# KADUNAQUTLOOK

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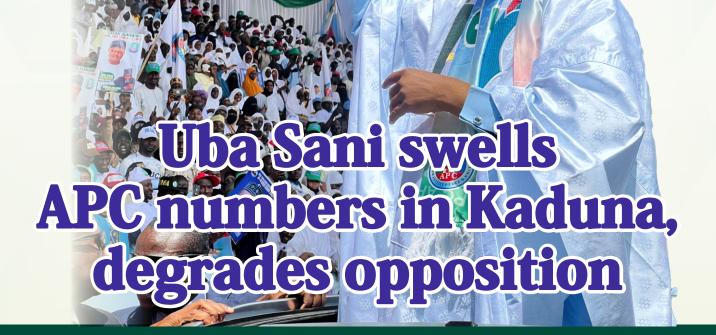
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## Uba Sani swells APC numbers in Kaduna, degrades opposition



Gov Uba Sani acknowledging cheers from party supporters at Murtala Square Kaduna

he strength and dominance of the All-Progressives Congress APC was in full display at the Murtala Square, Kaduna during the Stakeholders meeting and grand rally of the party.

Political big wigs from other parties who defected to the APC were formally received at the grand rally which afforded Governor Uba Sani the opportunity of highlighting the giant strides of the administration in the areas of Rural Transformation, Infrastructural Development, Human Capital Development, and Security. Stakeholders took turns to commend Uba Sani for the milestones recorded in the areas of rural transformation, infrastructure development, education, health, agriculture, and security. They pledged to support and cooperate with the state administration as it ramps up its developmental drives.

In their remarks, some of the decampees said that they decided to join the APC because of the administration's inclusive and people-centred policies and programmes, as well as the internal democracy within the party. They

committed themselves to intensive and extensive mobilization of more members for the ruling party and rendering of all necessary support to ensure the success of the state government.

Governor Uba Sani thanked the decampees, party stakeholders as well as citizens who turned out in their thousands for the Stakeholders Meeting and Grand Rally. "I assure the decampees of our support to ensure their smooth integration into our dear party," he said and expressed his gratitude to party faithfuls for their steadfastness and loyalty. He urged them to remain committed to the ideals of the APC as they work together to build a better future for the people and state.

Meanwhile, Governor Uba Sani of Kaduna State has assured the 50 decampees to the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) in Kaduna State, that they would enjoy the same rights and privileges as every other party member.

The Governor who addressed party supporters at Murtala Square Kaduna during the mega rally on Saturday, said that "there is no difference between a party member that joins today and the ones that have been in APC ten years ago.

"Someone who joins APC today and the one who has been a foundation member 10 years ago, they are of the same status. They will enjoy the same rights and privileges," he further said.

Governor Uba Sani told the decampees to notify their supporters of the readiness of APC to accept them into the party as their doors are still open to accept more defectors.

According to him, the popularity and acceptability of APC is because of its just leadership at both the state and federal levels, adding that the party has come to stay in Kaduna State, the entire north and Nigeria as a whole.



## **Uba Sani's intervention in power dispute saves Northwest businesses**

(A news analysis)

#### By Comrade Habeeb Bello Chikaji

n a swift action that underscores the power of proactive governance, Governor Uba Sani's intervention has successfully restored electricity to four Northern states namely Kaduna, Zamfara, Sokoto, and Kebbi. For residents and businesses grappling with prolonged blackouts, this was not just a policy decision; it was a lifeline.

Beyond the immediate relief, this intervention offers seven crucial leadership lessons that every Nigerian leader—at both state and federal levels—should take to heart. If widely adopted, these principles could redefine governance and economic development in Northern Nigeria and beyond.

#### 1. Proactive Leadership Trumps Political Rhetoric

In Nigeria, leaders often respond to crises with press releases and committee formations that lead nowhere. Governor Uba Sani broke that cycle. Instead of waiting for Abuja's intervention, he took immediate steps to resolve the crisis, proving that real leadership is about action, not just words.

## 2. Regional Collaboration is the Future of Northern Development

This power crisis affected multiple states, and Uba Sani understood that solutions must go beyond Kaduna. His intervention in four states highlights the need for Northern governors to work together on infrastructural challenges. Electricity, security, and economic policies require regional cooperation—not isolated, state-by-

state efforts

## 3. No Economic Growth Without Power Infrastructure

Kaduna is now fully set to becoming the North's leading manufacturing hub, Zamfara has a booming mining industry, Sokoto is a center for education and religion, while Kebbi is an agricultural stronghold. Yet, without power, all these sectors suffer. This intervention underscores that stable electricity is not just about comfort—it's the foundation for economic prosperity.

### 4. Political Will Can Break Bureaucratic Barriers

Nigeria's power sector is often crippled by bureaucratic delays, policy inconsistencies, and inefficiency. Many leaders use these challenges as an excuse for inaction. Governor Uba Sani has proven that where there is political will, solutions emerge. Instead of hiding behind red tape, he made things happen.

#### 5. Government-Private Sector Synergy is Key to Solving Power Challenges

Electricity supply depends on government agencies and private sector operators. Governor Uba Sani's success in restoring power shows that strategic engagement with stakeholders is crucial. Other governors must realize that confronting energy crises requires active collaboration—not passive complaints.

## 6. The North Must Prioritize Infrastructure Investments

That four states suffered prolonged blackouts exposes a deeper infrastructural problem in Northern Nigeria. The region must shift its focus from temporary fixes to long-term investments in power generation and distribution. Without reliable electricity, industrialization and job creation will remain a dream.

## 7. Leadership is About Results, Not Just Promises

For too long, Nigerians have heard empty promises about development with little action. Governor Uba Sani's intervention is different—because it delivered tangible results. This should be the new standard for leadership: measured by impact, not by political speeches.

#### **FINALLY**

A Leadership Model for Northern Nigeria

Governor Uba Sani's power rescue mission is a case study in effective governance. It has shown that Northern leaders cannot afford to be spectators in their region's development. Proactive governance, regional collaboration, and decisive action must define the new era of leadership.

With this intervention, Uba Sani has set a new bar. The challenge now is for other leaders to follow his example.

Nigeria's power sector is often crippled by bureaucratic delays, policy inconsistencies, and inefficiency. Many leaders use these challenges as an excuse for inaction. Governor Uba Sani has proven that where there is political will, solutions emerge.

### How AfDB will impact Kaduna State agriculture



AfDB President Dr. Akinwumi Adeshina (rigth) with Gov Uba Sani In Abidjan after the engagement

#### By Nasir Dambatta

(A news analysis)

aduna State is on the cusp of an agricultural revolution, thanks to Governor Uba Sani's relentless push to unlock massive agro-financing opportunities. His recent engagement with African Development Bank (AfDB) President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, in Abidjan signals a decisive step toward the full takeoff of the Special Agro-Processing Zone (SAP-Z)—a game-changer for the state's agricultural and industrial landscape.

With AfDB backing, the SAP-Z initiative will transform Kaduna into Nigeria's premier agro-industrial hub, ensuring that farmers, agribusinesses, and investors benefit from unprecedented opportunities. Here are seven pivotal gains that will reshape the state's economic future:

#### 1. Unprecedented Access to Agro-Financing

One of the biggest challenges for farmers and agribusinesses is access to affordable financing. With AfDB's intervention, Kaduna will witness an influx of targeted funds for mechanization, irrigation, storage, and market expansion. This will empower smallholder farmers and agripreneurs, ensuring they have the capital to scale production and embrace modern farming techniques.

#### ${\bf 2.} \ World-Class\ Agro-Processing\ Infrastructure$

The SAP-Z isn't just about boosting production; it's about creating value at every stage of the agricultural chain. With state-of-the-art processing facilities, farmers will no longer sell raw produce at lower prices. Instead, they will benefit from value-added processing—turning crops into finished goods ready for local and international markets. This will minimize post-harvest losses and maximize profit margins.

#### 3. Explosive Job Creation & Economic Growth

Kaduna's SAP-Z initiative will generate thousands of direct and indirect jobs, spanning farming, processing, packaging, logistics, and distribution. As industries spring up around the SAP-Z, employment will surge, boosting household incomes and reducing youth unemployment. This economic ripple effect will solidify Kaduna's standing as a beacon of industrial progress.

#### 4. Enhanced Export and Market Competitiveness

With AfDB financing, Kaduna's agricultural products will meet higher international standards, opening up new export markets. Nigerian agro-products often struggle with quality and certification challenges, but with SAP-Z's structured processing zones, Kaduna's goods will be globally competitive, boosting foreign exchange earnings and positioning the state as a key exporter.

## 5. Stronger Food Security & Reduced Dependence on Imports

Nigeria remains overly reliant on imported food, exposing the economy to forex volatility. The SAP-Z will scale up domestic food production, ensuring affordability and availability of essential commodities. As Kaduna becomes a major food basket, households will enjoy greater food security, and the state will reduce its reliance on costly imports.

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## FG supports Kaduna lite rail project with N200bn-- Uba Sani

he Federal government has boosted the Kaduna city lite rail project with N200bn grant, Gov Uba Sani has disclosed.

He said that the money was in hand already just as the state government continues to source for more assistance from veritable partners for its planned development programmes geared towards the upliftment of the people of Kaduna State.

Governor Uba Sani who disclosed this at an APC zone one stakeholders' engagement in Zaria Thursday also disclosed that he had sourced a total of 160 million dollars from foreign development partners for the empowerment of girls and for other related programmes in the state which tallied with his administration's equal opportunity for all mantra.

The Governor whose address also made a veiled reference to criticisms of his closeness to Ahmed Bola Tinubu said that he was not apologetic for his association with the president saying that the association has paid off for him and Kaduna State. He further vowed to continue to knock on doors of potential partners in Abuja and abroad in a bid to translate his rural transformation agenda to reality.

Senator Oluremi Tinubu

he First Lady of Nigeria, Oluremi Tinubu has given a grant of N50 million to support 1,000 women petty traders in Kaduna State. The grant was released through the First Lady of Kaduna State, Hafsat Uba Sani.

Mrs Tinubu asked the First Lady of Kaduna State, who is the State Coordinator of Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), to give N50,000 each to the beneficiaries, so as to recapitalise their existing businesses.

A symbolic cheque of the grant which was given under the auspices of the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), was presented by the First Lady at the Umaru Yarádua Conference Centre on Monday. Mrs Tinubu also flagged-off the distribution of 10,000 professional kits to midwives in the North-west states of Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara and Kaduna. She said that the kits comprised 10,000 scrubs and 10,000 pairs of crocs, adding that they were given by a global donor who wants to remain anonymous.

The kits were presented to the <u>National Primary Health Care Development Agency</u> for onward distribution to midwives in the North-West zone.

The First Lady pointed out that the distribution of the kits "is to complement the ongoing Federal Government retraining exercise for 120,000 frontline health workers nationwide."

She also promised that "all six geopolitical zones will receive 10,000 scrubs and 10,000 pairs of crocs, which will be distributed among the states in each zone."

Mrs Tinubu disclosed that the "North-Central Zone received its allocation on the 29th of January, 2025 during my three-day working visit to Kwara State."

"Today, we are in Kaduna to distribute

## Mrs Tinubu grants N50m to Kaduna women,

flags off kits distribution to midwives in Northwest



the kits to the North-west zone. By the grace of God, the next zone to benefit will be the South-South."

The First Lady maintained that "RHI recognises that the demands of the health profession require not only skills and compassion, but also the right tools and kits to encourage our Midwives as they serve others. We thank you for all your good work."

According to her, "since inception in 2023, the RHI has provided targeted interventions in Agriculture, Economic Empowerment, Education, Health and Social Investment to improve the lives of families across Nigeria."

In his remarks, Governor Uba Sani

noted that the presentation of the 10,000 professional kits to midwives "is another demonstration of Her Excellency's deep concern for the welfare of Nigerian women, and indeed the vulnerable and underserved in our society."

"Maternal mortality is one of the major challenges that our nation has been confronting. Our women have been losing their lives during childbirth due to inadequate care. The situation is more prevalent in the rural areas where access to healthcare is limited," he added.

Governor <u>Sani</u> pointed out that midwives and nurses play pivotal roles in caring for our people, especially women at the grassroots level. He added:



## **FUT Minna honours Uba Sani**

#### By Ahmad Hassan

istory was made for Kaduna State when Senator Uba Sani, the Executive Governor, received an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Entrepreneurship from the Federal University of Technology, Minna (FUTMINNA) the first to the state chief executive by the institution.

This esteemed recognition acknowledged his unwavering commitment to human capital development and his outstanding leadership qualities, which have garnered him respect both locally and nationally.

Governor Uba Sani was honored for his substantial contributions to fostering entrepreneurship and empowering individuals. Throughout his tenure in the Senate and through initiatives led by the Uba Sani Foundation, he has supported thousands, cultivating a spirit of selfreliance among the youth.

His vision for a prosperous Kaduna is reflected in the policies he has implemented to create sustainable opportunities for the people.

One of his most notable initiatives includes the construction of three



Senator (Dr) Uba Sani

skills acquisition centers across the state. Once completed, these centers will provide training and certification for 400 individuals every three months, resulting in a total of 1,600 trained individuals each year across 19 different trades. This initiative aims to equip the youth of Kaduna State with essential skills to succeed in a

competitive job market.

It is also going to be used to train repentant bandits under other criminal elements under the Kaduna peace model initiated by Governor Uba Sani.

In his acceptance speech, Governor Uba Sani expressed deep gratitude for receiving this honor. He stated that the award was not only a recognition for him but also represents everyone invested in the vision of a better Kaduna State. He emphasized that their collective efforts aim to create a safer and more prosperous future for the state.

The ceremony was attended by numerous dignitaries, including Kaduna State government officials, members of the Federal House of Representatives, members of the Kaduna State House of Assembly, executive members of the Kaduna APC, as well as friends and well-wishers, all united in their admiration for the Governor. The atmosphere was filled with joy and pride as attendees celebrated a leader whose influence reaches far beyond the borders of Kaduna State.

Ahmad Hassan is a free-lance journalist.

## KDSG prepares Public Servants for future challenges, urges positive attitude

#### By Hussaina Yakubu

he Kaduna State Government has organized a two-day inhouse training workshop aimed at repositioning public servants for future challenges.

The event which held on Wednesday in Kaduna is

spearheaded by the Office of the Head of Service in collaboration with Bismag International Ventures Ltd, brought together civil servants across various administrative and technical departments.

Speaking at the workshop, the Head of Service, Hajiya Habiba Shekarau,

emphasized the crucial role of public servants in governance, policy formulation, and service delivery.

She noted that as Kaduna State continues to modernize under the leadership of Governor Uba Sani, civil servants must adapt to new demands through innovation, technology, and continuous learning.

"With reforms in education, healthcare, infrastructure, and security, our civil service must evolve. Traditional bureaucratic structures should give way to agile, technology-driven systems to enhance productivity and service delivery," Shekarau stated.

She highlighted key focus areas, including capacity building, digital transformation, ethical leadership, innovation, and improved welfare.

Shekarau also commended the administration for initiatives such as salary increments, micro-credit revolving loans, and subsidized food programs aimed at improving civil servants' well-being.

Managing Director of Bismag International Ventures Ltd, Garba Bakori, appreciated the Head of Service for organizing the workshop and prioritizing the welfare of civil servants.

## Seven take-aways from a violence-free 2024

#### By Naja'atu Abubakar Rafinguza

aduna State, long known for its history of ethnoreligious tensions, achieved a remarkable milestone in 2024—zero violent conflicts. This unprecedented feat, credited to Governor Uba Sani's strategic leadership, offers vital lessons for other states grappling with insecurity. The following are seven takeaways from the violence-free year:

#### 1. Proactive Conflict Prevention

Governor Uba Sani tackled insecurity at its roots, addressing grievances before they escalated. His administration's emphasis on early-warning mechanisms helped preempt potential flashpoints.

2. Strengthening Community Trust

By fostering dialogue between different ethnic and religious groups, the government built bridges of trust, ensuring peaceful coexistence across the state.

#### 3. Inclusivity in Governance

The Governor's policies prioritized fair representation, giving all segments of society a voice. This sense of inclusion reduced tensions fueled by marginalization.

4. Traditional and Religious Leaders as Partners

The Kaduna State Peace Commission worked closely with religious and traditional leaders, leveraging their influence to promote harmony and discourage violence.

#### 5. Security Agencies with a Human Face

Rather than relying solely on force, security agencies under Uba Sani adopted a community-based approach, fostering cooperation instead of fear.

#### 6. Economic Empowerment as a Stability Tool

The administration's focus on youth employment and economic growth tackled poverty—a known driver of violence—giving young people an alternative to crime.

#### 7. A Model for other States

The success in Kaduna presents a replicable model. The Uba Sani Legacy Projects Solidarity Assembly (ULEPSA) has joined hundreds of other civil society groups in calling on other states to adopt similar strategies to curb communal clashes.

NOW...

As Kaduna celebrates this milestone, 2024's success may mark the beginning of a lasting transformation in Kaduna's democratic history

(Naja'atu contributed this piece from Kaduna)

### KSSQAA strengthens collaboration for educational excellence

#### By Halima Sadiya Abubakar

n a remarkable stride toward enhancing the quality of education in Kaduna state, the management team of the partnership for learning for all in Nigeria (PLANE) has paid a high-level working visit to the Kaduna state schools quality assurance authority (KSSQAA).

The visit was aimed at assessing the impact of PLANE's activities in the state, identify new areas of intervention, and deliberate strategies to sustain the program's groundbreaking initiatives.

The delegation, led by Ben French, Technical Advisor from PLANE UK, was warmly received by the Director-General of KSSQAA, Prof Usman Abubakar Zaria in company of the Authority's top management team. The atmosphere of mutual respect and collaboration underscored the shared commitment to ensuring access to quality education for all.

In his presentation, Professor Abubakar Zaria highlighted KSSQAA's remarkable strides in



system strengthening and education quality assurance noting that consistent prioritization of education by Gov Uba Sani in the state budget which was allocated 25% in 2024 and 26.14% in 2025 has created an enabling environment for KSSQAA's success.

Professor Abubakar Zaria highlighted of the Authority's key successes to include:

1. Digitization of Processes: KSSQAA has migrated several quality assurance operations online, including school

monitoring tools, examiner application portals, and private school registration. These innovations have enhanced efficiency and transparency.

2. Improved Examination Oversight: The Authority monitors over 2,000 examination centers for high-stakes exams and has developed fortified certificates with QR codes to combat malpractice.

## Coalition of opposition politicians after power, not good governance – Uba Sani

VC NEWS Host: Good of you to join us at this time Governor. Let's begin with the statement coming from your predecessor Nasir El-Rufai that your party the APC lacks internal democracy, do you agree that he is speaking truth to power or is he speaking through the pain of not be minister as some have alleged?

Gov Uba: Thank you very much for having me, for me I'll prefer to talk

generally about the entire position of the opposition because from what happened a lot of people made comments, I'm particular about the position of some of the politicians, about president Bola Ahmed Tinubu and of course the reason for the opposition. If you ask me the question holistically, i can tell you that most of those positions raised by the coalition of the opposition politicians are wrong, are not even what's happening on ground. When you talk about APC generally I can tell you as a member of APC we have been engaging ourselves, of course we are not perfect but I can say that

most of the people that are making the comments are also members of our own party and most of them are foundation members of the APC from the beginning. That is why I was really surprised when I heard the coalition of politicians coming together at this critical time to make most of those comments.For me I can say it was really unfortunate because some of them were even calling for people to take laws into their hands and oppose the government in a way that I feel is not democratic. Of course, we're in a democratic dispensation and we have virtually two and half years to the next election and any politician who feels he's popular or

can defeat Bola Ahmed Tinubu or APC need to go and work very hard and participate in the next election which will be 2027.

There is still time so they can go back to the drawing board and mobilize and come out but what I'm trying to say here is as someone who is a governor, I can say that the current government under president Bola Ahmed Tinubu has done extremely well and I'm not talking just

Gov Uba Sani in a pensive mood

because I'm an APC governor even the PDP governors can bear witness. We usually sit down and talk in our forums, they made us understand some of us that are first time governors that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has supported the nation more than any other president of Nigeria.

And I can say this without any fear of contradiction that probably because president Bola Ahmed Tinubu has the best democratic traditions than any other person that held that position in the past, someone who fought for the development of democracy in Nigeria, someone who believes in the rule of law, democracy and equality probably that's

why he has been doing extremely well to carry even the opposition governors along and all of us in terms of supporting everyone.

Host: I hear you governor, but if you may speak on what malam El-Rufai said about the fact that the APC in about two years now has not held a NEC meeting, you know an end of year summit... what is the lie in what he said? Have you as a governor and a member of the APC

national executive council attended a NEC meeting in the last two years.

Gov Uba: Of course the APC has come out openly in response, if you listened to what they said clearly you'll understand that most of those allegations are not correct. Even just recently, there was a meeting which we called and a lot of meetings have been taking place at different levels in APC, in Kaduna state, at the national level, that was the reason why the APC came out only few days ago, the National Secretary of the party Senator Bashiru Ajibola came out and made the clarification. I don't want to repeat what he said but I

believe he answered every question at his own interview, which I watched from the beginning to the last minute and he answered every question as a member of the national working committee and NEC of the APC, so to me this is just one area the coalition talked about. That one has been answered already by the national secretary of APC and I really associate myself with what he said because it was accurate.

As a governor I can tell you that most of those allegations against APC were not correct, that's what I can say here. That is looking at the issue holistically.

## Kaduna meets Malabo target on agric funding

By our correspondent

aduna State has made history as the first subnational government in Nigeria to meet the Malabo Declaration target of allocating 10% of public resources to agriculture.

This groundbreaking achievement was highlighted during the launch of the Dry Season Agricultural Empowerment Program in Kaduna, where Governor Uba Sani's administration unveiled an unprecedented funding boost for the sector.

Speaking at the event, the Kaduna State Commissioner for Agriculture, Malam Murtala Dabo, hailed the Governor's commitment to transforming agriculture into the backbone of the state's economy.

He revealed that budgetary support for agriculture had skyrocketed from a meagre 1.48 billion in 2023—just 0.4% of the state's budget—to a staggering 74.02 billion in 2025, accounting for 10% of total spending. This, the

Tractors set to boost agric in Kaduna State

Commissioner said, represents an unprecedented 4,871% increase in just two years, positioning Kaduna as the first state in Nigeria to near and possibly surpass the 10% benchmark set by African leaders under the Malabo Declaration of 2014.

"This is a milestone achievement," Dabo stated. "Governor Uba Sani's leadership has made Kaduna the trailblazer in agricultural investment. His administration is ensuring that farming is no longer a seasonal activity but a year-round enterprise that drives

fertilizer to smallholder farmers. The new Dry Season Agricultural Empowerment Program will further revolutionize the sector by providing 100,000 bags of fertilizer, 500 power tillers, 10,000 solar-powered water pumps, 2,000 knapsack sprayers, and thousands of high-quality seeds and agrochemicals.

food security, job creation, and

Under Governor Uba Sani, Kaduna

State has already executed Nigeria's largest-ever fertilizer distribution program, delivering over 500 trucks of

economic prosperity."

Stakeholders in the agricultural sector lauded the Governor's unwavering commitment, noting that his administration's interventions have

not only boosted productivity but also restored peace and security in farming communities.

"Kaduna is setting the pace for others to follow," one agricultural expert, Dr. Musa Ibrahim remarked. Said he: "With this level of investment, the state is on track to becoming the agricultural powerhouse of Nigeria."

With the formal launch of the Dry Season Agricultural Empowerment Program, Kaduna State has cemented its position as a leader in agricultural transformation, proving that with strategic investment and visionary leadership, food security and economic growth are within reach.

### Mrs Tinubu grants N50m.....

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personnel must therefore be prioritised. We must at all times ensure that they are well kitted and protected.

"The presentation of 10,000 professional kits to midwives in the North-West could not have come at a better time. Midwives work in environments where cleanliness and infection control are paramount.

"Wearing SCRUBS and CROCS provides a protective barrier against harmful germs, bacteria, and viruses that could be transferred through clothing," he stressed.

welfare of nurses and midwives. We have status across Kaduna state," he added.

"The welfare of these critical medical been training and retraining nurses and midwives."

> According to him, "we recently recruited 100 ad-hoc midwives to complement existing staff strength. However, our administration's most significant stride in the health sector is the upgrading of 290 Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) and furnishing with state -of-the-art equipment."

"This has led to a modest drop in our maternal and child mortality figures. This year, we plan to upgrade and equip 255 PHCs to level-2 status. Currently, The governor disclosed that Kaduna State construction is ongoing for the Government is "also prioritizing the revitalization of 143 PHCs to level-2

## KDSG launches multi-billion naira agricultural support initiative

historic milestone for agriculture in Kaduna State was attained recently as Governor Uba Sani officially launched the "Tallafin Noman Rani da Kiwo" program. The ceremony kicked off the 2024/2025 Irrigation Revitalization and Livestock Development Support Programme, aimed at empowering our hardworking farmers with essential resources worth billions of Naira.

Demonstrating a firm commitment to transforming agriculture, Governor Uba Sani distributed tractors and a variety of state-of-the-art agricultural equipment, including:

- Combine harvesters for efficient crop harvesting
- Power tillers for effortless soil preparation
- Solar-powered water pumps to ensure sustainable irrigation
- Fertilizers and agrochemicals to boost productivity
- Motorized knapsacks for effective crop spraying
- Fodder choppers for optimal animal feed preparation
- Residue crushers to enhance soil health
- Tricycles and motorbikes for easy



Gov Uba Sani at a launch of agric inputs

transportation

- Milk collection cans to support dairy farmers
- Livestock medications and supplements for healthier animals.

To prioritize agriculture, the administration of Governor Uba Sani has allocated N74 billion (about 9.36%) of the 2025 budget specifically for this sector. Last year alone, nearly 42,000 smallholder farmers received vital supplies, and the distribution of 500 trucks filled with fertilizers was a historic achievement for the state.

The launch event was attended by

notable guests, including the Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Security, Senator Sabi A. Abdullahi, and the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli.

They all commended Governor Uba Sani for his unwavering dedication to enhancing agriculture and ensuring food security, not only in Kaduna but across the nation.

Farmers spoken across Kaduna expressed their heartfelt gratitude for this unprecedented support, emphasizing how timely and crucial this intervention is for their livelihoods.





Array of agricultural machinery and implements launch to support farmers in Kaduna state

## KADSUBEB empowers teachers for improved learning

#### By Hauwa Mohammed

he Kaduna State Universal Basic Education Board (KADSUBEB) has set in motion chain of events to empower teachers for improved learning, one of which is training.

This training aims to equip schoolbased and school support SSOs and classroom teachers with the essential skills needed to improve learning outcomes, enhance classroom management, and strengthen the monitoring and evaluation processes within schools.

In his remarks at the opening of one of the training centres in Kaduna, the Acting Executive Chairman of KADSUBEB Mohammed Mubarak encouraged participants to dedicate their time and effort to thoroughly absorb the training content. He stressed

that the knowledge gained should lead to more effective monitoring of teaching and learning activities in

Mallam Muhammed also emphasized that the initiative was part of Governor Uba Sani's broader efforts to continually build the capacity of teachers in Kaduna State. "By equipping teachers with modern educational practices, the initiative aims to ensure better learning outcomes for students, while reinforcing the state's commitment to educational excellence and the professional development of its educators," he said.

He further highlighted the importance of teacher welfare and the provision of adequate learning materials to support effective teaching. The chairman reaffirmed the commitment of Governor Uba Sani's administration to strengthening the basic education system in Kaduna State.

### KDSG completes emergency repairs of Jere link road

he emergency repairs on the Jere to S.C.C Road at Bwari Junction in Kagarko LGA has been completed.

The road is a vital link for motorists traveling to and from the Federal Capital Territory, and its restoration to a safe and motorable condition is expected to reduce travel time and enhance connectivity for the surrounding areas.

This project is a great example of Governor Uba Sani's commitment to improving the infrastructure in Kaduna State and boosting the local economy.

The Managing Director of the Kaduna State Roads Agency (KADRA), Dr. Abdullahi Baba Ahmad and his team were actively involved in the project, with regular site visits to monitor the progress and quality of work executed. Their oversight ensured that the repairs were carried out to the highest standards, guaranteeing a durable and safe road for users.

### "Media award boost to our peace, prosperity efforts,"

ov Uba Sani has said that the standards in Nigeria. This recognition is on the path to peace and prosperity has validation of the trust and confidence of the year by Thisday and Arise TV. He Sani said. to development of the state.

commemoration of This Day took place in Lagos, Monday, January

organizations that have set very high among others," he further said.

recent efforts at resetting not just a testament to my Kaduna State and placing it administration's efforts, but also a manifested in the award to him as Gov the people have placed in me," Gov Uba

said it was an acknowledgement of "We are fully committed to running a governments efforts and commitment pro-people, pro-poor, and all-inclusive government, with equity, justice and The award ceremony was in fairness as the foundation for peace and progress. Some of our notable Newspaper's 30th Anniversary and achievements in 2024 include Arise TV's 12th Anniversary which aggressive implementation of our Rural Transformation Agenda, tackling insecurity, healthcare reforms, "I am particularly elated that this boosting of the agricultural sector, honour is from two outstanding media revitalization of the educational sector,



## **Kaduna State Commits to Social Justice and Equity**

#### Hadiza Oyiza Ismail

Justice, the Kaduna State Government has reiterated its unwavering commitment to fostering an equitable and inclusive society. In line with this year's theme, the state is intensifying efforts to address economic inequality, mitigate environmental challenges, and uplift vulnerable communities. In a statement marking the occasion, the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Sule Shu'aibu, SAN, FCIPDM, underscored the critical role of social justice in sustainable development. He emphasized that climate change, poverty, and economic exclusion continue to exacerbate inequalities, necessitating deliberate policies that prioritize inclusivity.

"Climate change has significantly affected agrarian communities across the state, leading to extreme weather conditions, droughts, floods, and soil degradation. These environmental disruptions directly impact food security and economic stability. Therefore, we must view these issues not only as environmental challenges but as social justice imperatives," Shu'aibu stated.

He commended Governor Uba Sani for spearheading initiatives aimed at promoting social equity. Among these efforts is the thorough verification of the state's social registers to ensure aid reaches the most vulnerable. The administration has also strengthened its collaboration with the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) to certify artisans, enhancing their employability and financial independence.

A key pillar of the government's strategy is financial inclusion, designed to expand economic opportunities for marginalized communities. The ongoing establishment of vocational training centers across the state is equipping youths and

women with essential skills to foster self-reliance and resilience against economic challenges.

Shu'aibu also highlighted the transformation of Panteka Market into a leading skills acquisition hub as a significant milestone in poverty alleviation. With over 38,000 artisans benefiting from the initiative, the project is not only enhancing skills development but also stimulating local economies and reinforcing social equity.

Beyond economic empowerment, the Ministry of Justice remains steadfast in upholding social justice through the enforcement of laws that protect the environment, ensure fair labor practices, and expand access to social protections such as healthcare, education, and housing.

"Justice must be comprehensive, serving all segments of society—our youth, who represent the future; women, who are the backbone of our communities; workers, who drive the economy; and the marginalized, whose inclusion strengthens societal cohesion," Shu'aibu added.

Acknowledging security challenges in parts of the state, he assured residents that Governor Uba Sani's administration is intensifying efforts to restore peace and stability, reaffirming its dedication to justice and sustainable development.

The Commissioner called for a collaborative approach, urging government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector to join forces in advancing social justice. He stressed that achieving a just and prosperous future requires shared responsibility and unwavering commitment.

As Kaduna State joins the global community in marking this significant day, the government reaffirms its resolve to create an inclusive society where every citizen, regardless of background, has equal access to opportunities and a dignified quality of life.

### Uba Sani swells APC numbers....

contunued from page 2

"In 2027 election, the electorate will vote for APC in all the elections, from top to bottom. At the top, our leader, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu will be elected. At the state level, the party will be voted for at the gubernatorial, National and State Assembly elections, by the Grace of God," he said.

The Governor promised that projects would be executed in all the nooks and crannies of Kaduna State, irrespective of party affiliations and ethno-religious considerations.

"Politics is different from governance. We will be fair to all, whether or not they voted for us, because that is the oath of office that we swore to uphold as leaders," he said.

Governor Uba Sani who argued that leaders are not infallible and that they are bound to make mistakes like anyone, pleaded with the led to always point out their mistakes with a view to correcting them.

The Governor reminded the crowd that leaders would be held accountable in the hereafter regarding how they led the people whom God had entrusted to them.

Prominent amongst those who decamped to APC are, former Governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Muktar Ramalan Yero, Senator Shehu Sani, Senator Suleiman Hunkuyi, the gubernatorial candidate of NNPP in the last election and Alhaji Sani Shaaban, a former gubernatorial candidate.

Others are Senator Danjuma Laah who represented Zone three at the upper legislative chamber on the platform of PDP, Alhaji Abubakar Mustapha, former National Organising Secretary of PDP and Ambassador Sule Buba, former Nigeria's envoy to South Korea.

## KDSG eases land administration, develops software to detect land fraud

#### By Helen Kafoi

aduna state is leveraging on technology to improve land a d m i n i s t r a t i o n a n d particularly eliminate compensation fraud. As part of that drive it has established a comprehensive data base at the Kaduna Geographic Information Service (KADGIS) to address challenges of land administration.

The Director General of KADGIS, Dr Bashir Garba Ibrahim who made this known, disclosed that Kaduna State Government has launched a new Compensation and Valuation System (CVS) software which is intended to eliminate compensation fraud by establishing a comprehensive database that utilizes National Identity numbers and Bank Verification Numbers, incorporating biometric data during initial data capture.

"This innovative approach is expected to address common inefficiencies associated with manual compensation methods, such as inadequate documentation, lengthy approval processes, and a lack of transparency, which can contribute to disputes and public dissatisfaction," he said.

The DG explained that CVS is

characterized by its robust and userfriendly design, equipped with advanced tools for creating, managing, and tracking compensations.

According to Dr Ibrahim, "this software aims to promote transparency and improve operational efficiency at various stages of the compensation process. It is designed to enhance governance and accountability by modernizing the processes associated with compensation linked to state-level projects.

"The new system is particularly advantageous for organizations engaged in large-scale projects, real estate development, and claimant management, as it addresses the limitations of outdated manual systems," he added.

The DG further said " the software will accurately identify each parcel of land and link it to the relevant beneficiaries, thus streamlining the compensation process further."

He commended Governor Uba Sani for his support to the development team which created the advanced software, adding that it is tailored to cater to the needs of government agencies, marking a notable enhancement in project management across Kaduna State.

### KSSQAA strengthens collaboration....

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3. Enhanced School Monitoring
Tools: in partnership with PLANE,
KSSQAA has developed point based
whole-school evaluations tool,
unscheduled assessments, and a
revised school resumption monitoring
tool. Notably, 593 schools were
monitored in the last exercise.

4. Academic Performance Growth: Kaduna State recorded a significant improvement in NECO results, with 67% of students achieving 5 credits and above, including Mathematics and English last year, up from 54% the previous year.

The PLANE delegation expressed admiration for the milestones achieved in Kaduna State's education sector, with Ben French acknowledging the state as a shining example for the nation. He commended the Director-General and his team for their relentless efforts in promoting education access and quality.

The delegation reaffirmed their willingness to deepen PLANE's partnership with KSSQAA to drive educational quality and broaden learning opportunities across Kaduna State. This collaboration is a testament to what is possible when leadership, commitment, and vision converge.

## Uba Sani makes clarion call for return to the soil

#### By Naja'atu Abubakar Rafinguza

overnor Uba Sani has reiterated that the North needs to go back to agriculture to rediscover its self-reliance posture.

At a one-day lecture organized by the Arewa Think Tank at Arewa House, Kaduna, Senator Uba Sani delivered a compelling address that dissected Nigeria's agricultural decline over the past 64 years and offered a roadmap for the future.

His speech, rooted in the twin themes of agriculture and national development under President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, was a wake-up call to Northern Nigeria and the nation at large.

The Governor didn't mince words about Nigeria's historical neglect of agriculture a sector once central to the economy.

He argued that over-reliance on oil wealth sidelined a vital industry capable of addressing poverty, unemployment, and insecurity. Declaring that: "Nigeria's future depends on returning to the soil."

#### FG supports Kaduna lite rail.....

Governor Sani said he was not a fly-over governor stressing that what the people needed was motorable roads in the rural areas that linked their farmlands to the markets. "Of what use is a fly-over to the rural farmer in Soba, or Ikara or Kauru" Gov Sani asked to a huge roar of consent by the tumultuous crowd of supporters in the jam-packed Congo Conference Hall in Samaru Zaria.

Also speaking at the event, Senator Suleiman Hunkuyi, a decampee from the PDP laughed off claims by an apparently aggrieved member of the APC that the leadership of the party were illiterates and wondered if a personal disappointment had not gotten the better part of the rational thinking of the critic.

"A leadership that midwifed this particular politician from a candidate and successfully steered him through the local primaries of the party and to a landslide victory at the governorship election could not be said to be illiterates", Senator Hunkuyi said urging the" disgruntled politician" to tamper personal disappointment with reasoning and respect for leaders in the state as was accorded him when he was around.

#### **KADGIS** denies hindering official verifications

he Kaduna Geographic Information Service KADGIS has categorically stated that contrary to the information circulating on the social media, "at NO time has the Service stopped or hindered anyone from making legal verifications on any Certificate of Occupancy (CofO)."

KADGIS made the clarification in an official statement in Kaduna

"Anyone who wishes to verify any Certificate of Occupancy is free to do so at anytime. The Service has treated so many verification requests from various courts and this can be verified from the courts," It said.

The Service urged the public willing to make verifications to visit its office at No 31 Ali Akilu road Unguwan Sarki Kaduna to avail themselves of this service as well as other range of services.

## KDSG, NUT resolve dispute

scheme dispute with the approved of noted. the payment of an outstanding N548m Governor Uba Sani's administration marking the end of a long-standing has consistently prioritized education dispute between the State Government and human capital development. Since and NUT.

The NUT Endwell scheme dispute had to education, enrollment, and retention led to prolonged litigations affecting of pupils in our basic schools. thousands of teachers across the state. The Governor's commitment to Uba Sani after thorough study of the unprecedented number of schools built backdrop of the government of learning materials and training of prioritizing teachers' welfare and teachers to enhance their skills. ensuring justice.

(KADSUBEB) and NUT. "This decision effective governance.

overnor Uba Sani has reinforces the Governor's commitment resolved the Nigeria Union of to education, teachers' welfare, and Teachers (NUT) Endwell good governance," an NUT official

assuming office, he has improved access

Acknowledging their plight, Governor education is evident in the matter took decisive action against the across the state, as well as the provision

With the resolution of the dispute, An agreement, signed on 30th day of teachers can now access their rightful January, 2025 on the dispute is seen as a benefits, and Kaduna State major step towards improving teachers' Government under Governor, welfare and fostering a stronger Governor Uba Sani is once again setting partnership between the Kaduna State the pace in the drive for quality Universal Basic Education Board education, teachers' welfare, and

## KDSG plans big for dry-season farming

By Ruth Yakubu

ry season farming is set to get a boost in Kaduna state following the government's massive plan to rehabilitate all dams across the state to boost dry-season farming. It is part of the Uba Sani administration's effort to accelerate socioeconomic development of Kaduna State.

Commissioner of Agriculture, Alhaji Murtala Dabo gave this indication during his visit to the Galma irrigation site in Zaria as part of a tour of irrigation projects where he also highlighted Governor Uba Sani's vision of transforming agriculture.

Therefore, he urged farmers to

beyond rain-fed farming to increase food production and ensure food security.

Alhaji Murtala said that the administration has allocated nearly 12% of this year's budget to agriculture, reinforcing its commitment to agricultural transformation. He further assured farmers that the state government would soon distribute farm implements to encourage dry-season farming.

The Commissioner commended the efforts of the All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN) whose some of its members were on his entourage and other stakeholders for their support in advancing agricultural initiatives.

embrace irrigation and diversify The AFAN Kaduna State Chairman, Alhaji Nuhu Aminu, presented a Certificate of Excellence to Alhaji Murtala Dabo during the visit in recognition of his visionary leadership. The Chairman of the Galma Irrigation Cooperative Association, Alhaji Shehu Lawal Dalhatu, urged the government to maintain the tempo of providing agricultural inputs to enhance irrigation farming across the state.

> Some people spoken to during the visit, and other Stakeholders insisted that Governor Uba Sani's proactive steps underscored his administration's determination to transform Kaduna State into an agricultural powerhouse through innovation and strategic investment in infrastructure.

#### By Affiong Edim

he Government of Kaduna State, has been actively fostering a supportive environment for development partners to enhance healthcare delivery for the residents of the state. A milestone in this initiative was the recent launch of a new project by the Gates Foundation, accompanied by a co-creation meeting focused on "Advocacy Solutions to Improve Primary Healthcare (PHC) Delivery and Health Outcomes in Kaduna State.

This project, implemented by EngenderHealth, aims to provide sustainable solutions to enhance service delivery at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), ultimately leading to improved health outcomes for local communities.

During the launch event, Hajiya Umma K. Ahmed, the Commissioner of Health, praised Governor Uba Sani for his unwavering support of the health sector. She highlighted the significant progress the state has made under his leadership in strengthening health systems and ensuring access to quality healthcare services for all citizens.

The Commissioner emphasized the importance of the event, which gathered stakeholders across the health sector to a dvance primary healthcare, recognizing it as the foundation of the healthcare system. She reiterated that the

## KDSG launches health project for effective service delivery



project was critical for bolstering the primary healthcare system and enhancing citizens' health outcomes, explaining that PHC serves as the first point of contact for individuals and families seeking healthcare services. Therefore, it remains a top priority in the health sector agenda, aligning with the vision for universal health coverage and improved health indices, she added.

Acknowledging the dedicated work of healthcare professionals, She also pointed out that significant challenges persist, particularly in rural and hard-to-reach areas."

The project is designed to tackle these

challenges by promoting advocacy solutions that will enhance PHC service delivery and health outcomes.

"We are committed to collaborating closely with all stakeholders, including development partners, civil society organizations, and community leaders, to ensure the success of this project," she stated.

"Advocacy, as championed by this project, is crucial for addressing barriers by amplifying community voices, engaging stakeholders, and driving policy changes reflective of the people's needs."

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## coalition of politicians......

allegations without any facts, they are just trying to confuse Nigerians and don't forget most of these politicians that came out and said they are coming as a coalition were politicians that were holding political offices just recently, when I say recently... they were politicians that were in government only less than two years ago, and if I may ask, what did they do when they were in government?. And the reason why people will not take them seriously is that, they're only fighting for power not because they can do anything better. They were in power for almost eight years some of them more than eight years what have they done when they were in power? The fact is that its all struggle for power and nothing more than that.

Nigerians are extremely very clever, they are watching what is happening, they know they are not fighting president Bola Ahmed Tinubu simply because they can offer something better than him, they had opportunity in the past, what did they do? And some of them just recently were singing praises of president Bola Ahmed Tinubu; is it because most of them are not in government today that they are now saying something different? We were together with them

sitting on the same table fighting for president Bola Ahmed Tinubu because we believed he was the best man to move this country forward. Virtually most of the people making these comments were with us and even if you look at the antecedents of most of those politicians that came together to say they are Democrats, what is their own democratic credentials if I may ask, what have they done to move democracy forward in this country, what was their own contribution towards entrenching democracy in Nigeria?

## How Kaduna State is tackling malnutrition - Monrovia

#### By Jummai Nuhu

he Kaduna State Government, has reaffirmed its dedication to combating malnutrition in the state. This commitment was expressed by Alh Mukhtar Ahmed Monrovia, Chairman, Steering Committee on Food and Nutrition and Commissioner for Planning and Budget Commission, during a one-day Nutrition Stakeholders meeting held at the commissions conference hall in Kaduna.

He said that the state government has taken significant steps to address malnutrition, including creating a dedicated budget line for nutrition in the 2025 appropriation bill at the Ministry of Health and the State Primary Healthcare Board. In addition, Kaduna State now has a designated Chairman for the House Committee on Nutrition, and desk officers have been appointed across all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to coordinate nutrition efforts as well as a substantial allocation of 50 million naira earmarked for nutrition activities at the Primary Healthcare Board, he further said.

Alh Mukhtar Ahmed congratulated the state's dedicated team and partners for the significant progress reflected in the recently released NDHS 2023-2024 data. These achievements he said demonstrate the hard work and unwavering dedication of the Nutrition Team, Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), as well as development partners.

The Commissioner highlighted notable improvements made by Kaduna State in 2023-2024, including: Decline in Stunting Rates\*: Severe cases of stunting have decreased to 16.8%, down from 22.10% in 2018. Reduction in Severe Wasting\*: Severe wasting has dropped to 0.3%, a decrease from 1.1% in 2018. Decrease in Severe Underweight\*: The rate of severe



underweight has fallen to 6.0%, down from 7.60% in 2018. He emphasized that these achievements are commendable and deserving of recognition for the collaborative efforts that have brought the state this far. "However, as the state celebrates these successes, it must remain vigilant, as the journey toward eliminating malnutrition is ongoing," he pointed out.

The Chairman State Committee on Food and Nutrition (SCFN) Bashir Muhammed explained that the essence of the gathering was to to bring together stakeholders to advocate and sensitize them on the need for sustained efforts in fighting malnutrition in kaduna state.

## Kaduna govt prepares Public Servants....

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Dr. John Aliyu, in his presentation on "The Power of Attitude in the Workplace," stressed that success in public service depends more on attitude than any other factor.

He urged civil servants to adopt a positive mindset, embrace change, and maintain a commitment to excellence.

"Education, hard work, and knowledge alone cannot guarantee success attitude is the key.

A positive attitude is contagious and essential for both individual and organizational growth," Aliyu remarked.

Participants, including Hashim Muktar, Director of Admin and Finance at the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, and Mahmud Mahmud, expressed appreciation for the training.

They pledged to extend the knowledge gained to their colleagues in various ministries.

Another participant, Beatrice Magaji, commended the Head of Service for initiating the workshop, describing it as a timely intervention for civil servants striving for excellence in service delivery.

She said, the workshop reaffirmed the Kaduna State Government's commitment to building a professional, efficient, and forward thinking civil service. (NAN)



## 46th Kaduna Trade Fair highlights SMEs, Digital Transformation, for economic growth

#### Samuel Galadima

he 46th Kaduna International Trade Fair, organized by the Kaduna Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Agriculture (KADCCIMA) which held from the 14th to 23rd of February 2025, highlighted the critical role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria's economic development.

Governor Uba Sani, represented by the SSG Dr. Abdulkadir Muazu Meyere, emphasized the importance of SMEs, noting that over 4,000 young individuals in Kaduna State had been e m p o w e r e d t o p u r s u e entrepreneurship. In addition, initiatives supporting women and youth in agriculture, dairy, and poultry production were introduced in collaboration with the International Development Association (IDA) as part of the Commercial Agriculture Development Project (CADP).

The Governor also highlighted the state's "One State, One Product" initiative, designed to identify products that generate foreign exchange, and stressed the need for regional collaboration to drive economic growth.

The theme of this year's trade fair, "Promoting Efficiency in Manufacturing, Agriculture, and



Trade through Digital Transformation," reflected KADCCIMA's commitment to fostering national prosperity. Governor Sani further underscored the importance of innovation and a daptation for national competitiveness and called for more awareness of the resources available to local businesses and investors.

Mrs. Patience Fakai, Commissioner for Business, Innovation, and Technology, also spoke on the administration's focus on digital infrastructure, noting Kaduna State's recognition with the Broadband Infrastructure Award. She encouraged participants to join the state's journey toward economic prosperity through innovation and partnerships.

The event featured displays from 23 local government areas showcasing

local agricultural and mineral products, and a lively atmosphere with music, dancing, and a Kids' Corner. The occasion also saw the presence of notable figures, including former Anambra State Governor Peter Obi.

## ASUU KASU chapter calls off strike after Gov Uba Sani's intervenetion

he Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Kaduna State University chapter has suspended the strike action embarked upon a few days ago. They commended Governor Uba Sani for his swift intervention and leadership in resolving the issues which led to the strike action. They said the Governor's intervention is a deviation from the dark days of the past where members were victimized for participating in lawful strike actions.



Children were not left out of the fair as they can be seen having fun at the trade event ground

### KDSG sensitizes civil servants towards retirement

#### By Justina Lee Habila

n a bid to ensure a seamless transition into post-retirement Llife, the Kaduna State Government, through the Office of the Head of Service has organized a sensitization program for public servants. The main objective of the sensitization was to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for a rewarding life after retirement.

The program brought together seasoned administrators including past heads of service and retired directors who shared insightful experiences through presentations

Chief of Moro'a praises Gov Uba's inclusive governance

he Chief of Moro'a HRH Isiaku Sambo has commended Governor Uba Sani's administration for its commitment to inclusive governance, peace and security.

He pledged the support of his people for the success of the administration.

HRH was at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim House on a courtesy call on the governor.

While congratulating the new Chief of Moro'a, Governor Uba Sani thanked the Moro'a Traditional Council and the entire community for ensuring that the process for the selection of a new Chief of Moro'a was fair and peaceful.

He urged him to be a father to all and to use his experience and skills to drive progress and development in Moro'a Chiefdom.

and discussions on various aspects of post-retirement planning. Topics covered included financial management, healthcare, and personal development, as well as opportunities for entrepreneurship and community engagement.

In her opening remarks, the Head of Service, Kaduna State, Hajiya Habiba Shekarau emphasized the importance of planning for life after retirement.

Hajiya Shekarau urged participants to take advantage of the program to gain valuable knowledge and insights that would enable them to live a fulfilling life after retirement. Participants expressed gratitude for the opportunity to attend the program, citing the relevance and timeliness of the topics covered and praised the organizers for the efforts in promoting the well-being of public servants, both in and out of service.

The sensitization program is part of the Kaduna State Government's commitment to preparing its public servants in their transition to postretirement life by providing them with the necessary tools and resources aimed at ensuring that public servants continued to live a productive and fulfilling life after service.

### **Kaduna boosts tomato production** with \$400,000

overnor Uba Sani has officially With ample water resources, extensive the state government. This significant and national demand for tomatoes. agreement represents a crucial step Through the Technical Cooperation losses.

The partnership aims to leverage The statement noted that Governor technical expertise and resources to Uba Sani's administration has support local tomato farmers, boost prioritized agriculture by allocating productivity, and advocate for N74 billion (9.36%) of the 2025 budget sustainable practices that will benefit to this sector. Furthermore, in 2024, the the state for generations to come.

the milestone underscored Governor agrochemicals, and equipment—to Senator Uba Sani's commitment to 41,693 smallholder farmers. The developing and strengthening government conducted the largest agriculture in Kaduna State. As an fertilizer distribution in Kaduna State's agrarian state with vast agricultural history, delivering 500 trucks (240,000 potential, Kaduna is proud to be bags), and invested in mechanization by Nigeria's top producer of tomatoes. acquiring 12 heavy-duty tractors.

signed a Technical arable land, and a youthful population Cooperation Project (TCP) eager to participate in agriculture, we agreement worth \$400,000 on behalf of are well-positioned to meet both local

towards enhancing agricultural Project, Kaduna will enhance the development, improving food security, tomato value chain, improve and promoting sustainable practices in productivity, reduce post-harvest the state, particularly in tomato losses, create more opportunities for the production, to reduce post-harvest youth, and elevate the livelihoods of farmers.

administration provided essential A government statement explained that inputs—such as seeds, fertilizers,

## NSA hands over 59 kidnap victims to Kaduna



he National Security Adviser, Nuhu Ribadu, has handed over 59 rescued kidnapping victims to the Kaduna State Government at the Office of the National Security Adviser in Abuja's Three Arms Zone.

During the handover, Malam

Ribadu revealed that the rescue operation was the result of a joint effort by all security agencies, led by the 1 Division of the Nigerian Army in Kaduna.

He emphasized that the coordinated operations followed President Bola Tinubu's directives

to intensify efforts to secure the release of kidnapped victims.

The Chief of Civil-Military Affairs, Major General Gold Chibuisi, reaffirmed their collaboration with the NSA in executing the presidential directive to secure the victims' freedom.

Similarly, the Coordinator of the National Counter-Terrorism Centre, Major General Garba Laka, disclosed that some of the victims had been held captive for four months.

He added that the victims had been abducted from different parts of Kaduna, and sustained military pressure forced the kidnappers to flee, leaving the hostages behind.

### KDSG adopts gender responsive procurement policy

aduna State Government has a dopted a Gender Responsive Public Procurement Policy, making Kaduna State the first subnational government to implement such a policy.

A statement by the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor Alhaji Ibraheem Musa said the Gender Responsive Public Procurement Policy (GRPP) was formulated in collaboration with UN Women and other stakeholders to promote gender equality through public spending. The policy aligns with the Governor's economic empowerment program and aims to ensure inclusive economic growth by increasing the participation of women-owned and women-led businesses in public procurement.

The GRPP seeks to bridge the gender gap by enabling equitable economic participation of women-owned and women-led cooperatives. The policy mandates that at least one woman be included at the directorate level in all procurement committees.

Additionally, the Chief Press Secretary noted that the policy provides various benefits for women, including a complete waiver of registration fees for businesses that are 100% womenowned. There is also a 50% reduction in tender fees for enterprises that are 100% women-owned.

The government has directed all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies in Kaduna State to adopt the policy in their procurement processes to ensure equitable access and increased opportunities for womenowned businesses.

Musa also announced the establishment of five Sector Strategic Teams to enhance coordination and synergy among government MDAs.

These teams are expected to improve governance and ensure the effective delivery of programs and projects in line with Governor Uba Sani's seven-point agenda. Each team will be headed by senior government officials. The teams include:

- 1. Rural Transformation and Urban Development Sector Strategic Team
- 2. Human Capital Development and Social Investment Sector Strategic Team
- 3. Governance and Institutions Sector Strategic Team
- 4. Economic Development and Monitoring Sector Strategic Team
- 5. Peace, Security, and Public Safety Strategic Team

Each team will meet once a week, and the chairperson is expected to brief the governor on the resolutions of their meetings.

## Poor reading culture reflecting on quality of national discourse - Uba Sani

ba Sani, governor of Kaduna, says the dying culture of reading among Nigerians is manifesting in the quality of national discourse.

Sani spoke in Abuja on Saturday at the unveiling of CreaTent, a creative hub, and 'Books of Aphorisms', authored by Bello Mohammed.

Sani, represented by Bello Ayuba, his Principal Private Secretary, blamed the limited informed analysis from Nigerians on a dying reading culture.

"Writers, young and old, should double up on their efforts to ginger the nation into reviving our reading culture, whose side effect is sadly manifest in the absence of deep thinking and educated analysis that we often see in our national discourse and from the products of our higher institutions of learning," the governor said.

"We in leadership positions at all levels must see this as a challenge. We must not hesitate to encourage efforts such as this in whatever way we can.

"That way, we would rejuvenate interest in learning in and out of the school



system for the good of the society."

Speaking to reporters, the author of 'Books of Aphorisms' doubled down on Sani's remarks, emphasising the value of thinking.

"I've learned that a lot of people do not even realise that the brain is an organ that has a function. And I think that's not just a huge mistake; that's also a disservice to oneself and humanity," Mohammed said. The author, a mentee of Wole Soyinka, the Nobel laureate, said the inspiration for the book is to encourage individuals to find philosophical motivations within themselves and channel them into action.

The 'Books of Aphorisms' has been adopted by the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) for use in public schools.

## Wheat farmers receive morale boost

By Ruth Yakubu

he Kaduna State Government says it will continue to provide conducive environment aimed at boosting and encouraging wheat farming in the state.

The Commissioner of Agriculture Alhaji Murtala Dabo gave this assurance while on an oversight visit of dry season activities in Mashiga-Kaya, Giwa Local Government Area of the state. The visit was part of effort to boost the morale of the farmers to achieve large scale production of wheat and other farming activities through irrigation.

Alh. Murtala Dabo stated that the state government was committed to carry all farmers along in its determination to ensure bumper harvest of farm produce all year round and take Kaduna State to greater heights and as a leading agricultural state.

The Commissioner, while addressing the farmers appealed for team work and cooperation among them so as to achieve the desired objective. Their efforts he added would provide an opportunity for the engagement of other small farmers.

Alhaji Murtala pointed out that the present administration in Kaduna State, has priortized the cultivation and production of all types of grains as well as collaboration with relevant agencies and organisations in order to carrying all citizens along to ensure fairness and the participation of all stakeholders in the scheme of things in the state.

He expressed delight with the communities and charged them to desist from acts capable of causing disharmony and encouraged them to continue to channel their productive energy into

ventures that were beneficial to the whole villages.

The Commissioner similarly visited some wheat sites in Galma, Zaria Local Government Area, where he stated that the State Government would ensure that all farmers were motivated to engage in all year-round farming.

He said the government was determined to expand the scope of farming so as to attract investors into the state which will subsequently provide gainful employment opportunity to the teeming unemployed youths.

Some of the areas visited by the Commissioner include: Dufa – Dufa Irrigation site, Kudan Local Government, Mashiga – Kaya, Giwa Local Government and Galma in Zaria Local Government Area.

## Our commitment to good healthcare delivery earns us world recognition —Uba Sani



Gov Uba Sani in company of the Dep. Gov being shown round the facility by an official

#### By Affiong Edim

overnor Uba Sani has disclosed that his administration's commitment to excellence and innovation in healthcare delivery has led to national and international accolades.

The Governor who made this known at the commissioning of a new pharmagrade warehouse at Makera Kaduna, said the facility will lead to enhanced healthcare delivery, which will ultimately improve the health and well-being of Kaduna State citizens.

According to him, "our efforts have been recognized with 10 awards, both national and international, including the prestigious Excellence Award by the International Supply Chain Education Alliance (ISCEA)."

Governor Uba Sani emphasized that in Kaduna State, good healthcare is not a privilege but a fundamental human right, adding that the PHC Leadership Challenge in Abuja had earlier ranked the state as the best in Primary Health Care in the North West zone.

He further said that the new pharma grade warehouse will lead to enhanced healthcare delivery, which will ultimately improve the health and well-being of the citizens of Kaduna State.

"This warehouse is a symbol of our dedication to ensuring the continuous availability, efficient storage, and distribution of essential health commodities. By strengthening our supply chain, we are ensuring that life-saving medications and supplies reach every corner of our state," he added.

The Governor disclosed that Kaduna State is one of the first states to pay the 15% counterpart funding for the warehouse upgrade, promising to renovate and upgrade identified warehouses in Zones 1 and 3 to Pharma Grade standard.

According to Governor Uba Sani, upgrading the zonal warehouses will further improve accessibility of quality drugs to the good people of Kaduna state.

The Governor expressed gratitude to development partners like the Global Fund and UNICEF, as well as Fidson Healthcare and Emzor Group for their support.

He further said that while Fidson Healthcare played a key role in organizing the storage system in the warehouse, Emzor Group provided insurance coverage for the facility.

The Governor added that "their

contributions have enabled the Kaduna State Health Supplies Management Agency to mature and reach the "ready to integrate."

## KDSG launches health project .....

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Hajiya Ahmed expressed gratitude to the Gates Foundation and Engender Health for their support and dedication to this initiative, assuring continued collaboration with partners and stakeholders to strengthen PHC services, improve access to essential healthcare, and enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

Also speaking at the event, Dr. Kabir Attah, the Country Project Manager of Engender Health noted that the occasion served both to launch the new Gates Foundation project and to conduct a co-creation meeting focused on improving PHC delivery and health outcomes in Kaduna State.

## **CSC urges MDAs to adhere to Regulations**

Service Rules and Regulations.

Services.

The Commission being a body responsible for recruiting staff, ensuring promotion of the staff and treating disciplinary cases among other issues organised the meeting in order to find out lasting solutions to issues hindering the Ministry especially during promotion exercise.

The Chairman of the Commission, Alh. Sule Shehu Allah Bamu Lafiya stated that whatever has been observed and decided will hopefully be implemented in the interest of the service particularly the staff of the Ministry of health, and solicited maximum cooperation to always ensure smooth exercise.

In his remarks, the Permanent Commissioner 1 and also the Commissioner supervising the Ministry Alh. Bala Umar stated that the meeting was organised specifically to interact with the ministry's leadership which he said has many issues.

He appealed to the management of the Ministry to cooperate with the Commission so as to come up with a formula that can resolve different issues amicably.

he Kaduna State Civil Service Some of the issues raised were Commission has urged the disciplinary issues, promotions and MDAs to adhere to the Civil recruitments which the Ministry has to address and resolve amicably.

The call was made during an interactive He expressed dismay at inability of the meeting with the leadership of the Ministry to follow due process in Ministry Of Health and Human tackling disciplinary matters and wondered why some staff have spent more than 2 years without salary and without completing desciplinary process on them. He therefore advised the Ministry to as a proactive measure not to be in a haste until they fully get to the root of a problem.

> In her response the Commissioner of Health and Human Services Hajiya Umma K Ahmed expressed appreciation to the Commission for organising such interactive meeting in order to address issues bedevilling her Ministry and other MDAs across the

> She promised to be up and doing in ensuring that whatever was required from the Ministry as far as the mandate of the Civil Service Commission is concerned will be treated urgently. She expressed the hope that the interaction will continue to guide Ministries on what is expected of them in order to improve on what they've started, and assured that all decisions and resolutions taken during the meeting will be implemented.

### Gov Uba Sani felicitates with El-Rufai at 65

wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to my dear brother, friend and predecessor, His Excellency, Malam Nasir El-Rufai CON on the occasion of his 65th birthday. I pray the Almighty Allah to continue to guide, protect and strengthen His Excellency.



Mallam Nasir El-Rufa'i

### ASUU lauds Gov Sani over land allocation in Kaduna

he Kaduna State University chapter of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, ASUU, has expressed gratitude to Governor Uba Sani for approving land for its Academia Mass Housing Estate Project.

A statement issued by the Chief Press Secretary to the governor, Ibraheem Musa, on Monday, quoted ASUU in a letter dated January 23, 2025, as saying that the project will "enhance staff welfare and provide civil servants with an opportunity to own homes through a rent-to-own/mortgage financing scheme".'

The letter, which was signed by the

president of KASU-ASUU Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited, Gimba Kyari, also said that the governor's "unwavering compassion and commitment to the development of Kaduna State, as well as your dedication to inclusive growth, are evident through this allocation."

Mr Musa said that the estimated cost of each housing unit, including infrastructure, is approximately N42,000,000, but in the letter, ASUU has offered a 15% discount, "aptly named 'Senator Uba Sani discount,' representing the cost of land."

The union further said that the governor's love and dedication to the masses,"are beyond question, and we stand as your unwavering partners in progress, committed to attracting and leading developmental projects such

The letter added that the project,"is designed to be sustainable and will set the benchmark for mass housing schemes by providing a conducive living environment at the most affordable cost."

The project will be a collaboration between KASU-ASUU Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited, Kaduna State Government, Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, and Federal Ministry of Housing.

## Gov Uba Sani appoints three more aides to revitalize system

delivery, and deepen strategic Government, Kaduna State. engagements with the citizens of He holds a Post - Graduate Diploma in made three fresh appointments.

Affairs, Abubakar Shehu Giwa – Special University, Zaria. Economic Matters.

State, Ibraheem Musa on January 31, consulting industry. 2025, said all the appointments were Before his appointment, Ahmad was an with immediate effect.

Political Affairs is a highly experienced of MGI Worldwide, and head of the public servant, consummate politician Lagos Office. He has carried out and led and successful businessman. A three - several national and international term member of the House of engagements for public and private Representatives, he had served on some sector institutions and companies, important committees and performed including the Niger Delta Development creditably. He was Chairman, House Commission (NDDC) Forensic Audit them, reserving land, and supplying Committee on Army (2003 - 2007), ordered by former President Chairman, House Committee on Muhammadu Buhari in 2019, Financial Labour, Employment and Productivity Statement Audit of NNPCL (2007 - 2011), and Chairman, Sub - subsidiaries (KRPC and PPMC), Committee on Froreign Affairs (Asia - Nigeria Oil and Gas Audit anchored by Pacific) from 1999 to 2003.

Commissioner for Water Resources, Financial Statement Audit and Review Kaduna State from 2013 to 2015. He is of DHL Global Forwarding Nigeria currently the Managing Director of Limited, amongst others. Ahmad (NLTP) at the Laduga Grazing Minafric Mining Company Limited, holds a Master in Business Director, Madu Kana Mining Company Administration (MBA) with Limited, and Co - Owner, Narada specialization in finance and Mining Company Limited.

Abubakar Shehu Giwa, the Special Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Adviser, Political Affairs is a top

n continuous efforts to inject fresh economist, outstanding administrator, perspectives into his and businessman. He was a two – term administration, enhance service Executive Chairman of Giwa Local

Kaduna State, Governor Uba Sani has Public Sector Economy from Kaduna State University, Kaduna, and a The new appointees are, Hon. Ado Bachelor of Science Degree in Dogo Audu - Counselor, Political Economics from Ahmadu Bello

Adviser, Political Affairs and Ahmad Ahmad Shehu Haruna, the new Special Shehu Haruna - Special Adviser, Adviser, Economic Matters is a financial expert, chartered accountant, A statement by the Chief Press and forensic expert who has almost a Secretary to the Governor of Kaduna decade of experience in the financial

Associate Director at Haruna Yahaya & Hon. Ado Dogo Audu, the Counselor, Co. Chartered Accountants, a member Nigeria Extractive Industries Hon. Ado Dogo Audu also served as Transparency Initiative(NEITI), investment from the prestigious

#### **L-PRES donates** 450,000 doses of anthrax vaccines to Kaduna

he Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support (L-PRES) World Bank project has donated 450,000 doses of anthrax vaccines to the Kaduna State Ministry of Agriculture to enable the free vaccination of livestock against the disease and other transboundary animal diseases.

The state coordinator of L-PRES, Dr Salisu Shittu Hashim, who disclosed this in a statement on Monday, commended the Kaduna State Government for providing counterpart funding for the project.

Hashim said L-PRES has conducted training and capacity-building for over 2,000 livestock farmers on disease identification, prevention, and control. Hashim also expressed gratitude to the governor for flagging off the distribution of equipment such as fodder choppers, residue crushers, and tricycles to sedentary pastoralist communities and clusters that the project has profiled.

The state coordinator highlighted that L-PRES has upgraded the four grazing reserves in Kaduna State by providing solar-powered boreholes in each of seeds for planting animal feed.

He emphasized that providing water points will not only minimize farmerherder conflicts but also increase the quantity and quality of milk production in cattle.

The statement recalled that the Kaduna office of L-PRES has provided a baling machine, a mower, and other supporting equipment to the National Livestock Transformation Programme Reserve.

Hashim, added that L-PRES has improved veterinary facilities in Kaduna State and trained veterinarians and other livestock service providers on disease surveillance.

## First lady Senator Oluremi Tinubu in Kaduna

igeria's first lady Senator Oluremi Tinubu had an engagement in Kaduna where she flagged off the distribution of professional kits to midwives in the Northwest, announced a grant of N50m for women in Kaduna state and launched the Free to shine campaign on elimination of HIV/AIDS, syphilis and Hepatitis an initiative of the organisation of African First ladies (OAFAD)

Pictures from top right show the First lady with Gov Uba Sani, displaying the N50m cheque, engaging participants in the HIV/AIDs campaign and sharing a lively moment against a background of enthusiastic crowd at the Murtala Square, Kaduna.





### Federal University Kachia a reality:



#### MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, KADUNA OUTLOOK

formal handover and finalization for the take-off of the Federal University of Applied Sciences, Kachia, Kaduna State.

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