FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 40

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 30 September, 2015

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. **Alarming Rate of Desert Encroachment in Arewa/Dandi Federal Constituency of Kebbi State: Hon. Hussaini Suleiman Kangiwa:**

The House:

Notes that efforts made by previous administrations to alleviate the sufferings of the people of Bachaka, Bui, Yaldu, Jantula, Lema, Kangiwa, Gumundai, Dauran and Arewa/Dandi Federal Constituency have yielded very little results;

Also notes that scanty rainfall in those areas has negatively affected the people as there is insufficient water to sustain them, and their crops and livestock;

Worried that the situation has paralyzed agricultural activities in the areas rendering up to 98% of the dwellers jobless, thereby causing untold hardship to them;

Concerned that unless practical steps are taken to reverse the current trend by providing enabling environment for agriculture to thrive, the already bad condition of the inhabitants will become worse, and this could result in their engaging in criminal activities to survive;

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Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to formulate intervention policies aimed at providing a permanent solution for the communities that are faced with the threat of desert encroachment; and

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to consider including in the 2016 budget the construction of Earth Dams and Artisan wells/bore holes in order to revive agricultural activities and maintain the reservoir that supplies water to farmers during the dry season.

2. **Deplorable State of the Agege-Abeokuta Expressway:**
Hon. Aderanijo Taofeek Abiodun:

The House:

Notes that the Agege-Abeokuta Road, which links Lagos State and the industrial State of Ogun, is in a state of near total collapse;

Recalls that contract for the reconstruction of the Road was awarded in 2003 by the administration of former President Olusegun Obasanjo and re-awarded subsequently by that of former President Goodluck Jonathan, yet the road has remained impassable because no work was done on it;

Concerned about the adverse impact of the deplorable nature of the road on commercial and economic activities, especially as it is the major route through which most goods that are imported through Lagos ports get to other parts of the country;

Worried about the alarming loss of manpower on the road daily due to traffic congestion as most times, citizens who ply the road to their various places of work are held up for several hours;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Works (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to take urgent steps to repair the road, and indeed all the other Federal Roads in the country that are in various states of disrepair.

3. **Need for the Construction of Overhead and Pedestrian Bridges at Oghara Town along the Lagos-Benin-Warri Road to Avert further Killing of Pedestrians:**
Hon. Lovette Idisi:

The House:

Notes the many lives that have been lost on the busy Lagos-Benin-Warri Road connecting the Western and Eastern parts of the country, especially at the portion of the road within Oghara Town in Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State;

Observes that Oghara town is one of the fastest growing towns in Delta State with educational Institutions like the Delta State Polytechnic, Otefe, Western Delta University, Delta State University Teaching Hospital (DELSUTH), several Secondary and Primary Schools and the Oghara Township Stadium;

Also observes that due to the numerous activities in the town on a daily basis, there is a lot of traffic on the road thereby putting road users at risk of being knocked down by vehicles;

Concerned that several avoidable accidents have occurred at the Oghara Junction resulting in loss of lives as students, workers and other road users attempt to cross the busy road since there is no pedestrian bridge across it;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Works (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works towards speedily constructing overhead and pedestrian bridges at Oghara town.

4. **Urgent Need to Screen Domestic Airplanes operating in Nigeria's Airspace to ensure their Operational Reliability:**
Hon. Henry O. Archibong:

The House:

Notes that an airplane in perfect working condition, along with availability of aviation fuel, safe-weather conditions, proficiency of the pilots and cabin crew, and good airport facilities, are essential for a safe flight experience;

Concerned about the worn-out state of most aircrafts that convey passengers on a daily basis to different parts of the Country, some of which are over twenty years old and have been written off in the countries from where they were purchased;

Aware that most plane crashes that have been recorded in the country resulted from the use of outdated airplanes, poor maintenance of same and lack of supervision from relevant authorities;

Worried that despite all the air disasters that have occurred, no official reports have been produced with regard to the actual causes of those air crashes;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Aviation (when constituted) to investigate the activities of Airline operators, particularly regarding the efficiency and reliability of their airplanes;

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Aviation in conjunction with Nigeria Airspace Management Agency to set up an Independent Investigative Panel to ensure that Airline operators carry out weekly maintenance on their facilities and conduct regular maintenance of their airplanes;

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance (when constituted) to monitor the level of compliance.

5. **Alleged Inflation of Contract for the Mambilla Multi-Purpose Dam and Hydroelectric Power Project:**
Hon. Austin Chukwukere:

The House:

Notes that in order to promote economic growth through power generation, the Federal Government introduced various reforms in the Power Sector which included privatization of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), creation of the Mambilla Multi-Purpose Dam, the Hydroelectric Power Project, and management of the Donga River to generate 3050 Megawatts of electricity to the national grid;

Also notes that the sum of USD6,109,729,609 (Six Billion, One Hundred and Nine Million, Seven Hundred and Twenty Nine Thousand, Six Hundred and Nine Dollars) was estimated for the Power Project out of which the Federal government would provide 15%, while the remaining sum would be provided by the contractor;

Aware that the project was to be executed in two phases; while the first phase was strictly for engineering design, the second phase would include construction that would last a period of 60 months:

Worried that while the first phase of the project was duly awarded and completed by the companies contracted for the job, the contract for the second phase was alleged to have been awarded by the then Minister of Power without recourse to due process, the Procurement Act, Fiscal Responsibility Act and other extant laws for award of contracts;

Also worried that the alleged contract was awarded at the cost of USD 6 billion, apparently without recourse to competitive bidding, which is the hallmark of diligence, transparency and accountability in the award of such huge contracts, thus giving a feeling that the sum may have been inflated;

Concerned that the reforms in the Power Sector so far have not yielded the required capacity for the sustenance of stable power generation, distribution and transmission.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the conception and award of the Mambilla Multi-purpose Dam and Hydroelectric Power Project in the light of the allegation that due process and transparency were not observed in the award of the project; and

(*ii*) identify any infringements of existing laws and recommend amendments, if any, to forestall re-occurrence.

6. **Necessity for Intervention in the Insecurity Pervading Oyorokoto Fishing Port and Other Riverine Communities:**

Hon. Awaji-Inombek D.Abiante
Hon. Ken Chikere Anayo
Hon. Nbina Jacobson
Hon. B. S. Emerengwa
Hon. Eke Jerome Amadi
Hon. Goodluck Opiah
Hon. J. O. Betty Apiafi
Hon. Blessing Ibiba Nsiegbe
Hon. Dekor Robinson D.
Hon. Boma Goodhead
Hon. Francis C. Uduyok
Hon. Amadi O. Dennis
Hon. O. K. Chinda
Hon. Gogo B. Tamuno
Hon. Nnam Obi U. U.
Hon. Brown R. I. Oruene
Hon. Douye Diri

The House:

Notes that Oyorokoto Community in Andoni Local Government Area of Rivers State is about the largest fishing port in West Africa and provides an appreciable portion of the nation's protein needs, thus helping to alleviate the protein malnutrition problem of the nation;

Also notes that Oyorokoto, a border community, has an estimated population of about 20,000 people and has close proximity to the international waters;

Concerned about the high rate of insecurity in the Oyorokoto fishing port and other neighbouring fishing settlements as a result of armed and violent attacks, sea piracy and kidnappings being carried out against the peace-loving citizens by unknown gunmen;

Also concerned that these crimes have brought untold hardships on members of these communities who are being deprived of their money and possessions as well as being inflicted with grievous bodily harm and even death, thus making them to live in fear and seeming helplessness in the face of the unwarranted and incessant attacks;

Aware that if there is no intervention to end these attacks, the people may resort to self-help which could lead to a breakdown of law and order or be forced to desert their native homeland to seek refuge elsewhere, thereby worsening the incidents of internally displaced persons;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn these crimes in the strongest possible terms;

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to direct the Inspector-General of Police, the National Security Adviser and other relevant security agencies to take measures to contain the menace; and

(*iii*) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the victims.

7. **Need for Reform of the Prisons to Conform to International Best Practices:**
Hon. Nwawuba Henry:

The House:

Notes that Sections 15 (*a*) and 2 (1) of the Prisons Act, Cap. P29 LFN, 2004 vests the President with powers over the organization and administration of Prisons and he may, by order in the Federal Government Gazette through the Minister, declare any building or place in Nigeria to be a prison;

Also notes that prisons are intended for custody and reformation of convicts and the recent passage of the Nigerian Prisons and Correctional Services Bill, 2015 was geared towards reforming the prisons to conform to International best practices;

Further notes that such Prisons as the Kirikiri, Kuje, Onitsha amongst others, are congested and not intended for terrorist and insurgent culprits;

Observes the recent public outcry in Anambra State over the transfer of captured insurgents to Ekwulobia Prison in the State which resulted in demonstrations that crippled economic activities in parts of the State;

Cognizant of the need to provide basic reformatory facilities in some prisons for persons associated with terrorism and insurgency;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government to provide a well secured prison specifically for the harbouring of terrorists and insurgents and in the long run, build an ultra-modern prison with appropriate modern facilities for the reform and rehabilitation of terrorists and insurgents.

8. **Need to Stop the Practice of Sending Under Aged Offenders to Prison Custody instead of Borstal Homes or Remand Centres:**
Hon. Joseph Edionwele:

The House:

Notes that under the law, under-aged offenders are supposed to be sent to Borstal Homes or Remand Centres so designated and equipped to provide training and instruction to transform and reform these juveniles to be better citizens in their adult lives;

Also notes that the purpose of establishing Borstal Homes or Remand Centres is to provide training and instruction for under-aged offenders and ensure that they are not kept in the same prison environment with adult offenders so as to prevent unhealthy interaction between them and adult offenders as such interaction could jeopardize reformation and transformation of the under-aged offenders;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn these crimes in the strongest possible terms;

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Concerned about the growing practice of sending under-aged offenders to prison custody rather than to Borstal Homes or Remand Centres, due, at times, to inadequate Police investigation or inadvertence of courts upon arraignment of the under-aged offenders, an action that assaults the collective conscience of the nation;

Worried that such exposure of under-aged offenders to dehumanizing conditions that are unfortunately characteristic of prisons in the country would not only make normal adult life for them a near impossibility but also has serious security implications for the nation in the near future, as the victims, rather than becoming useful citizens contributing their quota to the socio-economic development of the nation, could turn out becoming hardened criminals.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice to, as a matter of urgency, liaise with all relevant authorities and agencies to conduct an investigation that would, among other things, reveal the extent to which under aged offenders are remanded in prisons;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Appropriations (when constituted) to ensure that provisions are made in subsequent budgets by the appropriate Ministries/Departments for the establishment of at least one Borstal Home or Remand Centre in each State of the Federation for the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders; and

(*iii*) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

BILLS

9. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Licensing, Regulation and Incentives to Petroleum Refineries in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 16) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *Second Reading*.

10. A Bill for an Act to make it Mandatory for the National Assembly to Scrutinize and approve Statutory Instrument before it becomes Enforceable; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 13) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *Second Reading*.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Pension Rights of Judges Act, Cap. P5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to increase the List of Judicial Officers entitled to Retirement Benefits as of right under the Pension Rights of Judges; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 6) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *Second Reading*.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Capital Territory District Courts Act, Cap. 495, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB.7) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *Second Reading*.

13. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Certified Council of Nigeria Dental Nurses and Dental Surgery Technicians to Provide for the Control of its Membership and to Promote and Foster the Practice of Dental Nursing and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 25) (*Hon. Ajibola Israel Famurewa*) — *Second Reading*.