*Text of the Address by*

*His Excellency*

**Dr. Kayode Fayemi, CON**

*Governor, Ekiti State, Nigeria*

on the occasion of the

**OFFICIAL COMMISSIONING OF ULTRA MODERN OJA OBA MARKET COMPLEX, ADO-EKITI**

at

Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State

*Thursday, October 15, 2020*

**Protocols**

1. Ladies and Gentlemen, I am pleased to be in your midst today to commission this magnificent Ultra-modern Oja Oba Market Complex built with Ekiti Tax-payers’ money. I welcome you all as this occasion is in commemoration of our 2nd Anniversary of purposeful and impactful governance in Ekiti State.
2. This is another eloquent testimony of our well-known tradition of impacting lives and building a legacy, which is a realization of our administration’s resolve to put back infrastructure development for the attainment of the new face of Ekiti State. Our government has been very conscious of the need to upgrade our physical structures, hence we embarked on the construction and renovation of many structures across the State, and some of them are being commissioned to mark our ongoing 2nd Anniversary.
3. You would recall that our government conceptualized this project as part of our urban regeneration programme for the state capital during our first tenure. The project however experienced initial delay due to unresolved issues during community consultations with traditional institutions. I want to particularly commend the Ayo Fayose administration for starting the construction of the ultra modern market, which was at fifty-five percent (55%) completion when we assumed office on October 16, 2018. As a responsible government that has zero tolerance for abandoned projects in Ekiti State, upon assumption of Office, we recommenced work immediately to ensure its completion for the use of our people, using the same contractors.
4. You all will agree with me that this ultra-modern market befits the status of the State Capital. This was designed not only to add aesthetic value to Ado-Ekiti, but to further promote commercial activities on a large scale in Ekiti State. The Market would also boost economic growth and development in the State. As you all know, Markets are important factors of any prosperous economy. Buying and selling, exchange of goods and services will always generate the momentum that results in more growth and development.
5. It is noteworthy that this Ultra-Modern Market is carefully built and properly landscaped to be the pride of Ekiti sons and daughters both at home and abroad. The facilities in the ultra-modern market include 234 Open Shops, 738 Lockup Shops, 2 Restaurants, 2 Banking Halls, 2 Warehouses, a Police post, a fire station and a clinic. I therefore, enjoin all relevant stakeholders, at the State and Local Government levels to ensure regular maintenance of all the facilities put in place in this Market Complex.
6. This project was conceived and purposely built to make trading more conducive, encouraging and enjoyable for our traders. Therefore, with this development, I expect the traders who display their wares by the road sides to desist from such practice and move into this more comfortable and secure edifice. If they obey this, there would be free flow of traffic at the popular Oja Oba and Oja Bisi areas of Ado Ekiti. I urge the traders and marketers who are the major beneficiaries of this project to cooperate with the government while making use of the facilities.
7. With what we have done so far, it is pertinent to state here that, payment of taxes and levies into the government coffers is important for the sustenance of developmental drive. This will allow us as a government to continue to maintain the infrastructure and attend to other important needs of the State. Indeed, in order to ensure the sustained maintenance of this infrastructure, plans are already afoot to engage professional facility managers to take responsibility for the running of the market.
8. I will like to commend all those who made it possible for us to deliver on our promised commitment to the people. Our father, the Ewi of Ado Ekiti, provided necessary cover for the project to be completed. The Contractors, Public Servants, Commissioners, Advisers and other Stakeholders for their dedication and hardwork. I value your service and indeed, Ekiti Kete also appreciate you all.
9. Let me at this juncture, congratulate His Royal Majesty, Oba Rufus Adeyemo Adejuyigbe, for witnessing the conception and formal inauguration of this project. We have not always agreed with the traditional institution on the nature and extent of this project, but we must thank Kabiyesi for consistently supporting the project. I say thank you very much to Kabiyesi, may your reign witness more steady strides of infrastructural development in Ado-Ekiti Metropolis.
10. On our part, as a responsible government, we are going to institutionalize necessary arrangements to ensure that this beautiful and imposing edifice does not lose its status for many years to come.
11. I equally use this unique opportunity to appreciate notable leaders in Ekiti State and Ekiti-kete for supporting our government on the current steady strides of massive infrastructure and industrial development in Ekiti State.
12. On this note, ladies and gentlemen, it is my honour and privilege to officially Commission this Ultra-Modern Oja Oba Market Complex, Ado-Ekiti to the glory of God and for the benefit of humanity.
13. Thank you and God bless.

**Dr. Kayode Fayemi, CON**

*Governor*