off.

He said, "It was a very challenging period and we had little time to work on our project. We divided the challenges into three categories, comprising mass housing for all, mass housing for the middle class and retrofitting (improving already existing projects). It took us just three weeks to put everything together, and we are happy that our effort was not in vain."

Local Governments and aftermath of the Supreme Court Judgement.

continued from page 5

Before Kaduna State Government embarked on the reform of the councils, in 2015 at least 15 of the 23 local governments in the state were bankrupt and couldn't afford to pay salaries without the support of the state government, nor were they able to execute any meaningful project.

Without doubt, the responsibilities of local government councils are becoming much more complex and so has governance by the day. For instance, computer literacy has certainly become a must for the leadership and workers, just as thinking out of the box to attract funding is the way to go. Elected officials must possess special skills and have deep understanding of issues to solve critical problems facing their various communities. These issues have been swept under the carpet by the Supreme Court and would definitely come back to haunt the country.

So, technically speaking, the joint account was a solution to a myriad of problems. The councils need surgical reforms and only the state governments can save the day, because the operators can't muster the necessary political will to embark on it. And like all reforms, surgical operation on the local council system is bound to bring pains, but without it, the system will eventually collapse.

The stark choice before the nation is reform and survive, or refuse to reform and stagnate. We need to copy from countries with effective local government system. Singapore, for instance, invested heavily in education and offers competitive compensation for public servants and aligned their salaries

with private sector standards which ensures that its councils are ran by competent hands.

The blame for non-performance constantly heaped on lack of financial autonomy of the local councils is misplaced, a classic case of a bad workman quarrelling with his tools.

Kaduna state has not only reformed the local government administration system, but has put in place significant laws which has ensured that the councils are on a solid footing to meet the aspirations and yearnings of the people. The same can't be said about other states.

Therefore, the jubilation over the recent Supreme Court judgment is premature. Those celebrating should stop strutting until the outcome is seen then we can all collectively shout uhuru. A country cannot run on rhetoric's but, rather, on the effectiveness of the system. The failures in infrastructure and service delivery are symptomatic of bureaucratic inefficiency and until the systemic reforms are made, the local government councils will not deliver services to the people regardless of court rulings or the amount of money they receive.

The envisaged reform must resolve several issues impeding public service efficiency, address low productivity, redundancy, duplication of roles, high proportion of aged workers, and the issue of unskilled staff. While the state governments cannot usurp the powers of the councils, they can help remove the impediments that hinder the councils performance which is precisely what the reforms would do.

We must stop demonizing the states. It certainly wasn't in any way the desire of the state governments to subjugate the councils to its control, but rather a higher duty to society that they function effectively to the benefit of all.

Mr. Emmanuel is Media Consultant

KADSEMA, NIMASA foster collaboration



Dr Usman Hayatu Mazadu (right) with Engr Fatai of NIMASA

By Saminu Abdullahi

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) recently hosted a delegation from the Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (KADSEMA) at their Victoria Island

office in Lagos. Usman Hayatu Mazadu, the Executive Secretary of KADSEMA, who led the delegation on the collaborative visit.

The meeting also served as an opportunity for the ES KADSEMA to congratulate the DG NIMASA on his appointment by President Tinubu and

to cement the established relationship between the two agencies. It also afforded the opportunity to discuss areas of mutual interest and explore potential areas of collaboration between the two agencies. Executive Director of Operations Engineer Fatai, representing the Director-General of NIMASA, received Dr.

The discussions focused on how NIMASA and KADSEMA could work together to develop and implement harmonized standards for the mitigation and response to emergencies and disaster in Kaduna State. The collaboration would include areas such as assistance to victims of disaster and hazard, early warning systems and disaster prevention.

Both agencies expressed a commitment from both parties to develop and significantly improve emergency response in Kaduna State for the wellbeing of all in the state.

KDSG gears up for LG elections

continued from page 2

Between July 23 and August 23, political parties are expected to conduct their primaries, with SIECOM as observer. Before then, the Commission has reserved July 30 as the date for the collection of Forms KDCF 001 and KDCF 001A as well as Data Form for aspirants, amongst other forms. August 21 is the deadline for the submission of all forms. The next day is reserved for the collection of nomination forms KDCF 4F and KDCF 4G from SIECOM's Local Government Area offices across the State. Thereafter, candidates can commence the payment of non-refundable deposits and presentation of tellers to the Commission. Between August 29 and August 31, the Commission will commence the verification and sorting of forms. On September 2, SIECOM will publish the personal particulars of candidates in their constituencies. Between September 9 to 16, the Commission will screen councillorship and Chairmanship candidates at its zonal office and headquarters respectively. On September 20, the list of validly nominated candidates will be published. By 11: 59 pm of October 18, all campaigns must stop and on October 19, the Local Government election will hold. Before the release of guidelines, Senator Uba Sani, the Kaduna State Governor, had earlier sworn in Hajiya Hajara Muhammad as the Chairperson of the Kaduna State Electoral Commission (SIECOM). In addition, Dr. Malan Noel Haruna and Dr.

Fatima Adamu Kera were also sworn in as Permanent Commissioners of the State

Electoral Commission. Similarly, the Deputy Governor, Dr Hadiza Balarabe, swore in Alhaji Abubakar Sadik Musa, Alhaji Ahmed Yahaya, and Halima Sani Aminu, to complete the required number of Commissioners as prescribed in the SIECOM enabling law. Besides, the Kaduna State House of Assembly passed a bill to amend the State Electoral Law No 2 of 2021, jettisoning the use of electronic voting machines. In 2018, SIECOM had conducted local government elections via Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) but Section 3 of the amendment bill deleted the phrase "Electronic Voting Machine". In the new bill, the term "Ballot Box" means a receptacle for the collection of ballot paper, adding that the term "Electronic Device" be deleted wherever it appears in the body of the Law. In addition, the term "Ballot Receipt" has been deleted. According to the law, verification and voting would be done through the use of a manual voter register with the Commission providing ballot papers and ballot boxes for the conduct of election. Right now, aspirants from the two dominant political parties have started indicating interests to occupy the 23 Local Governments in Kaduna State, as their fliers are all over the social media, flaunting their credentials. In addition, they have started reaching out to the electorate, unveiling their plans for their constituents. At the latest, primaries will hold on August 23 where the flagbearers who will slug it out on October 19 will emerge.

Expectations from the October 19 LG polls

continued from page 2

"Caution must be exercised by these chairmen who will emerge victorious after the election in ensuring allocated resources are utilized strictly for the purpose, they are meant for so that people who have been opposing separate allocation to LGs won't be vindicated at the end of the day.

"He enjoined electorates and other relevant stakeholders to be active politically and monitor developments after election to see if truly there are changes and positive impacts of the autonomy on the lives of citizens,"

Elsewhere, the Kaduna Outlook interviewed a grassroots advocate of good governance who expressed optimism in the Supreme Court judgement affirming the financial independence of the third tier, describing the verdict as apt, capable of

ensuring growth and the infrastructure development needed at this material time.

He however served a caveat that the autonomy would be beneficial if only LG bosses are held accountable for their action if they fail to deliver.

Having a mechanism holding elected officials accountable will put them on their toes to deliver on the goals of the autonomy granted.

He listed; fast and timely implementation of budgets, cash backing of proposed projects, transparency and accountability, ensuring growth and enhancing social infrastructures at the grassroots as some basic objectives of the financial independence of the LGs which he said must not be defeated such that it would prompt calls for reverting to the hitherto

status quo.

"Prudent management of scarce resources in the form of monthly allocations should be the watchword for these LG bosses if they could make meaningful impacts on lives of citizens.

"Agriculture, which is the mainstay of rural dwellers must be developed beyond subsistence level so farmers will earn value for their efforts by producing in mass for commerce locally and possibly for export.

"Whatever the outcome arising from granting direct allocation to the local governments after the October 19 election in the state will be a yardstick measuring for the success or otherwise of the Supreme Court judgement on this important issue of governance as it affects our nascent democracy," he echoed.

FOR THE RECORD

Decent accommodation, essential infrastructure critical to human dignity

(Being remarks by the Governor of Kaduna State, Sen. Uba Sani at the groundbreaking ceremony of resettlement scheme for persons impacted by conflicts (RSPIC) at Tudun Biri village, Igabi LGA on Friday, July 5, 2024)

It is indeed heartwarming that we are gathered here in Tudun Biri, a place that not too long ago witnessed an unfortunate tragedy. Today is a day of joy because we are about to set the stage for the transformation of this community.

Since the unfortunate incident, we have supported the victims, their families and members of the community with relief materials through the Kaduna State Emergency Agency (KADSEMA). Direct cash support has been given. Medical and psycho-social support to the victims and their families are ongoing.

We are constructing a 6km asphaltic road to Tudun Biri Village. This road, when completed, will open up Tudun Biri Village, link it to other communities, boost agriculture in the area, and ease the movement of persons and goods. Similarly, a Skill Acquisition Centre is under construction and we are building a Clinic to cater for the medical needs of the people. We thank individuals and corporate organizations that have commenced various projects in Tudun Biri. May the Almighty God reward them abundantly.

You may recall that shortly after the unfortunate incident, public and private institutions, as well as public-spirited individuals donated funds to alleviate the suffering of victims and families of those affected. We are grateful to the institutions and individuals for their show of compassion and empathy. I thank the Committee led by the Deputy Governor, H.E. Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe for their commitment and thoroughness. We have disbursed over Two Hundred and Seventy-Five

Million Naira (N275,000,000) from money donated by individuals, and public and private institutions. I want to use this opportunity to appeal to all those who made pledges to please redeem them, as Mr. President and the Vice President have done.

Our profound appreciation to our dear President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GFCR for picking Tudun Biri for the groundbreaking ceremony of the Resettlement Scheme for Persons Impacted by Conflicts. This is a clear demonstration of Mr. President's commitment to wiping off the tears of the Tudun Biri people, and indeed the poor, vulnerable and underserved in our country. Mr. President feels the pains of the internally displaced persons and all those affected by conflicts in our country. He recognizes the fact that decent accommodation and essential infrastructure are critical to the preservation of human dignity.

I must not fail to commend His Excellency, Vice President Kashim Shettima for effectively facilitating the strategic meetings that fine-tuned the Implementation Plan for the Resettlement Scheme. I want to equally appreciate the Chairman and members of the Steering Committee of the Resettlement Scheme for their commitment and dedication. This scheme is the brainchild of Mr. Vice President. He leveraged his experience in managing conflict and persons impacted by conflict in Borno State. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) team has also demonstrated total commitment to the success of this initiative.

Under this project, handled by NEMA, 4 Resettlement Communities will be built in Igabi, Ikara, Giwa and Kauru



LGAs for Internally Displaced Victims of Banditry. Houses, hospitals and schools would be built to enable the victims to start life afresh.

The Kaduna State Government has allocated lands to NEMA in Igabi, Ikara, Giwa and Kauru LGAs for the construction of the four resettlement communities. The Land Title Documents have been perfected by the Kaduna Geographic Information Service (KADGIS).

The State Government is working closely with Federal Security Forces to degrade and uproot bandits from their enclaves and restore peace and stability to our troubled communities. We look forward to the day when displaced victims of banditry will return to their original communities and start the process of rebuilding their lives.

Once again, our deep appreciation to His Excellency, the Vice President, my dear colleague Governors from the North West Zone, and all dignitaries for honouring us with your distinguished presence. Welcome to Kaduna. God bless you all.

Tinubu's Aide thumbs-up Kaduna healthcare reforms

Kaduna State Governor, Uba Sani, has received commendations from the Special Adviser to President Bola Tinubu on Health, Mrs. Salma Anas, for his administration's outstanding performance in healthcare delivery. She gave the commendation during her courtesy visit to the Governor's office in Kaduna.

Mrs. Anas praised the Uba Sani administration for what she described as its bold initiatives in reducing child and maternal mortality, improving healthcare infrastructure, and enhancing the overall well-being of citizens in Kaduna State.

Governor Uba Sani highlighted the various health initiatives implemented by his administration, including the upgrading of healthcare facilities, training of healthcare personnel, and provision of essential medicines.

He said the State Government will continue to partner with key



Dep Gov (right) with Mrs Anas and an assistant

stakeholders in the health sector to forge an all-inclusive approach to creating a healthier society and a more sustainable healthcare system for the people of Kaduna State.

He expressed his commitment to ensuring that healthcare services are accessible and affordable for all citizens in the state.

Mrs. Anas had also expressed her

admiration for the Governor's commitment to healthcare reforms, stating that Kaduna State has become a model for other states to emulate.

She assured of the Federal Government's continued support for the state's healthcare initiatives, emphasizing the importance of collaboration in achieving the nation's healthcare goals.

The Presidency's acknowledgment, according to an associate of the Governor, Alhaji Aminu Zaria has reaffirmed Governor Uba Sani's dedication to prioritizing the health and well-being of Kaduna State citizens.

"The Governor's efforts have been recognized as a shining example of effective governance, and his administration's healthcare achievements are a testament to the power of visionary leadership," Zaria added.

Gov Uba Sani mourns House of Reps member Hon Ekene

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has expressed sadness at the news of the death of Honourable Ekene Abubakar Adams, member House of Representatives Chikun/Kajuru Federal Constituency. Born in 1985, Honourable Ekene Adams lived an exemplary life of active service to the people of his constituency and Kaduna State at large. In his lifetime, Ekene Adams was well respected as a politician, community leader, sports administrator and philanthropist.

A condolence message signed by Muhammad Lawal Shehu, Chief Press Secretary to the Governor, described



The Late Hon Ekene

the Late law maker as a dedicated football lover and administrator, Ekene established KADA City FC, a Nigerian football club based in Kaduna, to discover talents and

promote football within Kaduna State. He was often regarded as one of the youngest football club owners in Nigeria. The late Mr Adams was Chairman House Committee on Sports.

Governor Uba Sani condoled with the family of the deceased and the people of Chikun/Kajuru Federal Constituency, eulogizing the late Representative as a trailblazer and fearless politician and administrator.

He extended his deepest condolences to the family of the deceased and has called for prayers from well-meaning Nigerians for the repose of the soul of the Late Hon. Ekene.

Kaduna State Governor, Uba Sani has approved new policies that on the whole seek to optimize and strengthen some services in the state for overall performance. Some of the new policies announced after a state cabinet meeting include one on the state-owned Government Printing Department, the state's healthcare sector and one to address climate change, all geared to improve service delivery.

As part of efforts to ensure maximum utilization and revenue generation, Governor Uba Sani has approved the revamping and repositioning of the state-owned Government Printing Department. This initiative will require all State Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) to use the Printing Department's services for essential printing needs.

Also at the State Executive Council meeting, Governor Sani introduced the Kaduna State Human Resources for Health Policy (HRH), designed to address gaps in the health workforce. The policy was developed through extensive stakeholder consultations to

Gov Uba Sani optimizes public service, introduces new far-reaching policies

ensure comprehensive recommendations for overcoming current challenges in the health sector.

"The Human Resources for Health Policy will serve as a framework to ensure the right number and mix of competent, motivated, and equitably distributed health workers for optimal healthcare service delivery. Its strategic objectives include maintaining an adequate number of qualified health workers and managing employment, deployment, retention, and performance effectively," said Governor Sani.

Similarly, the Governor also approved the Kaduna State Climate Change Policy, which provides a comprehensive framework to tackle the impact of climate change impacts, promote sustainability, and align with national and international climate goals.

"The 2024 Climate Change Policy

addresses the increased extreme weather events and aligns with the National Climate Change Policy (2021-2030). Developed with input from various stakeholders and supported by organizations like ACREsAL and Lafiya Projects, "this policy aims to reduce emissions, enhance climate resilience, and integrate climate considerations into state planning," Governor Sani stated.

The policy will focus on public education, monitoring systems, and sustainable development initiatives to prepare Kaduna State for future climate challenges.

A statement by Muhammed Lawal Shehu, Chief Press Secretary to the governor said that Governor Sani's administration remains committed to investing in human capital, environmental sustainability, and efficient state operations which the new policies would champion.

KASUPDA removes temporary structures in Kaduna

Kaduna State Urban Planning and Development Authority (KASUPDA) has commenced the removal of temporary and informal activities in Kaduna Metropolis.

The Head of Public Affairs Unit of the Authority, Nuhu Garba Dan'ayamaka said areas effected by the action were NDA Bustop, U/Dosa area, Kawo area, Mando rounda about, Rabah road, NAF Club Gate, Katuru Road, and Isa Kaita Road, Alkali Road, Babban Saura area (Millennium City), T/Wada area, Barnawa, High Cost Junction axis among others.

The action he said followed public announcement in the media,

sensitization visits and stakeholder's engagement meetings in order to give the affected people ample time to remove their properties as well as to vacate those places.

The Authority maintained that, in view of the success recorded so far in the urban planning and city beautification, erection of shops, containers, kiosks and signage without approvals as well as the display of wares or goods on side roads were source of concern in view of the environmental hazard, traffic congestion and security threat in the state.

During the enforcement exercise, some of those affected confirmed that, the Authority had informed them, but

cited poverty, socio-economic hardship in the country, non-completion of the modern markets exorbitant price of shops in the markets and neighbourhood centres, high rate of unemployment and insecurity challenges as factors attributed to the informal activities along the roads in the state.

Others confirmed that such places were not meant for business operation but maintained that, they had no other option.

Many effected by the enforcement action appealed to the government for alternative places to enable them carry out their legal business activities.

In the meantime, KASUPDA has reiterated the need for co-operation in the bid to ensure urban sanity and secure environment in the state.

KDSG, FG committed to mass housing



Hon Ojo (2nd right) receives the R of O from Gov Uba Sani as the Dep Gov (left) and the SSG (right) applaud

Kaduna State is partnership with the Federal Government towards providing shelter to the mass of the people in the state

In fulfillment of that commitment, Kaduna state has allocated 147 hectares of land to the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) for mass housing project in Kaduna.

Gov Uba Sani has presented a Right of Occupancy (R of O) for the 147 hectares of land to the Managing Director/CEO of Federal Housing

Authority (FHA), Hon. Oyetunde Ojo at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim House Kaduna.

The MD/CEO, FHA Hon Ojo at the occasion commended the Kaduna State Government for the prompt and speedy allocation of land for the construction of affordable mass housing for the less privileged and underserved people in Kaduna State.

He said Kaduna State has set the pace for other states to follow in providing affordable housing and would serve as the pilot state in the new phase of the housing project.

He said while presenting the R of O that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, deserved commendation for making

the provision of affordable houses for Nigerian citizens one of his topmost priorities. "The focus of Mr. President aligns with the priority of the Kaduna State in its effort of addressing the housing deficit in the State".

"The right to housing is a fundamental human right. Access to safe, affordable and secure housing is the foundation of human dignity. You cannot enjoy other rights unless you have a roof over your head" the Gov said.

He thanked the MD/CEO of the FHA for prioritizing Kaduna State and assured him of support and commitment to the speedy execution of the mass housing project. The Gov reiterated commitment of Kaduna State to forging partnerships with local and international investors in the housing sector.

"We have created a very conducive atmosphere for investment. Our incentives are very attractive," he stressed on the occasion at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House Kaduna on July 2nd, 2024.

Former Kaduna Dep Gov hails Uba Sani's peace initiative

Former Deputy Governor of kaduna State Mr James Bawa Magaji has commended Governor Uba Sani for his human-centered development efforts.

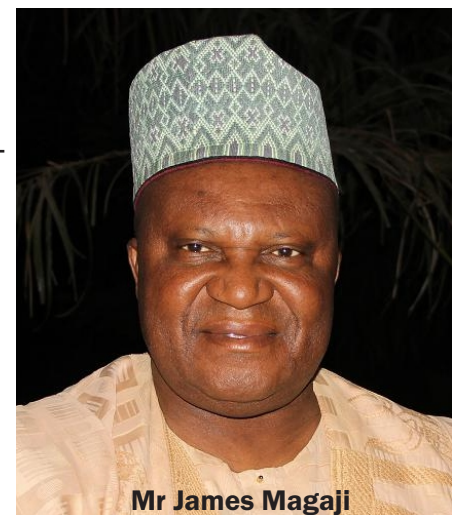
"I am so proud of you and commend you immensely, I am even prouder that the human person is your focus. I tell you you have a lot of reward; you have a lot of reward because God is more particular about the person that takes care of the human person especially the less privileged.", he said at recent stakeholder's forum.

He observed that the present administration had within a short time, transformed the tense atmosphere in Kaduna into a calm and quite place.

What could we ask for of God more than this? What could we ask of the Creator more than this peace that we're enjoying

in the state now? We want to thank God Almighty for using you as an instrument.

"Senator Uba Sani you bring peace to our state, we thank God for bringing you as governor at this time to enhance peace in our state. And I want to assure you just as other people have spoken before you that you have our solid and very very solid support, you have our total support and especially as one Jacob said most of us you see on the high table here people may tell you something differently. But believe me, if we talk to our people they listen and we have also sampled your opinions whether the clergy, whether the business community, whether the politicians, whether the people just going about your businesses people are speaking so very well about you." Mr Bawa Magaji enthused.



Mr James Magaji

Our farmers can farm and i believe that the hunger that we're experiencing now will be different next year after this years' service.

"We pray to Almighty God to continue to strengthen you, to fortify you, to give you more wisdom, the former Deputy Governor added.



MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, KADUNA OUTLOOK

*Waziri Garba - Chairman/Production Coordinator *Shuaibu Gimi, Nasir Dambatta, Nabilah Hassan, Farida Adamu, Peter Ibrahim, Rose Ndandok, Dahiru Ahmed
Hadiza Oyiza Ismail, Hassan Abba, Fiddausi Ahmad Wakili, *Helen Kafoi - Secretary Editorial Committee, *Professor Bello Ayuba, (PPS) - Editorial Adviser

All correspondence to the office of the Principal Private Secretary, PPS, Sir Kashim Ibrahim House PMB 2001, Kaduna, Email: garba.waziri.kdsg.gov.ng +234 806 919 3619