

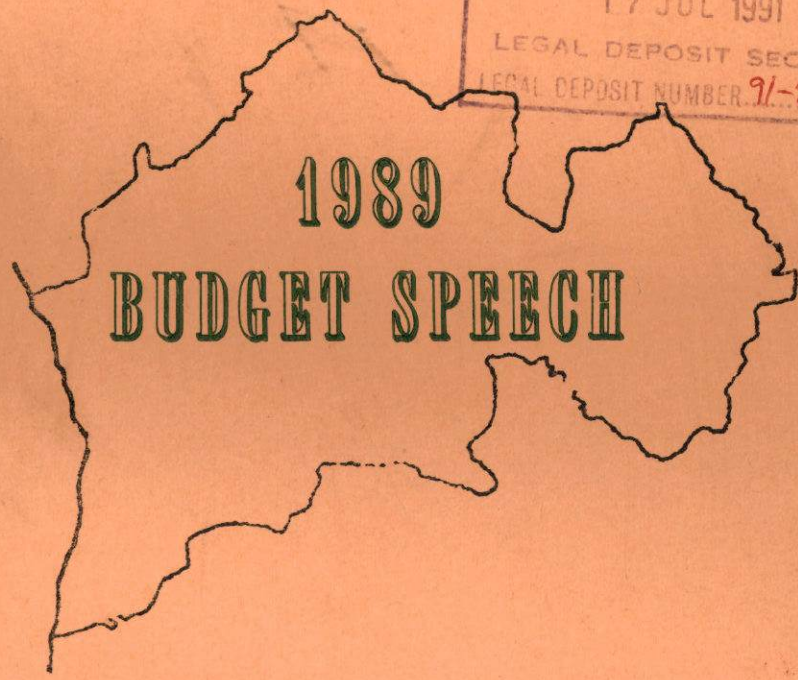
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by

COL ROBERT NNAEMEKA AKONOBİ

Military Governor of Anambra State of Nigeria

FRIDAY 6 JANUARY, 1989

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1989 BUDGET SPEECH BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
ANAMBRA
COLONEL **BUDGET SPEECH** GOVERNOR

Fellow Citizens,

I am happy to address you tonight on the 1989 Budget of the Anambra State Government. In my maiden budget speech, I presented to you a **BUDGET OF HOPE** in which I outlined our programme of activities for the 1988 fiscal year. That Budget which came at the peak of the determined effort of the Federal Military Government to restructure the economy was in consonance with the Structural Adjustment Programme.

Colonel Robert Nnaemeka Akonobi

Military Governor of Anambra State

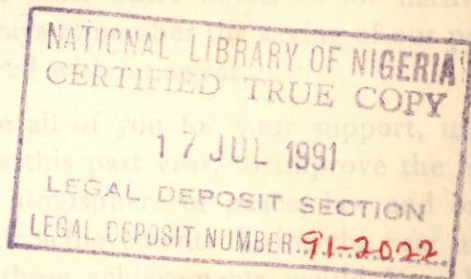
The benefits of the economic restructuring programme are only slowly unfolding. However, we must brace ourselves for hardwork, resilience, steadfastness, and always remember that nothing great can be achieved without the support of the people.

Indeed I most congratulate all of you for your support, understanding and faith in our efforts to improve the living conditions of our people in an order. It was this support that made our review less difficult. Certainly these achievements would have been much more difficult if we had not been able to overcome traumas such as natural disasters, especially malaria, erosion and landslides; flood and the rice pest which devastated our farms.

I am very pleased that we came through these traumas and that on balance we had a successful year; a year in which very real foundations of hope were laid and notable achievements made in line with our overall strategy of Rural Development and the improvement of the quality of life.

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We shall continue in 1989 to build on these foundations designed to raise the quality of life and level of production in the state, and bring the rural areas into mainstream development.



**1989 BUDGET SPEECH BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
ANAMBRA STATE BY THE MILITARY GOVERNOR
COLONEL ROBERT NNAEMEKA AKONOBİ**

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I am happy to address you tonight on the 1989 Budget of the Anambra State Government. In my maiden budget speech, I presented to you a BUDGET OF HOPE in which I outlined our programme of activities for the 1988 fiscal year. That Budget, which came at the peak of the determined effort of the Federal Military Government to restructure the economy was in consonance with the Structural Adjustment Programme.

The benefits of this economic restructuring programme are only slowly unfolding. However, we must brace ourselves for hardwork, resilience, steadfastness, and always remember the saying of our people that nothing great can be achieved without sweat.

Indeed I must congratulate all of you for your support, understanding and faith in our efforts this past year, to improve the living conditions of our people in an atmosphere of peace, law and order. It was this support that made our achievements during the year under review less difficult. Certainly these achievements would have been much more difficult in the face of internal traumas such as natural disasters, especially massive erosion and landslides; flood and the rice pest which devastated our farms.

I am very pleased that we came through these traumas and that on balance we had a successful year; a year in which very real foundations of hope were laid and notable achievements made in line with our overall strategy of Rural Development and the improvement of the quality of life in the rural areas.

We shall continue in 1989 to build on these foundations designed to raise the quality of life and level of production in this state, and bring the rural areas into mainstream development.

12-11/81

USE

You may recall that in the 1988 fiscal year, we budgeted a total sum of N584.62 million for our recurrent expenditure and N371.73 million for our capital expenditure. That budget was predicated on our ability to generate and collect N139.8 million internally. However, for the period up to 30th September, 1988, our internally generated revenue amounted to N99.93 million. This was below the revenue realized for the corresponding period in 1987 which stood at N114.3 million, and represented a shortfall of 12.5 per cent.

This shortfall has had an adverse effect on our overall Budget performance in 1988. If we are to improve on this performance, and we must, then serious efforts shall be made by all the appropriate organs of government, with the active co-operation of all our citizens, to improve on our ability to generate and collect revenue.

Let me briefly review, sector by sector, the objectives and achievements of the 1988 Budget.

1.

AGRICULTURE

In 1988, our efforts were primarily directed towards the improvement of the productivity and efficiency of the small holder farmer, as well as attracting the youth (*educated and otherwise*) towards *productive and lucrative farming*.

To this end the State Government consolidated and expanded its support for Agricultural Development Project (A.D.P.); the Village Adoption Scheme; initiated an effective Grains Production Programme; and reorganized Palm Development into small-holder schemes for better management. There was also a marked improvement in the availability of farm inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizer and pesticides.

Government is pleased at the inflow of capital into farming via the Village Adoption Scheme. In 1988, a total of 4,600 small holder farmers in thirty-eight rural agricultural communities were adopted by eleven Commercial Banks, Agricultural Credit Institutions and some private entrepreneurs for grains and root crops production. A sum of about N3 million was involved. Thus the Village Adoption Scheme has

initiated the much desired participation of the private sector in agriculture and through it, the integrated development of our rural communities. It is the desire of Government that more commercial houses and financial institutions as well as private investors should join hands with the Government in this noble scheme.

Government is determined to restore palm-produce to its pre-eminence in the state, and is pleased that through the efforts of the Palm Development Committee, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Anambra State has been admitted into the Federal Government's Small-Holder Palm Management Programme. Over 750,000 improved new palm varieties were transplanted in 1988 and 1 (one) million new seedlings were established in nurseries all over the state.

Much emphasis was placed on grains production especially rice, in the 1988 fiscal year in a determined move to improve our food supply situation. Indeed under this scheme sorghum was successfully grown in Anambra State for the first time. It is regrettable that floods and rice pests in the main food producing zones of Anambra State, have undermined these efforts. But for these disasters, our food supply situation would have recorded a remarkable improvement. Government is however not daunted by these disasters and will continue to direct its efforts not only towards increasing food supply as a goal, but also to achieve this at affordable prices.

2. MANUFACTURING AND CRAFTS

Government believes strongly in rural industrialization as a necessary complement to increase agricultural production, and the pathway for a rapid development of our rural areas. Accordingly in 1988, the emphasis was to create a proper climate for rural small and medium-scale industries to spring up by providing appropriate infrastructure.

In addition, a high-powered Seminar/Workshop on Industrial Revolution in Anambra State was organized and executed, resulting in tremendous impact and mobilization of entrepreneurs towards

the need for the establishment of medium and small-scale industries in the state. Soon after this Seminar we commissioned and produced an Industrial Master-plan for Anambra State. This envisages the establishment of industrial estates in the various Local Government Areas. Already as part of the master-plan, two industrial estates in Enugu and Onitsha are nearing completion.

Government is aware of the critical role of the capital goods sector in the successful implementation of its industrialization programme. It has therefore vigorously pursued the rehabilitation of the Nigerteel Plant at Emene and the completion of the Metallurgical and Machine Tools Company, Ozubulu. To this end, a down payment of ₦14.6 million has been made in respect of the ₦105 million contract for Nigerteel; while ₦10.5 million was released to facilitate the delivery of machinery at Ozubulu.

Within the year under consideration, the Volunteer Service Scheme which is designed to impart necessary skills, and techniques to our unemployed youths and thereafter direct them towards meaningful self-employment was reorganized for greater effectiveness transferred directly to the Office of the Military Governor, and given necessary impetus for greater achievements. Its role in creating productive self-employment and self-reliance in our youths increased during the year.

Some of our industries and commercial ventures have made notable achievements during the year. The Anambra State Vegetable Oil Products Limited (A.V.O.P.) commenced its oil production early in the year under review and will soon commission its soap and baker's fat production projects.

The privatization of the revitalized Premier Breweries Limited has also become a reality.

The Anambra State Aluminium Products Factory at Ohebe-Dim and the Nigerian Mineral Waters Industries at Onitsha have, within this period, received Government support, by way of increased funding, recapitalization, reactivation and rejuvenation.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

The year witnessed the commissioning of the multi-million naira and ultra-modern Nike Lake Resort Hotel. To facilitate the use of

this and other hotel facilities in the state, the State Tourism Committee was commissioned. It has since produced a Master-plan for Tourism Development in Anambra State. As part of the master-plan, Government has completed a design to turn Agulu Lake into an impressive tourist haven in this State.

The State-owned Orient Bank has continued to make satisfactory progress. It has successfully opened two (2) new branches at Onitsha and Lagos; while the Central Investment Company Limited has opened two new brokerage firms—the Tower Brokers, and the Apex Securities.

In the co-operative subsector, 291 more co-operative societies were registered in 1988 as a further step towards the mobilization of rural communities for economic development. This remarkable achievement resulted in a large measure from the efforts of Anambra State Committee on "Better Life for Rural Women" that has relentlessly striven to organize women co-operatives. In this regard we congratulate the rural women of Anambra State and their leaders for their efforts, and for accolades they won at the first Trade Fair for Better Life for Rural Women held in Lagos.

3. PROVISION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

(i) Roads

Our strategy in road development has been to make life more meaningful for the rural dwellers, and to facilitate the movement of agricultural produce between rural and urban communities. We have worked hand in hand with DFRRI; Local Governments and Rural Communities to achieve what, in my view, has opened up a new era in road network in Anambra State. As a result of our efforts, 1988 witnessed the completion and rehabilitation of well over 2,000 kilometres of roads in the state under the programmes referred to above.

In addition, we have awarded contracts totalling ₦80 million for the construction of 142 kilometres of roads in different parts of the State. It is a source of pride to me to declare that all communities in Anambra State have witnessed the impact of this new era of road network.

For example in the capital city of Enugu, the IBB Airport Link Road with two flyovers, the Obiagu to Okwuosa Street Link Road in Ogui and the Akwata area of Ogbete stand out as new landmarks.

At Nsukka, the popular Enugu Road is being expanded to a dual carriageway; at Abakaliki, the old road linking the town to the new Enugu Road has been completed and the Awka impossible by-pass is now fully rehabilitated.

(ii) Transportation

In line with the impetus which the Federal Military Government has given to the seemingly intractable problem of mass transportation of our people, we have been able to establish the Anambra State Transport Corporation (TRACAS) to facilitate the movement of our people between rural and urban communities. At present TRACAS, which now has twenty seven buses, operates regular trips between Enugu and various towns in the State.

(iii) Water-supply

Our commitment to a programme of good and regular supply of clean water to all communities in Anambra State is deep and abiding. We strongly believe that good and clean water is a *sine qua non* for good health, and meaningful development. Indeed, Anambra State is about the first State to prepare a comprehensive Sector Memorandum on Rural Water-supplies, with the aid of the World Bank. Our programme of rural potable water-supply has continued unabated, with the installation of bore-holes, pipelines and the provision of storage facilities in different parts of the state.

Work on the Onitsha and Enugu Urban Water-supply Schemes have also been stepped up, and the relocation of pipelines in Nsukka has commenced in earnest. The State Rural Water-supply Programme has received a tremendous boost from our Guinea Worm Eradication programme.

(iv) Rural Electrification

Government is fully aware that, for its programme on rural industrialization and development to succeed, electricity must be within reach. It therefore intensified efforts at electrifying our rural communities within the year under review. As a result, 100 out of the 117 towns under Phase I of this programme has been completed. It is worthy of note that forty-eight towns have been energized.

Government has also completed the design for Phase II of the programme and hopes to secure a supporting loan soon from the African Development Bank in order to start work on this phase. Already, the Bank's appraisal mission to the state has completed its work.

Government's commitment to this scheme will ensure that in no distant future all communities in the state will be energized.

4.

HEALTH

In the Health Sector, efforts were geared, in 1988, towards improving medical and health facilities in the rural areas where the majority of the populace live. There is now an ultra-modern comprehensive health centre in each of the twenty-three Local Government Areas to complement the thirty two existing General Hospitals. Each of the Comprehensive Health Centres was constructed and equipped at the cost of ₦7 million. Our active participation in the National Immunization Days resulted in immunizing a total of 1,002,488 children, thus raising the percentage of children immunized in the state, from twenty-seven per cent. to sixty-two per cent.

Other achievements in 1988 in the Health Sector include the completion of the ₦60 million ultra-modern 200-bed Specialist Hospital in Abakaliki; and the completion of College of Nursing and Midwifery at Nkpor. Work has also started on a Disease Surveillance Centre to monitor levels of communicable diseases such as yellow fever with a view to forestalling occurrence of epidemics.

We have recorded major breakthroughs in our guinea-worm eradication programme through the sustained action of the Task Force. The prevalence of this scourge has now been reduced by over fifty per cent. and we are confident that it will be totally eliminated before 1992. Let me thank the Federal Military Government, and several international agencies that have assisted the state in this campaign. We must single out the Japanese International Co-operation Agency (J.I.C.A.); the UNICEF; Rotary Foundation, and Global 2,000 for special mention.

Also, in 1988, work started on an Ultra-Modern Diagnostic Centre and a Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Factory. The manufacture of drugs would ensure steady supply of safe drugs and medicaments to our hospitals and health centres and eliminate the fake drugs and out-of-stock syndrome.

5. EDUCATION

Education remains the most important "industry" in Anambra State and in recognition of this, Government has continued to ensure that the most conducive conditions exist for it to thrive. In 1988 Government extended free primary education to the Primary 2 class, in order to lighten the burden of school fees to parents and guardians. Government also employed 4,500 additional primary school teachers. These moves, no doubt, helped to raise our primary school enrolment from 238,000 in 1987 to over 300,000 in 1988, as well as improve the quality of classroom teaching.

Government is committed to academic excellence and has instituted rewards for excellent performance in the Common Entrance Examination to post-primary schools, at State and Local Government levels. Government has also reviewed the system of admission into post-primary schools in the state, with strict emphasis on merit and performance.

In our tertiary institutions, the provision of infrastructural facilities and equipment have continued to improve. During the year, our tertiary institutions received a total of ₦11.5 million for both infrastructural development, and for the purchase of equipment. Anambra State Polytechnic, Oko and the Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu have as a result of our efforts, earned accreditation for most of their courses.

6. INFORMATION, YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE

Communication is an important tool for development and for the eradication of ignorance. Our State information Services continued to provide communication services and the dissemination of information on Government's new programme to all communities, especially in the rural areas. Special reports and broadcasts have been developed by the Print and Electronic Media specifically for our rural communities.

To increase the effectiveness of these services, the A.B.S./F.M. Stereo Radio III Station were completed and commissioned in 1988.

To improve sporting facilities for our sports-loving people, Government has completed the first phase of F.I.F.A. requirements to bring Nnamdi Azikiwe Stadium to international standards. Construction work on a new and ultra-modern Gymnasium and a Cultural/Arts Theatre is now at an advanced stage of completion.

The 1988 Mmanwu Festival was magnificent and a success as it yielded profits. It attracted wide national and international attention and showed the great potential of this festival as a major tourism activity. I congratulate all communities, local governments and indeed, all our citizens on this unique annual event that is fast acquiring international stature.

7. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Much attention was given, in 1988, to the provision of institutional and administrative support that will enhance the efficiency and productivity of government machinery. The new Secretariat Complex at the Military Governor's Office was completed and occupied in the year.

The sum of ₦2.95 million was spent in the modernization, repair and maintenance of offices and residential buildings, and all preliminaries have been completed for the establishment of liaison office at Abuja.

Government, as a measure of its profound commitment to the welfare of workers during the year instituted a limited vehicles refurbishing loan scheme of ₦1 million for Public Servants. Government is pleased with the execution of this scheme and the judicious application of the loans. Government also attended fully to 518 of the 589 pension applications submitted to it.

In keeping with the Federal Government determination to reorganize the Civil Service, a Task Force on the Implementation of the New Civil Service Reform in the State has done considerable work in rationalizing the state civil service for increased efficiency and productivity. Whatever remains of its task will be completed in the new year.

CONCLUDING REMARKS ON THE 1988 BUDGET

I have given this brief review of the implementation of our 1988 programme, to permit a fuller appreciation of the 1989 Budget. It is easy to see from this review that the greater part of our achievements are in the nature of laying the foundation for a sustainable economic recovery of Anambra State, in the context of the Structural Adjustment Programme. As a Budget of Hope, the 1988 Budget sought to set the stage and lay the foundations for the development of Anambra State, especially the rural areas.

The fruits of some of the 1988 projects shall be expected in the new year. Even then the foundations will continue to be expanded and consolidated. We believe that when the level of rural production is elevated through increased agricultural activities, and establishment of viable rural-based medical and small-scale industries, the enhanced rural economy will be in a position to finance improvements in social services.

We have also been within the year, how unforeseen natural disasters can adversely affect Budget implementation. We have also appreciated the vital role that popular support of programmes plays in the successful execution of every Budget. We have therefore noted the need to adequately provide for positive responses to unforeseen events and cushioning of disasters.

It is against this background that we now embark on the next stage "THE 1989 BUDGET" with greater confidence that once again I can count on your total support and co-operation.

1989 BUDGET

In preparing the 1989 Budget, this Administration has been guided by the following policy objectives:

- (1) To promote industrial and agricultural production for self-sufficiency and export.
- (2) To mitigate our unemployment situation and to encourage self-employment.

- (3) To continue to improve life in our rural communities by ensuring a continued provision of rural core-infrastructure like roads, water, electricity supply for the upgrading of rural productivity and output.
- (4) To provide shelter to all citizens at affordable costs through a well articulated low-cost public housing scheme and co-operatives.
- (5) To extend modern health-care to remote inaccessible communities, and to eradicate serious endemic infectious diseases by mass health campaign.
- (6) To improve all levels of education, formal and informal.
- (7) To create the awareness among the citizenry of our developmental needs and government policies through an effective information network.
- (8) To ensure a safe and peaceful society as a necessary requirement for the optimization of development and productivity.

Towards the realization of the above objectives, projects and programmes were carefully selected for inclusion in the 1989 capital and recurrent budgets.

THE RECURRENT REVENUE ESTIMATES

For the year 1989 a total revenue of ₦637.16 million is anticipated. The breakdown of this is as follows:—

				(million)
(i)	Internal sources	..	..	160.96
(ii)	Federation Account	..	..	476.20
	Total	..	..	₦637.16

The expected internally generated revenue of ₦160.96 million for the year shows an increase of ₦21.14 million over the figure of ₦139.82 million for the 1988 Financial Year. Similarly, the expected revenue from the Federation Account shows an increase of ₦31.46 million over that of 1988.

RECURRENT EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

The projected recurrent expenditure for 1989 financial year excluding transfer to Capital Development Fund is ₦523.42 million. When compared with 1988 figure the 1989 estimates shows an increase of ₦102.02 million or 19.07 per cent.

The estimated recurrent expenditure including transfer to Capital Development Fund and the Stabilization Fund is made up as follows:—

	N (million)
(a) Personnel Costs	253.94
(b) Overhead Costs	143.47
(c) Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges	126.01
(d) Stabilization Fund	63.71
(e) Transfer to Capital Development Fund	50.03
Total	<u>₦637.16</u>

Noteworthy is the rather high proportion of the Recurrent Estimates set aside for Personnel Costs (approximately 40 per cent). This 1989 Personnel Costs which is also higher than the 1988 Personnel Costs has resulted largely from measures taken by Government to reduce the unemployment situation in Anambra State.

Also noteworthy is the decline of ₦113.16 million in the Transfer to Capital Development Fund. This massive reduction in Capital Development Fund is the result of the need to provide for a Stabilization Fund and, for Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges for the repayment of our due loans. The implication of this, is that Government shall not be in a position to take on many new capital projects this fiscal year. We shall therefore focus attention on consolidating the gains made in 1988.

CAPITAL RECEIPTS

The anticipated Capital Receipts for 1989 is ₦329.29 million. This includes ₦88.43 million expected to be transferred from Consolidated Revenue Fund. Other Capital Receipts are expected to be sourced as follows:—

	N (million)
(a) Internal Loans	8.53
(b) External Loans	11.00
(c) Grants	9.75
(d) Miscellaneous	118.40
Total	₦236.11

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

The Capital Expenditure for 1989 is estimated at ₦236.11 million. The breakdown of the allocations to capital projects and different sectors shall be presented by the Commissioner for Finance and Economic Planning.

In arriving at the distribution, care was taken to:—

- provide sufficient funds for realizing projects which are nearing completion; and
- ensure that foreign-loan assisted projects have adequate counterpart funding as required by the terms of agreement for such loans.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1989 BUDGET

Agriculture

A sum of ₦25.42 million has been allocated to this Sector during this financial year. Government is determined to bring more land under cultivation and to encourage massive production of food and cash crops.

A sum of ₦4.00 million has been set aside for small-holder oil-palm development and processing; while ₦13.00 million has been provided for the Agricultural Development Project (A.D.P.).

Food processing and preservation shall be encouraged especially at the primary level, and a sum of ₦1.00 million has been allocated for this under the auspices of the Better Life for Rural Women Programme.

Manufacturing and Crafts

One of the major objectives of this Administration is the completion and commercialization of all ongoing medium and small-scale manufacturing industries as well as starting and completing few new ones. To this effect the sum of ₦21.35 million has been set aside for projects under the manufacturing and crafts sector. Of this amount ₦7.00 million will be spent on the revitalization of primary processing industries, while the sum of ₦1.00 million will be spent on the rehabilitation of some State-owned ailing industries billed for privatization.

Land Transport (Roads)

A provision of almost ₦32.80 million has been made in this Budget for roads and transportation. This will enable Government to complete the spill over road projects from last year's estimate as well as embark on new ones. These roads include:—

- (a) The Ukehe-Aku-Nkpologwu Road.
- (b) The Ossomala-Ogwu-Ikpele-Akili Road.
- (c) The Enugwu-Ukwu-Nimo-Ichida Road.
- (d) The 56 kilometres Ninth Mile Corner-Olo-Omor Road.
- (e) The Achi-Inyi-Ufuma Road.
- (f) Construction of permanent bridge, flyover bridge and access roads at Trans-Ekulu, in Enugu; and
- (g) Construction of a permanent concrete bridge across Anambra River.

Transportation

It is expected that with improved cash flow, more vehicles will be procured to beef up the present fleet of twenty-seven buses, cars and pick-up vans being used by the Anambra State Transport Corporation (TRACAS) under the Mass Transit programme. This is part of our continuing effort to help alleviate the transportation problems of our people both in rural and urban communities.

Government will also systematically encourage private sector participation in the operations of the Mass Transit Scheme in order to ensure its viability and self-sustained success.

Water-supply

The sum of ₦15.66 million has been provided for massive water-supply in this year's budget. This will enable the Rural Development Authority (R.D.A.) and the State Water Corporation to intensify their efforts toward improved water-supply to our rural and urban communities.

Health

In pursuance of our health policy which is guided by the proverbial statement that a healthy mind exists in a healthy body and that development depends on both, Government has provided ₦27.46 million for the health sector in the 1989 financial year.

Our approach shall be both curative and preventive, but with emphasis on preventive and primary health care. To this end, Government shall ensure the efficient operation of its hospitals system supported by an effective Mobile Doctor Service; we shall endeavour to raise the immunization coverage of our people, especially the children against preventable and deadly endemic diseases.

Education

Government has made the budgetary allocation for the education sector, in such a way, as to enable it achieve our objective of ensuring a balanced and functional education in the state.

We have, therefore, set aside the sum of ₦26.02 million for this sector in this 1989 Budget. This will, no doubt, enable us to provide science equipment to all schools in the State. It will also help government to construct new classrooms in order to decongest our urban schools and rationalize the State School System to make our schools more viable.

Information, Social Development, Youth, Sports and Culture

An allocation of ₦9.05 million has been made to this sector, to mobilize and create awareness in the public, especially the rural population, of our developmental needs and thus help them keep in close and constant touch with Government activities.

We shall furthermore use recreation, sports and other activities that discipline the mind to ensure the physical and emotional growth and balance in our youth.

General Administration

Government has provided the sum of ₦25.05 million in the 1989 Budget in order to ensure the continued efficiency and productivity of the State Administrative Machinery. Of this amount, the sum of ₦1.00 million has been set aside for the operation of the State Housing Loan Scheme. Also the sum of ₦1.00 million has been provided for the refurbishing of the old government residential quarters.

It is hoped that more workers will benefit from the Vehicles Refurbishing Loan Scheme to which we are making a further grant of ₦1.5 million to widen its scope.

Conclusion

Fellow citizens of Anambra State, what I have said so far represents the highlights and substance of the 1989 Budget. The Commissioner for Finance and Economic Planning will, at a later date, give you more details, especially in the area of the involvement of the various sectors in the execution of the budget proposals.

You will all agree that the task ahead (that of enhancing the quality of life of our people) is not an easy one. It calls for commitment, hard-work and concerted action from all of us. Such concerted action and commitment are required at the Community, Local Government and State levels.

We are standing on a threshold of success in our collected effort to improve our living condition, a threshold that portends healthy growth and prosperity, inspite of present difficulties. This means that in order to achieve the success and prosperity envisaged by this budget, your co-operation and commitment must be total. Our chances of overcoming any difficulties are high. My experience this past year encourages me to be confident that I can count on your co-operation and support. Let us therefore resolve, as we embark on the programmes for the 1989 financial year, that it is only through our own efforts and goodwill amongst us that we can attain these high objectives that we have set for ourselves.

May God guide and bless us in these undertakings.

Thank you.

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