

SECRET



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR

THE SECRETARY TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICE

P. M. B. 1090, JALINGO, TARABA STATE, NIGERIA.

TELEGRAM: "SECGOVT"

☎ 079 - 223030; 223230

Our Ref:.....

Your Ref:.....

Date.....

28TH JANUARY, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Fake Video statement credited to His Excellency, Governor Danbaba Danfulani Suntai.

Our attention has been drawn to the scandalous "news" making the rounds in some sections of the media saying Governor Danbaba Suntai has, in an interview said that he is not fit to return to his office. Apart from the comical nature of the news item, the unprofessionalism of the media was profoundly saddening. A salacious concoction started by the discredited and unreliable Sahara Reporters was lifted by some media houses and presented as news. This is indeed sad. It is disturbing that the media houses did not even bother to cross their check facts and seek for balance, a cardinal cornerstone of journalism, before going to the Press.

It should interest the world to note that most of the papers, who reported that Governor Danbaba Suntai has admitted that he cannot resume work, did not get their story from their correspondents in Jalingo.

Furthermore, the same newspapers which had reported that Governor Suntai could not talk and could not reason, had granted an interview saying, where he could say that he was not fit to go back to work.

Secondly, their source was a video shown by a pressure group in Lagos to a collection of "top editors". Again, this is dubious. We wonder if the Lagos based editors noticed that the video is a "photoshopping" done by desperate groups and politicians who do not want to follow the due process of the law to achieve their diabolical objectives. The same desperados using state funds have tried to dupe the media and hoodwinking the public into believing, that Governor Danbaba is either dead, in a coma or is not recovering.

It should be noted that these are the same group of people who have consistently attacked and criticised public appearances of Governor Suntai, including his broadcast to the people of the state saying that these were staged managed. If our videos are fake, what is the guarantee their own now is authentic? The same clan of desperate power mongers like to tell the world that Suntai can't even produce a speech or respond intelligently to questions. So how come the same Suntai is telling them he can't resume? Or do they only choose to hear what they want to hear?

For the avoidance of doubt Suntai has not, at any point, granted such an interview to any reporter in Jalingo. If and when he grants it, it would be with known reporters and not a faceless reporter as carried in the tale. The video in question are disparate items, taken out of context, and manipulated to further the narrow interest of those who have been praying for Sunatai to die to further their political interest.. Even a green horn in such propaganda stunt can see through this 'monetised' gambit.

The truth though is that in most of his public appearances lately, Governor Suntai has continued to assure the state that he would return to office. He even visited his office the other day as part of his determination to resume work at the appropriate time. Why are his traducers scared and spewing comical videos around?

This latest media onslaught is consistent with the one that began after the crash. They had said Suntai was dead then. They eventually changed their story to saying he is brain damaged and can't recognise his environment. The current tale is just the continuation of the propaganda.

Having failed to stop Suntai's recovery, the desperados are now trying to discourage millions of Nigerians who have been praying for the governor's complete recovery.

Governor Suntai is recovering fast and would soon return to his office and complete the mandate Taraba people overwhelmingly gave him first in 2007 and then in 2011. It is only a matter of time.

Sign:

Bar. G.T. Kataps

SECRET