THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 7th February, 2013

1. **Prayers**
2. **Approval of the Votes and Proceedings**
3. **Oaths**
4. **Announcements (if any)**
5. **Petitions**

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Bill 2013 (SB. 250) – *First Reading*
   Sen. Ben Ayade *(Cross River North)*

2. Nigerian Construction Academy (Est. etc) Bill 2013 (SB. 251) – *First Reading*
   Sen. Ben Ayade *(Cross River North)*

3. Food Processing and Agro-Industrial Centre (Est. etc) Bill 2013 (SB. 252) – *First Reading*
   Sen. Ben Ayade *(Cross River North)*

4. Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as Amended 2011 (Alteration) Bill 2013 (SB. 253)
   First Reading
   Sen. Umaru Dahiru *(Sokoto South)*

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Immediate Action on the Second Niger Bridge Project
   Sen. Hope Uzodimma *(Imo West)*

Sen. Ike Ikweremadu
Sen. James Manager
Sen. Paulinus I. Nwagu
Sen. Abubakar S. Yar'Adua
Sen. Emmanuel Paulka
Sen. Mohammed Mogoro
Sen. Mohammed S. Lafiaji
Sen. Ita Enang
Sen. Atai Aidoko Ali
Sen. Ayogu Eze
Sen. Aisha Alhassan
Sen. Gilbert Nnaji
Sen. Abdulmumini M. Hassan
Sen. Victor Ndoma-Egba
Sen. Domingo Obende
Sen. Mohammed Ndume
Sen. Danladi Sankara
Sen. Zaynab A. Kure
Sen. Matthew I. Nwagwu
Sen. Victor Lar
Sen. Magnus Abe
Sen. Nkechi Nwaogu
Sen. Chris Anyanwu
Sen. Abdulaziz Usman
Sen. Margery C. Okadigbo
Sen. Enyinnaya Abaribe
Sen. Chris Nwankwo
Sen. Nenadi E.Usman
Sen. Ayo Akinyelure
Sen. Abubakar U. Tutare
Sen. Phillip T. Aduda
Sen. Sonni Ogbuoji
Sen. Abubakar A. Bagudu
Sen. Chris Ngige
Sen. Uche Chukwumerije
Sen. Andy Uba
Sen. Kunlere Boluwaji
Sen. Hosea Agboola
Sen. Barnabas Gemade

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THE SENATE,

NOTES that River Niger Bridge, in Onitsha, Anambra State, the link bridge between the South-East, South-South and some Northern states, is in a horrifying state of decay with imminent threat of collapse sooner than later;

NOTES particularly that because of the aforesaid state of the bridge, commuters have since the Christmas season, been subjected to excruciating ordeals wherein only single lanes are allowed to ply the bridge at a time for fear that the normal double lane carriage could lead to an instant collapse of the bridge. Consequently, endless traffic jams now build up at the bridge keeping travelers on the road for eight or more hours;

AWARE that the poor state of the said bridge has been a subject of concern to relevant authorities resulting in the conception of a second Niger Bridge project as a permanent structure to contain the ever heavy traffic across the bridge from all parts of the country;

WORRIED that the second Niger Bridge Project has remained on the drawing board for too long with no manifest practical step towards its actualization;

CONCERNED that the evidently weak and collapsing River Niger Bridge may cave in suddenly without any further notice which could result to a major National catastrophe and tragedy of unimaginable proportions.

Accordingly resolves to

i. *URGE* the Federal Ministry of Works to undertake immediate reinforcement, repairs and rehabilitation of the River Niger Bridge to avoid the tragic consequences of its possible collapse;

ii. *ENJOIN* the Federal Ministry of Works to take immediate action to commence work on the second Niger Bridge project before the end of this quarter.

2. Urgent Need to Investigate the Imminent Collapse of Third Mainland Bridge in Lagos
Sen. Gbenga B. Ashafa *(Lagos East)*

Sen. Oluremi Tinubu
Sen. Chris Ngige
Sen. Andy Uba
Sen. Nurudeen Abatemi-Usman
Sen. Mudashiru Hussein
Sen. Ahmad Zannah
Sen. Femi Lanlehin
Sen. Mohammed Mogoro
Sen. Ifeanyi Okowa
Sen. Uche Chukwumerije
Sen. Bukkar A. Ibrahim
Sen. Abubakar Saraki
Sen. Hope Uzodinma
Sen. Boluwaji Kunlere
Sen. Alkali Jajere
Sen. Robert Boroffice
Sen. Kabir Marafa
Sen. Aisha J. Alhassan
Sen. Victor Lar
Sen. Ganiyu Solomon
Sen. Joshua Dariye
Sen. Emmanuel Bwacha
Sen. Barnabas Gemade
Sen. Simeon Ajibola
Sen. Helen Esuene
Sen. Domingo Obende
Sen. Gbenga Kaka
Sen. George Akume
Sen. James Manager
Sen. Smart Adeyemi
Sen. Chris Anyanwu
Sen. Gbenga Obadara
Sen. Ehigie Uzamere
Sen. Bello Tukur
Sen. Anthony Adeniyi
Sen. Pius Ewherido
Sen. Gilbert Nnaji
Sen. Babafemi Ojudu
Sen. Sani Saleh
Sen. Atai Aidoko Ali
Sen. Olusola Adeyeye
Sen. Solomon Ewuga
Sen. Akin Odunsi
Sen. Jide Omoworare
Sen. Ayoade Adeseun
Sen. Abu Ibrahim
Sen. Dahiru Kuta
Sen. Hosea Agboola
Sen. Nkechi Nwaogu
Sen. Olubunmi Adetunmbi
Sen. Benedict Ayade
Sen. Ayogu Eze
Sen. Patrick Akinyelure
Sen. Suleiman Adokwe
Sen. Isa Galaudu

THE SENATE,

NOTES that the Multi-Billion Naira Third Mainland Bridge in Lagos is the longest bridge in Africa, a National Monument on which thousands of vehicles and millions of people commute daily;

FURTHER NOTES that the Third Mainland Bridge was commissioned by General Ibrahim Babangida in 1990 (23 years ago) to link Lagos Island to the Mainland;

WORRIED that there have been incessant complaints of shifting and unusual vibrations on the bridge by commuters plying the bridge for quite some time;

AWARE that the Ijora bye-pass bridge, which links the National Theater and the main expressway to Lagos Island collapsed recently;

CONCERNED that a report produced by a company experienced in underwater surveys indicated that the underwater metal casing, housing the concrete piles on which the bridge stands have rusted and this accounts for the vibration experienced in some portions of the bridge;

FURTHER NOTES that the Managing Director of Guffanti Construction Nigeria, Mr. Abiola Salau had on July 17, 2002 in the Guardian Newspaper referred to the bridge as a structure waiting to collapse;

FURTHER NOTES that Professor JHT Kim, Head of The Concrete Structural Engineering Laboratory, Yousei University, Seoul Korea came on research in December 2012 and conducted an underwater examination of the structures holding the bridge and reported that the damages to the structure was worse than what he had been briefed;

AWARE that the Professor's report indicated that there was progressive steel caisson deterioration in about 1,318 Foundation Piles and that there was extensive reinforcement bar deterioration in 8 piles;

FURTHER NOTES that the repair works embarked upon during the last quarter of 2012 by the Ministry of Works, were just mere window dressing on the expansion joints of which reports have confirmed that some parts had since become disjointed;

CONCERNED that the implication is that, the Third Mainland Bridge between Adeniji Adele, Adekunle and Oworonshoki ends could collapse and therefore require comprehensive works to be carried out on the foundation immediately;

AWARE that such abandonment could lead to the collapse of the bridge as in the case of the bridge over Mississippi River at Minneapolis, USA on 1st of August, 2007 and Sungsu Bridge, seoul, Korea on 21st October, 1994 and several others;

CONCERNED that the collapse of the bridge could lead to a huge loss of lives and worsen the traffic situation in Lagos, the commercial hub of Nigeria;

Accordingly Resolves to:

1. *REFER* the matter to the Senate Committee on Works to carry out an investigation and consequently convoke a Public Hearing on the state of this bridge to enable experts from within and outside to come up with findings on the state of the bridge.

2. *URGE* the Federal Government to carry out inspections on all over-water bridges in Nigeria to save them from further deterioration and collapse.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Provide Measures to Give Effective Application to the Equality of Rights of Women and Men to Opportunities and Benefits in Public Life; the Protection of Women and Men of all Diversities, against Discrimination, Indignity and Domestic Abuse, having Regards to Regional and International Human Rights Conventions and the National Gender Policy, to vest Regulatory Authority for the Administration of the Act in the National Human Rights Commission; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith 2013 (SB. 150) – *Second Reading*
Sen. Helen U. Esuene *(Akwa Ibom South)*

2. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Place the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation on the First Line Charge of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and to Empower the Auditor-General for the Federation and the Auditor-General of State Governments to Audit the Accounts of Statutory Corporations, commissions, Authorities, Agencies in Nigeria and for Related Matters 2013 (SB. 226) – *Second Reading*
Sen. Ahmed I. Lawan *(Yobe North)*

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Rules & Business	Thursday, 7th February, 2013	2.00pm	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
2.	Police Affairs and Security and Intelligence	Thursday, 7th February, 2013 *(Joint Meeting)*	12.00 noon	Committee Room 224 Senate New Building

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