1993 BUDGET ADDRESS

to

Delta State House of Assembly

By

Olorogun Felix Ovuodoroye Ibru

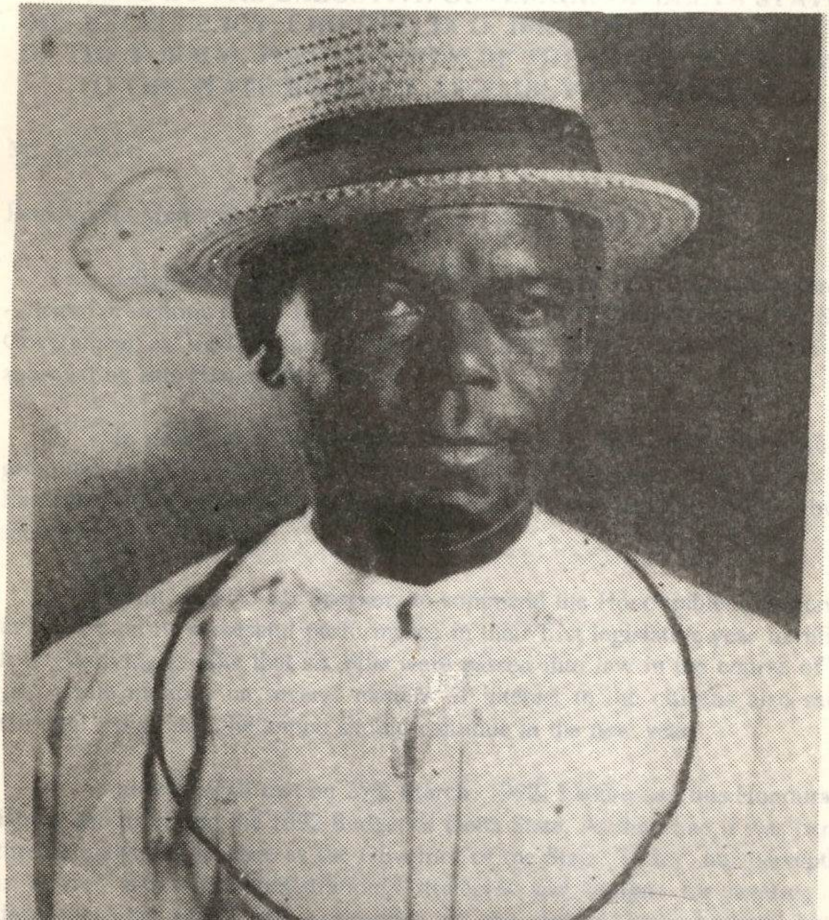
Executive Governor

of

Delta State, Nigeria

1993 Budget Address

By
His Excellency
OLOROGUN FELIX OVUODOROYE IBRU
Executive Governor, Delta State



His Excellency
Olorogun Felix Ovuodoroye Ibru
Executive Governor of Delta State

ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF DELTA STATE, HIS EXCELLENCY, CHIEF FELIX O. IBRU, ON THE OCCASION OF THE FORMAL PRESENTATION OF THE STATE 1993 BUDGET TO THE STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ON THURSDAY, 7TH JANUARY, 1993

Mr Speaker,

Honourable Members of Delta State House of Assembly,

I am delighted to be here once again to perform a very important exercise —that of presenting to this Honourable House the 1993 Draft Budget of the State Government as well as the Appropriation Bill, 1993 for consideration and approval by this Honourable House.

2. In doing so, I like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to this Honourable House for the co-operation extended to the Executive during the year just ended. Permit me to state that that is how it should be.

3. Permit me also Mr Speaker, to commend the Honourable Members of the House on its successful performance in their first legislative year in office. It is gratifying to note that six bills were passed into law in the course of the year while motions on several matters of interest to the citizens also sailed through. I urge that the tempo should continue in the new year.

4. You will recall that on 25th March, 1992, I addressed this Honourable House and presented the 1992 Budget of Delta State. At that time, I was barely three months old in office as the Governor of the State. Today, our perception is clearer and this administration's strategies and designs for meeting the developmental needs and aspirations of the people have become better articulated.

5. You are aware that I have just concluded the first phase of the tour of Local Government Areas of the State. These visits afforded me the unique

opportunity to obtain first hand knowledge of the problems and needs of our people. More than ever before, we are determined to redouble our efforts in providing essential services that will promote the quality of life of the citizenry.

6. In the course of the year, various relief measures were provided as motivation for staff of the public service of the State in order to have contented staff for the effective execution of Government's development programmes. This Honourable House may also be aware that we have not confined our activities to the employees in the public sector of the State economy. As part of our strategy for improving the quality of life of the rural dwellers who form the larger proportion of our population, this administration has continued to support the programmes of the Directorate of Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructures, the Delta Agricultural Development Project and the Women Commission. Through the initiatives and activities of these organisations, many rural communities in the State have been provided with electricity, potable water as well as rural earth roads. The Women Commission in particular has made concerted efforts aimed at making life more meaningful and attractive for rural women. These efforts will be sustained during the 1993 financial year.

7. The budget which I have captioned "BUDGET OF RE-ASSURANCE" shall form the administration's agenda for the realisation of our development goals. Indeed, it has been designed to foster fuller integration of our component units and thus promote unity, cohesion as well as provide the much desired facilities for our social development, economic growth and prosperity. The budget has the underlying objective of promoting the standard of living of the citizenry. The frame-work of the 1993 Budget revolves around the following broad policy objectives:

(i) prudence in the management of our limited resources;

(ii) maximum utilization of resources to ensure efficiency and cost effectiveness;

(iii) completion of on-going projects to reflect the priority of the administration and the broad policy objectives of the Social Democratic Party of Nigeria (SDP);

(iv) The amelioration of the economic difficulties of the people;

(v) maintenance of existing public property and the acquisition of additional assets;

(vi) increase in activities aimed at the development of the rural areas;

(vii) advancement of the present state of our education, health, information, transportation and sports facilities;

(viii) pursuit of an orderly peaceful political transition.

Review of the 1992 Budget

8. As you are aware, this administration inherited huge debts arising from contractual obligations from both my predecessor in office and the defunct Bendel State. The sum of ₦117,559,968.56 which represents 22.6 per cent of the 1992 approved Budget was disbursed in settlement of old debts including debts inherited from the defunct Bendel State.

Recurrent Revenue

9. The total receipt from the statutory allocation estimated at ₦745,646,000 for the 1992 financial year amounted to ₦701,935,436.87 including the sum of ₦33,258,250.11 deductions at source. This represents a performance of 94.14 per cent. In addition, the sum of ₦347,605,239.55 was received from the State share of the Federation Account. The internal revenue estimates rose from ₦150,321,600 to ₦265,191,734.47 representing a performance of 176.4 per cent. The appreciable increase in internal revenue generation is attributable to the untiring efforts of the Board of Internal Revenue and other revenue earning Ministries/Departments and the improved measures which enabled them to reach all parts of the state. Government will continue to pursue these positive measures during the year. Similarly, more vehicles and

materials will be made available to the Department and the staff will continue to receive more incentives during the 1993 Financial Year to further enhance internal revenue generation in the State.

Recurrent Expenditure

10. In the 1992 Financial Year, a total provision of ₦585,310,200 was approved for recurrent expenditure which consisted of Personnel Costs ₦229,291,820; Overhead Costs ₦260,170,900 and Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges ₦95,847,480. The actual expenditure was:

Personnel Costs	₦66,657,339.31
Overhead Costs including Subventions to Parastatals	₦360,965,781.19
Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges	₦63,552,462.98
Total	₦491,175,583.48

The expenditure of the sum of ₦491,175,583.48 out of the total provision of ₦585,310,200 represents a performance of 83.9 per cent of recurrent expenditure.

Capital Expenditure Performance

11. As against the 1992 fiscal year's capital provision of ₦519,866,790, the sum of ₦399,737,500 was disbursed. This represents a performance of 78 per cent. A sectoral break-down of the capital expenditure is as follows:

	₦
Economic	120,362,805.80
Social	141,531,820.31
Environmental	48,467,096.56
General Administration	89,375,777.33
Total	**399,737,500.00**

The 1993 Budget

13. The Delta State Government has proposed a budget of ₦1,842,208,360 for the 1993 fiscal year. The budget is made up of ₦821,461,920 or 44.59 per cent as recurrent expenditure; ₦899,069,680 representing 48.80 per cent as capital expenditure and ₦121,676,760 or 6.61 per cent as the mandatory stablisation fund which represents 10 per cent of the estimated State's recurrent revenue for 1993. This year's budget compared with the 1992 financial year's appropriation of ₦1,194,773,750 represents an increase of ₦647,434,610 or 54.19 per cent.

Revenue Estimates

14. The proposed Recurrent Revenue Estimates for the 1993 financial year is ₦1,216,767,600. The amount consists of ₦316,767,600 or 26.03 per cent realisable as internal revenue and ₦900,000,000 or 73.97 per cent anticipated receipts from the statutory revenue allocation. Compared with the recurrent estimates of ₦895,967,600 in 1992, the proposed revenue estimates represents an increase of ₦320,800,000 or 35.81 per cent. The administration is very confident that the revenue estimates will be realised during the year. Indeed, the economic environment tends to suggest that the revenue estimates will be exceeded during the year. Enhanced receipts in 1993 will strengthen our investment capability and thus enable us to place at the disposal of the people of this State additional goods and services.

15. The break-down of the internal revenue estimates in 1993 is as follows:

	₦
Taxes	280,416,500
Fines and Fees	6,637,500
Licences	3,525,200
Earnings from Sales	684,800
Rent on Government Property	1,636,000
Interests, Repayment and Dividend ...	23,252,600

Reimbursements	15,000
Miscellaneous	600,000
Total	**₦316,767,600**

Strategies for Improved Revenue Collection in 1993

15. During the 1993 financial year Government intends to pursue with greater zeal and vigour the policies initiated in 1992 in order to consolidate its record of achievements in 1992. The staff of the Board of Internal Revenue and other revenue earning Ministries/Departments will as in the past be motivated for enhanced performance. Also the machinery for the collection of revenue will be strengthened to secure improved revenue generation.

16. I have observed that the larger proportion of our income tax is raised annually from employees under the Pay As You Earn (PAYE). Most self-employed persons have continued to evade payment of income tax. I, therefore, wish to appeal to all citizens of the State particularly, self-employed persons to discharge their civic responsibilities by paying their taxes as and when due to ensure the maximisation of revenue collection in the State.

17. As mentioned earlier, our anticipated receipt from the statutory revenue allocation in 1993 is ₦900,000,000. The administration is optimistic that the estimated receipts will be realised with the continued adoption of the current policy initiatives and economic reform measures of the Federal Government.

Recurrent Expenditure

18. The proposed total estimated recurrent expenditure for the 1993 fiscal year is ₦821,461,920. The break-down of the estimates is as follows:

		₦
(i)	Personnel Costs	341,825,190
(ii)	Overhead Costs	353,327,290
(iii)	Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges	126,309,440
	Total, Recurrent Expenditure	**₦821,461,920**

The provision for recurrent expenditure in 1992 was ₦585,310,200. The proposed expenditure for the 1993 financial year therefore represents an increase of ₦236,151,720 or 40.34 per cent over the provision for 1992. As in the preceding year, the provisions are intended to accommodate the salaries, allowances as well as operating expenses of existing staff in the public service. The proposals will also accommodate disbursements arising from staff increases and associated expenses in 1993.

19. In the budget, education and health sub-sectors continued to dominate the recurrent expenditure estimates. A total allocation of ₦400,729,590 which represents 48.78 per cent of the total recurrent expenditure estimates has been provided for the two sub-sectors. The provisions have been made to emphasize the high priority rating that the administration accords education and health services. The administration is committed to the promotion of educational and health institutions in the State and will apply its resources to ensure the full realisation of its developmental goals and objectives in these areas. We will emphasize the quality of services in these areas and make our institutions a model for the nation and posterity.

20. In compliance with the guidelines issued by the Federal Government in connection with the preparation of estimates, a provision of ₦121,676,760 has been made in the budget as stabilization fund. The amount represents 10 per cent of the estimated recurrent revenue of the State Government. The fund is intended to provide a buffer in the event of low receipts and dwindling financial resources. The sum of ₦89,596,760 was provided for the same purpose in 1992. The increase in the appropriation by ₦32,080,000 is a reflection of the improvement in the size of the State's recurrent revenue.

21. The budget has an allocation of ₦388,146,740 as subventions to parastatals in the State. The amount represents 47.25 per cent of the recurrent expenditure estimates. It is intended to promote the functionality of the organisations, and enhance their efficiency and effectiveness as agencies of a purposeful administration. The details of the recurrent expenditure estimates as well as the provisions made for consolidated revenue fund charges are contained in the summary of the 1993 Budget which is already available for distribution to Honourable Members. The break-down of the Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges is as follows:

	₦
High Court Judges	3,582,260
Members of the Civil Service Commission	999,500
Auditor-General (State)	85,920
Auditor-General (Local Government)	85,920
Customary Court Judges	1,564,320
Pensions and Gratuities	32,450,010
Public Debt Charges	55,864,750
States 10% Statutory Allocation to Local Government Councils	31,676,760
Total, Allocation to Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges	**126,309,440**

Capital Receipts

22. As stated earlier, the estimated recurrent revenue of the State Government in 1993 is ₦1,216,767,600. The proposed total recurrent expenditure and the stabilization fund for the same period is ₦1,338,444,360. The financial situation gives a recurrent budget surplus of ₦273,628,920 which will be transferred to the Capital Development Fund as capital receipt. The total estimated capital receipts in 1993 is ₦899,069,680. The estimated receipts exceed the approved capital receipts estimates of ₦511,970,690 in the 1992 Budget by ₦387,098,990 or 75.61 per cent. The components of the anticipated capital receipts of ₦899,069,680 are as follows:

		₦
(i)	Transfer from the Consolidated Revenue Fund	273,628,920
(ii)	Receipts from the Federation Stabilization Account	250,000,000
(iii)	Receipts from the State Stabilization Account	95,101,410
(iv)	Specific Reserves (Savings)	185,679,300
(v)	Draw-down on:	

(a) External Loan		35,000,000
(b) Internal Loan		15,000,000
(vi)	Federal Grants	34,660,050
(vii)	Miscellaneous	10,000,000
Total, Capital Receipts		**899,069,680**

The Fourth National Rolling Plan 1993-95 and the Capital Expenditure Estimates

23. The 1993 Capital expenditure estimates were formulated within the framework of the National Rolling Plan, 1993-95. The plan has been designed with the principal objective of consolidating the gains of the current economic policy initiatives of the Federal Government, namely, the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) which was launched in September, 1986. The policy option was initiated to place the economy of the nation on the path of recovery, sustained growth and development. The capital expenditure budget has been prepared to focus on the broad policy objectives of this administration and it will emphasise the following programmes of Government:

(i) free and functional education and the encouragement of private sector participation in the ownership and management of schools;

(ii) free medical services that will emphasise preventive health care delivery;

(iii) self-reliance as a measure in the process for economic development;

(iv) integrated rural development; and

(v) continued provision of basic infrastructural facilities to accelerate the take-off process of a new administration.

24. The capital expenditure estimate for the 1993 fiscal year which constitutes the first phase of the current plan is ₦899,069,680. The break-down has been arranged in four sectors as follows:

A. Economic	*Appropriation* 1993	*% of Appropriation*
Agricultural and Rural Development	59,619,510	6.63
Livestock	7,223,910	0.80
Forestry	6,051,520	0.68
Fisheries	7,261,820	0.81
Industry	13,215,050	1.47
Energy	20,177,760	2.24
Commerce, Finance and Co-operatives	26,741,150	2.97
Transport	109,339,120	12.16
Sub-Total	**249,629,840**	**27.76**

B. Social

Education	78,454,720	8.73
Health	63,268,140	7.04
Information	76,387,480	8.50
Social Development	30,266,500	3.36
Sub-Total	**248,376,340**	**27.63**

C. Regional/Environmental Development

Water Resources and Water Development	93,517,930	10.40
Sewerage and Drainage	19,247,550	2.14
Housing	25,414,920	2.83
Town and Country Planning	37,926,980	4.22
Co-operatives and Community Development	9,030,120	1.00
Sub-Total	**185,137,500**	**20.59**

D. Administration

Administrative Buildings	... ...	87,962,980	9.78
Others—Equipment ...	... ...	127,963,020	14.24
Sub-Total	... ...	**215,926,000**	**24.02**
Grand-Total	... ...	**899,069,680**	**100.00**

25. As stated earlier, our anticipated total receipts from all sources during the 1993 financial year is ₦1,842,208,360. The estimated total commitments for recurrent and capital expenditure during the year are equivalent to the same amount. This principle of producing a balanced budget has been designed to meet national aspirations as well as the declared goals and objectives of this administration. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have presented to this Honourable House the outline of this administrations's capital expenditure estimates for the 1993 financial year. I now wish to highlight the sectoral allocations:

Economic Sector

Agriculture and Rural Development

26. The programme of this administration will aim at accelerated food production. To achieve this goal, the following programmes will be pursued during the 1993 financial year:

(i) consolidation of the activities of the Agricultural Development Programme (ADP);

(ii) encouragement of mechanized agriculture in collaboration with the National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA);

(iii) Granting of loans to small-scale farmers and fishermen;

(iv) strengthening of the activities of the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI);

(v) provision of financial and logistics support for the extension services of the Women Commission; and

(vi) improvement of existing farm settlements and encouragement of communual farming.

27. The sum of ₦59,619,510 has been proposed for the execution of these programmes during the 1993 fiscal year. This represents 6.63% of the capital expenditure.

Delta State Agricultural Development Programme (ADP)

28. The Delta State ADP has now been firmly established. As you may be aware, the project is jointly financed by the State Government, the Federal Government and the World Bank. The efforts of this administration will be geared towards the fulfilment of its role in the programme. Towards this end, a provision of ₦6,400,000 has been made to accommodate the Delta State contribution of the counterpart fund. During the year, the administration will ensure that necessary facilities are made available to the organisation and that it is given adequate encouragement to increase its extension services to farmers.

Agro-Service Centres

29. During the year, effort will be made by the administration to rehabilitate the existing agro-service centres. Necessary extension will be given to the centres to enable them provide adequate maintenance service to the existing machinery and equipment. The administration will also purchase new machinery and equipment in an effort to enhance the scope of their operations. A provision of ₦1,710,020 has been made for the project this financial year.

Agricultural Mechanization

30. The efforts of the administration will be geared towards increased food production which is achievable through the encouragement of mechanised agricultural system. Indeed, mechanised agriculture remains a reliable means of massive food production for our people. During the 1993 financial year, Government intends to procure more tractors to facilitate the achievement of this objective. Arrangement is also underway to involve the Nigerian Agricultural Commerce Bank (NACB) in the programme. The expenditure of the sum of ₦1,500,000.00 has been proposed in the estimate for this purpose.

Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Scheme

31. The intention of government in this direction is to put in place an arrangement whereby our farmers are insured against losses due to natural disasters. This is because it has been discovered that losses due to natural disasters place impediment in our efforts at increased food production. The sum of ₦2,000,000 is allocated to this project during the 1993 fiscal year.

Small-Holder Rubber Development Project

32. Mr Speaker, we are all aware of the importance of rubber as a major cash crop in the State and a potential source of revenue to the Government. However it is sad to note that this position of eminence is being threatened by the age of the existing trees. This administration intends to reverse the trend by embarking on massive supply of improved rubber seedlings for cultivation. The sum of ₦1,491,220.00 has been proposed as expenditure for this project in 1993.

Integrated Rural Development

33. The administration will continue to give due recognition to the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) as an agency for rural development. The Directorate will be adequately assisted by this

administration in order to ensure its effectiveness and enhance its efficiency. To enable the administration realize its development objective in this area, the sum of ₦12,000,000 has been proposed as State contribution in support of the activities of the Directorate during this financial year.

Livestock

34. This administration recognises the importance of protein intake for the overall well-being of the citizenry and therefore will continue to make effort aimed at increasing meat production in the State. In pursuance of this goal, the administration will embark on piggery and poultry development during the year. During the year, existing veterinary clinics in the State will be rehabilitated and new ones will be constructed where necessary. The sum of ₦7,223,910.00 has been allocated for livestock development during the 1993 financial year.

Fisheries

35. This administration is appreciative of the fact that the State has great potentials for fishery development. Indeed, Government recognises that the fishery potentials of the State, if properly harnessed, could serve as a veritable source of protein and an avenue for enhanced income to our people engaged in the fishing industry. The State Government intends during this financial year to pursue the development of coastal fishing and fish farming. Similarly, fish inputs and loans to small-scale fishermen will be given adequate attention. An expenditure of ₦7,261,820.00 has therefore been proposed for the project in 1993.

Forestry

36. Government is aware that our forests are being gradually but systematically depleted. This is a trend which has been a source of serious concern to this administration. To halt this unfortunate situation, Government will work in collaboration with other organisations such as the National

Conservation Fund, in an effort to rejuvenate our forests and promote forest and wild-life management. Government in this regard, will, during the 1993 fiscal year intensify efforts in the pursuit of its policy of forest regeneration and protection. Due surveillance will be mounted in the State on the movement of logs and other forest products in order to halt illegal depletion of our forests. The sum of ₦6,051,520.00 has been proposed in the estimate for the execution of the programmes.

Manufacturing and Craft

37. This administration is committed to the rapid industrial development of our young State. In pursuit of this objective, Government will, during the 1993 financial year, encourage the growth of small and medium-scale industrial enterprises. Furthermore, Government will continue with the development of industrial areas and estates at Asaba, Warri and Amukpe. In addition, Government will invest substantial funds in companies that are considered stiategic to the State. Government will also continue to maintain its interests in existing companies. During the year, Government will encourage the establishment of small and medium-scale industries and will grant loans to needy entrepreneurs.

38. The overall objective of the administration is to promote self-reliance and create employment opportunities for the people. Efforts will also be made to carry out feasibility studies of some industries that can be sourced with locally produced raw materials. Our effort will be geared towards the reduction of the cost of production so that our industrialists and manufacturers can operate more efficiently. The sum of ₦13,215,050 has been set aside for the purpose of achieving this objective:

Energy

39. This administration is aware that industrial development of the State cannot meaningfully take-off without adequate power supply. During the year, Government will endeavour to complete on-going projects and commence new

ones where necessary in the State. Priority attention, in this regard, will be accorded to electricity schemes in local government headquarters. The sum of ₦20,177,760.00 has been proposed for appropriation to this programme.

Commerce, Finance and Co-operatives

40. This government is committed to the development of hotel and tourist industries in the State. Towards this end, Government will provide the necessary facilities to encourage private sector participation in hotel and tourism development. In particular, Government will reactivate and rehabilitate Delta Hotels, Asaba and Warri to enable them compete favourably with first class hotels in the country. Moreso, Government will encourage the formation and growth of co-operative societies in the State. This administration will seize the opportunity now being created by the privatisation and commercialisation policy of Government to invest the sum of ₦20,000,000.00 in the acquisition of shares in profitable organisations. The sum of ₦26,741,150 has been provided for this sub-sector this financial year.

Transport

41. Government recognises the importance of transportation to the socio-economic development of the State. During the year, priority will be given to the provision and improvement of roads and water facilities in the State. In particular, attention will be focussed on the following projects:

(i) Irri-Aviara-Araya road
(ii) Ekpan-Oviori-Isiokolo-Kokori Road
(iii) Ellu-Ovrode-Ofagbe-Ada road
(iv) Obiaruku-Amai-Ogume-Kwale road
(v) Ekakpamre-Okwagbe road
(vi) Issele-Uku-Onicha-Uku-Obomkpa-Idumuje road
(vii) Abraka-Amai-Obodetti road.

This administration is seriously committed to the adoption of measures that will ease the sufferings of commuters in the State. Towards this end, adequate number of vehicles will be acquired for the Delta Transport Service as an effort to enhance its mass-transit operation. In addition, existing roads will be rehabilitated while new ones, as I have already indicated, will be constructed to facilitate movement of farm produce. Furthermore, Government will rehabilitate old boats and acquire new ones for the Delta Boatyard to ease transportation problems in the riverine areas of the State. The sum of ₦109,339,120.00 has been proposed as appropriation for the execution of the projects in the 1993 financial year.

Education

42. Mr Speaker, this Honourable House is aware that the promotion of education is one of the cardinal programmes of our great party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP). To achieve our goal, this administration will continue the adoption of the following measures during the 1993 fiscal year:

(a) tuition-free education at all levels in the State;

(b) abolition of development levies in both primary and post-primary institutions;

(c) abolition of internal examination fees in primary and post-primary institutions;

(d) bursary award of ₦750 per annum to each student of Delta State origin in all tertiary institutions in Nigeria; and

(e) bursary award of ₦1,500.00 to every student of Delta State origin in the Nigerian Law School, Lagos.

43. Government has also completed arrangement to recruit and deploy more teachers to post-primary schools in the State. During the year, Government will

pay special attention to the care of handicapped children in the State. Adequate attention will also be given to adult education. To enhance the quality of primary education in the State and provide qualitative education for our children, provision has been made in the estimates for the construction and rehabilitation of existing primary schools. Government also intends to provide more classrooms and equip more laboratories and workshops during the year. The estimate also contains provision for the extension of existing infrastructural facilities in some of our schools which should be in a position to cater for the anticipated student increase due to the free education policy of the Government. Besides, the sum of ₦14,622,290.00 has been set aside in the estimates for procurement of education hardwares for primary and post-primary schools.

44. In an effort to solidify Government attempt in making the three secondary model schools centres of excellence, a provision of ₦7,595,000.00 has been made in the capital expenditure estimates. The administration has also provided the sum of ₦5,220,150.00 for infrastructural development, acquisition of science laboratory equipment and workshops in the technical colleges in the State. Adequate provision has been made in the estimate for the rehabilitation of old structures and construction of new ones at the Abraka and Anwai-Asaba campuses of the Delta State University. The measure is intended to cater for the increase in student population. The proposed appropriation to the University in the capital expenditure estimates is ₦25,594,060. Adequate provision has also been made by the administration for the development of the permanent site of the two existing Colleges of Education. The provision in the estimates will be applied towards the completion of Applied Science Block at Warri and Agricultural Complex at Agbor. It is expected that during the 1993 fiscal year, the two afore-mentioned buildings will be fully functional. Provision has also been made in the estimates for the expansion of facilities at the Institute of Continuing Education Centres at Asaba, Agbor, Warri, Sapele and Ughelli. In our effort to enhance and inculcate reading habits in the state, the sum of ₦1,608,800 has been proposed for the state Library Board in the capital expenditure estimates. The amount will enable the Board to develop branch libraries in the State and provide more books as well as refurbish its mobile libraries. The administration has also made adequate provision of schools' sports

facilities. This will enable the Ministry of Education to acquire sports equipment in order to sustain sporting activities among the secondary school students. In all, this administration's effort has been tailored to carry out to its fullest, Government free education policy at all levels. The total appropriation proposed for the education sub-sector is ₦78,454,720. The amount represents 8.73% of the capital expenditure estimates.

Health

45. To consolidate the gains already recorded in the health sub-sector in the preceding year, adequate financial provision has been made for the prosecution of all the major programmes, in line with our policy of providing free health services for the citizenry. Registration fees remain abolished in all government hospitals throughout the State. Adequate arrangement has been made for the procurement of drugs for the hospitals and other medical institutions. Completion of all on-going hospital projects in the State will be effected while new ones will be established in the recently created local government headquarters. I am glad to inform you that this State has recorded 80% success in the Primary Health Care Programme and I wish to say that we shall not relent in our efforts until the 100% target is achieved. An allocation of ₦63,318,140 has been made for the health sub-sector in the 1993 financial year.

Information

46. Dissemination of information is a veritable linkage through which Government activities get to the citizenry. In recognition of the potency of information, this administration will establish a newspaper company this financial year. Prior to this, a computerised mini-printing press had been established to produce Government documents such as Budget Speeches, Facts About Delta State, Delta State At A Glance, appropriation bill etc. The printing press has produced and distributed copies of gazettes, bills from the House of Assembly, booklets and other publications to various Ministries. Arrangements have been concluded to acquire additional machines to enable the Press handle more complicated printing jobs. To complement the activities of the proposed

Delta Newspaper Company, a Government Printing Press will be established in Asaba to produce Government documents and undertake commercial printing to generate revenue.

47. The radio and television signals of Delta Broadcasting Service (DBS) which reception is limited to the State are to be extended to enable the citizenry enjoy full coverage of the radio and television signals from the main studios at Asaba, the State Capital. To achieve this objective, ₦27 million was released as part payment to ensure that new 30 kilowatts transmitter and a 1000 foot mast are installed at Ubulu-Uku relay station to serve the State-owned radio and television studios at Asaba for clear pictures and reception.

48. Currently, however, the Warri transmitting station, which was intended as a stop-gap measure and was commissioned on 30th June, 1992 operates on Channel 41 UHF. Reception is within 50 kilometres. The FM radio station Warri has also been reactivated and operates on 88.636 FM frequency. There are reports of clear reception within and outside the State. The sum of ₦76,387,480 has been proposed for the information sub-sector this fiscal year.

Social Development, Youth, Sports and Culture

49. This administration recognises its social responsibility to orphans and delinquent children in the State. Adequate provision has therefore been made in the 1993 estimates for the construction, renovation and rehabilitation of Remand Homes in the State. The sum of ₦4,500,000.00 has been provided for construction and renovation of three Youth Centres. During the year, work on the National Youth Service Corps (N.Y.S.C.) permanent orientation camp at Asaba will commence as further evidence of Government's commitment to the development of youths.

Sports

50. Sports development will continue to receive adequate attention from this administration. You are aware, that the State is blessed with talented sports men and women who have made their marks in the field of sports and won laurels

for this nation. Efforts will be made during the year to provide facilities designed to enhance sports development in the State. The sum of ₦20,000,000 has been provided in the capital expenditure estimates for stadia development in the State. This will serve as a demonstration of the administration's determination to promote sports development. In addition, the sum of ₦1,500,000 has been allocated in the estimates for the purchase of sports equipment and other ancilliary facilities. Furthermore, the sum of ₦1,000,000 has been provided to enable the administration commence work on the cultural centre complex at Asaba. The proposed appropriation for this sub-sector in the 1993 financial year is ₦30,266,000.

Water Resources and Water Supply

51. Consistent with the administration's policy of providing adequate water supply for the citizenry, efforts will be made to ensure that all on-going projects are completed during the year and that new projects are commenced in the rural areas. Similarly, enough fund will be provided for the purchase of spare parts, equipment and materials for effective maintenance of the projects.

52. Mr Speaker, I am pleased to inform you that some contract agreements for the Warri/Effurun Water Supply Scheme have been signed. Government priority now is to beef up water supply within the capital territory of Asaba and some other major towns in the State. To accomplish this goal, the sum of ₦62,515,160.00 has been provided for the water sub-sector in the 1993 fiscal year.

Sewerage and Drainage

53. Lack of drainage facilities in our towns and villages had, in the past, caused destruction to houses, roads and farmlands in the State. During this financial year, Government will ensure that the menace of erosion is put under control by the construction of drainage facilities in urban and rural areas. The sum of ₦19,247,550 has been provided in the estimates for sewerage and drainage during the 1993 fiscal year.

Housing

54. Mr Speaker, it is public knowledge that there is acute shortage of accommodation in the State Capital. Government is therefore committed to the provision of accommodation for public officers. To achieve this goal, this administration will embark upon massive construction of residential buildings at the State capital and in other locations throughout the State. In addition loans will be provided to deserving public officers to build and own their houses. Similarly, in line with the National Housing Policy, arrangements have already been concluded for the establishment of a mortgage finance institution in 1993. The sum of ₦25,414,920 has been set aside for the sub-sector this financial year.

Town and Country Planning

55. In pursuit of Government desire to ease the flow of traffic, rehabilitation of township roads and development of roads in other towns will be vigorously pursued. Work will commence on the rehabilitition of some major streets in the State capital, Asaba, and other major towns, such as:

- *(i)* Oil Field Road/Water Odeli Crescent/Abala Close;
- *(ii)* Efeizomo/Onyibe Street;
- *(iii)* Ekiugbo Road;
- *(iv)* Agbarha-Otor Township Road; and
- *(v)* Okere-Ugborikoko/Giwa Amu Street.

Similarly efforts will be directed towards the provision of street-lights in major urban towns in the State in order to enhance the security of the areas. Traffic lights will also be installed in major towns in the State. Government has already acquired a large area for land-use layouts and work will commence on the production of a master-plan for the State during the 1993 financial year. The sum of ₦37,926,980 has been provided for this sub-sector.

General Administration

56. I wish to inform this Honourable House that this administration is prepared to address the issue of inadequacy of office accommodation for public officers in the State capital. To ameliorate this poor situation, Government intends to construct new office blocks in Asaba. I deem it expedient to mention that the House of Assembly Complex, the High Court Complex and the Secretariat Complex now under construction will be completed and put to use during the 1993 fiscal year. The administration will also direct its effort towards the construction of Governor's Office Complex, Asaba, House of Assembly Guest Houses, VIP Lodge and the State Liaison Office, Abuja. During the year, Government will give priority attention to the construction of Ogbe-Ijoh Market, Warri. The sum of ₦215,926,000, which represents 24.02% of the capital expenditure estimates has been allocated for the achievement of the aforementioned objectives.

Conclusion

57. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members of the House of Assembly I have presented to you the 1993 State Budget which embodies this administration's programmes designed to enhance the development of the State and the social well-being of the people. I wish to express my appreciation for your co-operation, support and efforts in ensuring the successful implementation of our programmes. You may be rest assured that this administration will continue to pursue those policies and programmes that will bring improved standard of living to the people of Delta State as a whole.

58. Finally, as a people, each of our component units is known for its virility and dynamism. We are as resourceful and energetic as we are purposeful and enterprising. These qualities have enabled us in the past to assert ourselves as a forward-looking and progressive people. Let us therefore, march forward as a united people and harness our energies and resources towards the attainment of those lofty goals and aspirations that will make our people truly great and prosperous.

59. I thank you immensely for your attention.

Governor's Office,
Asaba.

7th January, 1993.

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