FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 137

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 29 April, 2014

1. Prayers
2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
3. Oaths
4. Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
5. Message from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
6. Other Announcements (*if any*)
7. Petitions (*if any*)
8. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance
9. Personal Explanation

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Fireworks and Explosives Bill, 2013 (HB. 630) (*Hon. Yakub A. Balogun*) — *First Reading*.

2. Nigerian Peace Corps Bill, 2013 (HB. 616) (*Hon. Joseph Haruna Kigbu*) — *First Reading*.

3. National Cancer Institute Bill, 2013 (HB. 631) (*Hon. Gideon Gwani*) — *First Reading*.

4. Nigerian Agricultural Produce Export Regulation Bill, 2013 (HB. 635) (*Hon. Abdulrahman Abba Terab*) — *First Reading*.

5. Green Peninsula Bill, 2013 (HB. 634) (*Hon. O. K. Chinda*) — *First Reading*.

6. Federal Character Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 637) (*Hon. Peter Ohiozojeh Akpatason*) — *First Reading*.

7. National Economic Development Bank (Establishment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 648) (*Hon. Mohammed Ogoshi Onawo*) — *First Reading*.

8. Child's Rights Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 649) (*Hon. Olarotimi Mikail Makinde*) — *First Reading*.

9. Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013(HB. 651) (*Hon. Ibrahim Adeniyi Olaifa*) — *First Reading*.

10. Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 663) (*Hon. Eddie Ifeanyichukwu Mbadiwe*) — *First Reading*.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. Promise and failure of Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM):
Hon. Ben Nwankwo:

The House:

Recalls that the Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) was conceived in the National Development Plan of 1975-1980 to be the largest integrated steel rolling mill in Africa and the metallurgical phoenix and driving force of Nigeria's quest for technological advancement;

Further recalls that the company was commissioned in 1983 at 95% completion state as it was thought that funds to be generated from the production of steel from the completed components of the integrated steel plant will fund the completion of the remaining 5% of the project;

Notes that after the overthrow of the Government of President Shehu Shagari in 1983, the Russian engineers engaged in the construction of the steel company left the country and the company fell into a decrepit state as a result of poor funding, inept management and neglect by successive military governments;

Aware that this sorry state of affairs continued up to 2005 when the company, together with the National Iron Ore Mining Company (NIOMC), Itakpe, were concessioned to two Indian firms: Global Infrastructure Holdings Limited and Global Steel Holdings Limited, without the necessary detailed due diligence on the ability and competence of the concessionaires to effectively and profitably manage the companies;

Further aware that the concessionaires allegedly proceeded to operate and administer the companies in ways contrary to the concession agreement which included alleged unfair labour practices, assets stripping and other practices inimical to the proper functioning of the companies;

Also aware that owing to the complaints regarding the operation of Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) and National Iron Ore Mining Company (NIOMC) by the concessionaires, the government of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua revoked the concession agreement of Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) in 2007, leading to protracted arbitral proceedings at the International Centre for Commercial Arbitration in London;

Dismayed that the pendency of the arbitral proceedings further compounded the woes of Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) thus preventing it from achieving the very lofty ambitions of its founding fathers which include meeting the nation's steel needs, providing employment for Nigerians, earning foreign exchange from the export of steel and being the driving force of Nigeria's quest for technological advancement;

Observes that recent disclosures indicate that the Federal Government has successfully reacquired the Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM)from Global Infrastructure Holding Limited in circumstances that are still hazy; while the fate of the National Iron Ore Mining Company (NIOMC) is still unclear;

Aware that a sole administrator has long been installed to administer Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM), while a Ukrainian Company has reportedly been appointed as its managers on terms that can best be described as unclear;

Concerned that the lack of due diligence leading to the engagement of the erstwhile incompetent concessionaires and the pathetic abdication of post transition diligence and monitoring by the local institutions charged with the responsibility of monitoring the affairs of the company, have all contributed in costing the country huge sums in legal fees during the pendency of the arbitral proceedings, and the attendant reputational damage of casting the country as one with a high propensity to breach commercial contracts;

Worried that the employment potentials of this ambitious project has not been exploited because when fully operational, Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) was projected to be capable of generating over 15,000 direct employment and several thousands of indirect employment from activities related to the company;

Saddened that owing to the non-functioning of both companies, the nation has had to rely on the importation of iron and steel from other countries, leading to huge capital flight as approximately the sum of ₦1.3 trillion was reportedly spent on importation of steel into Nigeria in 2012 alone;

Deeply worried that similar companies like Mittal Steel of India conceived at about the same period, though bigger than Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM), is currently working at full capacity, whereas Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM) has been dogged by controversy and non-performance from inception;

Concerned that the failure of Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill (ASRM),despite the investment of an estimated 20 billion dollars from inception to date has become a huge embarrassment to the Federation and all who mean well for her;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Steel, Privatization and Commercialization and Justice to investigate the concession, affairs and failure of the ASRM and report back to the House for further legislative actions.

BILLS

2. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Project Managers of Nigeria to be charged with the Responsibility for Registration and Discipline of its Members and for Other Related Matters (HB.589) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *Second Reading*.

3. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Mathematical Center Act Cap N58 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, to among other things, Provide for Centers in all the States of the Federation, create Additional Appointments and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 320) (*Hon. Chinenye Ike*) — *Second Reading*.

4. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to introduce an Additional Condition for the Operational use of the Armed Forces and for Other Related Matters (HB. 684) (*Hon. Andrew Uchendu*) — *Second Reading*.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

5. **Committee on Pensions:**
Hon. Ibrahim Bawa Kamba:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Pensions on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Pension Reform Act, No. 2 of 2004 and Re-Enact the Pension Reform Act, 2013 to make Provision for Contributory Pensions Scheme and for Other Connected Matters (HB. 487) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 29/10/2013).

6. **Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Niger Delta, Health, Land Transport, Youth Development, Finance, States and Local Governments and Works:**
Hon. Dakuku Adol Peterside:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Niger Delta, Health, Land Transport, Youth Development, Finance, States and Local Governments and Works on the Ne ed to Examine the Implementation of the Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 11/12/2013):

(*i*) That the SURE-P programme, though ill conceived, lacking in definition and having very restrictive mandate, has some merits. The Committees are of the strong opinion that we should not throw away the baby with the birth water. It is thus our recommendation that some value adding aspects of the programme be retained, others reviewed and the non-value adding components discarded with;

(*ii*) that the Federal Government should review and restructure the mandate of SURE-P Committee, and it should also be given some degree of autonomy and legal backing;

(*iii*) that the labour/community service component which lacks both framework and transparency in personnel recruitment and which has been heavily politicised be discarded forthwith. The Committees recommend strongly that the National Assembly should NOT under any guise give approval to this item in any future budget of SURE-P or any of the Ministries where this may be domiciled in future as it is a shear waste of resources with no impact whatsoever;

(*iv*) that many of the infrastructure projects (especially those domiciled in Ministry of Works and Ministry of Niger Delta) have serious issues (multiple variations on contract sum, several of the projects have exceeded their time frame, etc.), thus the Committees recommend that appropriate Standing Committees of the House do conduct forensic audit of the projects from the time of award to the present since the Committees could not go into the origin of those projects as it is outside their mandate;

(*v*) that the Committee on Land Transport should conduct forensic audit on payments for railway projects as most of those projects have serious questions;

(*vi*) that the Committee on Health should verify the supposed beneficiaries of the health personnel recruitment and facilities and confirm that the documentation submitted by SURE-P is in agreement with what is on ground;

(*vii*) that the Committee on Health should carry-out close monitoring and oversight of the conditional cash transfer scheme;

(*viii*) that the House do devise appropriate oversight mechanism over SURE-P as setting up an *Ad-hoc* Committee would not solve the problem as all SURE-P projects/programmes are domiciled in Ministries, Departments and Agencies that have Standing Committees carrying out over sight functions over them. The Committees recommend the setting up of a Standing Committee(s) on SURE-P pending the granting of autonomy to SURE-P by the Federal Government.

7. **Committee on Public Petitions:**
***Report of the Petition by ABZ Integrated Limited*:**
Hon. Uzo Azubuike:
"That this House do resume the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by ABZ Integrated Limited against the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)on non-payment of consultancy fees and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Adjourned Consideration*: 19/9/2013):

(*i*) that the sum of $6.5M recovered from Chevron as a result of the investigations by the petitioner which was admitted by Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in 2005, a 10% commission be paid to the petitioner in line with obtainable practices by the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS);

(*ii*) that as a result of Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative's (NEITI) confirmation of the companies tax evasion and liabilities amounting to about $1.465B (based on the HART Group audit) as a result of the petitioner's investigations for which about $866M had been recovered, the petitioner should be paid 10% commission;

(*iii*) that since the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is an agency of the Federal Government and acts as such, the Federal Government is vicariously liable for the contractual or financial obligations of the Commission;

(*iv*) that instances of forgery, diversion and concealment of government funds as elicited in the document submitted by the petitioner should be further investigated by the House with a view to recommending further investigation by the law enforcement agency and possible prosecution;

(*v*) that since the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is unable to pay the petitioner his rightful commission, the Federal Government should authorize payment through provision in the annual or supplementary budget as judgement debt, to be supervised by the office of the Attorney General of the Federation. Alternatively, the total commission due to the petitioner be calculated and provided for specifically in the budget and paid through the Federal Ministry of Finance as part of the cause of collecting such monies.

8. Committee on Public Petitions:
***Report of the Petition by Mr Emmanuel Adeniyi Ajibade*:**
Hon. Uzo Azubuike:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Emmanuel Adeniyi Ajibade against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on wrongful dismissal from Service and approve the Recommendation therein" (*Laid*: 11/2/2014):

Urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to review the Petitioner's case and reverse the dismissal order to termination of appointment.

9. Committee on Public Petitions:
***Report of the Petition by Omoniyi Alabi Ogutuga*:**
Hon. Uzo Azubuike:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mobola Bada and Associates on behalf of Omoniyi Alabi Ogutuga against the Nigerian Railway Corporation on alleged wrongful dismissal/non-payment of benefits and approve the Recommendation therein" (*Laid*:11/2/2014):

The petition be discountenanced for lack of merit.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Rules and Business	Tuesday, 29 April, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 Assembly Complex
2.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Composition and Pigmentation of Cement	Tuesday, 29 April, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 456 New Building (House) Assembly Complex