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First Lady to inaugurate \$1m clinics in Ibadan, FCT

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Come next Monday, the city of Ibadan will play host to a crème of the society, including the First Lady, Mrs. Turai Yar'Adua and the wife of the Vice-President, Mrs. Patience Jonathan; as the ground-breaking of the first of the two modern clinics and vocational centre being facilitated by the Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Remi Babalola, in partnership with the Nigerian Red Cross, will be performed.

The Ibadan facility will be located along the new Ibadan-Ife Expressway, Temidire area, while the other will be situated along the Airport Road in the Federal Capital Territory.

The clinics, which are worth over \$1m, are to be completed within the next five months, and are expected to boost Nigeria's primary healthcare service delivery.

Already, Messrs Footsteps Projects Limited (main contractor) and Landmark Turnkey and Allied Company (architect), have been mobilised to the Ibadan site. The ground-breaking of the Abuja clinic will come up next month.

The Technical Assistant (Special Duties) to the minister, Mr. Laide Agboola, disclosed in a statement that the two modern clinics would have basic amenities to facilitate rural and urban healthcare delivery.

He said, "The design of the clinics comprises three major functional entities namely the administrative units, consulting units and allied services, while the units have been categorised into theatre and laboratories, emergency and treatment units, private and general wards, consulting rooms, pharmacy and accounting units, and nurses' station/staff changing room and lounge, among others.

“Each of the clinics is expected to cover approximately 1,000 square metres and may require a total of about 4,000 square metres inclusive of parking and landscaping. The concept, space appropriation and functionality are expected to respond to primary economic and environmental factors responsible for the actualisation of this dream.

Agboola said that NRC would equip the clinics with the latest cutting-edge technology to facilitate effective medical services and reduce instances of rural-urban referrals.

He said that Babalola had mobilised about \$1m through voluntary contributions by friends towards the construction of the two clinics and a vocational centre.

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