

PART THREE

GROWING THE PRIVATE SECTOR

CHAPTER ELEVEN

SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW

The State Government has committed heavy resources to provide security in the State and guarantee the safety life and property of the people.

Despite these efforts, however, the level of insecurity in the State is still worrisome. The growing poverty, high rate of unemployment, massive rural-urban migration, and the break-down of societal values are some of the factors responsible for the lawlessness and frequent break down of law and order

The Government has taken several measures to deal with the problem. These include provision of vehicles and communication gadgets to the police command, improved welfare package for judicial officers, provision of infrastructure such as additional court rooms, vehicles etc

The Federal Government Agencies such as NAFDAC, FRSC, Customs, the Prisons, the Armed Forces and Immigrations have been given logistics supports to enhance their effectiveness and efficiency in crime prevention and control.

POLICY THRUST AND OBJECTIVES

Government will increase the level of security in the State to improve the confidence of prospective investors wishing to invest in the State.

The cardinal objectives are to:-

- i Strengthen the economy to reduce unemployment;
- ii Fight corruption and drug abuse
- iii Complement Federal Government efforts in equipping security institutions and Agencies i.e. Judiciary, Police, Prisons, immigration, customs etc.

STRATEGIES

- i. Increase the security vote to enable the State Government provide the needed logistics supports to security institutions
- ii Train and upgrade Judicial support staff, equip Judicial libraries and introduce computers for storing and retrieving data.
- iii. Ensure the Rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.
- iv. Improve the judicial system by eliminating load of pending cases, frequent adjournments and ineffective dispensation of justice.

CHAPTER TWELVE

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

One of the critical components of NEEDS is the improvement of infrastructure such as electricity, road network and potable water.

POLICY THRUST

Government's policy is to develop necessary infrastructure for a dynamic and vibrant business environment in the State.

WATER SUPPLY

Provision of potable water is socially desirable. The availability of the major rivers like the Niger, Benue, Maboro, Osse and Okura as well as the existing dams of Osara, Omi, Ekuku, etc make the process of water development in the State a valued venture. Despite the potential, less than 1 million out of the current 2.8million people that inhabit the State have access to potable water.

POLICY THRUST

The State Government is poised to provide the entire people of the State with potable water within the shortest period. Towards this end, all broken down rural and semi urban water facilities will be rehabilitated while efforts will be made to extend facilities to the communities that still lack potable water.

TARGET

Provision of adequate and affordable potable water to 80% of the State population by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Provision of 500 boreholes (hand pump fitted) to communities across the State annually from 2005 – 2007.
- Provision of surface water to 30 communities across the State.
- Develop and implement a system of quality assurance consistent with WHO standards with hydro-geological mapping and water quality laboratories.
- Reactivate the major dams in the State and other urban water development schemes.
- Partner with LGAs, Community Development Associations, Multi-Nationals and philanthropists in the provision of potable water in the rural areas.
- Solicit increased attention of the Federal Government to the Greater Lokoja Water Project and Omi Dam.

TRANSPORTATION

Efficient transportation system is essential for the socio-economic development of the State. Due to its vantage position, it is important that the State should have good linkages with its neighbours through a well developed road network, river, air and telecommunication facilities.

POLICY THRUST

Government policy is to linkup urban and rural communities with all season's roads and water transportation to enhance the socio-economic development of the State

TARGETS

- Complete the on-going construction of 800 kilometers road networks across the State and embark on new ones by 2006.
- Mount pressure on the Federal Government to execute Lokoja and Idah river ports as well as the dredging of the river Niger by 2008.
- Construct a bridge across river Niger to link Lokoja with Shintaku and across river Benue with the Federal Capital Territory by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Establishment of a State Road Maintenance Agency to undertake the rehabilitation and maintenance of State roads.
- Make regular contacts with the appropriate federal authorities for the construction/ rehabilitation and maintenance of the federal roads and inland water transportation services.
- Mount pressure on the Federal Government for the actualization of the Abuja-Lokoja-Okene road dualization, Shintaku-Lokoja and Bagana-Federal Capital Territory bridges.
- Collaborate with multinational companies working in Kogi State to support road construction and maintenance.
- Sensitize road transport workers on the dangers of HIV/AIDS.

ENERGY.

Power supply in Kogi State is generally unsatisfactory and has, therefore, adversely affected production process. The Eastern part of the State is worst hit.

POLICY THRUST

The policy of Government is to complement the efforts of the Federal Government in the provision of electricity supply to stimulate economic activities and attract investment to the State.

TARGET

Ensure that 70% of the citizens of the State enjoys electricity by 2007

STRATEGIES

- Press for extension of electricity to Lokoja to boost power supply in the State capital and its environs.

- Push for the provision of 132kv capacity to serve the Eastern part of the State.
- Provision of electricity to the rural communities will be intensified.
- Establish a special security outfit to protect power installations
- Partner with Obajana Cement Company to boost power supply in the State.
- The concept of Hydro Electricity Producing Development Communities (HYPDEC) will be revisited and the idea pursued to boost economic development of the region

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

1.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

Agriculture is the most significant economic activity in Kogi State. The climatic conditions and vegetation favour production of cash and root crops as well as cereals. The numerous rivers in the State hold great potentials for fishing and fish farming. However, despite the potential, the average yield per farmer is still low due to many restrictions associated with lack of or inadequate farm inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, storage facilities, micro credits, impact of HIV/AIDS etc. The poor state of livestock, poultry and fish production has resulted in poor intake of animal protein, far lower than WHO recommendation of 3.6gm/day. There are about 38 forest reserves covering an estimated land area of 5402.6km. These reserves are rich in Timber resources but are being depleted indiscriminately due to lack of appropriate policies to check illegal logging.

POLICY THRUST

KOSEEDS will accord agriculture its deserved attention to ensure food security in the State.

TARGETS

- Provision of 500 tractors to farmers across the State by 2007.
- Develop and implement a scheme of land preparation to increase cultivable land by 10% each year.
- Purchase of at least 5,000 tons of assorted fertilizers each year sale to farmers at subsidized rates.
- Establish a Rice Mill in the State by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Establish nurseries at strategic location
- Provide inputs such as improved seedlings, fertilizers, herbicides, fungicides, pesticides and tractors etc to farmers in the State.
- Provision of micro credits to farmers to boost production
- Provide support to farmer's cooperative society to boost production.
- Encourage public-private partnership to provide basic agricultural tools e.g. tractors, harvesters, threshers etc to the burden of farmers.
- Revive Strategic Grain Reserves and Silos to buy off surplus for resale at lean period to stabilize prices.
- Strengthen the State Agricultural Trust Fund to discharge its responsibility to farmers.
- Agricultural Science will be made compulsory at the Secondary School level.
- Fadama farming will be intensified in the State.

LIVESTOCK

POLICY THRUST

Government will encourage the production of poultry, pigs, sheep and cattle to improve animal protein intake of the people.

TARGETS

- Increase beef yield from 125kg to 175kg/beef cattle and milk yield from 2 litres to 25- litres /dairy cow/day by 2007.
 - Increase poultry number by 50% and sheep and goats by 40% by 2007
 - Establishment of one modern abattoir in Lokoja by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Completion of demonstration and multiplication centres for poultry, sheep and pigs.
- Provision of incentives to ensure private sector participation in livestock production.
- Development of grazing reserves to facilitate settlement of pastoralists.
- Rehabilitation of broken down poultry and hatchery facilities in the State.
- Provision of essential drugs to control livestock diseases.
- Improve the facilities in the existing slaughter slabs in the LGAs.

FORESTRY

POLICY THRUST

- Re- generation and protection of the State forests for sustainable development
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TARGETS

- The 36 forests reserves will be re-surveyed and their maps updated by 2007.
- Two hundred (200) farm families will be assisted to establish honey production farms by 2007.
- 1,002,000 seedlings will be raised and 600 hectares of plantation established by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Procurement of survey equipment and tools to map and demarcate the forest reserves in the State.
- Sensitization of the people on the economic and food value of Honey.
- Passage of a Bill to regulate forest exploitation, reduce environmental degradation and embark on re-afforestation.

FISHERY

POLICY THRUST

Government will ensure that the vast reserve of water in the State is optimally utilized in fish production.

TARGETS

- Raise production of fish by 20% annually from 2005-2007.
- Complete the 2 fish hatcheries at Aiyetoro-Gbede and Ochaja by 2007.
- Construct fishponds in 3 villages in each LGA of the State by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Credit facilities to be provided to genuine fishermen and women in the State.
- Education programme to be given on best practices of harvesting, storage and marketing of fish.
- Stock/restock Aiyetoro-Gbede and Ochaja fish hatcheries as well as stock the dams and the major rivers in the State.
- Partner with Donor Agencies in the development of fishery sub-sector.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

INDUSTRY AND SMEs

Industrialization , in particular vibrant SMEs, has become synonymous with modern successful economies. In Kogi State, a well developed SMEs will generate employment, revenue and wealth. The failure of this sector has, no doubt, contributed to the break down in the societal value system. This is because the critical question of what to do for a living are found unimaginably more in SMEs than other sectors. The problems impeding the sector have been largely that of infrastructure, modern technology and organization. In the past few years, Government has intensified the provision of infrastructure and reasonable efforts have also been made, generally, to improve the working environment. In effect, there has been influx of banks and industries are also emerging while the security situation has significantly improved. All these are already beginning to stimulate the industrial activities in the State.

POLICY THRUST

Government will create the enabling environment for the development of SMEs and encourage SMEs Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

TARGETS

- Conduct a comprehensive study of the informal and SMEs sub-sectors to produce an implementable strategy for their development by 2006.
- Develop seven industrial layouts by 2008.
- Establish at least ten-cottage /small scale industries per LG annually from 2005 to 2007.
- Create employment opportunities for at least 2100 citizens annually, through the 210 cottage industries.
- Embark on the re-structuring and privatization of ailing State owned enterprises by 2007.
- Undertake a legal review of the Kogi State Small Scale Industries Loans Scheme Decree 10 of 1994 to make it more responsive to the needs of the citizens by 2006.

STRATEGIES

- Government will partner with donor agencies to study the informal and SMES Sub-sectors.
- Undertake the development of well-serviced industrial layouts across the three senatorial districts.
- Encourage private sector participation in the establishment of SMEs.
- Encourage and lobby the Federal Government for the speedy completion and commissioning of Ajaokuta Steel Company.
- Collaborate and liaise with Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Nigerian Investment Promotion Council (NIPC) and other relevant Federal Government Agencies to establish Industrial clusters/parks as well as Export Production Village in Kogi State.

- Provide SMES operators, including women, with access to technology, land finance, markets and modern management techniques as a means of improving their economic participation.
- Undertake a comprehensive review of the incentives structure and tax regimes to support a business investment and export –oriented SMEs by 2007.

SOLID MINERALS

POLICY THRUST

Government will create the necessary environment for the development of the State's solid mineral sector for rapid industrialization of the State.

TARGETS

- Government will establish a solid Mineral Display Centre in Lokoja by 2007.
- A comprehensive geological map of solid mineral deposits in the State will be produced by 2007

STRATEGIES

- Collaborate with the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) to establish a Solid Mineral Display Centre in the State.
- Detail geological studies of all the solid minerals deposits in the State will be carried out.
- Private sector investment will be stimulated through appropriate incentives.
- Facilitate access to BOI and SMEIES for financial support to mining business.
- Collaborate with the Federal Government in ensuring compliance with mining regulations.

POLICY THRUST

The policy objective is to create the enabling environment and attract local and foreign investments to the tourism industry.

TARGETS

- Raise private sector participation in tourism development from the current level 0% to 20% by year 2007.
- An ultra modern 5-Star Hotel to be built on Mount Patti, with panoramic view of Niger-Benue confluence and neighboring towns e.g. Ajaokuta and other attractions by the year 2008.
- The development of Itope Beach to be marked upon by 2007.

STRATEGIES

- Facilitation of easy access to land by the private sector for tourism development.
- Establishment of a State Tourism Trust Fund to enhance the development and funding of basic tourism infrastructure.
- Generation of adequate marketing strategies to boost activities in tourism industry.
- Participation in exhibitions on culture and tourism at home and abroad.

- Registration and licensing of all tourism accommodation and operators within the set standards contained in the National Tourism Policy.
- Encouragement of Local Governments to develop tourism in their localities.
- Beautification and provision of re-creational parks, State wide.
- Staging bi-annual cultural festivals to showcase the rich culture of the people of the State.

