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FOCUS MDAs

- **KADRA**
- **OHoS**
- **GOVERNMENT HOUSE**
- **MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**
- **MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY**



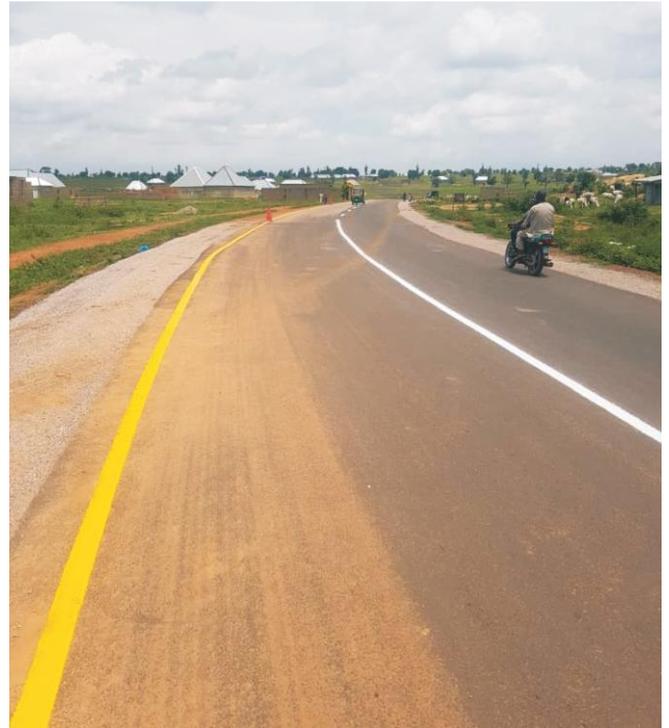
From L-R Senator Suleiman Abdu Kwari, Senator representing Kaduna North Senatorial District, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, Gov. Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai and Hajiya Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed, former Minister of Finance and founder of SIPCOD at the inauguration of SIPCOD Board of Trustees and workshop for BOT members of Community Based Mutual Health Associations at ASAA Pyramid Hotel, Kaduna.

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KADRA Completes Kofar Gayan-Jos Road

The Kofar Gayan-Jos Road in Zaria LGA, a 6.1km single carriage way pavement has been completed. With 5.1km initially completed, the remaining 1.4km outstanding work was constructed under direct labour by Kaduna State Roads Agency (KADRA). More than 700 meters drainage with 4 culverts at strategic locations and access slabs were constructed to enable road users ply the road and gain good passage way for water. The Managing Director of KADRA, Engr. Muhammed Lawal Magaji said Governor Nasir El-Rufa'i's effort of making Kaduna great again necessitated this action. The Kofar Gayan-Jos Road when completed will ease commuters the stress of going to Kofar Doka to link Jos Road and will also shorten the distance for travelers going to Jos and Kano from Kaduna.



Kofar Gayan-Jos Road, Zaria LGA

KDSG to Boost Morale of Traditional Rulers



Alh. Ja'afaru Ibrahim Sani, Commissioner of Local Government Affairs (5th from the left) with the delegation of the District Heads Forum during their visit to the ministry.

In view of the significant importance and tremendous contribution of traditional institutions in Kaduna state especially in the area of championing the course of peace, government will continue to give priority attention to the needs, welfare and improved working condition of the institution.

The Commissioner, Ministry of Local Government Affairs, Alh. Ja'afaru Ibrahim Sani stated this during a solidarity visit to him by the Kaduna State District Heads Forum, Zazzau Emirate Chapter.

Sani informed the district heads that government is fully aware of some of the challenges being faced by the traditional institution and will continue to work towards addressing them as doing so will equally boost their morale.

He also shed more light on the recently introduced traditional institutions reform in the state.

According to the Commissioner, the idea behind the introduction of the reform is to further strengthen its authority in the discharge of its responsibilities.

Sani also disclosed that as a mark of appreciation to the good work and contribution of the traditional institutions in the state, government is currently studying the possibility of reviewing salaries and allowances of the traditional institution and as soon as the process is completed, the new improved scheme will be

implemented.

He further called on the district heads to intensify efforts towards sensitizing their people to remain law abiding and ensure total sustenance of the peaceful atmosphere currently enjoyed in the state because without peace, no development can be achieved.

Earlier, in his remarks, the leader of the delegation, Alh. Adamu Abdullahi (Sulukin Zazzau) who is also the District Head of Makarfi, informed the commissioner that they were in the ministry to show their solidarity and also welcome the commissioner back to his former ministry as well as share with the commissioner some of the challenges they encounter as heads of their respective districts, calling on him to enjoin the 23 local government councils in the state to look into the possibility of coming to their aid.

HOS Reaffirms Commitment to Effective Service Delivery

The Kaduna State Head of Service, Mrs. Bari'atu Yusuf Mohammed, has reaffirmed her commitment to continue to give her best in the service of the state and the people.

She made the affirmation during an interview with the Press shortly after her swearing-in at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, Kaduna

The Head of Service reiterated that she will not give up in ensuring the best to entrench and reposition the state civil service for effective and efficient service delivery in the interest of both the government and the people of the state.

Mrs. Mohammed said that the present administration of Malam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufa'i desires the best for the people and urged people to support it.

She thanked Almighty God and the Governor for considering her worthy to continue to offer her service for a second tenure by re- appointing her and promised to uphold the trust and execute

the assignment given to her with all sense of responsibility to move the state forward.

The Head of Service, called on all civil servants in the state and the entire citizens to support the present administration in order to actualize the dividends of democracy.



Mrs. Bari'atu Yusuf Mohammed, Kaduna State Head of Service addressing the press shortly after being sworn in.

Gov't House Staff Sensitized on CPS



Mrs. Esther Ali Baba, Ag. Executive Secretary, KSPB, during her presentation at the workshop

The management of Sir Kashim Ibrahim House in collaboration with Kaduna State Pension Bureau (KSPB) and the National Pension Commission (PenCom) has organized a 1-Day Sensitization Work-shop for staff on the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) at the Old Chamber, Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, Kaduna. Declaring the workshop open, the outgoing Director of Finance and Administration, Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, Malam Atiku Musa, welcomed the team from KSPB and PenCom. He said the workshop is timely and urged staff to pay attention to the presentations that will be made as he is very sure the grey areas regarding the CPS will be made clear.

In her opening remark, the Ag. Executive Secretary, Kaduna State Pension Bureau, Mrs Esther Ali Baba, said that it is important to know what the CPS entails and it will only be right for all to make up their minds and embrace it as the scheme has

come to stay.

Baba assured participants that the presentations will be very educative and participants will be given the opportunity to ask questions and make observations.

The National Pension Commission team lead, Mr. Edward Ekpenyong, gave an overview of the CPS and said that the scheme centered on entry (contribution) and exit (retirement) of beneficiaries.

Mr. Ekpeyong explained that the old pension scheme-Defined Benefit Scheme (DBS) was marred by weak inefficient structure, poor governance prone to financial malpractices, endless and painful annual physical verification and non-timely payments of benefits hence, the rationale behind the introduction of the CPS.

Though introduced in 2008, the Pension Reform Act was signed into law on the 1st of July, 2014 and it was done to resolve the implementation challenges in the Pension Reform Act of 2004.

He further explained that the CPS allowed workers save, receive retirement benefits as and when due and contribute to the Nigerian economy. It also provides transitional arrangements for both public and private sectors on how to handle the old scheme.

In her presentation, the Ag. Executive Secretary, KSPB, Mrs. Esther Ali Baba explained that in Kaduna state, the Pension Reform Act came into effect on March 1st, 2016. The law repealed the state pension law of 2007 (As amended) and established the CPS.

According to Mrs. Baba, the CPS has among its objectives, a uniform set of rules, regulations and standard for the administration and payment of retirement benefits for the public service of the state.

The scheme in Kaduna is uniform and mandatory, contributory and fully funded, covers both private and public sectors, operates individual savings accounts (RSAs) and has a mandatory life insurance coverage.

Baba said that upon retirement the KSPB enlightens potential retirees on how to access their retirement benefits and ensures accurate and timely payment.

She said that the Kaduna state CPS is not without its own challenges as there are instances of non-payment of 5% of MWB for payment of accrued rights of state employees, non-remittance of employers contribution by some self-funded agencies, inadequate funding for the KSPB to ensure effective service delivery, lack of adequate

knowledge on the workings of the CPS and failure of workers to open RSAs with PFAs.

She advised participants to always bring forth any challenges to the notice of the bureau and acquaint themselves with the Kaduna State Pension Reform Law 2016 to better understand the scheme.

The Representative of the Director Protocol, Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, Alh. Hashimu Danmaifura in his closing remarks thanked the team for taking time to honour the invitation and commended them for the in-depth knowledge they have impacted on participants. He



Mr. Edward Ekpenyong, Team Lead, National Pension Commission, during his presentation at the workshop.

urged all present to take it upon themselves to enlighten others especially in the public service

who are still ignorant on the workings and benefits of the CPS.

Dr. Hadiza Balarabe Sympatizes with Residents of Wusar



Dr. Hadiza Balarabe, Kaduna State Dep. Gov. addressing the residents of Wusar Community, Igabi LGA, during a condolence visit.

The Deputy Governor of Kaduna state, Dr. Hadiza Balarabe has visited Wusar Village, a community in Igabi Local Government Area, which has recently experienced the outbreak of measles that led to the death of some children.

Accompanied by the Chairman of Igabi Local Government, Jabir Kamis and health officials from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Hadiza sympathised with the people of Wusar for the loss and advised them to always ensure their children are immunized.

While assuring them of the government's immediate intervention in tackling the problem, she urged them to ensure that they take sanitation and personal hygiene serious.

El-Rufa'I Urges LGCs to Support SIPCOD

The Kaduna State Governor, Malam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufa'i has called on local government chairmen and their councils across the state to support the Special Intervention Programme on Communal and Societal Development (SIPCOD) and encourage the formation of similar community scheme.

He stated this during the inauguration of SIPCOD Board of Trustees and workshop for BOT members of Community Based Mutual Health Associations at

ASAA Pyramid Hotel, Kaduna.

The Governor said that Kaduna state government is optimistic of interventions like SIPCOD as well as contributory health insurance scheme which provides financial protection and improved access to quality health care for all residents of the state in line with the global vision to attain universal health coverage.

He enjoined the five communities registered by



Gov. El-Rufai while delivering his speech at the BOT inauguration and workshop

SIPCOD based on mutual health association to work for the success of the scheme.

Earlier in her goodwill message, the Deputy Governor, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe described quality health care delivery as a matter of partnership, which guarantees development of the state as such, the need for all stakeholders to join hands to make this initiative a success.

In an interview with the founder of SIPCOD, Hajiya Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed, former Minister of Finance, said that the objective of the scheme is to help in providing health care to the people at the grassroots.

According to her, there are some people that are not able to access health care because of their inability to pay for the services, thus, the contributory scheme will help them access different categories of health care including child care, maternity care and

other treatments to common diseases within our communities.

In a related development, the Kaduna state government has reiterated its commitment to boost health care delivery to its citizens by completing the 300 bed general specialist hospital project that was abandoned for years.

The Deputy Governor, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, while inspecting the site at the millennium city, expressed satisfaction with the level of work.

According to her, the work is expected to be completed within nine months. She further revealed that the government of Malam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufa'i has a plan for a cancer centre in the hospital which is going to be one of the largest cancer treatment centers.



Dr. Hadiza Balarabe, Kaduna State Dep. Gov. inspecting the building of the 300 bed Specialist Hospital at the Millennium City, Kaduna.

Giwa LGC Records Giant Strides



Alh. Abubakar Shehu Giwa, Executive Chairman of Giwa LG addressing the Press

The Executive Chairman, Giwa Local Government Council, Hon. Abubakar Shehu Giwa, has applauded the developmental style of leadership of Governor Nasir Ahmad El-Rufa'I and promised to emulate the governor in order to develop and transform the area.

Shehu Giwa disclosed this to the press in Giwa shortly after the conclusion of a 4- day monitoring of capital projects executed by the local government council within one year of Abubakar Shehu Giwa's administration.

The Chairman expressed his appreciation to the

entire people of Giwa local government, most especially the traditional and community leaders as well as the political class for their understanding and cooperation with his council for the past one year and promised to execute projects that have direct bearing with the people in the rural areas.

He also appreciated the positive, outstanding support and contribution of the Speaker and other members of Giwa Local Government Legislative Council, which motivated him and his council to achieve a lot within this short period in office.

According to the Chairman, while some of the projects are completed, others are at 75 percent level of completion. He promised to do more and leave the local government better than he met it.

On the need to safeguard the projects provided, the Chairman appealed to residents of the area on the need to imbibe the culture of maintaining public infrastructure otherwise it will discourage all levels of government from providing more of such to them. Abubakar Shehu assured the entire people of Giwa that the well-being of the people as well as the progress and development of the area will continue to be given priority attention by his administration. He urged the people to remain law abiding citizens so that meaningful development will be achieved.

Speaking during the tour, the District Head of Fatika, Alh. Nuhu Umar, Kaigaman Zazzau, commended the chairman and expressed happiness over the projects which have brought a sigh of relief to the people, especially the road and electrification



Police Station constructed at Kunfa, Kidandan Ward and furnished by the Giwa LGC.

projects.

In his remarks, the Chairman of APC, Giwa LG, Alh. Ibrahim Musa, commended the chairman and urged the people to support him to succeed in the programs he has put forward to execute.

Some of the Projects executed include; Construction of 1 block of 2 classrooms and office at Jengefe and Tashar Guga in Danmahawayi ward, replacement of transformer at Angwan Babandi and extension of LV line from Angwan Murtala to Angwan Hadari, installation of new transformer at Sada, Sako, Kidandan, Ringim and Tunburku all in Galadimawa ward.

Others are construction of 14.20 Klm feeder road from Hayin Mahauta to Bomawa and construction of block drainage at Layin Office, Gidan Alh. Ya'u, and Giwa main market all in Giwa ward among several others.



Electrification and installation of transformer at Salanka, Shika and Dogon Kawo, Yakawada Ward by the present administration of Giwa LGC.

Nomatech Trains Kaduna Journalists



The Nigeria Union of Journalists, Kaduna State Chapter in partnership with Nomatech Global College of Agriculture, Animal Science and Vocational Studies has graduated students on various skills in a skills acquisition programme.

Declaring the ceremony open, the Chairman of the NUJ, Kaduna State Chapter, Alh. Adamu Yusuf urged journalists to embrace skills acquisition particularly in areas that have to do with agriculture, adding that it is a very great venture.

He further advised beneficiaries not to take what they have learnt for granted but rather, utilise the opportunity.

In his remarks, the CEO, Nomatech Global, Faruk Ahmad, spoke on the agricultural value chain and advised participants not to rely on white collar jobs adding that the poorest person in any society is not that person without money but that without skills.

Also present at the ceremony was the Manager, Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Kaduna Area Office, represented by Dr. Daniel Aselewa Awuga who congratulated the graduands, adding that the



A group photograph of the graduates and participants of the Skills Acquisition training by Nomatech Global College of Agriculture, Animal Science and Vocational Studies

empowerment of a skill acquisition cannot be over emphasized.

According to Awuga, the ITF has implemented so many skill acquisition programmes adding that the graduands should count themselves among the lucky ones.

He added that the world has moved from the era of competition to the era of collaboration and promised to upgrade the certificate of the institution.

NUPENG Ultra-Modern Secretariat to be built in Kaduna



Mr. Idris Samaila Nyam, Commissioner of Business, Innovation and Technology while delivering his speech at the event.

The Kaduna State Government has commended the Nigerian Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas (NUPENG) for choosing Kaduna for its proposed zonal ultra-modern secretariat building.

The Commissioner, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Technology, Mr. Idris Samaila Nyam made the commendation during the ground breaking ceremony for the building in Kaduna.

He said the choice of making Kaduna the location of the edifice is very appropriate owing to the fact that the state is home to a large number of its members due to the presence of the Kaduna refinery and other allied companies.

Mr. Nyam noted that the secretariat will engender better union activities among members as well as open more working relationships with the government and people of the state.

Earlier in his remarks, the National President of NUPENG, Comrade William Akporahé commended Governor El-rufai's leadership qualities and steady strides of progress, transparency and accountability.

He thanked the government and people of Kaduna for their hospitality, adding that the proposed secretariat is a dream comes true.

Highlights of the event were the signing of contract and the presentation of cheque to the contractor.



Mr. Idris Samaila Nyam laying the foundation stone during the ground breaking ceremony.

