FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 9

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 4 August, 2015

1. The House met at 11.15 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 30 July, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Message:**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

31 *July*, 2015

Right Honourable Yakubu Dogara
Speaker, House of Representatives
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja.

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO OBTAIN $75 MILLION USD CREDIT FACILITY FROM THE WORLD BANK FOR EDO STATE

I am writing to seek the consideration by the National Assembly and approval of a request by the Edo State Government to obtain a $75 *Million USD Credit Facility from the World Bank.*

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

Your Excellency may wish to know that, the World Bank had approved a Development Policy Operation (DPO) loan (Budget Support) for the total sum of US $225 *Million to Edo State Government in* 2012 *to be implemented in three tranches of US*$75 *Million per annum. The first tranche was approved by the National Assembly (NASS) in the* 2012-2014 *Federal Government External (Rolling) Borrowing Plan.*

The DPO I has since been successfully implemented by the State in 2014. *Following this success, the bank's board of Executive Directors approved the second tranche, DPO lion April* 29, 2015. *The DPO II was captured in the Federal Government External (Rolling) Borrowing Plan of* 2014-2017 *which is pending with the NASS.*

It is for the above reason that I seek your favour to facilitate the consideration and approval of the Development Policy Operation II Loan of US $75 *Million to enable the State to consolidate on the gains of the First Tranche of the operation (DPO I). Your Excellency it is instructive to mention that the Governor of Edo State has informed me that the key programme objectives of the DPO are already beginning to show in terms of increased inflows of private investment to the State, increased private sector employment opportunities and increased Internally Generated Revenues. An accelerated approval of this request will help to sustain these gains.*

I look forward, Right Honourable Speaker, to the usual kind expeditious consideration of the above request by the House of Representatives. This letter supercedes HCSF/3143/T/138 *of* 28*th July*, 2015 *which was sent in error.*

Please accept, as always, the assurances of my highest regards and esteem.

Yours Sincerely,

(*Signed*)

Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcement:

***Visitors in the Gallery*:**

Mr Speaker recognized the presence of Federation of Oyo State Students Union (FOSSU), Oyo State.

5. Presentation of Bills:

The following Bills were presented and read the *First Time*:

(*i*) Statutory Instrument (Legislative Scrutiny) Bill, 2015 (HB. 13).

(*ii*) Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 14).

(*iii*) Freedom of Information Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 40).

(*iv*) National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 42).

(*v*) Standard Organization of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 47).

6. The Draft Legislative Framework/Agenda of the House of Representatives of the 8th National Assembly:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do resume debate on the Draft Legislative Framework/Agenda of the House of Representatives of the 8th National Assembly" (*Hon. Yussuff Sulaimon Lasun — Irepodun/Olorunda/Osogbo/Orolu Federal Constituency*).

Debate resumed:

Worried that the continued blackout in the areas for that length of time has brought untold hardships on the inhabitants as it has paralyzed all forms of business activities, leaving the people with no other choice but to resort to buying fuel at exorbitant prices to power their generators;

Also worried that the prevailing situation has adversely affected the social well-being of the people, created serious security challenges which has led to increase in crime rate, but despite the blackout, the people are still being demanded to pay electricity bills;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power (when constituted) to interface with both the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) and the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) on the failure to supply electricity to the Federal Constituencies for the past fifteen (15) months and the continued demand for electricity bills from the people despite the blackout and report back to the House within one (1) month for further legislative inputs (*Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo — Eseodo/Ilaje Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Power (when constituted), pursuant to VIII, Rule 51 (5) (**HR. 21/2015**).

9. **Need to Rehabilitate Facilities, Improve Standard and Quality of Education and Make it Mandatory for Public Office Holders to enroll their Children and Wards in Public Primary and Secondary Schools in Nigeria:**

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

10. **Urgent Need for the Federal Government to Suspend the Nuclear Power Plant Projects in the Country:**

Order, deferred by leave of the House.

11. **Adjournment:**
That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 5 August, 2015 *at* 10.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.32 *p.m.*

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

Question that the proposed Legislative Agenda be adopted put and agreed to.

7. Deplorable Condition of Enugu-Onitsha Express Road and the Need to Complete its Rehabilitation:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Enugu-Onitsha Expressway which links Enugu and Anambra States is a vital trunk' A' road that is of vital economic importance to the people of the two States in particular, and the generality of Nigerian people;

Observes that the expressway which was constructed over twenty years ago has been in a deplorable state for quite some time now and ongoing efforts at rehabilitating the road have produced poor quality work;

Also observes that the deplorable state of the road, with yawning craters dotting large stretches and road shoulders washed off, leads to a traffic gridlock which brings untold hardship to motorists who ply the road on a daily basis, causing them to veer into the adjoining bushes in an effort to find alternative routes and has also become a den of armed robbers who attack motorists, especially at night;

Recalls a report in the Vanguard Newspaper of May 14, 2015 that the contract for the rehabilitation of the road was awarded some time ago by the Federal Ministry of Works in segments to different companies which later abandoned the reconstruction work;

Realizes that if nothing is done to complete the rehabilitation of the road, it will continue to dilapidate;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works (FMW) to ensure the rehabilitation and completion of construction works on the Enugu-Onitsha Express Road;

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure adherence to the above prayer (*Hon. Eucharia Azodo — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance (when constituted), pursuant to VIII, Rule 51 (5) (**HR. 20/2015**).

8. Urgent Need for Intervention in the Disconnection of Electric Power Supply to Ilaje/Eseodo, Okitipupa/Irele and Odigbo/Ileoluji-Okeibo Federal Constituencies of Ondo State by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC):

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that successive Governments have made concerted efforts to reform the power sector with the aim of improving supply of electricity to Nigerians which have cost billions of Naira, but despite the expenditure of the sums, majority of the households in the country still grapple with blackout almost on a daily basis;

Concerned that the people of the above mentioned Federal Constituencies of Ondo South district have been grappling with lack of electricity supply for the past fifteen (15) months following their disconnection without tenable explanation by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC);