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## Yobe SSG inspects Damaturu flyover, underpass project

In a bid to ensure accountability and value for money in government projects, the Secretary to the Yobe State Government, Baba Maikam Wai, has paid an unscheduled inspection visit to the ongoing flyover and underpass project in Damaturu, the state capital.

The SSG expressed satisfaction with the quality and pace of work, describing the project as a landmark investment by Governor Mai Mala Buni's administration to transform the state capital and position Yobe on the path of modern urban development.

He said the inspection was part of deliberate efforts to guarantee



▲second from left, Yobe SSG, Aft. Baba Maikam Wai, while receiving a briefing from the contractor during an unscheduled visit to Damaturu flyover project

that contractors adhere strictly to approved standards, specifications and timelines.

According to him, the Buni administration has consistently insisted on transparency, due process and accountability in all projects to ensure citizens enjoy full value for every naira spent.

Wai further noted that the Damaturu flyover and underpass is one of the governor's bolded infrastructure initiatives conceived to ease traffic congestion, improve road safety, beautify the capital and stimulate economic growth.

'Governor Buni is not only building infrastructure, he is laying the foundation for a

more prosperous Yobe where investments can thrive and residents can live with dignity,' the SSG said.

He urged the contractors to maintain the momentum and deliver the project within schedule, assuring that the government would provide the necessary support to address any challenges that might arise.

Residents present during the inspection lauded Governor Buni's vision, noting that the project is a clear demonstration of his administration's commitment to modernization, accountability and the delivery of quality infrastructure.

## NBS ranks Yobe most affordable state as Buni's agric programme yields results

The bold agricultural reforms of Governor Mai Mala Buni have positioned Yobe State as the most affordable place to live in Nigeria, according to the latest report by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

In its July monthly report, the NBS disclosed that Yobe's general inflation rate dropped from 13.5% to 11.43%, while food inflation also fell significantly from 17.9% to 8.96 to 15.1%

in July making Yobe the state with the lowest cost of living nationwide.

A statement issued by the Director-General, Press Affairs and Media to the Governor, Alh. Mammun Mohammed, said the decline in food prices had been largely attributed to Governor Buni's flagship Agricultural Empowerment Programme, which over the last

two years, engaged thousands of youths in farming, boosted food production and strengthened food security across the state.

Markets across Yobe are now witnessing increased supplies of grains and other farm produce, as farmers offload last year's harvests to witness in the current farming season.

Last year, Governor Buni launched a comprehensive agricultural empowerment

package that included the free distribution of farm machinery, fertilizer and improved seeds to farmers across the 17 local government areas.

The governor has, as a means of consolidating the success, introduced the second phase of the programme this year, empowering more farmers to scale up production.

Farmers in the state have commended the government's

intervention, describing it as a game-changer that has improved agricultural productivity, raised household incomes, and contributed to improved security by productively engaging young people.

They pledged continued support for the government's vision of achieving food efficiency and economic resilience in Yobe State.

## Yobe kicks off sensitisation on FRILIA to attract investors

Yobe State has commenced a week-long sensitization drive on the Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Agriculture (FRILIA), a project designed to promote sustainable farming, safeguard land rights, and attract agricultural investment.

The project, approved by the Nigerian Governors Forum, is also aimed at promoting inclusive and sustainable agricultural practices across the state.

The sensitization programme, spearheaded by the Yobe State Agency for Public-Private Partnership and Investment Promotion (PPPPI), features town hall meetings in Damaturu, Gashua and Potiskum, with participants drawn from all 17 local government areas of the

state.

The campaign, which included consultations with traditional rulers, is further strengthened by radio, television and print media outreach targeting farmers, land owners, women and youths.

Speaking during the launch of the exercise, the PPPPI Director-General and Chairman of the FRILIA Technical Committee, Dr. Allyn Izu Chikoti, said the initiative would protect communities, empower youths and women, create jobs and boost state revenue through inclusive agricultural practices.

Also, the State Focal Person for the Action on Enabling Business Reform, Hapsy Amina Galdama, noted that Yobe has simplified land transactions by introducing online payments publishing acquisition processes openly

and cutting delays in issuing Certificates of Occupancy.

Local government chairmen from Potiskum and Bade praised the sensitization effort and called for deeper stakeholders engagement.

The Emir of Fika and Chairman of the Yobe State Council of Traditional Rulers, Alhaji Dr. Muhammad Abah Din Muhammad Idrisa, also pledged to mobilise traditional institutions and local communities to support the project's success.

The campaign concluded with the distribution of project toolkits to participants, marking a major step towards implementing the FRILIA framework and positioning Yobe as a hub for responsible and inclusive agricultural investment.

## Yobe enrolls 2,550 vulnerable persons into contributory health scheme

As part of efforts to expand access to quality healthcare, the Yobe State Contributory Healthcare Management Agency (YSCHEMA) has enrolled 2,550 poor and vulnerable residents into the state's contributory health scheme under the Primary Health Care (PHC) Support Fund initiative.

The exercise, implemented across all the 17 local government areas, is sponsored by the Yobe State Primary Health Care Board with support from the UNICEF, with a target of 50 beneficiaries per ward, granting them free access to essential healthcare services at designated primary health care facilities.

Speaking at the flag-off, the Executive Secretary of YSCHEMA, Dr. Babu Gana Tijun, said the intervention formed part of the state's drive to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) in line

with Governor Mai Mala Buni's health sector agenda of ensuring affordable and accessible healthcare for all.

Tijun explained that enrollment officers and supervisors had been deployed across the 17 LGAs, with technical backing from the State Primary Health Care Board.

He said the Director of ICT at YSCHEMA, Saleh Ibrahim, was leading the data capture team to ensure seamless coordination of the exercise.

'With this enrollment, beneficiaries will be able to access healthcare services at accredited facilities close to their communities, without financial burden,' Tijun assured.

The PHC Support Fund enrollment is expected to reduce health disparities and improve the living conditions of thousands of vulnerable households across Yobe State.

## Buni executed over 400 rural electrification projects-GM

The Yobe State Rural Electrification Board (REB) says Governor Mai Mala Buni's administration has completed more than 400 electrification projects across the state to expand access to electricity and drive rural development.

The General Manager of the board, Engr. Umara Modupe Goni, disclosed this while briefing newsmen in Damaturu as part of efforts to highlight the administration's strides in the power sector.

He said Governor Buni's rural electrification drive was a deliberate strategy to discourage rural-urban migration by providing social amenities that would make life in villages more attractive.

'When young people have access to electricity and other essential services in their communities, they are more likely to remain, contribute to local development, and stimulate social and economic activities,' the GM noted.

He further raised concerns over the recurring vandalism of power infrastructure, urging security agencies, traditional rulers and local communities to support government efforts in protecting public assets.

Goni stressed that the Buni administration's focus on rural electrification underscored its commitment to inclusive development and the transformation of Yobe's economy through reliable power supply.



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