

# The Executive

...AN NGF MONTHLY PUBLICATION

Vol.5. No. 64 May 2025

NIGERIA  
GOVERNORS'  
FORUM

SUMMARY



ISSN: 2714-5107

## Governors:

# State Police Now More Imperative Than Ever



Also Inside



Bauchi Govt Gifts  
Security Assets,  
N100m to Police

The quest for State  
Police is a task that  
Must be Achieved

Security is  
central to good  
governance - Otti

Harmonising  
the state police  
agitation at the  
Forum





Ensure they smile  
through life.

Open a **ZECA** account  
for your child

For more details, visit  
[www.zenithbank.com/zeca](http://www.zenithbank.com/zeca)



**ZECA**  
Zenith Children's Account

Bank the Eazy way with **\*966#** NO DATA REQUIRED  
EazyBanking



For enquiries and feedback, kindly contact  
**ZenithDirect**, our 24hr interactive Contact Centre:



+234 1 278 7000, 0904 085 7000, 0700ZENITHBANK  
[zenithdirect@zenithbank.com](mailto:zenithdirect@zenithbank.com)

Zenith Intelligent Virtual Assistant (ZiVA) -  
0704 000 4422 (WhatsApp)

[www.zenithbank.com](http://www.zenithbank.com)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



**Governors:** State Police now more imperative than ever **5**

Security is central to good governance - Otti **8**

**Insecurity:** Gov Fintiri Fortifies Policing with N1.6bn Investment **9**

Generous Akwa Ibom Lifts the Police **10**

Bauchi Govt Gifts Security Assets, N100m to Police **12**

**96 Patrol Vehicles, 40 Motorbikes, 4 Armoured Carriers:** Bayelsa's Commitment to Policing, Security **13**

Benue Govt Donates 100 vehicles to Police, Unveils New Security Force **14**

**Borno:** Zulum's Interventions Strengthen the Call for State Policing **15**

**Gov. Bassey Otu:** Even Cleanliness and Godliness Need Security to Thrive **16**

**Delta State:** Operation Delta Sweep **17**

**State Police For Reach, Speed And Coordination:** Ebonyi State boosts police moral, Donates Vehicles **18**

**Okpebholo:** Donates 55 Vehicles to Police **19**

**Oyebanji's Ekiti:** No development without security **20**

Enugu's 300+ Security Actions Reshape Policing **21**

**Yahaya's Security Blueprint** for Police Efficiency **22**

**Imo's Relentless Push:** A Case Study in State-Backed Policing **23**

**Jigawa's Security:** Investments and the Urgent Call for State Police **24**

**Kaduna:** Fighting Insecurity with State Security Trust Fund **25**

The quest for State olice is a task that Must be Achieved **26**

**Katsina State:** In an All-Out War on Banditry **27**

**Kebbi:** Empowering Police to Secure its Frontiers **28**

**Kogi Boosts Security with New Fleet, spreads the goodwill across all tiers of government** **29**

Harmonising the state police agitation at the Forum **30**

**Lagos' Police Blueprint:** Symphony of Support, Innovation **31**

**Nasarawa:** A State's Relentless Search for Peace **32**

**Niger Gov Boosts Police** with 50 Vehicles, Barracks **33**

Providing techdriven solutions to security **34**

Support to NPF and the Amotekun Model **35**

Osun Re-equips its Defenders **36**

Oyo's Comprehensive approach to State Police **37**

Plateau: Revitalising Security with Strategic Engagement **38**

River's Security: Using Surveillance to Police the Waters **39**

Sokoto's Enduring Commitment to Boosting Police Operations **40**

Taraba Governor Boosts Police Operations with New Patrol Vans **41**

**Mai Mala Buni:** Yobe's Sustained Funding Fueling Police Operations **42**

**Zamfara Govt Commits** to Police Operations, Caging Banditry **43**





INSIDE

# When State Police becomes reality

This edition of The Executive Summary dwells on only one topic. State Police. In it, all the thirty-six states and their contributions are reflected. Nearly all Nigeria Governors' Forum, NGF, chairmen had fought tooth and nail to see to its actualisation but the constitutionality of the matter, its place on the executive legislative list, those opposed to it for a variety of reasons and officers of the Nigeria Police Force, NPF, themselves, have stood in the way of birthing it.

This opposition, formidable as it is, has not deterred successive chairmen of the NGF from giving it a shot. It has now fallen on the shoulders of the incumbent chairman of the Forum, Governor of Kwara State, AbdulRahman AbdulRasaq, and it is looking more likely to become a reality. One can say without any fear of equivocation or contradiction that state police is in the horizon.

Except for one or two dissenting brother governors, the quest for the actualisation of State Police in Nigeria is long overdue. Former and serving governors have remained unanimous and steadfast that state police will make governance not just more responsive but also more effective.

The National Assembly has latched on to the idea and is sailing smoothly on it, but are being asked to tread softly, thanks to many observers that also argue that it is a brainchild of the Northern Governors' Forum.

The current police system will be decentralised by first moving police from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent List.

The chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, Onofiok Luke, who sponsored the bill, said in the explanatory note that the bill seeks to alter the Constitution "to provide for state police and other state government security services to enhance security and preservation of lives and property in Nigeria".

The bill especially proposes an amendment to Section 197(1) by inserting new Paragraphs 'e' and 'f' to provide for 'State

Police Council' and 'State Police Service Commission,' respectively.

The Second Schedule to the Constitution will also be altered in Part I by deleting Item 45 from the Exclusive Legislative List; and in Part II by inserting after Item 30 on the Concurrent Legislative List, new Items 31 and 32. With this strong showing from the National Assembly, state police is looking like a done deal.

But while this eldorado approaches, many arms of government and some institutions, for whatever vested interests are already singing hosanna to the Lord in the highest. Like all successes have many fathers, State Police, once a prodigal son of the Nigeria Governors' Forum is now embraced by all. The country is now unanimous, that whatever fears anyone harboured against the establishment of State Police, with the current security situation in the country, the good it will bring, far supersedes the damage it is speculated to do.

However, the credit must go to the Nigeria Governors' Forum, whose members individually and collectively canvassed the idea from the time it was viewed as a selfish agenda which will be used as a tool to intimidate political opponents or minority ethnicities or religious groups, on primordial considerations, until now that the chickens are coming home to roost.

While the idea is looking like moving away from the realms of contemplation, it is also worthwhile to praise the NGF Secretariat for a well-coordinated campaign which ultimately will serve the Nigerian people more than even its most passionate canvassers would ever believe. Fingers crossed; this glory all belongs to the Forum.

## THE TEAM

**Director-General**  
Abdullateef  
SHITTU

**Ag. Head Media & Public Affairs**  
Halima S.  
AHMED

**Social Media Officer**  
June  
IFEBE

**NGF Health Advisor**  
Dr. Ahmad  
ABDULWAHAB

**Agric. Economist**  
Bunmi  
AKANBI

**Senior Economist**  
Abdulaziz  
OLORUNISHOLA

**IT Officer/ Librarian**  
Joseph Kingsley  
Uzochukwu

**Photo Editor**  
Matthew  
Ayeni

**Director Legal**  
Chijioke  
CHUKU





# Governors: State Police now more imperative than ever

**S**eared by the scourge of bloody skirmishes now significantly inflicting wounds on the subnational development trajectory, state chief executives under the aegis of the Nigeria Governors' Forum, NGF, chaired by HE, AbdulRasaq AbdulRahman, see a decentralised security architecture which would constitutionalise state police, as most imperative than ever at the moment, writes Louis Achi.

According to the renowned management sage Peter Drucker: "The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence - it is to act with yesterday's logic." The Nigeria Governors' Forum, NGF, Chairman, AbdulRasaq AbdulRahman, and the governor of Kwara State, is clearly refusing to use yesterday's logic to solve today's enervating security challenges.

Deploying astute engagement nous in a period of turbulence, he has nimbly guided the NGF to sing in harmony in the pursuit of a decentralized security architecture which would birth state police.

Since the security situation in the nation experienced a significant hit, it has necessarily assumed a central theme of discourse by diverse stakeholders, especially governors of the 36 states. Not without good reason.

It could be recalled that on May 11, 2025, the 19 Northern governors led by Governor Inuwa Yahaya, in collaboration with the chairpersons of the Northern States Traditional Rulers Council, canvassed accelerated action in tackling the region's security challenges. The northern leaders made the call in a six-point communique issued at the end of a

meeting at the instance of the Northern Governors' Forum (NGF), in Kaduna.

The Forum which acknowledged the role of non-partisan cooperation and collaboration, in addressing the numerous developmental challenges confronting the north, deliberated on the ways to improve on the security apparatus of the region and Nigeria at large.

After exhaustive deliberations on matters of regional interest, with emphasis on security, the forum released the following communique, amongst others:

"The Forum reiterated its support for the creation of State Police and called on the National Assembly to expedite action on the enactment of the legal framework for its take-off.

"The Forum resolved to liaise with the Nigerian Governors Forum to work out modalities on how to increase support to the Federal Security Agencies."

Similarly, against the background of mounting insecurity, the National Assembly also stepped up to the plate and declared a needful legislative action to accelerate the constitutionalisation of state police, warts and all. Here is the same legislature that once argued that Governors would misuse the State Police, now clamouring for it.

Significantly, a year earlier, Southern governors under the aegis of the Southern Governors' Forum met in Abeokuta, Ogun State and also held that having state police will give them more control over security decisions in their states. They expressed the position that locals are better placed to fight crime because they understand the terrain and language.

The Forum appointed host Governor Dapo Abiodun as chairman, replacing former Ondo governor, the late Rotimi Akeredolu. It named Anambra State Governor, Charles Soludo as vice chairman.

Governor Dapo Abiodun who subsequently featured in a national television interview, said the forum deliberated on state police, infrastructure and agriculture, among others, adding that the 17 Southern governors were united in their call for state police.

His words: "We all spoke with one voice in support of state policing. We all know that we cannot have any meaningful development in an atmosphere of insecurity.

"The governors are called state chief security officers. But we know that the Commissioner of Police is appointed by the Inspector General of Police and is only answerable to the IG. "And when the governor needs to call the attention of the CP on an urgent task in his state, the governor will have to first clear with the IG.

A substantial amount of the states' security votes goes into supporting the police but when it is time for the one who pays the piper to dictate the tune, the story changes. "It is also common knowledge that the federal police have a shortage of manpower. We, as governors, are not in charge or control of our states as far as security is concerned. Yet, we fund the federal police operations, and we are not getting the best from them.

"State policing is not something new. We have several types of policing structure in other climes where we took





our democracy from.” The Governor contended.

Diverse, authoritative statistics indicate that the clamour for state police is grounded on compelling arguments. According to the Nigeria Situation Report (January 2025) by ReliefWeb, nearly 8 million people require humanitarian assistance due to ongoing conflicts and displacement, especially in Zamfara and Borno States.

The Castor Vali Q1 2025 Nigeria Security Report details over 1,420 deaths and 537 kidnappings in the first quarter of 2025, highlighting persistent violence mainly in the North-West and North-Central regions.

The Nextier Nigeria Violent Conflicts Database recorded 278 casualties from terrorism and 253 from banditry in 2024, with violence continuing into 2025.

The Kimpact Development Initiative report states that over 91,000 Nigerians died from insecurity between 2011 and 2024, with 14,470 deaths in 2014 alone, underscoring a worsening trend.

The 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan projects says about 33 million Nigerians facing food insecurity in 2025, were driven by violence and economic hardship.

Yet, in their 2025 budget, thirty-five states of the thirty-six in the country voted N214 billion for local security outfits, defence initiatives, and the purchase of arms and equipment. Despite the substantial funding allocated to cage insecurity, more than 367 individuals have been killed during Yuletide and Sallah celebrations between 2019 and 2025.

The states’ budgets are contained in Open States, a BudGIT-backed website that serves as a repository of government budget data. The massive vote, intended to curb insecurity nationwide, raises critical concerns about the efficacy of these measures, as citizens remain increasingly vulnerable to the tide of violence.

Although the constitutional responsibility for ensuring the safety of

lives and property lies with the federal government, the increasing wave of kidnapping, robbery, and other forms of violence has compelled many state governors to set up their own internal security strategies to combat the menace.

However, these efforts have not yielded the desired results as criminals continue to operate with impunity, terrorising the citizens. Just last month, more than 50 people were reportedly killed in a wave of attacks across Ondo, Benue, and Nasarawa, with the affected communities calling for urgent government intervention, that is hardly ever there.

Nine surveyors were reportedly kidnapped in Ondo, while two residents were abducted, and four others suffered gun and machete wounds in Edo. In Ondo, enraged women took to the streets of Akure recently, following the abduction of nine surveyors and the killings of villagers in the Akure North Local Government Area.

Armed assailants reportedly stormed the communities of Aba Alajido, Aba Sunday, Aba Pastor, and Ademekun, leaving a trail of destruction and bloodshed.

These sources collectively confirm the high death toll, widespread displacement, and urgent humanitarian needs due to insecurity in early 2025. Would all these have been mitigated if State Police was in place? The answer is in the affirmative.

Experts emphasise that military efforts alone solve only about 30 per cent of security problems; the remaining 70 per cent require socio-political, economic, and governance interventions at the subnational level that benefit all Nigerians.

While Boko Haram insurgency was the primary threat in the early 2010s, insecurity has since fragmented into multiple, overlapping crises affecting wider areas and more civilians. The death toll remains high, evolving from insurgency to include banditry, kidnappings, and communal violence, complicating security responses.

In the first three months of 2025, at least 2,819 incidents of abduction were recorded, with 3,190 fatalities and 1,123 persons injured. The incidents were recorded in 428 out of 774 local government areas.

A breakdown of the subnationals’ budgets revealed all the states approved the purchase of arms and security equipment. Abia State allocated N554.58m for the purchase of security equipment and arms, signaling a commitment to enhancing its security apparatus.

Also, Adamawa State earmarked a significantly larger sum of N3.82bn for a similar purpose, marking a considerable allocation in the region. Akwa-Ibom followed suit, setting aside N10.1bn for arms and ammunition procurement, Edo State allocated N849m while Anambra voted N2.73bn for its security needs.

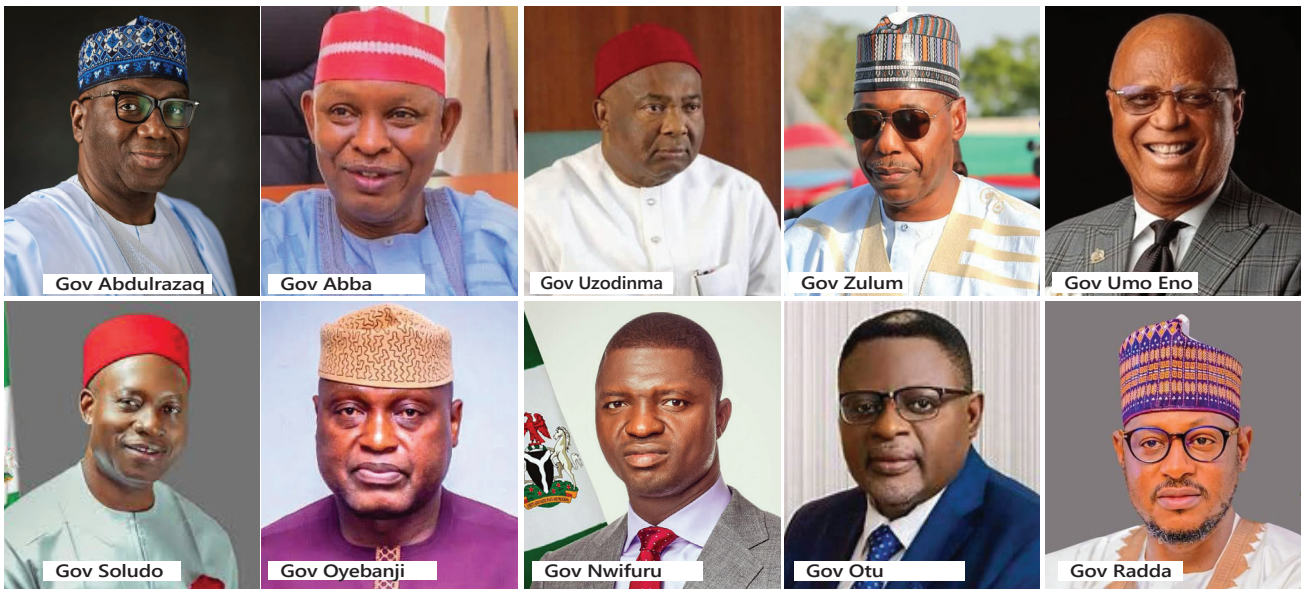
Other states also made notable provisions for security, including Bauchi with N889.71m, while Bayelsa set aside N10.187bn. Benue’s security budget stood at N1.46bn, while Ekiti and Cross River allocated N30m and N10m, respectively.

Borno’s budget for security was N1.92bn, and Delta allocated N2.84bn. Enugu saw one of the highest allocations in the Southeast, with N11.41bn dedicated to security. Further north, Gombe’s security expenditure was pegged at N725.05m, primarily for the purchase of security equipment and funding the operations of its state defence ministry. Imo, Governor Hope Uzodinma allocated N820.42m for its Homeland Security and Vigilance Ministry.

Jigawa and Kaduna made modest allocations of N40m and N40.74m, respectively.

Kano, Katsina, and Kebbi states also prioritized security, with Kano allocating N1.42bn, Katsina a substantial N5.28bn, and Kebbi the highest allocation among northern states with N21.81bn. Kogi’s allocation was N11.06bn, while Kwara set aside N37m for its security operations. In the Southwest, Ogun State made a substantial provision of N4.81bn for





security. Amotekun, the regional security outfit, received a significant portion of N1.79bn, with Safe-Corps also getting N459.62m.

On the other hand, Ondo State budgeted N7.07bn, with N7.06bn going to Amotekun's operations. Osun and Oyo states allocated N1.525bn and N4.88bn, respectively, for security. Plateau's security budget was pegged at N7.36bn, while Rivers State made the largest allocation for security in 2025, with an impressive N39.82bn set aside for security equipment.

Sokoto's security budget stood at N10.57bn, Taraba set aside N4.15bn, Yobe allocated N50m and Zamfara, N32.29bn. President Bola Tinubu, at a security conference, said a well-governed state is better equipped to address internal challenges and should not depend on federal agencies for safety. If this is not a tacit endorsement of the State Police conundrum, what is?

It is on record that governors spent N2trn on the Nigeria Police Force, according to the NGF Secretariat findings. Governors of the 36 states have collectively spent more that sum in augmenting police operations nationwide in the last decade alone.

The amount, according to the Forum's Secretariat, was not minding the contributions of Borno, Yobe, Adamawa and Gombe states, hitherto referred to as the frontline states and critical flashpoints at the peak of the war against insurgency in the country.

According to the Secretariat, the revelation was part of a research conducted by the media department of the NGF monthly magazine "The Executive Summary" July 2019 edition.

It revealed the purchases by the governors covered such items as Hilux light trucks, Armoured Personnel carriers, Helicopters, River Gun Boats, Horses, Communication equipment, uniforms and handcuffs among others.

The Executive Summary related that some light years ago alone Lagos State spent over N4.765bn on helping to sustain the Federal Police disclosing that the state also bought and donated to the police, 100 four-door Saloon cars, 55 Ford Ranger Pick-up trucks and 10 Toyota Landcruiser Pick-up trucks. Remember, "these also include 15 BMW power-bikes, 100 Isuzu trucks, three helicopters, two gunboats, 15 Armoured Personnel Carriers, revolving lights, sirens, communication gadgets, helmets, handcuffs among many other police requirements," it reported.

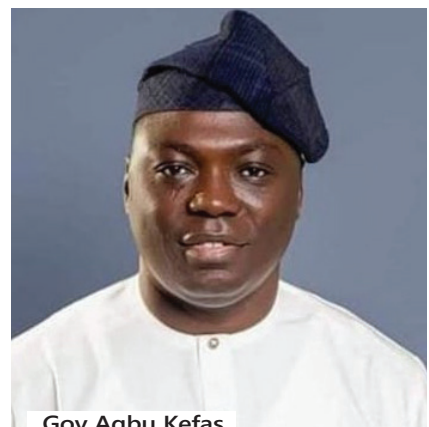
"It is not Lagos alone that has donated generously to the police. Kano, Kaduna, Kwara, Cross Rivers, Ebonyi and Abia States have all, at various times, donated generously to the police force towards ensuring the safety and security of their peoples and their property," the Forum's magazine further revealed.

While the North faces significant security threats, from Boko Haram in the North-East to banditry and emerging terror groups like Lakurawa in the North-West, the South is not better off. These issues are interconnected with broader national and regional dynamics.

The agitation for state police in Nigeria

is due to contemporary security challenges across the country (insurgency, cattle-rustling, armed robbery, kidnappings, rape, farmer-herder conflicts among others) and the ineffectiveness of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) in discharging its constitutional duties of maintaining law and order as well as protecting lives and property even though some individuals and groups are calling for the restructuring of the force for effective and efficient policing.

On his part, the unassuming NGF Chairman, AbdulRasaq AbdulRahman, who is berthing this long-drawn battle is not relenting as history beckons; usually, history remembers folks who insist on discarding yesterday's logic in solving today's challenges and it is in the hands of one who believes that State police will make governance smarter, more transparent and responsive.



Gov Agbu Kefas







# Security is central to good governance - Otti

**I**n a firm step towards deepening peace and safeguarding lives and property, Governor Alex Otti of Abia State underscores the centrality of security to good governance. He presented 20 brand-new Toyota Hilux trucks and advanced gadgets to the police in the state, an act not just of generosity, but of deliberate statecraft. For Otti, this isn't just a headline event. It is a delivery on a promise.

A reaffirmation of his administration's covenant with the people of Abia, to restore law and order, to safeguard communities, and to rebuild trust in state institutions. "When we assumed the leadership of this state," Otti said, standing before rows of gleaming vehicles, "we made it very clear that security was topmost on our agenda. We understood clearly that every other thing we wanted to do—education, infrastructure, healthcare, would amount to nothing if security was compromised." He is not wrong. Security is the oxygen of progress. Without it, development suffocates.

This latest donation, however, is not an isolated act. It is part of a long-standing tradition in Abia State where successive governors have rallied resources to bolster the Nigeria Police Force. From patrol vehicles and protective vests to motorcycles, cash grants, and the construction of police stations, over 150 vehicles and a wealth of logistics have been handed over in the past, all in a bid to strengthen policing in the state.

But while this legacy of support is laudable, it also raises deeper questions. Why must state governments consistently bankroll a federal institution without having direct control over it? Why pour billions into a security apparatus whose command structure resides elsewhere? Governor Otti didn't address that paradox directly, but his tone hinted at it. By "arming" security agencies, as he put it, his administration is not just expressing appreciation, it's plugging a gap, compensating for a structural imbalance in Nigeria's federal policing model.

The reward for hard work according to Gov Otti is more work. "These 20 new Hilux trucks are a way of appreciating the job you do," Otti told officers. "But they are also a way of

equipping you to be more effective and efficient." He warned that professionalism must prevail while extortion, abuse of power, and unlawful treatment of citizens, would no longer be tolerated. This state will no longer be a safe haven for criminals. Otti didn't just hand over keys to vehicles; he handed down a challenge to law enforcement officers to rise above old habits. A challenge to citizens to report wrongdoing and suspicious activity. And a challenge to his administration to remain steadfast in its commitment to safety, even when the road is long and the hurdles steep. The significance of this gesture stretches beyond the boundaries of Abia State. It stokes the ongoing national debate about the urgent need for state police.

If governors must fund, support, and politically answer for security failures in their states, should they not also be granted command authority? Should the system not evolve to reflect the reality that security is, at its core, a local matter? As Abia ramps up its efforts, fortifying its flanks and renewing its internal security networks, Governor Otti is, intentionally or not, laying the groundwork for a new era of subnational policing.

One where responsibility is matched with authority, and where peace is built from the ground up. In his final charge, the governor reaffirmed what the people of Abia want to hear: "We will continue to do whatever is possible to ensure people sleep with their two eyes closed. It has not been easy, but we are prepared to ensure this place is safe."







# Insecurity: Gov Fintiri Fortifies Policing with N1.6bn Investment

**A**s Nigeria continues to wrestle with rising insecurity and the burden on overstretched law enforcement agencies, state governments are increasingly stepping up to the plate, engineering local solutions to national challenges.

Adamawa State is one of the standout examples, with Governor Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri reaffirming his administration's commitment to internal security through a substantial N1.6 billion investment in policing logistics.

At the heart of this effort is the procurement of 25 brand-new Innoson pickup vehicles and other protective gears for the state's police command, a move approved during the 18th State Executive Council (SEC) meeting held at Government House, Yola.

But this isn't just another budgetary footnote. It marks a bold and strategic shift in Adamawa's security framework, one that prioritizes mobility, visibility, and rapid response as the foundations of effective law enforcement in today's complex threat environment.

Briefing the press after the meeting, Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Iliya James, described the acquisition as a "critical reinforcement for our security architecture." Manufactured by Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing, Nigeria's flagship auto

company, the pickups represent both a logistical upgrade for the police and a show of faith in domestic industry.

"These vehicles will be deployed to known security flashpoints, especially areas where banditry, kidnapping, and communal unrest continue to destabilize communities," James stated. "Governor Fintiri is clear: no part of Adamawa will be abandoned to criminal elements."

Beyond sheer numbers, the vehicles are to be equipped with modern communication gadgets and tactical fittings to aid surveillance and swift response. It's a step away from the old habit of fire-brigade-style policing and a move toward an integrated, technology enhanced approach.

With vast rural terrains and porous borders, Adamawa's geography presents unique security challenges. Criminals and insurgents often exploit difficult-to-access areas, slowing response time and exposing gaps in local enforcement. The new pickups are designed to close those gaps.

"Mobility isn't a luxury in Adamawa, it's the difference between prevention and tragedy," said Hassan Musa, a Yola-based security analyst. "A well-equipped, mobile force is more than just a deterrent. It also reassures citizens that their government is

serious about safety."

The security investment is part of a wider push by Governor Fintiri to build a resilient, stable, and development-ready Adamawa. From strengthening rural policing to modernizing governance and protecting agricultural assets, the administration is laying the groundwork for lasting peace.

At the Council meeting, the governor also emphasized the need for unity and peaceful coexistence. He called for an end to insurgency in all its forms, including the menace of Lakurawa gangs, bandits, farmer-herder conflicts, and remnants of Boko Haram.

"This is not a time for division," Governor Fintiri urged. "We must learn from other countries where technological innovation and civic unity have paved the way for national transformation."

He also paid tribute to Nigeria's fallen heroes, those who, in the face of chaos, gave their lives for peace and progress. "Their sacrifices must not be in vain," he said. "It is now our duty to honour them by securing our future."

As insecurity continues to evolve, so must the response. And with initiatives like this, Adamawa is proving that when local governments act boldly, real change is possible, so also it is with state policing.



# **GENEROUS** **Akwa Ibom** **Lifts the Police**

Akwa Ibom State, under successive governments, has gone beyond surface-level responses to crime to paying for and establishing institutional infrastructure for the police. It has institutionalized a strategic, homegrown approach that blends state-driven investments, community policing, and robust support to the Nigeria Police Force.

What emerges is not just a safer Akwa Ibom, but a blueprint for how states can align with the NGF's core mandate: to deliver people-centred governance where peace and security are not luxuries, but guarantees.

For a fact, insecurity remains one of the most intractable governance challenges, just as bolstering internal security has always been a cornerstone of the Nigeria Governors' Forum's (NGF). Across the federation, states are stepping up, not just as passive observers, but as active collaborators in redefining public safety. Akwa Ibom is one of such examples in this new era of subnational leadership on security.

From patrol vehicles and communication gadgets to innovative community policing models, Akwa Ibom has rewritten the script for sub-national support to federal law enforcement. It's a story of leadership that recognizes security as the bedrock of development and one that offers a compelling case for the decentralization of policing powers in Nigeria.

Since assuming office, Eno Umo has not only maintained the state's commitment to the Nigeria Police Force but significantly broadened its scope. In a bold move to curb rising cases of kidnapping, armed robbery, and rape, Governor Eno commissioned the recruitment and training of 500 youths under the Ibom Community Watch Constables (ICWC) initiative. These recruits, drawn from local communities and trained in basic policing, serve as the state's grassroots eyes and ears, a critical component in building trust between civilians and law enforcement.

"We cannot leave policing to the federal government alone," Eno declared during the inauguration ceremony at the Nest of Champions stadium. "This is

about local solutions for local problems. Development cannot thrive in chaos."

Governor Umos predecessor did not just hand over the reins of power, he handed over a legacy of serious investment in policing. His administration donated a total of 97 patrol vehicles to the state's police command, including 20 Hilux trucks equipped with modern communication tools. These weren't just showpieces; each vehicle came with walkie-talkies, solar panels, emergency ICT infrastructure, and dedicated mobile lines for Divisional Police Officers (DPOs) and Divisional Crime Officers (DCOs), ensuring a swift, coordinated response across the 31 local government areas.

The goal, was not perfection but prevention as no society is 100% crime-free as with the right partnership and tools, crime which is daily spiralling out of control can be stemmed.

When in 2020, gunmen targeted security operatives in a wave of coordinated attacks, Akwa Ibom stepped forward, donating N60 million to families of slain officers. It was a gesture that went beyond compensation, it affirmed the state's moral obligation to those who serve and protect.

The state recently donated Toyota Hilux trucks and 14 gunboats to various security outfits, including the Nigeria Police. These additions, specifically tailored for the state's complex terrain of forests and waterways, are being deployed with strict conditions—they are not to be diverted or used outside state boundaries. As the governor puts it, "We are doing this to ensure Akwa Ibom remains one of the safest states in Nigeria. Every criminal, whether by sea or by land, must know they are not welcome here." But it's not just boots on the ground and patrols on wheels. Governor Eno is setting up a Tactical Command Control Centre, a state-of-the-art facility designed to centralize information, streamline inter-agency communication, and enhance surveillance capabilities. This digital nerve centre will allow security forces to respond in real-time to unfolding threats, track criminal activity, and coordinate across the state's sprawling districts. Such investments are not just symbolic. They are a practical acknowledgment that 21st-century policing requires more than man-power, it requires brain-power, tech infrastructure, and cooperation across sectors.







## Anambra's shopping-cart for police

# Soludo donates 111 patrol vehicles, 71 smart motorbikes, 49 trucks to Police

- Nine mobile surveillance vans, cutting-edge CCTV installations

Anambra State is waging an unrelenting war, not with bullets and bluster, but with strategy, technology, and community-driven solutions. Over the past few years, this southeastern state has emerged as a national pacesetter in empowering the Nigeria Police Force, not just with equipment, but with a revitalized sense of mission. From the high-energy streets of Onitsha to the strategic corridors of Awka, the message is deafening: crime will find no sanctuary here. Under Governor Charles Soludo, Anambra has transformed into a fortress of modern security architecture. In the latest phase of its Smart City Project, codenamed Operation Kpochapu (Wipe Out Crime), the government delivered a staggering security upgrade: 111 brand-new Innoson (IVM) patrol vehicles fully equipped with communication systems, 71 smart motorbikes, 49 pickups, 9 mobile surveillance vans, and 3 trucks. Sophisticated CCTV installations are being embedded in key urban hubs like Awka, Nnewi, and Onitsha, forming a web of real-time surveillance.

This isn't a PR stunt. It's tactical evolution. "Crime detection, arrest and punishment will be easy because these security devices are some of the most sophisticated and highly effective surveillance equipment in the world," Governor Soludo declared, issuing a blunt ultimatum to criminals: leave now or be crushed. He assured residents that this second phase of Operation Kpochapu "will be deadlier than the first." Beyond hardware, Anambra is investing in the people wearing the badge. In a rare gesture of compassion

**This isn't a PR stunt. It's tactical evolution. "Crime detection, arrest and punishment will be easy because these security devices are some of the most sophisticated and highly effective surveillance equipment in the world"**

and calculated morale-boosting, the state extended support to families of slain officers, awarding N2 million each to next-of-kin, N250,000 to injured officers, and taking on their hospital bills. Divisional officers received N1 million each to support operations, while key police mobile bases in Awka and Onitsha received N2 million apiece.

The Rapid Response Squad, deployed to flush criminals from hideouts in uncompleted buildings was supplied with 13 patrol vehicles, with a warning: "These vehicles are not for weddings or VIP escorts. They're to chase down hoodlums."

And Soludo isn't slowing down. In January 2025, the state launched Operation Udo Ga Achi, meaning "Peace Will Reign", with another wave of 163 operational vehicles being released into the field. The message is consistent: there will be zero tolerance for criminality. "If you are in the bush, please come out," Soludo warned. "Else, we will treat you like a criminal."

And it doesn't stop there. Long before these headline-grabbing rollouts, Anambra had already donated 25 patrol cars to the Nigeria Police Force, accepted by former Inspector-General Solomon Arase—solidifying the state's consistent and proactive role in national security. Taken together, these multiple donations and sweeping reforms stand as a compelling argument in support of state policing. Anambra's track record proves that when a state is empowered to take full ownership of its internal security, the results are immediate and transformational.

The vehicles, surveillance tech, and community collaboration on display are not just tools but they're evidence. Evidence that if states are entrusted with their own police forces, crime can be tackled faster, smarter, and with deeper accountability. In Anambra, the case for state policing is no longer theoretical, it's operational. And it's working.



# Bauchi Govt Gifts Security Assets, N100m to Police



In a show of resolve that speaks louder than political platitudes, Bauchi State has stepped up its security game, arming not just its words, but its law enforcement with tangible support. Governor Bala Mohammed has once again proven that when states take initiative, safety isn't just possible, it's palpable.

From patrol trucks to operational funds, Bauchi is setting a quiet precedent that could very well fuel Nigeria's long-standing call for state policing. In recent weeks, the state government donated a JAC pickup vehicle and essential office equipment to the Gender Section of the Bauchi State Police Command, reinforcing the specialised arm's capacity to respond to gender-based violence and related crimes.

The First Lady, who made the presentation during a visit to the State Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Sylvester Alabi, underscored that the gesture was part of a broader strategy to equip and boost morale within the Force.

"Supporting the police is not an option, it's a necessity. A well-equipped gender unit is a safe space for victims and a warning to perpetrators," she said.

Following a tragic ambush along the Dajin Malam forest, near the volatile Bauchi-Plateau border, Governor Bala Mohammed announced a robust support package totalling N100 million for the families of 23 slain individuals, including 13 vigilantes and 10 civilians. These were not trained military men, they were local defenders, armed with courage and little else, who laid down their lives in defence of their communities.

"This is more than a gesture, it is a duty," the Governor said during a condolence visit to Duguri, Gwana, and Yelwa Duguri in Alkaleri Local Government Area. Each family of the fallen vigilantes is to receive N5 million, while families of civilians will receive N3 million apiece. An additional N10 million was immediately disbursed to local vigilante groups as operational funds, with another N10 million earmarked for logistics such as fuel procurement.

In a proactive twist, Governor Mohammed also announced the recruitment of 2,100 new vigilantes, with the first batch of 300 to 500 drawn from the worst-hit communities. These new recruits will be trained under the supervision of established security agencies, operating under a strict code of conduct. "There will be no jungle justice on our watch," the Governor assured. "Accountability is key. We will train, we will guide, and we will ensure the law is upheld."



H.E. Senator Bala Mohammed

To ensure transparency in the distribution of the funds, a multi-stakeholder committee led by the Local Government Chairman, including traditional leaders and security operatives—has been constituted.

Even more notably, Governor Mohammed called out the 'enemy within': local informants who aid criminal gangs. "These informants are worse than the bandits themselves. We must identify and prosecute them. Our survival as a people depends on it," he declared.

Meanwhile, the Bauchi State Commissioner of Police, Sani-Omolori Aliyu (represented by DCP Muhammad Hassan), confirmed that all security agencies are actively responding to the situation and intensifying operations in the affected areas.

What Bauchi has done, through its donations, compensation schemes, and grassroots defence initiatives, is more than admirable; it's a working prototype. A test run for what Nigeria could become under a well-structured state policing model.

This is not about secession of power from the centre, it's about shared responsibility. Bauchi has shown that when states are given the freedom and tools to secure their domains, lives can be saved, crime can be reduced, and public trust can be rebuilt.

State police is no longer a debate for the drawing room; it's a necessity for the streets. In Bauchi, it's already happening in everything but name.

If Nigeria is to crush crime and reclaim its communities, then perhaps the time has come to stop fearing state police. Bauchi has handed the nation a blueprint. The question now is: who else is ready to follow suit?

# 96 Patrol Vehicles, 40 Motorbikes, 4 Armoured Carriers:

## Bayelsa's Commitment to Policing, Security

In an era where security often feels like a distant promise, Bayelsa State is arming courage with capability and turning state-level action into a blueprint for national reform. Governor Douye Diri is not just leading with words, he's fuelling Nigeria's federal security forces with tools, tenacity, and, crucially, a vision that makes a quiet but forceful argument for state policing.

Over the past three years, Bayelsa has delivered an impressive 96 patrol vehicles, 40 motorbikes, and 4 refurbished Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) to the police in the state. That's not a headline, it's a declaration of intent.

The latest gesture, the donation of 28 Hilux trucks to the Nigeria Police Force, was received by the Bayelsa State Commissioner of Police, Mr Ben Okolo. This follows the governor's consistent support for the Force, including a significant December 2021 donation of 50 patrol vehicles and 40 motorbikes, and an earlier handover of 14 operational vehicles during the 9th State Security Council Meeting.

Diri's administration has also extended its support beyond just mobility. The refurbishment and transfer of four APCs to the State Police Command underscores a deeper philosophy: security must evolve from rhetoric to readiness.

"This is a demonstration of our commitment," the governor remarked during the APC handover. "We will continue to equip our police force to fight crime, theft, and insecurity in our communities. We're also taking steps to establish a local system, the State Education Safety Corps, to combat child molestation and school-based insecurity as our modern boarding schools become operational."

His words aren't mere ceremony. They resonate as a subtle but potent critique of Nigeria's centralised policing system, one that leaves state governments beholden to federal agencies yet responsible for the safety of their own people. In Bayelsa, the line between state support and state policing grows ever thinner.

Governor Diri's gestures may wear the coat of "logistics support," but underneath lies the fabric of a locally-driven security apparatus. His government's consistent investment, vehicles, logistics, coordination, and inter-agency synergy, demonstrates what states can achieve when given both the mandate and the means.

Speaking during the presentation of operational vehicles to 13 federal security agencies, including the Nigerian Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, NSCDC, and others, Governor Diri emphasised synergy as the secret to Bayelsa's reputation as one of Nigeria's most peaceful states.

"The level of cooperation between the security agencies and our administration has been exceptional," he said. "These men and women have stood by the people of Bayelsa. This support is the least we can do."

Commissioner of Police, CP Amba Asuquo, speaking on behalf of the Police Force during the APC presentation, echoed the sentiment: "This gesture leaves no room for excuses. We've been empowered and we will deliver. The governor has given us both the tools and the motivation."

He called on officers to ensure proper maintenance of the donated equipment, underlining a professional culture that matches the scale of the state's investment.

Bayelsa's contributions amount to more than logistics, they are a political message. A call to action. A testament that when state governments are empowered, they deliver not just in words, but in concrete results.

The idea of state policing has long been viewed with scepticism in Nigeria, dogged by fears of misuse and ethnic division. But Bayelsa's approach dispels those fears: it is collaborative, accountable, and strategic. Security chiefs from federal agencies are receiving state support, not interference. And the results, relative peace, reduced criminality, and improved police capacity speak for themselves.

Governor Diri has made it clear: every citizen is a stakeholder in security. From market traders to boardroom executives, the call is the same, stay vigilant, stay involved.

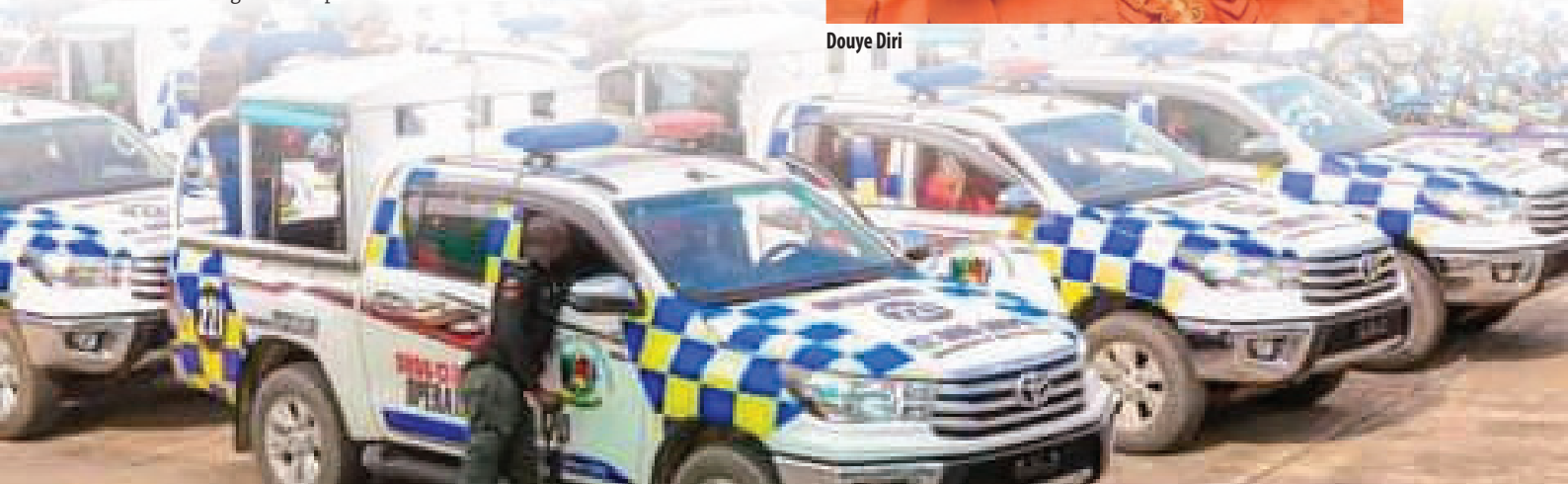
Bayelsa is not just securing its streets; it is reshaping the national conversation. And in doing so, it leaves Nigeria with a lingering, unavoidable question:

If one state can do this much under a federalised police system, imagine what all 36 could do with the constitutional authority of their own security forces.

Bayelsa isn't just backing the Nigeria police, it's building a future where safety is local, effective, and truly democratic.



Douye Diri







# Benue Govt Donates 100 vehicles to Police, Unveils New Security Force

In a bid to reclaim the peace and safeguard its people, the Government of Benue State, under the leadership of Governor Hyacinth Alia, has rolled out a bold and ambitious security initiative aimed at tackling the state's persistent insecurity woes head-on.

At a ceremonial launch held in Makurdi's IBB Square, the governor officially inaugurated Operation Anyam Nyor, a joint taskforce designed to bolster existing security structures—and commissioned a freshly established corps of 5,000 Civil Protection Guards. These officers are poised to serve as a civilian backbone in the state's security framework, working in tandem with conventional forces to respond swiftly to emerging threats.

Governor Alia, striking a tone both firm and hopeful, presented an impressive fleet of 100 operational vehicles and 600 combat-ready motorcycles to the Nigerian Police and other security outfits. The move, he noted, was not merely symbolic but a strategic intervention to enhance mobility, coordination, and overall tactical advantage in hard-to-reach rural terrains.

Addressing would-be criminals, the governor issued a clear invitation to lay down arms and embrace the state's extended amnesty programme, facilitated by a peace committee led by the Tor Tiv, His Royal Majesty, Professor James Ayatse, and the Catholic Bishop of Katsina-Ala Diocese, Most Revd. Isaac Dugu. The initiative, he said, offers a dignified path back into society for those ready to renounce violence.

"Security is the cornerstone of any progressive society," Governor Alia declared. "Without it, development is a dream deferred. That is why we are investing—strategically and unrelentingly—in securing our future. This government is not waiting for miracles; we are taking bold, practical steps."

Operation Anyam Nyor isn't operating in



Benue State Governor, Rev. Fr. Hyacinth Alia

isolation. It's a coordinated venture drawing on the might of the Nigerian Army, Navy, Police, Department of State Services (DSS), and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps. Every local government in the state will see deployment, with the taskforce serving as both deterrent and response unit.

The support from Abuja has also been pivotal. Governor Alia extended gratitude to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for federal

backing, which he said has contributed to the relative stability currently enjoyed in parts of Benue.

Traditional rulers haven't been left out of the narrative. Their quiet diplomacy and tireless advocacy have served as the moral compass steering the peace process. "They've held the line when politics wavered," the governor said, singling out the Tor Tiv and the Ochi Idoma, Chief John Odogbo, for commendation.

The ceremony drew dignitaries from across the northern region, including the Governor of Gombe State and Chair of the Northern Governors' Forum, Inuwa Yahaya; Governor Mai Mala Buni of Yobe; and the Deputy Governor of Kogi State. They all echoed one message: peace in Benue is peace in Nigeria.

The Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, represented by DIG Operations, Ali Mohamed, also lent his voice in praise of the initiative, noting that such proactive state-level efforts are essential in stamping out insecurity nationwide.

The Tor Tiv, speaking on behalf of Benue's traditional council, commended the governor for backing his words with action.

"This gesture isn't just about logistics—it's about leadership," he said. "Security personnel must now step up, maintain these assets responsibly, and serve the people with honour."

For Governor Alia, the path is clear: security first, everything else follows. And in a region long beset by violence and displacement, these steps may mark the beginning of a new story, one where the people of Benue can return to their farms, their businesses, and their lives without fear. But the journey is far from over, and as the armoured engines of Operation Anyam Nyor roar to life, the message is unmistakable: the days of unchecked lawlessness are numbered.



# Borno

## Zulum's Interventions Strengthen the Call for State Policing

In the sun-scorched heart of Nigeria's North East, where the shadows of insurgency still flicker and the winds carry the scent of both hope and havoc, Governor Babagana Umara Zulum is scripting a different kind of story — one not of despair, but of deliberate, state-led resilience.

His administration's recent donation of 110 patrol vehicles, 500 motorcycles, and 280 housing units to the police and military isn't just a show of goodwill. It's a defiant signal that Borno is taking its security destiny into its own hands. And in doing so, Zulum has reignited a national conversation many at the centre would rather avoid: the urgent case for state policing.

Speaking before a high-powered audience that included Inspector General of Police Kayode Egbetokun and Chief of Army Staff Olufemi Oluyede, Zulum didn't just hand over keys; he threw down a gauntlet. Sixty vehicles went to the Nigeria Police, 50 to the military, and the motorcycles were specifically targeted for rugged terrains where conventional vehicles falter. In a region riddled with forests, footpaths, and hideouts, mobility means survival.

Beyond the wheels, there was shelter. Zulum delivered 280 new housing units across Maiduguri to raise the morale

of the officers risking their lives daily. "We will stop at nothing to provide the tools and welfare that our security personnel need to safeguard our communities," he declared. And he meant it. But here's the hard truth: Why should a state do all this if security is supposedly a federal responsibility? Because Borno isn't just any state, it's a frontline territory. It knows its forests, its fighters, its fault lines. It understands the psychology of its people and the tactics of its enemies. And that intimate knowledge is exactly why state policing isn't a luxury, it's a lifeline.

Zulum's frustration, however, is simmering. Recently, the governor made headlines by boldly accusing some politicians and even rogue soldiers of sabotaging the fight against terrorism.

In his words and actions, there's a sense of restrained fury, the realization that while he builds, others, protected by institutional loopholes, destroy. And yet, he pushes on. He knows that if he had full command of the Police Force that he's equipping, if he could match federal firepower with state-driven strategy, Borno's path to peace would not be so painfully slow.

Zulum's local interventions, from the

Civilian Joint Task Force to the local hunters and agro-rangers prove one thing: when security is local, solutions are swift, effective, and sustainable. These are boots on the ground, hearts in the community. This didn't come from Abuja. This came from Maiduguri. The Inspector General of Police called Zulum's efforts a "significant milestone."

The Theatre Commander of Operation Hadin Kai promised the resources would be used "as intended." But even as these federal officials applaud, they know what Zulum knows: control without command is a paradox. So here stands the contradiction, a governor funding, equipping, and housing a police force he cannot deploy at will.

That's not federalism. That's a farce. Zulum's efforts are more than commendable and the federal government must wake up to the reality that state policing is not a threat to unity but a tool for survival and security efficiency. It's the missing piece in Nigeria's fragile security puzzle.





# Gov. Bassey Otu

## Even Cleanliness and Godliness Need Security to Thrive

Cross River State government's grand gesture to consistently prioritise security has seen it donate continually to maintain its status as one of Nigeria's safest states.

Recently it made a remarkable donation of 160 operational vehicles to the police and various security agencies. This substantial contribution aimed to boost crime-fighting capabilities and ensure a peaceful environment, especially during major events.

During the presentation of the vehicles to service commanders in Calabar, the state Governor Bassey Otu, underscored his administration's unwavering dedication to protecting lives and property. He specifically pledged a trouble-free Cross River, urging all residents to move around freely with confidence, given the extensive security measures put in place.

According to the governor, the sheer number and quality of the vehicles donated were a clear indication of the high level of safety and security that visitors and residents alike could expect in the state.

Beyond the donation of vehicles, the state also highlighted the recently established Homeland Security Service as a crucial complement to the efforts of federal security agencies. This service comprises young graduates specifically trained in security and protection of lives and property, designed to work in close collaboration with the Nigeria Police and the armed forces. This initiative aimed to ensure peace, tranquillity, and safety

throughout the yuletide season.

The State Security Adviser, Mr. Jude Ngaji, described the event as "epochal," asserting that with the significant vehicle donation, a dynamic security-alert governor, and proactive service commanders, criminals should consider fleeing the state.

Speaking on behalf of the service commanders, the state Commissioner of Police, Jimoh Ozi-Obeh, expressed gratitude for the worthy donation and assured that the mandate of a crime-free Cross River State would be actualized.



Gov. Bassey Otu

The donation of 160 vehicles by the Cross River State Government represents a monumental investment in the operational capacity of its security agencies, including the Nigeria Police Force. This large-scale provision of mobility significantly enhances the ability of law enforcement to patrol extensively, respond rapidly to incidents, and maintain a visible presence across the state's diverse landscape. Such substantial support is critical for states that are deeply committed to maintaining a high level of security, particularly those with significant economic and tourism interests that rely on a perception of safety.

This significant contribution by Cross River State also indirectly fuels the ongoing national conversation about state policing. When a state independently procures and donates such a large fleet of vehicles to federal security agencies, it vividly illustrates the financial burden and active role states already play in bolstering security within their jurisdictions. Proponents of state policing argue that if states are already making these massive investments, granting them direct control over their own police forces would lead to greater efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness to local security challenges. Cross River's commitment to maintaining its "safest state" status through such a grand gesture serves as a powerful example of a state's capacity and willingness to manage its security affairs, adding weight to the argument for a more decentralized policing system in Nigeria.





# Delta State Operation Delta Sweep



## ● Sheriff Donates 31 Operational Vehicles to Police

In an act of governance that speaks not only to immediate threats but also to a broader, increasingly urgent conversation, the establishment of state police in Nigeria, Governor Sheriff Oborevwoori has handed over 31 operational vehicles to the police.

Presenting the vehicles to the Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, in Asaba, the governor stated that the donation which comprised 23 pickup vans and 8 Sienna wagons, plus a previous batch of four Hilux vehicles, was designed to enhance joint patrol efforts under the newly rebranded "Operation Delta Sweep", formerly known as Delta Hawk. "In my MORE Agenda, I promised Deltans peace and security," Oborevwoori declared.

"Rebranding this joint task force underscores a renewed strategy to tackle insecurity. Without a secure environment, meaningful development is impossible." The governor's remarks hinted at a larger narrative: the inadequacy of centralized policing and the increasing need for localised, responsive security frameworks—a key argument for the

creation of state police.

"This is about giving power back to the people, about ensuring that security operatives understand the terrain, the communities, the threats," Oborevwoori noted. "That's how we truly stay ahead of crime." Since its launch in December 2020, the joint task force, comprising the Nigerian Army, Police, Air Force, Navy, DSS, and Civil Defence Corps, has made significant inroads in combating illegal oil bunkering, kidnapping, armed robbery, cultism, and drug-related offenses. But the rebranding to Operation Delta Sweep signals a sharper, more dynamic approach, one that many argue would be more effective if anchored on state-controlled police units.

During a courtesy visit by the IGP, the Delta governor also praised Egbetokun's "Safe School Program," which deploys specialized squads to protect students and academic institutions against terror and violent attacks.

"Thanks to this initiative, parents and guardians can now rest assured that their children are safe. I commend the IGP for

this

exemplary leadership," Oborevwoori said, adding high praise for the Delta State Commissioner of Police, CP Olufemi Abaniwonda, and other security heads who make up the state's security architecture. Egbetokun, in response, lauded the governor's proactive support: "With a governor like you, we don't need to ask for more. You have exceeded expectations. These vehicles will be deployed immediately to enhance the operational effectiveness of Operation Delta Sweep."

But beyond fleet donations and praise, a deeper political current is swirling. With states like Delta stepping up to fill the policing gap left by a stretched federal system, calls for the legal backing of state police forces are reaching a crescendo. Governor Oborevwoori's sustained investment in local security solutions—vehicle fleets, rebranded operations, and support for inter-agency collaboration—suggests that Delta is not waiting for a constitutional amendment to start acting like it already has a state police force in all but name.

At the opening of the Police Public Relations Officers and Communications Experts Conference in Asaba, Oborevwoori pushed further, urging the police to use accurate communication to counter social media misinformation that often paints Delta in a negative light. "As PROs, your role is critical. Engage the public. Tell your stories. Build trust. That's the only way the police can bridge the trust gap and improve public perception," he advised.

The IGP, in his remarks, reaffirmed the Force's commitment to fairness and accountability and described the media as "a vital ally in shaping public trust and enhancing advocacy." Delta State isn't just beefing up patrols, it's building a case for structural reform. The writing is on the wall: Nigeria's unitary police system may soon need to give way to a more decentralized force.



Follow us     





State Police For Reach, Speed And Coordination

# Ebonyi State boosts police moral, Donates Vehicles

As Nigeria's national conversation around decentralising security continues to gain momentum, Ebonyi State is quietly making its own moves. In a symbolic yet strategic gesture, Governor Francis Nwifuru has handed over a fleet of operational vehicles to the military and police forces operating within the state, reinforcing Ebonyi's stance on community-centred or better still State Police.

The presentation of 10 Hilux trucks was carried out in Abakaliki by Deputy Governor Patricia Obila, on behalf of Governor Nwifuru. The donation is part of a broader effort to improve the reach, speed, and coordination of joint security patrols under the newly branded task force: "Operation Ijeoma", a name drawn from the Igbo word for "safe journey." The state's decision to mobilize its own resources for security is, in effect, a nod to the rising call for state police. While the constitutional reform remains elusive, more states like Ebonyi are beginning to take practical steps in building security frameworks that reflect their local realities.

"Ebonyi is safe," the governor's office declared. "It's the only state where you sleep with both eyes closed." According to officials, Operation Ijeoma was designed as a joint strike force to anticipate and neutralize threats before they escalate. The unit includes personnel from the Army, Police, Civil Defence, Immigration, and Correctional Service, among others. The Commander of the Nkwagu Military Cantonment, Lt. Col. A.A. Bako, described the donation as timely and pledged "maximum commitment" to the state's peace and security. The Commissioner of Police, Mrs. Augustina Ogbodo, also expressed appreciation, calling the gesture "a major morale booster."

Earlier, Governor Nwifuru had also donated three brand new Nissan Hilux vehicles to various federal security agencies, including the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Immigration Service, and the Correctional Service. He urged the beneficiaries to use the vehicles strictly for crime-fighting operations. The trend isn't new. Under previous administrations, especially during Governor David Umahi's tenure, Ebonyi State had also invested heavily in mobile security infrastructure. During the launch of Operation Python Dance III, Umahi distributed dozens of operational vehicles to the Army, Police, DSS, and others, stating that "only enemies of progress" opposed military presence in the region. At the time, the Army's 82 Division in Enugu selected Ebonyi as the operational base for its Southeast campaign, citing the state's "stable and purposeful leadership."

A breakdown of the past allocations showed the Police receiving 30 vans, Army 4, DSS 3, and Neighbourhood Watch 15, among others. This consistent investment across administrations, both past and present, sends a clear message: Ebonyi is not leaving security to chance. Whether or not Nigeria officially embraces state policing, the state is already acting as if it has the mandate.

Ebonyi's actions highlight a growing pattern nationwide: states are tired of waiting for Abuja to decentralize the police force. Whether under the banner of joint task forces or localized operations, governors are investing in their own security ecosystems. For now, the name may not be "state police", but the function is nearly identical.





# Okpebholo

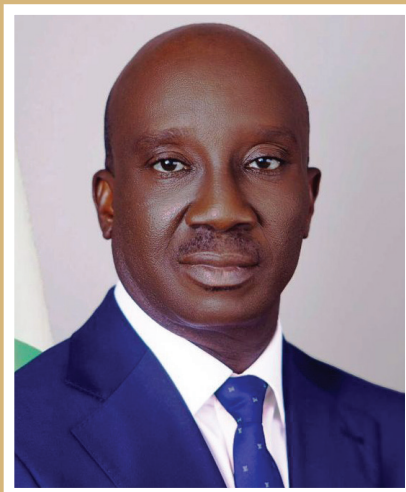
## Donates 55 Vehicles to Police

### ● As message to criminals

**G**overnor Monday Okpebholo isn't waiting for permission from Abuja to secure his people, he's writing his own security playbook. In just a few months in office, the Edo State leader has rolled out a commanding show of leadership, donating 55 Toyota Hilux trucks to the Nigeria Police, alongside 16 Toyota Prado SUVs and 48 Toyota Hiace buses, dramatically upgrading the state's crime-fighting capacity.

This wasn't a typical ribbon-cutting affair but a declaration of intent, a message to criminals and citizens alike that Edo is under new management, and this administration means business. At the epicentre of this security renaissance stood the governor, flanked by heavyweights: Minister of Works Dave Umahi, Deputy Governor Dennis Idahosa, former governor and now Senator, Adams Oshiomhole, and an array of security chiefs, government leaders, and party stalwarts.

"These aren't just keys and cars," declared Senator Oshiomhole, his voice tinged with pride and relief. "They are rolling fortresses. They are



Gov. Monday Okpebholo

the vehicles of a promise kept. What I couldn't achieve during my tenure, Okpebholo has delivered, decisively and with flair."

Each vehicle is a command post on wheels, armed with advanced

communication gadgets to enhance coordination and rapid response. It's not just about covering ground, it's about owning it. "The criminals are mobile," Oshiomhole said, "but now the law is faster, stronger, and better equipped."

But Okpebholo isn't stopping at patrol vans. He's also making bold moves in the long-overdue push for state policing. Insiders say his administration is already laying the groundwork for localized security structures, recruiting, equipping, and empowering boots on the ground that understand the terrain and the people they protect. "Security can't be one-size-fits-all."

Governor Okpebholo knows that. He's pushing for a hybrid—federal strength, local precision," one senior official said. Beyond the police fleet, the governor has reportedly facilitated the procurement of over 10,000 motorcycles to enable swift movement in rural zones, where insecurity often festers unnoticed and unchallenged.

And let's not forget his revival of the moribund Edo Line Transport Company, with 48 newly commissioned buses now back in operation. It's not just a move to fix transportation; it's a nod to heritage. A legacy system first established in the era of Governor Samuel Ogbemudia, now brought back to life by a governor who understands both the symbolism and the necessity.

Oshiomhole, who once sat in the governor's seat, admitted: "I tried to revive Edo Line but couldn't. Okpebholo has done it. The spirit of Ogbemudia is surely smiling." This is governance at street level. No fluff. No fanfare. Just solid decisions, clear priorities, and visible results. Okpebholo is chasing peace, prosperity, and public trust and he's building not just roads and buses, but resilience, the kind you can see patrolling your street, or pulling up at a bus stop.





# Oyebanji's Ekiti: No development without security

At a moment when security feels more like a prayer than a promise, Ekiti State is scripting a different story, one of quiet resolve and deliberate action. At the heart of this tale is Governor Biodun Oyebanji, whose actions speak louder than word. In September 2023, his government rolled out a security package that might make even federal agencies green with envy: ten patrol vehicles, two Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs), 50 Level-3A helmets, 50 bulletproof vests, 80 tactical boots, and 80 batons, all handed over to the Nigeria Police Command in the state. But the gesture was far more than a public relations parade, it was a signal. Just like other members of the NGF, Ekiti is not waiting for the Federal Government to solve its problems. A stitch in time saves nine. This move, dubbed the “first tranche” of broader security support, is part of a deliberate, layered policy. Beyond the hardware, Oyebanji made it clear that peace and governance are inseparable. “No development is possible without security,” he declared at the Fajuyi Pavilion handover. It's a simple truth, too often ignored. Yet the Oyebanji formula isn't just about pouring money into police coffers. It's local, it's intentional. Case in point: the state's procurement of 30 Toyota Tacoma pickup vans for the Amotekun Corps was done exclusively through Ekiti-based motor dealers, a nod to economic patriotism and local content law. That's a two-for-one deal: security beef-up and support for grassroots enterprise. And then there's the governor's tough love. Amotekun operatives, he warns, must complement, not compete with the formal police structure. This, again, reflects



a nuanced understanding of state security: it's not about creating silos or rival turf wars, but about stitching together a unified, responsive force. It begs a broader question; one Nigerians are now asking with more urgency: is it time for state police? Ekiti is quietly making a compelling case. With rising kidnappings and rural unrest, waiting on federal security alone is like relying on a leaky umbrella in a storm. Oyebanji isn't demanding a revolution; he's showing the blueprint. Equip the police. Empower local forces. Leverage local economies. And, above all, govern with a mindset that sees security not as a favour, but a foundational duty. In a country where state-level initiative is often a whisper beneath the federal thunder, Ekiti's example rings clear: the road to national stability might just begin on the quiet streets of Ado Ekiti. And in the long, winding debate over state police, this small state may be the nudge Nigeria needs to finally think big, and think local.



# Enugu's 300+ Security Actions Reshape Policing

Over the past decade, the state has logged more than 300 tangible interventions aimed at bolstering the capacities of the police and allied security agencies. At the heart of this transformation is a sustained strategy of vehicle deployment, not as vanity projects, but as tools of precision, reach, and reassurance.

From the tenure of Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi to the present administration of Governor Peter Mbah, Enugu's investment in security infrastructure has taken a deliberate and data-driven turn. In one landmark initiative, the state government handed over 65 Innoson-manufactured patrol vans to the Nigeria Police. That move was part of a broader campaign that saw an additional 260 vehicles, along with motorcycles and bicycles, distributed to Forest Guards, Vigilantes, and Neighbourhood Watch groups.

The logic was simple: if policing is to be local, then mobility must be decentralized. But the real story isn't just in the numbers. It's in the consistency. Enugu didn't stop after a few headlines. The state has continued to evolve

its approach, matching the speed of modern threats with smarter, faster, and more tech-driven tools.

A recent partnership with Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing led to another four vehicles being donated to the Enugu State Security Trust Fund. And more significantly, a fleet of 150 AI-powered security vehicles has been deployed statewide. These aren't just cars they're mobile command centres, equipped with surveillance cameras, real-time data links, and high-grade communication systems that allow rapid coordination between security agencies.

Law enforcement officials say the results have been telling. Enugu has, over the years, earned its place as one of the most peaceful states in the country. Former Commissioner of Police Danmallam Mohammed once noted that the state's "total tranquillity" was no accident it was a product of consistent government backing, logistical support, and a culture of accountability.

Governor Mbah's administration has doubled down on that legacy. His vision for a safe and business-friendly Enugu includes not just responsive policing, but predictive security a system that leverages



Governor Mbah

technology and community trust to prevent crime before it starts. In his words and actions, security is treated not as an abstract ideal but a living, visible reality.

Across Enugu today, it's not uncommon to see patrol vehicles cruising through communities, lights flickering, radios crackling with updates. For residents, this visibility is reassurance. For criminals, it's a warning. Security, in Enugu's vision, is no longer a luxury. It's a lived experience, strategically rolled out, technologically empowered, and consistently reinforced. With over 300 interventions and counting, the state has turned security from a slogan into an engine of peace.





# Yahaya's Security Blueprint for Police Efficiency



At the recently held Gombe State Security Summit, inside the polished halls of the International Conference Centre, Yahaya didn't just deliver a speech, he delivered a fleet. Fifty brand-new operational vehicles and protective gadgets and gears were handed over to various security agencies across the state. It was a bold move, not just in optics, but in outcomes. Gombe is setting a rare example: peace as policy, not coincidence.

To address insecurity, we must embrace collective action," Yahaya told a hall packed with service chiefs, intelligence experts, and community leaders. And he wasn't throwing around buzzwords. The Gombe approach is deliberate, a three-tier system of state investment, community involvement, and inter-agency collaboration.

In the vast security puzzle that is Nigeria, the northeastern state of Gombe is quietly assembling its own corner with precision, purpose, and partnerships that actually work. At the helm of this effort stands Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, a man not merely reacting to insecurity but proactively redrawing the contours of what effective state support for law enforcement can look like.

But let's break that down.

The operational vehicles, essential for mobility in rural and rugged areas, represent more than horsepower, they represent state-level buy-in. When governors treat security as a personal priority, not just a federal afterthought, the results follow. This gesture alone expands the policing radius, reduces response times, and improves morale across units from the Nigeria Police to the NSCDC.

Speaking of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Gombe didn't leave them behind either. The Yahaya administration not only donated three brand-new utility vehicles to the corps but went the extra mile by refurbishing five grounded ones, including a critical transport bus. That kind of logistical foresight? It's rare, and it matters.

Commandant Gyama Gyawiya of the NSCDC called it what it is, a game-changer. "With this support, we're better positioned to respond to emergencies, protect critical infrastructure, and serve the people of Gombe," he said. And this wasn't just government-led. Community groups like Gadam Community Development Association (GACDA) chipped in with a new Toyota Hilux for their local division, proving that in Gombe, security is everyone's business. The summit's theme, "Building a safer and more secure Gombe State: Addressing insecurity through collective action," wasn't just a backdrop, it was the blueprint. Experts like Gen. Abdulrasheed Aliyu (rtd) and AIG Zubairu Mu'azu (rtd) weighed in on how tech and intelligence should drive modern policing, but Gombe is already walking that talk with boots, buses, and blueprints.

In a region too often defined by volatility, Gombe is writing a different narrative, a peace forged not by luck, but by leadership. The vehicles may be the visible symbol, but the real engine is political will. If other states are watching, they should take notes, in the spirit of the NGFs flagship States Peer Review Mechanism SPRM



# Imo's Relentless Push: A Case Study in State- Backed Policing

**I**mo State is rewriting the rulebook on security intervention, not with fanfare, but with fuel, wheels, and willpower. Governor Hope Uzodinma's administration is not just pledging support to the Nigeria Police Force; it's delivering it, one patrol vehicle, one APC, one morale-boosting gesture at a time.

The latest show of commitment is twenty-two brand-new operational vehicles, handed over to the Imo State Police Command, a move that builds on an already impressive security arsenal: 27 patrol vans, 32 previously donated vehicles, and 11 refurbished Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs). This is no token gesture. It's a systematic strategy.

Commissioner of Police, Aboki Danjuma, didn't mince words in his gratitude: "The governor's enormous contributions, particularly in logistics and operational support, remain the backbone of many of our achievements."

But the effort goes deeper than just machinery. Under Uzodinma's leadership, previously grounded and forgotten police vehicles have been recovered and rehabilitated into active duty. These are the quiet revolutions, the things that don't make headlines but change lives. Even more poignant is the state's outreach to the families of injured and fallen officers, offering support not out of obligation but



Gov Hope Uzodinma

empathy. In a profession where morale is half the battle, such gestures count.

The refurbished APCs and fresh vehicles are being strategically deployed across every Police Division and Area Command in the state, with visibility patrols and night operations getting a long-overdue boost. It's a move aimed not only at fighting crime but deterring it. The message is clear: in Imo, the police are present, prepared, and

backed to the hilt.

The Inspector-General of Police himself witnessed this commitment firsthand in August 2022, attending a high-profile commissioning ceremony. His presence alone underscored the weight of the state's investments in its security apparatus.

Governor Uzodinma's conviction is consistent: security is the foundation of development. "When we equip the police, we are not just fighting crime, we are paving the road for growth, for investment, for peace," he has said on multiple occasions. And he's walk that talk.

Imo's actions are not just commendable; they spark a national conversation. If one state can take this level of ownership over its policing infrastructure, why not empower more states to do the same? The call for state policing has never had more real-world justification. Local challenges need local solutions, and Imo is living proof of how that can work.

When a state demonstrates not just the will but the capacity to support, equip, and uplift its police force, it signals the potential for a more responsive, community-grounded security system nationwide.

Imo is not just contributing to security; it's challenging the status quo. And in doing so, it might just be lighting the path forward for Nigeria's policing future.







# *Jigawa's Security* Investments and the Urgent Call for State Police

Jigawa State, often lauded as one of Nigeria's most peaceful regions, is not resting on its laurels. Instead, it is actively bolstering its security apparatus through pragmatic and consistent investments, offering a compelling case for greater state autonomy in policing. This commitment, evidenced by recent and past donations of crucial operational assets to various security agencies, underscores a fundamental truth: effective security is often best orchestrated at the local level.

The Jigawa State Government has repeatedly demonstrated its unwavering resolve to safeguard the lives and property of its citizens. This dedication was recently highlighted by the donation of two Toyota Hilux vehicles and twelve motorcycles to the Jigawa State Police Command, the 26 Armoured Brigade of the Nigerian Army, and the Nigeria Immigration Service.

This isn't an isolated gesture; similar donations have seen the Police Command receive five brand new Toyota Hilux vans and, on another occasion, three Toyota Hilux vans, part of which also went to the Kano/Jigawa Zonal Office of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC).

During handover ceremonies, key government officials, including the Secretary to the Government of Jigawa State, Malam Bala Ibrahim, and his predecessors, have consistently reiterated the administration's commitment to supporting security agencies. Their message is clear: the government is prepared to provide all necessary

tools to maintain Jigawa's enviable peace.

This proactive approach to security collaboration has been warmly received by police commissioners and army colonels alike, who have assured the effective utilisation of these resources to enhance operations across the state. These vehicles and motorcycles are not mere symbols; they are vital instruments for increasing patrol visibility, enabling rapid response to incidents, and generally improving the mobility and operational reach of security personnel in a diverse geographical landscape.

Jigawa's sustained investment in security forces operating within its borders serves as a powerful microcosm of why devolving policing powers to states is not just a theoretical ideal, but a pragmatic necessity for Nigeria's overall stability. When a state, recognised for its tranquillity, still deems it crucial to procure security gadgets, safety gears like bulletproof vests and other police paraphernalia, vehicles, motorcycles, and other essential equipment for its security agencies, it speaks volumes about the direct link between local investment and local peace.

Consider the pragmatic advantages of state autonomy in policing. A state-controlled police force would be inherently more attuned to the specific security challenges and nuances of its local environment. Unlike a centrally controlled force, which must contend with a vast and varied national landscape, state police would possess intimate knowledge of local crime patterns, community dynamics, and even the unique

geographical features that might aid or hinder law enforcement. This localised intelligence would lead to more targeted and effective policing strategies, moving beyond a one-size-fits-all approach that often proves inadequate for Nigeria's diverse regions.

Furthermore, state policing would foster greater accountability. When a police force is directly funded and managed by the state government, it becomes more directly answerable to the citizens it serves. This direct line of accountability can enhance transparency, reduce impunity, and build greater trust between the police and the communities they protect. It empowers state governments, who are already often the first responders to local crises and the primary providers of welfare to victims and security personnel families, to have direct control over the mechanisms of law enforcement.

Jigawa's consistent contributions are not just about supplementing a federal force; they are about filling critical gaps and providing essential resources that a centralized system might not always be able to deliver promptly or sufficiently.

This ongoing financial and logistical commitment from Jigawa, and indeed other states in the Nigeria Governors Forum, highlights a functional decentralisation already at play, albeit within a restrictive legal framework. Formalising this through state policing would simply unleash the full potential of these local commitments, leading to a more efficient, responsive, and ultimately, safer Nigeria.



# Kaduna: Fighting Insecurity with State Security Trust Fund



**K**aduna State, a crucial nexus in Nigeria's socio-economic landscape, is demonstrating an unshakeable commitment to combating insecurity, a challenge that has plagued the region with banditry, kidnapping, and other violent crimes. Far from merely appealing for federal intervention, the state government has proactively invested significant resources to bolster the operational capabilities of various security agencies, effectively becoming a vital force in the relentless war against criminals.

Under the leadership of Senator Uba Sani, Kaduna has embarked on an ambitious program of providing essential logistics to security operatives. A recent highlight of this commitment, coinciding with the governor's one-year anniversary in office, was the donation of 150 Hilux patrol vehicles and 500 motorcycles to security agencies operating within the state.

This substantial procurement is not an isolated incident; it follows previous efforts, including an instance where the Kaduna North Local Government Council independently donated seven surveillance vehicles to its divisional police stations, further underscoring a decentralised yet coordinated approach to security.

Governor Sani, inaugurating the new fleet at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim Government House, articulated the profound significance of these donations. He stressed that providing these operational tools is not just about equipping personnel; it's a powerful demonstration of his administration's unwavering support for the forces on the front lines. The new patrol vans and motorcycles are designed to significantly enhance mobility, enabling security operatives to respond more swiftly and efficiently to distress calls and to penetrate challenging, often remote terrains favoured by criminal elements. As the governor aptly put it, "Improved mobility means that security operatives can respond faster and more efficiently to distress calls. It means that our security forces can more easily seize the initiative. It

also means that citizens can feel safer because of the more visible security presence."

Beyond the provision of vehicles, Kaduna State's strategic approach to security is multifaceted. The state has enacted the State Security Trust Fund into law, a crucial step to ensure sustainable and proper funding for efforts aimed at degrading bandits and terrorists, notably with the productive engagement of the private sector.

This long-term financial commitment illustrates a pragmatic understanding that security is an ongoing investment, not a one-off expenditure. The state's Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Mr. Samuel Aruwan, has consistently highlighted the robust and productive relationship his ministry enjoys with all federal security agencies, emphasising the collaborative efforts to combat banditry, terrorism, and other forms of criminality. This spirit of cooperation extends to traditional and religious leaders, who are recognised as critical partners in maintaining peace.

The Chief of Defence Staff, General Christopher Musa, has publicly commended the Kaduna State Government for these invaluable donations, affirming the strong partnership between the armed forces and the government at both state and federal levels. He noted that such provisions "will undoubtedly bolster our operational readiness, enhance our mobility, and further strengthen our capacity to safeguard the security and sovereignty of our beloved country."

Kaduna's significant contributions to the Nigeria Police and other security outfits within its borders offer a compelling argument for greater state autonomy in policing. While the state government is commendably filling critical logistical gaps, the current centralized system often presents inherent limitations.

Empowering states with their own police forces would mean resources like those so generously provided by Kaduna could be directly managed and deployed by a force intimately familiar with local nuances and accountable directly to the state's populace.





# The quest for State Police is a task that Must be Achieved

**F**ar from leaving the vital task of policing solely to the Federal Government, the Kano State administration has consistently demonstrated its unwavering commitment to the operational capacity of security agencies within its borders. These proactive efforts, alongside the growing chorus from the Nigeria Governors' Forum, illuminate a compelling and pragmatic case for the long-debated shift to state policing.

The Kano State Government has made tangible and significant contributions to the Nigeria Police Force and other security outfits. A recent example was the donation of 78 patrol vehicles to the Kano State Police Command. This considerable fleet included 44 vehicles designated for Divisional Police Officers (DPOs) across all local government areas, and 34 Sharon cars specifically equipped for surveillance and rapid response operations.

This wasn't an isolated act of generosity; the state has previously provided various vehicles and motorcycles to the Police, Army, and Immigration Service, recognising the multi-agency approach required for comprehensive security.

Speaking at the handover ceremonies, top government officials, including Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf, have consistently emphasised

the administration's fundamental duty to safeguard lives and property. Police Commissioners and other security chiefs have expressed immense gratitude, assuring that these resources will be utilised effectively to strengthen security operations and contribute to a safer Kano.

Indeed, the State Commissioner of Police, Salman Garba, while acknowledging the donation, underscored the crucial role these new vehicles play in complementing the command's existing security efforts, particularly at a time of rapid commercial growth and increasing population in Kano. He highlighted that the Kano State Police Command operates with 11 Area Commands, 78 police divisions, 20 tactical units, and 100 police outposts, all of which will benefit from this enhanced mobility.

Commissioner Garba's remarks, expressing "insufficient" words to convey gratitude for the governor's prioritization of security and commitment to community-based policing, serve as a testament to the practical impact of the state's support.

Kano's significant and ongoing investment in the security apparatus within its domain provides a powerful, real-world argument for the long-held advocacy for state policing,



Governor Abba

a cause vehemently championed by the Nigeria Governors' Forum. The case for state policing, as pushed by the governors, is compelling. Firstly, it promises enhanced local responsiveness. A state police force would be intimately familiar with the unique cultural nuances, terrain, and specific criminal elements prevalent in its jurisdiction.

This local knowledge would enable quicker response times and more targeted, effective strategies, rather than a generic, one-size-fits-all approach dictated from Abuja. Secondly, it fosters greater accountability.





# Katsina State

## In an All-Out War on Banditry

Though Katsina State has been severely impacted by armed banditry and other violent crimes, the State Government has launched a multi-pronged, campaign to restore peace and tranquility.

The state government's substantial investment in operational vehicles, advanced equipment, and the establishment of local security outfits highlights a deep commitment to empowering security agencies and protecting its citizens. This robust state-level response also brings into sharp focus the ongoing national debate about the effectiveness and necessity of state policing.

The Katsina State government has made significant donations to enhance the mobility and firepower of security forces. Initially, 12 vehicles were donated to the Nigeria Police Force as part of measures to tackle banditry. This was in support of "Operation Puff Adder" and other police initiatives. The Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Adamu, acknowledged these efforts, assuring that everything possible was being done to bring a permanent end to criminal activities.

More recently, Governor Dikko Radda's administration has escalated these efforts dramatically. The state has acquired and inaugurated 10 armoured vehicles specifically designed to combat bandits and other criminals, particularly in the eight most affected local government areas: Safana, Batsari, Danmusa, Kankara, Faskari, Sabuwa, Dandume, and Jibia. These formidable vehicles will be deployed by the state's joint security teams, signaling a determination to "eliminate banditry and criminality."

Furthermore, Governor Radda revealed that his administration has also overhauled the vehicle fleet of the Katsina State Command of the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), a crucial move for border security and preventing cross-border crimes. This



Gov. Radda

comprehensive refurbishment, funded by the state government, involved extensive maintenance, panel beating, painting, and replacement of vital components across the Command's operational vehicles. The Comptroller of Immigration Service in Katsina, Mohammed Adamu Mahmoud, praised this intervention, noting its significance for enhancing mobility and responsiveness in securing Nigeria's northern borders.

Beyond federal agencies, Governor Radda's administration has also established and equipped its own local security architecture. In October of last year, he launched a 1,466-man Community Watch Corps to tackle insecurity in seven of the hardest-hit local government areas. These corps

members were equipped with a remarkable 70 patrol vehicles and 700 motorcycles, designed to work in conjunction with conventional security operatives to confront and eliminate bandits. The governor emphasized that despite current efforts, 22 local government areas still face security challenges, making security the top priority. He called on other states in the region to embrace similar collaborative efforts and urged the Federal Government to support such state-led initiatives.

The sheer scale of these donations, hundreds of vehicles, including armoured ones, and a substantial number of motorcycles, highlights Katsina State's proactive and significant financial commitment to fighting insecurity. This robust investment in both federal and state-led security outfits provides a compelling argument for the advocacy of state policing. When a state is independently procuring such extensive and high-value assets for security forces, it undeniably demonstrates the capacity and the existing burden states bear for maintaining law and order.

Proponents of state policing argue that if states are already making these substantial investments, granting them direct operational control over their own police forces would lead to greater efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness to localized threats. A state-controlled police force would be intimately familiar with local terrain, crime patterns, and community dynamics, enabling more targeted and effective interventions. Katsina's multi-faceted approach, combining direct support to federal agencies with the establishment and equipping of its own community watch corps, serves as a powerful testament to a state taking decisive ownership of its security challenges, thereby reinforcing the imperative for a decentralized policing system that is more effective and responsive to the unique security needs of its populace.



# Empowering Police to Secure its Frontiers

**K**ebbi State is taking a proactive and decisive stance against insecurity, consistently bolstering the operational capacity of the Nigeria Police Force and other vital security agencies within its domain.

These significant contributions underscore the state government's unwavering commitment to protecting its citizens and, implicitly, strengthen the compelling argument for a more decentralised, state-driven approach to policing across the nation.

Under the leadership of Governor Nasir Idris, Kebbi has made substantial investments in equipping its security apparatus. In a recent impactful move, the state donated a fleet of 27 operational vehicles to various security agencies.

This comprehensive donation saw 10 vehicles allocated specifically to the Police, six to the Army, four to the Department of State Services (DSS), and three to the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), alongside vehicles for the security adviser and the commandant of the vigilante group.

This wide-ranging support addresses a historical gap, with Governor Idris noting that security agencies had lamented a lack of vehicle provision from previous administrations for many years. His message was clear: with these new assets, the government expects "vigorous patrols in order to eradicate criminal activities in the state." This generosity is not an isolated event. Earlier, Governor Idris had reinforced security by donating four Hilux vehicles to security agencies, with three going to the Nigerian Army and one to the Mobile Police (Mopol). This specific provision was

aimed at boosting morale and enhancing security operations across the state. Furthermore, a previous administration under Senator Abubakar Atiku Bagudu also made significant contributions, donating ten Hilux vehicles and thirty motorcycles to the State Police Command to boost its statewide operations, particularly in the southern axis of the state which had been experiencing disturbing trends of insecurity like banditry, kidnappings, and cattle rustling.

That administration also supported the 1 Battalion of the Nigerian Army with eight Hilux vehicles and twenty motorcycles to bolster security. During official handover ceremonies, both Governor Idris and his predecessors, through their representatives, have consistently reaffirmed their administrations' unwavering commitment to providing essential logistics and resources. Governor Idris's sentiment, "Our collaboration with security agencies is for the common good of our people, and we remain steadfast in our support. Your success is our success," encapsulates the state's deep dedication.

Police Commissioners and commanding officers from the Army and Mopol have expressed profound gratitude for these donations, assuring the judicious and effective utilisation of the vehicles in crime prevention and maintaining peace. They acknowledged that these vehicles are instrumental in enhancing mobility and responsiveness, particularly crucial for addressing security challenges in hard-to-reach areas.

Kebbi State's consistent and substantial contributions to the Nigeria Police Force and other security outfits within its borders offer a powerful, real-world case for the broader national discourse on state policing. The state's proactive approach, filling crucial logistical gaps and directly empowering law enforcement, highlights the critical need for a more decentralized policing structure in Nigeria. When a state government is willing to invest billions of Naira, as Kebbi has, in equipping security agencies, it demonstrates a clear understanding of local security imperatives and a commitment to addressing them directly. Under the current federal system, states often bear the financial burden of supporting federal police over whom they have limited operational control.





# Kogi Boosts Security with New Fleet, spreads the goodwill across all tiers of government



**K**ogi state is positioning itself as a model for grassroots-driven, state-backed security intervention, blending military strength with community vigilance. The Kogi State Government has intensified its offensive against criminality with the donation of additional security vehicles and operational equipment to agencies across the state.

In a fresh move underscoring his administration's commitment to safeguarding lives and property, Governor Usman Ododo has rolled out 120 security vehicles and 44 motorcycles to support community policing efforts across all 21 Local Government Areas. Each LGA received five vehicles and two motorcycles for use by local vigilante groups and other grassroots security operatives.

This comes in addition to the 100 operational vehicles earlier distributed to various security outfits in October 2024, and the more recent donation of 10 refurbished vehicles, including four to the Nigerian Army, marking their first allocation since the governor



Gov Ododo

assumed office.

"We're laying a new foundation for Kogi's security architecture," Governor Ododo declared at the handover ceremony. "No meaningful development can happen without safety. We must make our state uninhabitable for

criminal elements."

The vehicles are part of a broader initiative, including the launch of Metropolitan Quick Response Units in Lokoja and other urban centres. These units, combined with the expansion of the state's vigilante structure, are designed to increase surveillance, improve mobility, and enable swift intervention in troubled areas.

Chairman of the Kogi State Security Trust Fund, Abdulraheem Ohiare, who presented the refurbished vehicles in Lokoja, praised Governor Ododo for releasing funds to support security logistics. "We've set up a monitoring committee to ensure these vehicles are used appropriately.

By January, we aim to have all Nigerian Army operational vehicles in Kogi back on the road," Ohiare said. Receiving the vehicles, Major Garuba Mohammed of the Nigerian Army's 12 Brigade commended the state government, vowing that the military would remain relentless in flushing out criminals. The Kogi State House of Assembly has also thrown its weight behind the initiative. Chairman of the House Committee on Security, Major Enefolo, described the Trust Fund's efforts as transformative, stating: "Insecurity will soon be history in Kogi."

Governor Ododo has also pledged the procurement of 100 armoured personnel carriers (APCs) to further empower the police and other paramilitary agencies. State Security Adviser, Commander Jerry Omodara (Rtd), affirmed that the state is focused on clearing out criminal elements through coordinated operations across its borders. "Our security strategy relies on real-time intelligence and community engagement," Ododo said. "We will stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Mr. President to eliminate all threats to peace."





# Harmonising the state police agitation at the Forum

## ... Powering Kwara's 'Operation Harmony'

**S**trategically positioned as a gateway between Nigeria's North and South, Kwara State understands that sustained peace is the bedrock of prosperity. Far from merely relying on federal provisions, the Kwara State Government has consistently demonstrated a proactive commitment to bolstering the operational capacity of the Nigeria Police Force and other security agencies within its borders, evidenced by at least four major donations of vehicles and operational equipment.

These ongoing, pragmatic investments, not only enhance the state's security framework but also strengthen the compelling case for a more localised and responsive policing system across the nation. Kwara's contributions to the Nigeria Police Force have been both consistent and substantial, spanning over a decade.

As far back as 2012, the state government donated 40 patrol vehicles to the Nigeria Police. This commitment has only deepened with time. In 2021, the government presented 20 patrol vehicles and dozens of bulletproof vests to security agencies, comprising 10 salon cars specifically for the police and 10 Toyota Hiluxes for the rapid response arm of 'Operation Harmony,' a multi-agency security outfit.

This was followed by another significant donation in 2022, with ten patrol vans handed over to the Nigeria Police Force to further strengthen security and encourage intensified crime-fighting efforts. The state's support extends to other vital security partners, as evidenced by the donation of brand new motorcycles to the Nigerian Army in 2024,



and a substantial provision of 150 off-road motorcycles to the Army in 2025.

Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq has consistently articulated his administration's unwavering dedication to addressing insecurity. During various handover ceremonies, he has reiterated the government's understanding of its primary responsibility to provide security, acknowledging the critical role of the police in maintaining law and order. "We are donating vehicles to the security agencies to fortify their work. We did that last year and later this year we will be adding more vehicles. It is a continuous exercise," the Governor remarked, underscoring the sustained nature of this support.

He has also commended the gallantry of the police and other security agencies for making

Kwara one of the safest states in Nigeria, stressing the government's commitment to "keep supporting our security agencies to make sure they keep the peace in Kwara."

The impact of these donations has been widely acknowledged by security chiefs. Commissioner of Police, Mohammed Bagega, and his successor, Paul Odama, have expressed sincere gratitude for the continuous assistance, assuring the government that the vehicles would be used for their intended purposes.

They recognise that these assets are crucial in complementing security efforts, particularly in a state that is becoming an increasingly attractive haven due to its relative peace. The vehicles significantly improve the police's ability to patrol, respond to emergencies swiftly, and maintain a visible presence, all essential for crime prevention and fostering a conducive environment for business and daily life.

Kwara State's proactive and robust contributions to the Nigeria Police Force also provides a compelling, pragmatic argument for the establishment of state policing in Nigeria. While the state government is commendably filling crucial logistical gaps, the current centralized policing system often presents inherent limitations in effectively addressing the diverse and evolving security challenges across the nation.

The case for state policing, vigorously championed by the Nigeria Governors' Forum, is rooted in the practical realities of managing insecurity. When a state like Kwara consistently invests its own resources to equip federal law enforcement, it highlights a fundamental disconnect. A state police force would be directly accountable to the state government and its citizens, fostering greater transparency and trust.



# Lagos' Police Blueprint:

## Symphony of Support, Innovation

Lagos, with its sprawling population and dynamic economy, faces unique security challenges. Yet, the Lagos State Government, through the ingenious Lagos State Security Trust Fund (LSSTF), has not merely responded to these challenges; it has proactively shaped a security blueprint that sets a national standard.

This isn't just about handing over vehicles; it's a meticulously orchestrated, continuous injection of resources and technology, built on a powerful public-private partnership, to foster a truly responsive and effective police force. Consider the sheer scale of recent contributions.

In a single, remarkable event, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, at the 18th Annual Town Hall Meeting on Security, handed over an astounding 250 brand new patrol vehicles. This wasn't merely a vehicular boost; it was accompanied by essential hardware, communication devices, and protective gear, fundamentally upgrading the operational toolkit of the Nigeria Police Force in Lagos.

This generosity even surpassed a prior commitment of 200 vehicles, showcasing the state's determination to go above and beyond. These patrol vehicles, whether the workhorse Hiluxes or the agile Sharon cars, are the lifeblood of visible policing and rapid response, allowing officers to dominate the urban landscape

and swiftly respond to distress calls. But Lagos's commitment transcends conventional donations.

The state actively champions the integration of data and technology-driven security. Governor Sanwo-Olu proudly revealed the state's acquisition of drones, vital aerial assets that will enhance crime-fighting efforts by providing a bird's-eye view, aiding surveillance, and enabling officers to "fish out criminals no matter the location" in a meticulously mapped metropolis.

Furthermore, the provision of bulletproof vests speaks volumes about the state's dedication to protecting its officers, acknowledging the inherent risks of their demanding profession.

The LSSTF stands as the cornerstone of this success. This autonomous agency acts as a vital bridge, effectively pooling resources from both the public and private sectors. This collaborative funding model allows for a continuous and substantial flow of support, demonstrating that security is a collective responsibility.

As LSSTF Chairman, Kehinde Durosinmi-Etti, passionately articulated, "Whether through predictive analytics or AI-driven threat detection, technology is reshaping how we respond to security challenges," underscoring the fund's forward-thinking approach.

The impact of Lagos's support is palpable. The Inspector-General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, himself present at significant handover ceremonies, has consistently lauded Governor Sanwo-Olu's "exemplary leadership," highlighting how Lagos is setting the pace in security innovation and welfare.

Indeed, from the granular injection of six GAC saloon cars into the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) fleet, to the commissioning of large batches of vehicles by even the President of Nigeria, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Lagos's contributions are deeply ingrained in the fabric of the police force's operational success.

The narrative isn't just about numbers; it's about a consistent, well-funded, and technologically aware strategy that ensures the police in Lagos are among the best equipped and most responsive in the nation.

It showcases how dedicated resources, technological integration, and public-private synergy can dramatically enhance security outcomes, proving that when a state takes ownership of its security challenges, it can indeed build a truly formidable defensive line.





# Nasarawa: A State's Relentless Search for Peace



**N**asarawa State has emerged as a beacon of proactive governance in the relentless pursuit of peace and security. Amidst prevailing national challenges, the state government's unwavering commitment to empowering its security architecture has not only yielded palpable results, but also provides a compelling testament to the vital role states play in safeguarding their populace.

Under the astute leadership of Governor Abdullahi Sule, Nasarawa has embarked on an impressive trajectory of managing security agencies. The statistics alone paint a vivid picture: in the last three years, the state has generously distributed a staggering 129 operational vehicles to various security outfits.

This commitment continues unabated, with recent donations including 35 vehicles, comprising 20 brand new Hilux vans, 10 brand new saloon cars, and additional fairly used vehicles, alongside a separate provision of 42 vehicles to security agencies and traditional rulers.

These infusions of mobility are not merely cosmetic; they are strategic investments aimed at enhancing surveillance, rapid response, and the overall capacity for "mobbing hideouts of criminal elements" across the state, a process that began in Awe and is steadily expanding.

Specifically, the Nigeria Police has been a significant beneficiary of Nasarawa's largesse, receiving a dedicated allocation of operational vehicles in multiple tranches. These include four operational vehicles in one distribution, and an additional



four brand new Hilux vans in another, reinforcing their ability to patrol, interdict, and respond effectively to crime.

This direct support is complemented by donations to other crucial agencies such as the Nigerian Army (receiving three and six vehicles in separate instances), the Air Force, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), and even the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA).

Governor Sule's administration understands that security is a collective

endeavour. He has consistently lauded the invaluable contributions of traditional rulers, heads of hunters, vigilantes, and religious leaders who preach peace and unity.

The impact of Nasarawa's steadfast support has been profound. Commissioner of Police, Adesina Soyemi, represented by DCP Umar Shehu Nadada, has publicly expressed immense gratitude for the continuous backing, confidently assuring that security agencies will "continue to maintain the lead for Nasarawa to remain one of the safest in the nation and the safest in the North Central geopolitical zone." This sentiment underscores the tangible results of the state's investment and partnership.

Nasarawa's comprehensive approach to security, marked by its consistent provision of critical logistics and its emphasis on collaboration, provides a compelling argument for the wider adoption of state policing in Nigeria.

When a state actively procures and distributes such a significant number of operational vehicles, it demonstrates a clear capacity and willingness to manage its security affairs. Entrusting states with their own police forces would translate these existing commitments into direct command and control, leading to a more responsive, efficient, and accountable security architecture. This would allow for localized strategies, better intelligence gathering, and quicker deployment against specific threats like banditry, which often require nuanced, community-level responses.





# Niger Gov Boosts Police with 50 Vehicles, Barracks

**N**iger State is making significant strides in its commitment to public safety. The state government, under Governor Mohammed Bago, is actively investing in the operational capabilities of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies, not just with vehicle donations but also through ambitious infrastructure projects.

This comprehensive approach underscores a determined effort to combat insecurity and provides further ammunition for the ongoing national conversation about state-level policing.

Governor Mohammed Bago recently announced a substantial donation of 25 operational vehicles to the Nigeria Police, specifically aimed at boosting security patrols across the state, with a particular focus on major towns.

This latest contribution is part of a larger, ongoing effort, bringing the total number of operational vehicles distributed to security agencies to an impressive 129 in the last three years.

These vehicles are vital for enhancing the police's patrol capacity, ensuring a more visible presence, and enabling rapid response to security concerns in urban areas where such needs are most pressing.

The governor's commitment extends beyond mere vehicle



provision. During the passing out ceremony of 50 participants from the newly established Special Protection Unit (SPU) Base 23 Minna, Governor Bago revealed an even more ambitious plan: the state government is actively collaborating with the police to construct barracks on the outskirts of Minna.

This strategic initiative aims to significantly enhance security coverage, extending robust law enforcement presence to all four corners of the state capital, providing crucial accommodation and logistical

bases for personnel.

This proactive stance by the Niger State Government is a clear indication of its dedication to tackling the menace of insecurity head-on. Governor Bago has consistently reaffirmed his administration's unwavering support for the Nigeria Police and other security agencies, acknowledging their pivotal role in maintaining peace and order.

The establishment of SPU Base 23 Minna, sanctioned by the Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, and the comprehensive training its first 50 graduates received in VIP protection, firearms handling, and self-defence, further demonstrate a commitment to specialised security needs within the state.

The impact of these combined efforts is expected to be profound. The increased fleet of vehicles will improve overall law enforcement coverage, while the new SPU unit will enhance the police's ability to provide round-the-clock protection for high-profile individuals, a growing necessity. The construction of new barracks will address long-standing logistical challenges, providing a more stable and strategic operational base for officers.

Niger State's robust and multi-faceted support for the Nigeria Police further serves as a compelling real-world example in the ongoing national debate about state policing. The state is already shouldering a significant financial and logistical burden to ensure the safety of its citizens, demonstrating both the capacity and the urgent need for more localised control over law enforcement.

If states are already proactively procuring vehicles, funding training, and even investing in infrastructure like barracks for federal police, it logically follows that empowering them with their own police forces would lead to even greater efficiency and responsiveness.





# Providing tech-driven solutions to security

Ogun State is not merely reacting to security challenges but proactively building a formidable defence against criminality. Under the leadership of Governor Dapo Abiodun, the state government has consistently invested in the operational capabilities of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies, integrating cutting-edge technology and advocating for sustained support that paints a compelling picture for the future of policing in Nigeria.

Governor Abiodun recently underscored this commitment by donating a fleet of 25 patrol vehicles to the Ogun State Police Command and other security agencies. This was not just a standalone act of generosity but part of a larger, ongoing strategy that has seen the administration procure more than 100 patrol vehicles and motorcycles, along with over 300 communication gadgets, over the past four and a half years.

This consistent investment in mobility and connectivity is crucial for enhancing the police's ability to patrol extensively, respond swiftly to emergencies, and maintain a commanding presence across the state's diverse landscape.

What truly sets Ogun's approach apart is its embrace of technology. Beyond the vehicles, the state has acquired surveillance drones designed to monitor criminal activities across all parts of the state. This forward-thinking move,

undertaken in collaboration with Lagos and Oyo State governments, is particularly aimed at effectively monitoring and ensuring prompt responses to emergencies along the critical Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

Governor Abiodun rightly stressed the importance of technology in crime fighting, noting that the drones will allow security agencies to effectively "monitor activities and ensure prompt response to emergencies."

During the presentation, Governor Abiodun reiterated his administration's steadfast commitment to prioritising the welfare and security of its people. He highlighted efforts to "strengthen and support our already established Security Trust Fund by procuring relevant gadgets, including drones," and pledged to "augment the allowances and living conditions of our security personnel to motivate them."

This holistic approach acknowledges that effective policing requires not just equipment but also motivated and well-cared-for personnel. The governor also lauded the police authority for its infrastructural development in the State Command, pointing to the new police headquarters building, the Technical Intelligence Unit, the Complaints Response Unit, and the Olukayode Adeolu Egbetokun Multi-purpose Cooperative Hall as evidence of a burgeoning, modern force.

The Inspector General of Police, Mr. Kayode

Egbetokun, receiving the donations during his visit to Ogun State, commended Governor Abiodun's "innovative and transformational leadership style."

He acknowledged the massive infrastructural development across the state and spoke of plans for more police stations, Area Commands, and the deployment of mobile police squadrons to ensure adequate security. This mutual appreciation highlights the productive synergy between the state government and federal law enforcement.

Ogun State's comprehensive and technologically advanced support for the Nigeria Police Force offers a compelling argument for the establishment of state policing in Nigeria. When a state actively procures sophisticated surveillance equipment like drones, alongside a robust fleet of vehicles, and invests in the welfare and morale of officers, it demonstrates a clear capacity and desire to take charge of its internal security.

The current centralized policing model often struggles to provide the nuanced, localised responses required for Nigeria's diverse security challenges. States like Ogun are already stepping in to fill these critical gaps, bearing significant financial burdens to ensure the safety of their citizens.





# Support to NPF and the Amotekun Model

In an era where escalating insecurity often dominates headlines, Ondo State consistently demonstrates that decisive state leadership can significantly alter the narrative. Far from merely lamenting challenges, the state government, under the leadership of Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, has embarked on a bold and sustained mission to improve its security infrastructure, setting a compelling precedent for the implementation of state policing in Nigeria.

Governor Aiyedatiwa's administration, continuing a deeply ingrained tradition of providing vital support to security agencies, recently fortified its security apparatus by donating 50 patrol vehicles to a wide array of agencies operating within its borders. This impressive allocation included vehicles for the Army, Navy, Nigeria Police, Civil Defence, DSS, and crucially, the homegrown Amotekun Corps.

Over the years, Ondo has consistently supplied operational vehicles, surveillance tools, and direct logistical aid, ensuring that law enforcement is well-equipped to swiftly and effectively tackle crime. Speaking at a handover event in Akure, Governor Aiyedatiwa reaffirmed his administration's unwavering commitment to protecting lives and property. He openly acknowledged the resource inadequacies faced by security agencies and unequivocally stated his government's preparedness to bridge those gaps.

This commitment was profoundly influenced by tragic events, such as the devastating Owo church attack. For Governor Aiyedatiwa, strengthening security agencies wasn't just a policy directive; it was a moral imperative born from a promise to the people that such horrors would never recur. He



declared, "These vehicles are a tool of prevention, deterrence, and protection."

The support extended to the state-run Amotekun Corps is particularly noteworthy. This regional security outfit, established by the South West governors to address localized threats, has flourished under the state's leadership. Amotekun has received consistent backing in the form of operational vehicles, personnel training, and steady financial aid, enabling it to work in concert with federal agencies.

However, the full potential of Amotekun remains significantly hampered by a critical limitation: its inability to bear sophisticated arms. This constraint has only intensified the growing calls for state policing, a demand that echoes across the nation and finds strong advocacy from both political figures and revered traditional leaders. The Deji of Akure, Oba Aladelusi Aladetoyinbo, present at the vehicle handover ceremony, lauded the governor's commitment but firmly pressed for deeper reforms. His words resonate powerfully: "We need state police. We must empower Amotekun with the ability to bear arms. They know our communities, our terrain, and our people. Let's give them the tools to protect us."

The argument for state policing grows ever more compelling as criminal networks become increasingly sophisticated and the diverse security needs of different regions become apparent. A centralised, one-size-fits-all federal approach is proving increasingly outdated and inefficient.

Ondo State's consistent and robust actions demonstrate that when state governments are empowered and held accountable, they possess the capacity and determination to deliver tangible security results. The 1999 Constitution rightly enshrines security as the most sacred duty of government. And Ondo State, through years of consistent action rather than mere lip service, is making a powerful and undeniable case: if states are given the necessary tools and the autonomy to manage their internal security, they will undoubtedly build safer communities. Perhaps, the time has finally come for Nigeria to heed this call and transform state policing from an aspiration into a concrete reality.





# Osun Re-equips its Defenders

**O**sun State is making significant strides in its commitment to enhanced security through both direct donations and the crucial rehabilitation of long-abandoned assets.

The state government is actively reinforcing the capabilities of its security forces. This pragmatic approach not only addresses immediate threats but also adds weight to the growing national clamour for state policing.

In a proactive move to fortify regional security, the Osun State Government recently donated 20 operational vehicles to the Police. This significant contribution was made in line with a collective resolution by South West governors, who met to address worsening security challenges, including the menace of banditry and other criminal activities plaguing the region.

These vehicles are vital for increasing patrols, improving response times, and enhancing the overall visibility of law enforcement across the state.

Beyond new acquisitions, Governor Ademola Adeleke's administration has undertaken a crucial rehabilitation effort, demonstrating a commitment to resourcefulness and continuity. The state has successfully completed the rehabilitation of 11 out of 22 Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) that had been acquired by a previous administration but subsequently abandoned for years.

Governor Adeleke expressed concern over the rusting away of these vital assets and directed their phased rehabilitation, with the first batch of 11 carriers now nearing completion. This initiative not only injects robust, protected mobility into the state's security apparatus but also reflects the administration's vow "never to abandon

any inherited projects," emphasizing a politics of development over bitterness. While the move has sparked some political debate regarding its novelty, the tangible outcome is a stronger security posture for Osun.

These significant contributions by the Osun State Government to its security agencies underscore a critical reality: states are increasingly bearing the brunt of security provision, often supplementing or revitalising federal assets operating within their borders. This hands-on involvement by states provides a compelling argument for the establishment of state policing in Nigeria.

The case for state policing is rooted in pragmatism and effectiveness. When a

state actively acquires and rehabilitates vital assets like patrol vehicles and APCs, it demonstrates a clear understanding of its unique security landscape and the immediate needs of its communities.

Empowering states with their own police would translate this demonstrable commitment into direct command and control, fostering greater accountability.

A state-level police force would be intimately familiar with local crime patterns, cultural nuances, and geographical specifics, enabling more targeted and swift responses to threats. This contrasts sharply with a centralized system that often struggles with rapid deployment and tailored strategies across a vast and diverse nation.







# Oyo's Comprehensive approach to State Police

Oyo State stands as a testament to proactive governance in the fight against crime. The state government has adopted a multifaceted and comprehensive approach to boosting the capabilities of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies, extending far beyond mere donations to encompass crucial funding, infrastructure, and community engagement.

This robust commitment aims to create a safer environment for all residents and significantly enhance the police force's ability to combat criminal activities.

Under the leadership of Governor Seyi Makinde, the Vice Chairman of the NGF, Oyo State has implemented a variety of initiatives to provide unwavering support. A cornerstone of this commitment is direct financial backing. The government provides consistent funding to cover essential monthly running costs, welfare allowances for personnel, and even accommodation for commanders. This financial lifeline ensures that the police can sustain their operations effectively, mitigating logistical hurdles that often impede law enforcement.

Beyond monetary support, Oyo State has significantly invested in operational mobility and infrastructure. While directly providing operational vehicles to the Amotekun Corps, which works in close collaboration with the police, the state has also played a crucial role in enhancing broader security infrastructure.

Notably, it has donated 58 hectares of land and N500 million for the establishment of an Air Force Base in Ibadan. This strategic investment, while primarily for the Air Force, undeniably benefits the Nigeria Police by improving aerial surveillance capabilities and providing crucial logistical support in combined operations.

Furthermore, the state has made tangible efforts to expand and upgrade its Security

Control Room and City Watch facilities at the Oyo State Security Trust Fund Headquarters, which serve as a central operational base for responding to threats and house the effective toll-free Citizens' Emergency line (615).

Oyo State's approach also deeply integrates community partnerships into its security framework. The government actively involves traditional rulers, community leaders, and grassroots members in regular Security Council meetings held twice monthly across all 33 local government areas. These meetings, which receive financial logistics from the state, foster synergy between state and non-state actors, enhancing intelligence gathering and community support for the police.

The inauguration of the Oyo State City Watch Project and the Crime Alert Platform further empowers citizens to contribute to creating a safer environment, providing crucial information directly to law enforcement.

Additional initiatives reinforce this comprehensive strategy. The Oyo State government has implemented a security levy to complement the one percent security tax on state contracts, specifically earmarking these funds to support security agencies, including the police. It has also forged strong alliances with the military through joint patrols, code-named "Operation Burst," designed to combat armed gangsterism and other criminal activities. Governor Makinde's administration has consistently vowed a tough stance on crime, regularly reviewing and refining security strategies to address evolving challenges.

The state's commitment extends to the welfare of security personnel, recognising that effective policing requires motivated officers. This includes providing financial support for welfare and running costs,



Governor Seyi Makinde

paying hospital bills for injured personnel, compensating families of those who died in active service, and ensuring adequate provision of fuel and monthly servicing for patrol vehicles. Allowances for officers on patrol and ration allowances further boost morale.

By providing robust funding, essential vehicles, vital infrastructure, and fostering strong community partnerships, the Oyo State government has significantly enhanced the operational capabilities of the Nigeria Police. This holistic and proactive approach underscores a profound dedication to ensuring the safety and security of its citizens, setting a commendable standard for state-level support to national law enforcement.



# Plateau: Revitalising Security with Strategic Engagement



Plateau State, grappling with persistent security challenges, is demonstrating a resolute commitment to safeguarding its citizens. Under the decisive leadership of Governor Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, the state government is not merely acquiring new assets but strategically revitalising existing ones, significantly boosting the operational capabilities of the Nigeria Police Force and other vital security agencies. This proactive stance marks a crucial step towards ensuring peace and stability across the state.

In a significant move to strengthen security operations, Governor Mutfwang recently oversaw the handover of the first batch of refurbished and rehabilitated vehicles to security agencies operating within Plateau State. This initiative stems directly from a recent Security Council Meeting where the Governor pledged to provide the necessary tools to enhance the safety and security of Plateau's citizens. The decision to refurbish all out-of-service vehicles reflects a pragmatic approach to resource management, ensuring that every available asset is pressed into service.

The vehicles were formally presented by the Secretary to the Government of the State, Arc. Samuel N. Jatau, who commended the tireless efforts of security personnel, especially those in rural areas. He emphasized that this initiative aims to fortify the existing partnership between the state government and security agencies, directly enhancing their capacity for rapid response to emerging security challenges. Governor Mutfwang himself underscored his administration's unwavering commitment, stating that "Ensuring the safety of lives and property remains a top priority for our administration."

The distribution of these revitalized assets has been strategic, ensuring broad coverage across key security outfits. The Nigeria Police

Force received 4 vehicles, while Operation Rainbow, a state-backed security initiative, received 5. The Department of State Services (DSS) benefited from 7 vehicles, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) received 4, and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) also received a share. This comprehensive allocation ensures that diverse security mandates across the state are supported.

On behalf of the benefiting agencies, the Commandant of the NSCDC, Mr. M. Ishaku, extended profound gratitude to Governor Mutfwang, assuring him that the vehicles would be strategically deployed to maximize their impact on community safety. The consultant overseeing the refurbishment, reported that 32 vehicles were earmarked for repairs under the first phase, with 21 already deployed and an additional 11 expected soon.

This initiative marks another significant milestone in Governor Mutfwang's administration, highlighting a clear resolve to enhance security infrastructure and ensure Plateau State remains safe for all its residents. By focusing on the efficient utilization of existing resources through refurbishment



**Governor Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang**

and strategic distribution, Plateau State is building a more agile and responsive security apparatus, laying a solid foundation for enduring peace and stability in the region.





# River's Security

## Using Surveillance to Police the Waters

Rivers State has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to enhancing its security architecture. Through substantial donations of operational vehicles, cutting-edge surveillance technology, and strategic logistical support, the state government has significantly empowered the Nigeria Police Force. This proactive stance not only reflects a determined effort to combat crime but also adds considerable weight to the ongoing national discourse on the necessity of state policing.

Under Governor Siminalayi Fubara, the state's dedication to security remains paramount. Governor Fubara recently handed over a massive fleet of 100 operational vehicles to the Rivers State Police Command. These vehicles, comprising Toyota Sienna, Camry, and Corolla models, are intended to dramatically boost the command's ability to respond swiftly to emergency situations across the state. This substantial donation underscores the state's pragmatic approach to equipping its security personnel. Governor Fubara, addressing the Commissioner of Police, Olatinji Disu, emphasized the importance of professionalism and non-partisanship among officers, urging them to prioritize the protection of Rivers people and their property above all political interests.

This generous provision builds upon a legacy of robust support for law enforcement in Rivers State. Previous administrations, notably under Governor Nyesom Wike, made



Gov. Fubara

equally significant contributions. Governor Wike previously donated an additional 20 patrol vans fitted with state-of-the-art communication equipment, bringing the total number of security vans donated by his administration and the 23 local government areas to 130 operational vehicles.

This was complemented by the facilitation of dedicated telephone lines for faster police response, along with the provision of bulletproof vests and helmets. Furthermore, to combat maritime crime and crude oil theft, Governor Wike donated 14

ballistic gunboats to security agencies. His administration also launched "Operation Sting," a state-funded security formation, to which he donated an initial 40 vehicles to tackle criminal elements across the state. In total, Rivers State has donated well over 200 operational vehicles to security agencies, a testament to its consistent investment in crime fighting.

Beyond mobility, Rivers State has invested heavily in intelligence-gathering infrastructure. As it has built and handed over a sophisticated Intelligence and Surveillance Centre in Ogbum-Nu-Abali, Port Harcourt, to the Nigeria Police. This state-of-the-art facility, which the Inspector General of Police lauded as a "main boost" to policing in contemporary times, places the entire state capital under surveillance, enhancing the police's capability to use technology and ICT for crime prevention and detection. Governor Wike even pledged to build another such centre and donate 10 more armoured vehicles to strengthen its operations.

The consistent, multi-faceted, and substantial contributions by the Rivers State Government to the Nigeria Police Force present a powerful argument for the implementation of state policing. When a state is independently funding, equipping with hundreds of vehicles, providing advanced surveillance technology, and even acquiring gunboats for federal police units, it highlights the immense resources and commitment already being channelled into security at the sub-national level.

Currently, state governments bear significant financial burdens for security without commensurate operational control. A state police force would be directly accountable to the state government and its citizens, allowing for more immediate, tailored responses to local crime patterns and community-specific threats.

Governors, as chief security officers, could directly command and deploy these resources, eliminating the bureaucratic bottlenecks that can arise in a centralized system. Rivers State's extraordinary investment in its security infrastructure underscores its capacity and willingness to take charge of its internal security, making a compelling case that a truly federalized policing system would lead to more effective, responsive, and ultimately safer communities across Nigeria.





# Sokoto's Enduring Commitment to Boosting Police Operations

This consistent provision of essential equipment directly translates into a more capable and agile police force, better positioned to confront the pervasive challenges of banditry and other criminal activities in the region.

The contributions of the Sokoto State Government underscore a broader reality within Nigeria: state governments are often at the forefront of providing crucial resources to federal security agencies operating within their jurisdictions.

This practical necessity, driven by immediate security concerns, implicitly strengthens the ongoing argument for state policing. When states are already committing significant financial and material resources to equip and support the Nigeria Police Force, it raises the pertinent question of why they lack direct operational control over these forces.

A state police force, accountable directly to the state government and its citizens, would allow for a more efficient allocation of resources and a more tailored response to localized security threats. Governors who bear the primary responsibility for the security of their states would gain the operational authority necessary to deploy and direct security assets effectively.

Sokoto's enduring commitment to empowering its police, through large-scale donations of vehicles and motorcycles, serves as a powerful testament to the capacity and political will of states to manage their own security affairs, reinforcing the call for a decentralized policing system that is more responsive, accountable, and ultimately more effective in securing the lives and property of Nigerians.

Sokoto State has consistently demonstrated a robust commitment to empowering its security forces. Through significant donations of operational vehicles and motorcycles, the state government has substantially enhanced the capacity of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies to combat crime and ensure public safety.

This sustained support underscores the vital role state governments play in strengthening national security efforts. The commitment of the Sokoto State Government to security has been a consistent priority across administrations.

A former governor, Senator Aliyu Wamakko, notably handed over 10 Toyota Hilux patrol vehicles to the state police command to boost security operations, commending their efforts in maintaining peace.

Earlier in his tenure, Governor Wamakko had also announced the state government's intention to donate a massive fleet of 60 Hilux vehicles and 1,000 motorcycles to the Police to enhance their crime-fighting capabilities, with similar gestures extended to other security agencies.

The current administration has continued this legacy of support. Governor Aliyu Ahmed further solidified the state's commitment by providing 10 additional patrol vehicles to the military. This specific donation was made in addition to a remarkable 100 vehicles already given to security agencies to combat banditry in the state.

Governor Aliyu has publicly reassured all security agencies of his administration's readiness to offer continuous assistance, vowing to "do whatever it takes within the ambit of the law to protect our people," underscoring that "Security is number 1 in my nine-point agenda."

The sheer volume of these donations, hundreds of vehicles and over a thousand motorcycles across different periods, showcase Sokoto State's understanding that effective law enforcement requires substantial logistical support.

These vehicles and motorcycles are crucial for improving mobility in diverse terrains, enabling quicker response times to distress calls, facilitating extensive patrols in both urban and rural areas, and generally enhancing the presence and visibility of security personnel.







# Taraba Governor Boosts Police Operations with New Patrol Vans

Taraba State, long known for its relative calm in a turbulent region, continues to stand out for its commitment to peace and security. A key driver of this stability has been the state government's sustained investment in security infrastructure, a move that goes beyond rhetoric and shows up in boots, wheels, and results.

Reaffirming his administration's Rescue Agenda, Governor Agbu Kefas has donated brand new Hilux patrol vans to all federal security agencies operating in the state, including the Nigeria Police. This latest gesture, according to the governor, is not a one-off; it builds on earlier interventions aimed at strengthening the operational capacity

of security personnel across Taraba. The goal is clear: equip the men and women tasked with safeguarding lives and property with the tools they need to do the job effectively.

Speaking on behalf of the beneficiaries, Commissioner of Police Abimbola Sokoya extended heartfelt appreciation to the state government, assuring that the new vehicles would be put to good use in bolstering public safety. The synergy between Taraba's leadership and the federal security forces, he noted, has been crucial to keeping the peace.

Governor Kefas' approach speaks volumes about the evolving role of state governments in Nigeria's security landscape. By consistently providing operational support, especially in logistics, the Taraba State Government is making the case that security is a shared responsibility. It's also quietly advancing the long-debated conversation about state policing.

Supporters of state police argue that if subnational governments are already investing heavily in securing their territories, then granting them operational control over local police units could enhance efficiency, accountability, and rapid response to grassroots threats.

Taraba's proactive stance in equipping federal agencies and driving security outcomes from the frontlines, stands as a powerful example of what localized security ownership could look like in practice.

In an era where national security is under constant pressure, Taraba's model suggests that real safety comes not just from the centre, but from committed leadership at the state level, leaders who understand that peace must be planned, funded, and relentlessly pursued.





# Mai Mala Buni:

## Yobe's Sustained Funding Fueling Police Operations

Yobe State has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to improving its security architecture. Through a multi-pronged approach encompassing significant donations of operational vehicles, vital infrastructure, and sustained financial support, the state government is directly empowering the Nigeria Police Force and other federal security agencies.

This robust and comprehensive strategy underscores the crucial role state governments play in safeguarding their territories and provides compelling evidence for the ongoing national debate about the necessity of state policing.

The Yobe State Government has made multiple substantial donations to the Nigerian Police to aid in crime fighting. These include a remarkable fleet of 87 vehicles directly to the State Police Command, with an additional 107 vehicles donated to various other security agencies.

This sustained provision of mobility extends beyond initial handovers; for instance, Governor Mai Mala Buni's administration also donated 30 patrol vehicles and office accommodation to the newly established "Haba Maza" special squad of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies, a donation valued at N720 million.

Governor Buni emphasized that these efforts were to strengthen the squad's capacity to curb security challenges. He further highlighted that over the past seven years, the state government had procured and donated over 400 vehicles as logistical support to the Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police, and other security agencies, with significant assistance also coming from the 17 local government councils. The state government also donated 34 units of Toyota Hilux vans to the



Gov. Mai Mala Buni

Yobe State Police Command.

Beyond vehicle donations, Yobe State's commitment extends to crucial ongoing financial support. The state government consistently commits N9 million monthly for vehicle maintenance and an additional N2.7 million for special security operations.

This recurrent funding is vital for ensuring the longevity and operational readiness of the donated assets. Furthermore, the state has provided essential infrastructure, including 11 new houses to the police and facilities like a new police station in Buni Yadi. The governor has indicated that more donations, including vehicles from local government councils, are anticipated, signaling a continuous dedication to bolstering security.

Upon receiving the keys to vehicles and office accommodation, Inspector General of Police Muhammad Adamu lauded Governor Buni's efforts and urged other governors to emulate Yobe's comprehensive approach, pledging that the police would ensure lives and properties are protected.

The sheer scale and consistency of Yobe State's financial and material contributions to the Nigeria Police Force make a compelling argument for the implementation of state policing.

When a state government is independently funding the maintenance of police vehicles, providing cash allowances for officers, donating hundreds of vehicles (including bulletproof ones), and constructing police infrastructure, it clearly demonstrates both the capacity and the existing financial burden states bear for security.

In a centralized policing system, state governments, despite bearing these significant costs, have limited direct operational control over the federal police forces operating within their borders. This often leads to inefficiencies and a lack of localized responsiveness.

A state police force, directly accountable to the state government and its citizens, would allow for the seamless integration of state-funded resources with operational command. Governors, as chief security officers, would have the direct authority to deploy and manage these forces in response to specific local threats, thereby enhancing efficiency and accountability.

Yobe's extensive contributions underscore the argument that states are not only willing but also capable of managing their own security apparatus, thereby strengthening the call for a decentralized policing system that is more effective and responsive to the diverse security needs of Nigeria.





## Zamfara Govt Commits to Police Operations, Caging Banditry

**Z**amfara State significantly impacted by persistent insecurity is demonstrating a strong commitment to bolstering its security apparatus. The state government has proactively donated a fleet of operational vehicles to the Nigeria Police, a move aimed at directly enhancing their capacity to combat banditry, kidnapping, and other severe security challenges plaguing the state. This tangible support underscores the crucial role state governments play in supporting federal security efforts.

The donation of these operational vehicles by the Zamfara State Government was marked by a commissioning ceremony at the Gusau trade fair complex, attended by high-ranking officials, including the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun, represented by the Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) in charge of Zone 10 Headquarters, Sokoto, AIG Gyogon Augustine Grimah.

AIG Grimah commended the Zamfara State Government for its "proactive support" in strengthening security. He reaffirmed the Nigeria Police Force's commitment to strategically deploying the vehicles to enhance policing operations and improve overall security across the state. The symbolic handover marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to tackle the pervasive security challenges in Zamfara.

The donation is a clear testament to the state government's dedication to supporting security agencies in their arduous fight against insecurity. The Nigeria Police Force has expressed its gratitude for this crucial support, reiterating its commitment

to ensuring the safety and security of lives and property in Zamfara State.

This initiative by the Zamfara State Government highlights a practical reality in Nigeria: state governments are often compelled to provide direct, material support to federal security agencies operating within their borders to address immediate and pressing security concerns. While the specific number of vehicles donated is not detailed, the act itself signifies a strategic investment aimed at improving the mobility and responsiveness of the police in a high-risk environment.

Such contributions by state governments also serve to underscore the ongoing national conversation about state policing. When states like Zamfara, which are on the front lines of significant insecurity, commit resources to equip the Nigeria Police Force, it implicitly raises questions about accountability and operational control.

Proponents of state policing argue that if states are already bearing the financial and logistical burden of supporting security forces, granting them direct command and control over these forces would lead to more efficient resource allocation, quicker responses to localized threats, and a police force more directly accountable to the state's populace and specific security needs.

Zamfara's proactive step in donating these operational vehicles is a tangible example of a state actively seeking to improve its security situation, thereby contributing to the wider discourse on decentralizing policing powers in Nigeria.



# Growth Is A Journey

Success is never accidental.

You've come this far and still, so much more lies ahead.

PremiumTrust Bank is your unrelenting partner in your quest for more.



Tobi Amusan

#TogetherForGrowth



premiumtrustbank

[www.premiumtrustbank.com](http://www.premiumtrustbank.com)