

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF PLATEAU STATE, BARR. CALEB MANASSEH MUTFWANG, AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK/FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER (MTEF/FSP) 2025–2027 AND THE 2025 APPROPRIATION BILL TO THE PLATEAU STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 2024.

The Rt. Honorable Speaker, Plateau State House of Assembly

Honorable Members of the House

Fellow Citizens of Plateau State

Gentlemen of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with profound gratitude and a deep sense of honor that I stand before this hallowed chamber today to present the Plateau State Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and Fiscal Strategy Paper for 2025–2027, along with the 2025 Appropriation Bill, aptly titled "**BUDGET OF CONSOLIDATION AND SUSTAINABILITY.**" This very important moment underscores our steadfast commitment to shaping a sustainable future for Plateau State, and I am privileged to share this vision with the honorable members of this distinguished House of Assembly.

The MTEF/FSP provides a three-year fiscal plan and serves as the foundation for preparing the 2025 budget. It outlines the macroeconomic and fiscal framework for 2025–2027. This document complies with Section 16(1) and (2) of the Plateau State Fiscal Responsibility Law of 2014. It ensures that resources are allocated

efficiently to priority areas, as a deliberate step towards promoting transparency and accountability in line with global best practices.

The MTEF/FSP also highlights our government's fiscal strategy to achieve its economic development goals. These include:

1. Promoting economic diversification,
2. Reforming public institutions,
3. Developing human capital,
4. Reducing infrastructure deficits, and
5. Pursuing urban renewal and sustainable housing development.

The 2025 Appropriation Bill translates these plans into detailed estimates of revenue and expenditure. This is my second opportunity to fulfill this statutory responsibility as the Executive Governor of Plateau State.

Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members, I deeply appreciate the opportunity to present this important document. I also thank the 10th Assembly, under your leadership, for the strong partnership we have enjoyed since my administration began on May 29, 2023. The Assembly's legislative work has been key to the milestones achieved in our first year.

I extend my gratitude to the people of Plateau State for their support and trust. I assure you that we remain committed to serving you faithfully and will not be distracted by any threats to our democratic ideals.

Last year, on November 7, 2023, I presented the "**BUDGET OF NEW BEGINNINGS**" to this Honorable House. With your support and God's guidance, we have implemented the budget and laid a solid foundation for a better Plateau.

Today marks another important step in our democratic journey as we present the MTEF/FSP 2025–2027 and the 2025 Budget. Before doing

so, I will briefly review the performance of the 2024 budget to provide a basis for assessment.

THE 2024 BUDGET REVIEW

1. The present administration, widely known as "**The Time Is Now**" Administration, under my leadership, initially presented a budget draft estimate of **Two Hundred and Ninety-Five Billion, Four Hundred and Thirty-Four Million, Five Hundred and Sixty-Eight Thousand, Four Hundred and Sixty-Four Naira** (N295,434,568,464.00) to this honorable House.
2. After legislative scrutiny and approval, the budget was increased to **Three Hundred and Fourteen Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Five Million, One Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty-Three Naira** (N314, 855,148,553.00). This approved budget comprised a Recurrent Estimate of **One Hundred and Sixty-Two Billion, Three Hundred and Twenty-Five Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty-One Naira** (N162,325,733,561.00), representing 51.56%, and a Capital Expenditure of **One Hundred and Fifty-Two Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Nine Million, Four Hundred and Fourteen Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two Naira** (N152,529,414,992.00), representing 48.44% of the total estimate. This budget reflected an increase of **One Hundred and Sixty-Four Billion, Nine Hundred and Three Million, Eight Hundred and Thirteen Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Two Naira** (N164,903, 813,962.00) compared to the 2023 approved estimate. This deliberate adjustment underscored our commitment to addressing the pressing needs of citizens across all sectors of the state's economy.

REVENUE MOBILIZATION AND GENERATION IN 2024

3. Revenue remains a cornerstone of successful budget implementation. To meet our revenue targets, particularly from Internally Generated Revenue (IGR), the government employed strategic measures such as expanding the tax net, harmonizing revenue collection processes, and mandating all revenue-generating MDAs to collaborate with the state's Internal Revenue Service.
4. These efforts were complemented by relevant laws enacted by this honorable House, which enhanced accountability and transparency in revenue collection. The government set a revenue target of **Three Hundred and Fourteen Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Five Million, One Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty-Three Naira (N314,855,148,553.00)** for the 2024 fiscal year, sourced as follows:
 - i. **Internally Generated Revenue (IGR):** Thirty-Eight Billion, Eight Hundred and Ninety Million, Eight Hundred and Seventy-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty-One Naira (**N38,890,874,931.00**) only.
 - ii. **Government share of FAAC:** – One Hundred and Fifty-One Billion, Four Hundred and Twenty-Four Million, Five Hundred and Sixty-Six Thousand, Seventy-Nine Naira (**N151,424,566,079.00**) only.
 - iii. **Aids and Grants:** Twenty-six billion, Three Hundred And Fifty Four Million, Four Hundred and Sixty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Seventeen Naira (**N26,354,460,817**) only.
 - iv. **Capital Development Fund (CDF):** Ninety-Eight Billion, One Hundred and Seventy-Five Million, Two Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Six Naira

(**N98,175,246,726.00**) only.

5. Mr. Speaker, as of the first three quarters of 2024 (January–September), the sum of **One Hundred and Fifteen Billion, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Nine Million, Six Hundred and Eighty-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty-Seven Naira, Twenty-Seven Kobo** (N115,839,689,937.27) was generated and utilized for various projects and programs across the state.

RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

6. This administration prioritizes the timely payment of workers' salaries, pensions, gratuities, and overhead costs for MDAs, as well as the training and retraining of civil servants to enhance efficiency.
7. To this end Mr. Speaker, during the period, the sum of **One Hundred and Sixty-One Billion, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Four Million, Six Hundred and Eighty-one Thousand, One Hundred and Twenty-Nine Naira Ninety-Four Kobo** (**N161,974,681,129,94.00**) only was spent in the first three quarters (January to September) of the year as recurrent expenditure out of the total approved recurrent estimate of **One Hundred and Sixty-Two Billion, Three Hundred and Eighty-Five Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty-One Naira** (**N162,385,733,561.00**) only which the sum of **Fifty Two Billion, Two Hundred and Fifty-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Fourteen Thousand, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Four Naira** (**N52,259,914,754**) was meant for personnel cost and **One Hundred and Ten Billion, One Hundred and Twenty-Five Million, Eight Hundred and Eighteen Thousand, Eight Hundred and Seven Naira** (**N110,125,818,807.00**) only was for other Recurrent cost.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

8. Similarly, Mr. Speaker, in our effort to ensure that citizen's lives and properties were secured, a bold step was taken by this administration to review and strengthen the security architecture of the state in conjunction with the security agents, which resulted in the relative peace and harmony we are enjoying in the state and equally facilitated the resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their ancestral homes. Again, Mr. Speaker, to enhance our commitment to the welfare of the citizens, this administration embarked on a wholistic rehabilitation of roads across the state and also acquired metro transit buses as well as commenced railway line operation to address the difficulties that citizens were passing through as a result of the fuel subsidy removal.

9. Consequent upon this, Mr. Speaker, the Government spent the sum of **Twenty-Five Billion, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Eight Million, Six Hundred and Twenty-Five Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty-Seven Naira, Ninety Kobo (N25,998,625,427.90)** only in the first three quarters of the year, out of the total approved capital estimate of **One Hundred and Fifty-Two Billion, Four Hundred and Sixty-Nine Million, Four Hundred and Fourteen Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two Naira (N152,469,414,992.00) Only**. The approved amount was projected to execute critical projects that were either new, ongoing, or abandoned. Below are the Sectoral Allocations.

i.	Administrative sector-	N33,381,651,445.00	-	21.89%
ii.	Economic sector	- N93,006,272,180.00	-	60.99%
iii.	Social sector	- N19,055,883,767.00	-	12.49%
iv.	Law and justice	- N7,025,607,600.00	-	4.63%

Total - N152,469,414,992.00 - 100%

THE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET ESTIMATE

10. Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members of the House,

Having provided a brief summary of the 2024 budget performance, it is my singular honor and privilege to present to this honorable house the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework/Fiscal Strategy Paper (MTEF/FSP) alongside the 2025 Proposed Budget Estimate for consideration and approval.

This budget, tagged ***“Budget of Consolidation and Sustainability,”*** reflects our commitment to solidify past achievements and ensure the continued growth and development of Plateau State. The total proposed budget size is **Four Hundred and Seventy-One Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Four Million, Ninety-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Forty-One Naira (N471,134,093,541.00)** only. This amount consists of a recurrent component of **Two Hundred and One Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Four Hundred and Thirty-three Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Naira (N201,522,433,264.00)** only representing 43.46% of the total budget size and capital budget estimate of **Two Hundred and Sixty-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Eleven Million, Six Hundred and Sixty Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-Seven Naira (N258,852,660,277.00)** only, representing 56.54% of the total budget. The total budget size indicates an increase of **One Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Two Hundred and Seventy-Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Eight Naira (N156,278,944,988.00)** only over the 2024 approved budget.

11. The 2025 Budget aims to reaffirm our commitment to the peace

and prosperity of Plateau State, having laid a solid foundation. Mr. Speaker, our desire and passion is to consolidate the past gains recorded and rekindle our vision towards transforming and revitalizing the State Projects and Programs across all sectors of the economy.

12. Mr. Speaker, as we are all aware, the state and the country, in general, has been going through numerous challenges in recent years, especially in the area of insecurity and economic recession, among others; it becomes incumbent on us as a government to strategise and, in collaboration with security agents and the citizens of the state, to address the situation. Consequent upon this, Mr. Speaker, today I am glad to inform this honorable house that, with the support of the security Agencies and Legislative interventions, checkpoints have been mounted across the strategic flash points in the state with the citizens encouraged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious movement of any individual or groups to relevant authorities for quick intervention, and to ensure they live in peace with one another irrespective of any individual difference or diversities.

13. Similarly, to effectively and prudently utilize government funds, several measures and strategies for revenue collection have been put in place, with all revenue-generating MDAs mandated to comply and work in collaboration with the state's Internal Revenue Services to ensure accountability and transparency in all processes. Therefore, as state citizens, we are all encouraged to demonstrate the spirit of teamwork by paying all revenues to relevant authorities when due.

14. Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members, In the pursuance of our vision and the philosophy of the "TIME IS NOW" Administration, I wish to inform this Honorable House that the implementation of the budget will still be anchored on the Present Plateau Strategic Development Framework (PSDF) of 2023-2027 which encapsulated in the three (3) pillar policies viz:

i. Peace, Security and Good Governance;

- ii. Sustainable Economic Rebirth;
- iii. Physical Infrastructure Development.

15. The thematic areas of the three Pillar Policies are the core developmental drivers which are the key priorities of this Government include: Agriculture and Rural Development; Mining and Mineral Development; Industry, Trade, Investment and Tourism; Health-Sector(primary/secondary/tertiary); Education(primary/secondary/tertiary); Institutions and Public Sector Reforms(Justice Sector Reforms); Youth, Sports, Women and Social Development; Information Communication Technology (ICT); Infrastructure: (Road and Transport, Water, Waste Management, Housing, Urban and Regional Planning, Power and Energy and Funding.

16. Again, Mr. Speaker, it is essential to inform this Honorable House that the State Fiscal Transparency Accountability and Sustainability Program (SFTAS) Funded by the World Bank in recent years wound up sometime this year. Still, states have been encouraged to sustain the momentum as a model to strengthen transparency and accountability in Governance and a process that will enable the Government to carry the citizens along from the grassroots through their valuable inputs. Similarly, this will also improve the implementation of government plan of action through the **Medium-Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) and Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)**. It is worth mentioning that the program has taught the spirit of transparency and accountability in the government budgetary process and implementation. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, it may interest you to note that about Seventy (70) critical projects submitted by the citizens during the 2025 Town Hall engagement across the Seventeen (17) Local government areas are captured in the 2025 proposed estimate of relevant MDAs for implementation. I am introducing the Ward Development Initiative (WDI) program to reach the citizens further with projects that address

their needs. The aim and objective of this program is to have the presence of government projects in all the 325 state electoral wards. The Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning is saddled with planning, coordinating, and facilitating the program.

17. Having considered the plight of the citizens, Mr. Speaker, I wish to state here that the implementation of the Budget will be people-oriented, thereby positively impacting the lives of the citizens of our dear state.

RECURRENT REVENUE

18. The projected recurrent revenue in the 2025 fiscal year is **Four Hundred and Seventy-One Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Four Million, Ninety-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Forty-One Naira (N471,134,093,541.00)** only. This consists of the following.

i. **Internally Generated Revenue (IGR):** - Fifty Billion, Four Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty-Five Naira (N50,422,995,585.00) only.

ii. **Government share of FAAC:** - One Hundred and Ninety Billion, Two Hundred and Six Million, Five Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty-Two Naira (N190,206,558,782.00) only.

iii. **Aids and Grants:** - Fifty-six Billion, Seventy-Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Six Naira (N56,078,994,976.00) only.

iv. **Capital Development Fund (CDF):-** One Hundred and Sixty-One Billion, One Hundred and Sixty Million, One Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-Eight Naira (N174,635,544,198) only.

RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

19. The details of the 2025 recurrent expenditure of **Two Hundred and One Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Four Hundred and Thirty-three Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Naira (N201,522,433,264.00)** only is made up of the following:

- i. **Personnel cost:** Sixty Billion, Two Hundred and Sixty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand, One Hundred and Fifteen Naira (N60,266,835,115.00) only.
- ii. **Other Recurrent Cost:** One Hundred and Forty-One Billion, Two Hundred and Fifty-Five Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Eight Thousand, One Hundred and Forty-Nine Naira (N141,255,598,149.00) only.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

20. As stated earlier, Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members of the House, in our bid to make Plateau State a better place for all, the "Time is Now" administration has lined up critical capital projects to be executed in the 2025 fiscal year and the sum of **Two Hundred and Sixty-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Eleven Million, Six Hundred and Sixty Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-Seven Naira (N269,611,660,277.00)** only has been projected for its effective implementation. This represents 55.56% of the total budget estimate. The sectoral allocation is as follows.

- i. **Administrative Sector:** One Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Five Hundred and Six Million, Seventy-Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Four Naira. (N122,506,075,304) only representing 26% of the capital Budget
- ii. **Economic Sector:** Two Hundred and Eight Billion, Seven Hundred and Nine Million, Two Hundred and Eighty-Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy-Five Naira. (N208,709,283,675.00) only.

Representing 44% of the capital budget.

iii. **Law and Justice:** Nineteen Billion, Six Hundred and Forty-Five Million, Eighty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-Three Naira (N19,645,089,643.00) only representing 4% of the total capital Budget.

iv. **Social Service Sector:** One Hundred and Twenty Billion, Two Hundred and Seventy-Three Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen Naira. (N120,273,644,919.00) only representing 26% of the capital estimate.

SUB-SECTORAL ALLOCATION

21. The 2025 proposed budget estimate contains some significant projects and programs highlighted under the following subsectors.

22. **Agriculture:** In our efforts to diversify the economy of the state through agricultural activities, this administration has allocated the total sum of **Nineteen Billion Four Hundred and Twenty-One Million, Three Hundred and Ninety-Eight Thousand Naira (N19,421,398,000.00)** only, representing 4.12% of the total capital estimate. The amount allocated is to enhance the provision of farm inputs, counterpart funding, and procurement of farm equipment, among others.

23. **Legislative:** This subsector has been allocated **Thirty-Two Billion, Nine Hundred and Eighty Million Naira (N32,980,000,000.00)** only for its projects, representing 7.00% of the total capital budget.

24. **Law and Justice:** The judiciary sub-sector has been allocated the sum of **Nineteen Billion, Six Hundred and Forty-Five Million, Eighty-Nine Thousand Naira. (N19,645,089,000.00)** only for the smooth execution of projects and programs and the convenient administration of justice in the state. The amount represents 4.17% of the total capital budget.

25. **Commerce and Industries:** The sum of **One Billion, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Five Thousand Naira (N1,729,945,000.00)** only has been earmarked for the subsector to implement its projects and programs in the 2025 fiscal year. The amount facilitates the promotion of commercial activities and boosts the state's economy. This represents 0.37% of the total capital estimate.

26. **Land, Housing, and Urban Development:** The government has earmarked a total sum of **Twenty-Five Billion, Eight Hundred and Forty-Nine Million, One Hundred and Twelve Thousand Naira (N25,849,112,000.00)**, representing only 5.49% of the capital budget. The provision will enable the government to address issues of land compensation, housing, and urban projects in the state.

27. **Information and Communication:** The role of information and communication in governance cannot be overemphasized or undermined. To this end, this administration has allocated the sum of **Two Billion Three Hundred and Eighty Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand Naira (N2,380,944,000.00)**, representing only 0.51% of the total capital estimate, to facilitate the promotion and dissemination of information in the state.

28. **Science and Technology:** To promote and facilitate science and technology in the State, especially in the area of digital switchover and innovation, this administration projected the sum of **One Billion, Five Hundred and Sixty-Two Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty-Nine Thousand Naira (N1,562,869,000.00)** only in the 2025 fiscal year. The amount represents 0.33% of the total capital estimate.

29. **Women, Youths, and Sports:** The government has allocated **One Billion, Seven Hundred and Thirty-Three Million Three Hundred and Twenty-Five Thousand Naira (N1,733,325,000.00)** to promote social activities that will demonstrate our commitment to pursuing peace and unity in the state. The amount represents 0.37% of the total capital budget.

30. **Education:** In our bid to rejuvenate the educational system in the state, this administration has allocated the sum of **Fifty-Two Billion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Seven Million, Four Hundred and Ten Thousand Naira (N52,477,410,000.00)**, only representing 11.14% of the total capital budget. The amount will enable the sub-sector to transform and revamp all education-related projects in the state, cutting across Primary, Secondary, or Tertiary, as the case may be.

31. **Tourism, Culture, and Hospitality: Two Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Eight Million Eight Hundred and Eight Thousand Naira (N2,138,808,000.00)**, representing only 0.45% of the total capital estimate, is earmarked for this subsector to promote tourist activities in the State.

32. **Water, Sanitation, and Energy:** The water sanitation and energy subsector has been allocated the sum of **Forty-Three Billion, Six Hundred and Eighty-Two Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty-Six Thousand Naira (N43,682,736,000.00)**, which represents only 9.27% of the capital estimate for the 2025 fiscal year. The projected amount will enable the state to implement all water-related projects.

33. **Environment and Mineral Development:** The administration has allocated **Thirty Billion, Fifty-Eighty Million, Five Hundred and Eight Thousand Naira (N30,058,508,000.00)**, representing only 6.38% of the total capital budget. The amount projected is to mitigate the effects of climate change and boost mineral activities in the state.

34. **Finance and Economics:** To effectively implement government projects and programs, the sum of **Fifty-Seven Billion, Three Hundred and Nine Million, Five Hundred and Thirteen Thousand Naira (N57,309,513,000.00)** has been allocated to this sub-sector only to pay all counterpart funding and also execute finance and economic-related projects and programs in the state. This amount represents 8.24% of the capital estimate.

35. **Health:** The government has allocated **Thirty Billion, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Three Million, Three Hundred and Twenty-Seven**

Thousand Naira (N30,753,327,000.00) only to this sub-sector. The amount represents 6.53% of the total capital estimate and is meant to procure hospital equipment, drugs, furnishing, and renovating hospitals and other health facilities in the state.

36. **Works and Transport:** The works and transport sub-sector has been allocated **Twenty-Four Billion, Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Million, Four Hundred and Sixty-Two Thousand Naira (N24,275,462,000.00)** only. The amounts represent 9.16% of the total capital budget. This provision is to enable the Government to execute road projects across the state, including new, ongoing, or abandoned projects, and also to transform the transport sub-sector, as could be seen in the recent commencement of railway operation in Jos Bukuru terminal and procurement of Metro buses transit aimed at alleviating the citizens from the scourge of fuel subsidy removal.

37. **Youth and Sports Development:** Youths have a critical place in this administration. We are determined to take them off the streets and make them industrious. As such, the sum of **Four Billion One Hundred and Eighty-One Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Two Thousand Naira (N4,181,772,000.00)** only. The amount represents 0.89%.

38. You may wish to note, Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members of the House, that the proposed budget estimate for 2025 is higher than the 2024 approved estimate with **One Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Two Hundred and Seventy-Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Eight Naira (N156,278,944,988.00)** only. This is because the present administration is committed to transforming and executing projects and programmes that are people-oriented and have a direct impact on the lives of Plateau state's citizens.

COMMITMENT TO GOOD GOVERNANCE

Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members, the State Fiscal Transparency Accountability and Sustainability Program (SFTAS), funded by the

World Bank, has strengthened our governance processes, particularly in budgeting and implementation. Though the program has ended, we are committed to sustaining the principles of transparency and accountability it instilled.

This administration will continue to adopt citizen-centered governance, ensuring that our development strategies align with the felt needs of our people.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members of the House, Distinguished Members of the Press, Ladies and Gentlemen ; it is both an honor and a privilege to present to this esteemed House the 2025 Budget Estimate for your legislative consideration. I sincerely trust that this budget will receive the attention and scrutiny it rightfully deserves.

As you carefully examine the budget, Mr. Speaker, I humbly request your cooperation and understanding in ensuring its prompt passage. A swift approval will enable us to initiate the implementation of these vital projects without delay. Please be assured that all Heads of MDAs have been duly instructed to adhere to their scheduled defense sessions and to provide any relevant information that will aid in facilitating productive discussions. Your expedited approval, following the necessary legislative processes, will demonstrate our collective commitment to advancing the Plateau State Project.

Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members, I extend my sincere gratitude for your time and cooperation throughout this presentation. I deeply appreciate the unwavering support this House has consistently shown since the beginning of this administration. Your understanding, humility, and the remarkable maturity you continue to demonstrate is truly commendable.

Let me take this opportunity to reassure you that this administration remains steadfast in its commitment to transforming and repositioning Plateau State for Peace and Prosperity. It is our firm intention to leave a lasting legacy, a beacon of hope, for future generations, as a testament to our stewardship and dedication.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, let us be reminded that the future and prospects of Plateau State rest in our hands. As citizens and stewards of this state, the government counts on our collective efforts to elevate the State to new heights of progress and development. Let us, therefore, unite in our shared responsibility for the peace and prosperity of our state. While we continue to seek collaboration in delivering the dividends of democracy to the people, our doors remain open to any meaningful contributions or ideas that will propel Plateau State forward.

Having fulfilled the provisions of Section 121, Subsection 1 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) by formally reading the budget, it is now my distinct honor to seek permission from the Rt. Honorable Speaker of the House to lay before you the 2025 Budget of **Four Hundred and Seventy-One Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Four Million, Ninety-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Forty-One Naira (N471,134,093,541.00)** only, for your consideration and subsequent passage into law.

May God continue to bless Plateau State and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.