FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 22

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14 October, 2015

1. The House met at 11.04 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 Tuesday, 13 October, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement**

(*a*) ***Bereavement*:**
Mr Speaker read the following communications from:

(*i*) Hon. Elijah Olu Adewale (*Ifako/Ijaiye Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Hon. M A. Adefolabi, a former Member of the House (*Ifako/Ijaiye Federal Constituency*, 2007 - 2011), who died on Friday, 9 October, 2015 and;

(*ii*) Hon. Douye Diri (*Yenagoa/Kolokuma Opokuma Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of the former Governor of Bayelsa State, Diepreye Solomon Peter Alamieyesiegha, on Saturday, 10 October, 2015.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(*b*) ***Certificate Course for Members on Legislative Practice and Procedure, and Budget Process by the National Institute of Legislative Study (NILS)*:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from the National Institute of Legislative Study (NILS), announcing a 3 week certificate course on Legislative Practice and Procedure, and Budget Process for Honourable Members of the House scheduled as follows:

***Date*:** 13 - 29 October, 2015

***Venue*:** Senate Hearing Room 2, White House, National Assembly Complex.

***Time*:** 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. and 4.00 - 6.00 p.m.

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4. Petition

A petition was presented and laid by Hon. Garba Chede (*Bali/Gassol Federal Constituency*), on behalf of J. J. Baba, praying the House to investigate his dismissal from service by the NNPC, with a view to re-instating him.

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions (when constituted).

5. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46)

(*i*) ***Urgent Need to Tackle the Trends of Kidnapping in Nigeria*:**

Hon. Hassan Saleh Anthony (*Ado/Ogbadibo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*) presented the subject matter and prayed the House to:

(*a*) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(*b*) suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) *to enable it debate the matter forthwith, put and agreed to.*

Urgent Need to Tackle the Trends of Kidnaping in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes with regret the reported cases of kidnaping of one hundred and ten (110) persons within Nigeria during the last six (6) months for which a total ransom demand of One Billion was paid;

Also notes sadly that Nigeria now ranks the top in the league of countries with high incidences of kidnap cases like India, Pakistan, Mexico, Libya and Philippines;

Further notes that kidnaping which is mainly a crime targeted at the notable in the society, their family members and relatives is said to be motivated by unemployment, poverty, struggle for political power or lucrative lure;

Disturbed that recent statistics has showed that the southern part of the country has recorded 80% of the kidnap cases in the country which is attributed to a number of factors such as cancellation of pipeline surveillance contracts awarded to some ex-militants in the Niger-Delta region and ethnic-militia groups in the South West, the lopsided management of the Amnesty programme and the arming of youths for election purposes amongst others;

Also disturbed that the 20% reported by the survey to have occurred in the Northern part of the country was as a result of the need to fund the insurgency ravaging the North East and the loss of land for grazing and cattle to rustlers in the North Central;

Concerned that there is urgent need for security agencies of Government and the society at large to work in concert and ensure that kidnappers are speedily apprehended and brought to book. Practical steps should also be taken to disarm all armed thugs in the country by enforcing the ban on possession of prohibited firearms;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Police Affair (when constituted) to urgently convene a public hearing of all stakeholders on community based actions against kidnaping;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police to train and deploy a crack team of Two Hundred (200) Policemen per State on the peculiar crime dynamics necessary for curbing kidnap operations in every State; and

(*iii*) appeal to State Governments and all law enforcement bodies to strictly implement their anti-kidnap laws by imposing the maximum penalties on offenders (*Hon. Anthony Hassan Saleh — Ado/Ogbadibo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with regret the reported cases of kidnaping of one hundred and ten (110) persons within Nigeria during the last six (6) months for which a total ransom demand of One Billion was paid;

Also noted sadly that Nigeria now ranks the top in the league of countries with high incidences of kidnap cases like India, Pakistan, Mexico, Libya and Philippines;

Further noted that kidnaping which is mainly a crime targeted at the notable in the society, their family members and relatives is said to be motivated by unemployment, poverty, struggle for political power or lucrative lure;

Disturbed that recent statistics has showed that the southern part of the country has recorded 80% of the kidnap cases in the country which is attributed to a number of factors such as cancellation of pipeline surveillance contracts awarded to some ex- militants in the Niger-Delta region and ethnic-militia groups in the South West, the lopsided management of the Amnesty programme and the arming of youths for election purposes amongst others;

Also disturbed that the 20% reported by the survey to have occurred in the Northern part of the country was as a result of the need to fund the insurgency ravaging the North East and the loss of land for grazing and cattle to rustlers in the North Central;

Concerned that there is urgent need for security agencies of Government and the society at large to work in concert and ensure that kidnappers are speedily apprehended and brought to book. Practical steps should also be taken to disarm all armed thugs in the country by enforcing the ban on possession of prohibited firearms;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Police Affair (when constituted) to urgently convene a public hearing of all stakeholders on community based actions against kidnaping;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police to train and deploy a crack team of Two Hundred (200) Policemen per State on the peculiar crime dynamics necessary for curbing kidnap operations in every State; and

(*iii*) appeal to State Governments and all law enforcement bodies to strictly implement their anti-kidnap laws by imposing the maximum penalties on offenders (**HR. 114/2015**).

(*ii*) ***The Need to Intervene in the Un-Easy Congestion of the Country's Seaport as a Result of Difficulties Cleaning Import Goods*:**
Hon. Henry Ofongo (*Southern Ijaw Federal Constituency*) presented the subject matter and prayed the House to:

(*a*) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(*b*) suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) *to enable it debate the matter forthwith, put and agreed to.*

The Need to Intervene in the Un-easy Congestion of the Country's Seaport as a Result of Difficulties Clearing Imported Goods:

The House:

Notes the un-easy congestion of the Nation's port as a result of the difficulties faced by importers in clearing imported goods, sequel to the June 23, 2015, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Policy which restricts 41 imported items from accessing Foreign Exchange Market; in order to encourage local production of these items, conserve foreign reserve as well as to facilitate the resurrection of domestic industries and improve employment generation;

Aware that the CBN in it's June 23, 2015 circular to the general public states that, "for the avoidance of doubt, please note that the importation of these items are not banned, thus, importers desirous of importing these items shall do so using their own funds without any recourse to the Nigerian Foreign Exchange Market". It is interesting to note that most of these importers are small and medium scale business people who have raised funds on their own to import their goods before the formulation of the policy;

Worried that since no time line was given for the implementation of the policy, most of these small and medium scale importers are finding it difficult to process "M Form" which is now a major criteria for clearing imported goods, and this "M Form" is issued by the CBN through the Importers' Commercial Banks. The banks have refused to process the "M Form" for the importers in order to avoid sanctions from CBN. This has subsequently made it impossible for these importers to clear their goods, thereby bringing about congestion in the ports, and also increasing demurrage on the part of the importers;

Disturbed that while some of these restricted items are supported to be banned, a good number of them serve as raw materials to manufacturers here in Nigeria. Most manufacturers are now at risk of closing down their businesses thereby resulting to job losses, since they cannot immediately get the required quantity of replaceable raw material to carry out production of their goods;

Concerned that the policy has brought about a decline in revenue earning as revealed by the Nigerian Custom Services, Apapa Area 1 Command some few days ago, that it's revenue for the month of September was ₦23.3 billion as against ₦30.1 billion revenue generated in August; representing a 23 percent drop in revenue. And this is attributed to the import exclusion of 41 items from the foreign exchange transaction. The Customs boss equally warned that this could get worse as time goes on if appropriate measures are not taken to stem the tide;

Also notes that the CBN policy is intended to improve the economy of Nigeria by easing the pressure on the Naira, the policy should also have a human face by giving a time line for importers to clear their goods in order to avoid un-necessary congestion in the ports;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to give a time frame for importers who already have containers at the ports, to clear their goods, by making the "M Form" available for them in order to decongest the ports; and

(*ii*) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to meet with the CBN, Nigerian Custom Services, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Port Operators and other relevant bodies with a view to resolve most of the contentious outstanding issues with respect to the policy and report back within two weeks (*Hon. Henry Daniel Ofongo — Southern/Ijaw Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Insert a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Urge the Nigerian Customs Service to expedite action on decongestion of the Nigerian ports to allow effective take off of the policy within 48 days (*Hon. Zakari Mohammed — Baruten/Kaima Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the un-easy congestion of the Nation's port as a result of the difficulties faced by importers in clearing imported goods, sequel to the June 23, 2015, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Policy which restricts 41 imported items from accessing Foreign Exchange Market; in order to encourage local production of these items, conserve foreign reserve as well as to facilitate the resurrection of domestic industries and improve employment generation;

Aware that the CBN in it's June 23, 2015 circular to the general public states that, "for the avoidance of doubt, please note that the importation of these items are not banned, thus, importers desirous of importing these items shall do so using their own funds without any recourse to the Nigerian Foreign Exchange Market". It is interesting to note that most of these importers are small and medium scale business people who have raised funds on their own to import their goods before the formulation of the policy;

Worried that since no time line was given for the implementation of the policy, most of these small and medium scale importers are finding it difficult to process "M Form" which is now a major criteria for clearing imported goods, and this "M Form" is issued by the CBN through the Importers' Commercial Banks. The banks have refused to process the "M Form" for the importers in order to avoid sanctions from CBN. This has subsequently made it impossible for these importers to clear their goods, thereby bringing about congestion in the ports, and also increasing demurrage on the part of the importers;

Disturbed that while some of these restricted items are supported to be banned, a good number of them serve as raw materials to manufacturers here in Nigeria. Most manufacturers are now at risk of closing down their businesses thereby resulting to job losses, since they cannot immediately get the required quantity of replaceable raw material to carry out production of their goods;

Concerned that the policy has brought about a decline in revenue earning as revealed by the Nigerian Custom Services, Apapa Area I Command some few days ago, that it's revenue for the month of September was ₦23.3 billion as against ₦30.1 billion revenue generated in August; representing a 23 percent drop in revenue. And this is attributed to the import exclusion of 41 items from the foreign exchange transaction. The Customs boss equally warned that this could get worse as time goes on if appropriate measures are not taken to stem the tide;

Also noted that the CBN policy is intended to improve the economy of Nigeria by easing the pressure on the Naira, the policy should also have a human face by giving a time line for importers to clear their goods in order to avoid un-necessary congestion in the ports;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to give a time frame for importers who already have containers at the ports, to clear their goods, by making the "M Form" available for them in order to decongest the ports;

(*ii*) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to meet with the CBN, Nigerian Custom Services, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Port Operators and other relevant bodies with a view to resolve most of the contentious outstanding issues with respect to the policy and report back within two weeks; and

(*iii*) also urge the Nigerian Customs Service to expedite action on decongestion of the Nigerian ports to allow effective take off of the policy within 48 days (**HR. 115/2015**).

6 Suspension of Order XIX, Rule 216 (1 and 4)

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House suspend Order XIX, Rule 216 (1) and (4) to enable the House consider and amend the Rules of the House forthwith" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Creation and Jurisdiction of Additional Committee, pursuant to Order 19, Rule 216 (1) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that the Boko Haram insurgency, which started around 2007, has constituted the single most devastating incident in Nigeria's history since the end of the Civil War in 1970;

Also aware that the murderous and destructive activities of the sect, especially in the North-East Zone, has led to the death of over Two Hundred Thousand people, displacement of over five Million others, destruction of properties worth millions of naira, and dislocation of the way of life of the people, particularly in Borno, Yobe, parts of Adamawa, Bauchi and Gombe States;

Concerned about the large scale of devastation of the North-East Zone by the sect and the compelling need to adopt extra ordinary measures towards rebuilding the zone which had been akin to a theater of war;

Cognizant that the level of rehabilitation, reconstruction, re-orientation and re-integration of the traumatized and displaced people of the North-East Zone requires the creation of a Standing Committee devoted exclusively to handle the tasks ahead;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Approve the creation of the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone as one of the Standing Committees of the House;

(*ii*) move 'Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons Matters' from the Committee on Human Rights to the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone;

(*iii*) approve the new Committee's Membership and Jurisdiction to wit:

Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone:

(1) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone consisting of not more than 37 Members from each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, appointed or constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(*i*) Oversight of the Ministry, Agency, Parastatals or Government Department responsible for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees, Migrants and Stateless persons, save those assigned to other Committees;

(*ii*) oversight and legislative responsibility over the National Commission for Refugees or any successor agency;

(*iii*) policy and legislative measures on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs);

(*iv*) policy and Legislative measures on Refugees;

(*v*) policy and legislative measures on Migrants;

(*vi*) policy and legislative measures on Stateless Persons;

(*vii*) relations and Coordination with multi-lateral and supra-national Agencies and Bodies with respect to the IDPs, Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Persons;

(*viii*) relations and coordination with multilateral and supra-national Agencies and Bodies with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone of Nigeria, comprising Adamawa State, Bauchi State, Borno State, Gombe State, Taraba State and Yobe State, ravaged by Terrorism;

(*ix*) relations and coordination of Private Sector Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;

(*x*) relations and coordination of Government Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation; Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;

(*xi*) annual budget estimates (*Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Orker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

7. **Need to Address the Perennial Flooding in Kirikasamma, Guri and Birniwa Local Government Areas of Jigawa State**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the perennial flooding at Kirikasamma, Guri and Birniwa Local Government Areas of Jigawa State as a result of the inappropriate management of water resources and dams by the HadejiaJama'are River Basin Development Authority and the Federal Ministry of Water Resources;

Concerned that poor maintenance of those dams had caused the growth of typha grass which has resulted in the blockage of Hadejia River bed and as a result, over 60% of the farm lands in Kirikasamma L.G.A., 20% of those in Guri L.G.A., along the River and within the radius of twenty kilometers, have been flooded and taken over by typha grass;

Worried that apart from farm lands being flooded, the proliferation of typha grass has provided habitation for quella birds which flock in thousands and are capable of destroying large farms and also dangerous reptiles such as snakes and dragons;

Also worried that the dire consequences of this perennial flooding and growth of typha grass include, loss of vast agricultural land, loss of various fishing grounds, exposure of farmers to dangerous reptiles and destruction of crops by quella birds;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and the Hadejia Jama'are River Basin Development Authority to immediately deploy SWAN DEVIL Machines to clear all the typha grass within Hadejia Barrage, Burum Gana, North main canal, feeder canal, Manna Channel, Old Hadejia River, Gishinawo to Gubuk Fadama, Magujin Idi to Gishinawo, Gubuk to Garin Mallam Fadama, Hadejia Barrage spillway south Dyke, Maiwando to Ganauchime in Miga Local Government, Hadejia Barrage spill way South dyke, North dyke, Dingare to Marke in Kaugama Local Government, as well as Nguru Wet land in Yobe State;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to construct a water flow station at Marawaji Confluence in Kirikasamma Local Government Area to regulate water flow in order to avoid reoccurrence;

(*iii*) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials and assistance to the affected communities in Kirikasamma, Guri and Birniwa Local Government Areas;

(*iv*) mandate the Committee on Water Resources (when constituted) and the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to visit the affected areas to ascertain the extent of damage caused by the perennial flooding for the purpose of appropriating funds in the 2016 Appropriations Bill to address the problems, and report back to the House within two (2) weeks;

(*v*) equally urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and the HadejiaJama'are River Basin Development Authority to:

(*a*) undertake a redefinition of the River course by filling gaps, removing silt and straightening meanders from Miga in Jigawa State up to Wachakal in Yobe State,

(*b*) excavate the link channel between BurumGana in Jigawa State and Nguru Lake in Yobe State,

(*c*) dredge and evacuate the inlet channel of Hadejia Barrage, and

(*d*) also undertake the dyking of Birniwa, Marma, Musari, Gadwa, Abunabo, Madaci, Guri and Dawa Towns (*Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri Kasamma Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (when constituted), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) **(HR. 116/2015)**.

8. Call for Construction of Pedestrian Bridge and Speed Breakers on the Lagos-Benin Highway at the University of Benin Gate Area

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Cognizant that the fundamental duty of the government, according to Section 14 (2) (*b*) of the 1999 Constitution, is the security and welfare of the people;

Notes with concern the death of Rita Awele, a female student of the University of Benin after she was knocked down on Sunday, July 19, 2015 by a patrol vehicle belonging to the Nigerian Army, along the Benin/Lagos Express way close to the main gate of the campus;

Also notes that the late Rita Awele and her friend, Olakpa Efe Esther, were on their way from a Catholic Chaplaincy located within the school, when the patrol vehicle knocked them down at about 10.30 a.m.;

Informed that Rita Awele, who was a second year student of the Department of Philosophy, died in spite of efforts to provide her with medical attention, while her friend, Efe Olakpa survived after undergoing treatment;

Aware that the students of the University staged a protest to lament similar accidents that had been recorded on that expressway which they attributed to the recklessness of some motorists and the absence of speed breakers and pedestrian bridge around the institution after the old one was torn down;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Observe a minute silence in honour of Late Rita Awele;

(*ii*) mandate the Federal Ministry of Works to provide speed breakers, safety signs and erect pedestrian bridges at the major roads along the University of Benin and every other tertiary institution across the country to forestall the occurrence of accidents involving students;

(*iii*) urge the Nigerian Army to ensure that the soldier who allegedly ran over the students is dealt with in accordance with the law;

(*iv*) also urge the Nigerian Army to compensate the families of the deceased and the injured student;

(*v*) further urge the federal government to improve the road safety conditions around institutions of higher learning (*Hon. Omosede Gabriella Igbinedion —Ovia North East/Ovia South West Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Works (when constituted), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) **(HR. 117/2015)**.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

9. **Need to Investigate Construction Works and lack of Facilities at Akanu Ibiam International Airport, Enugu, Enugu State**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the runway of Akanu Ibiam International Airport, Enugu which is the gateway to the South-East Zone was reconstructed between 2010 and 2011 at a cost of over 4.5 billion Naira;

Worried about the quality of work and the diligence put in the construction of the 3km runway which has inexplicably degraded and dilapidated, leading to potholes developing in many sections of the runway;

Aware of the ongoing construction of additional terminal which would lead to increased traffic at the Airport;

Concerned that this level of dilapidation exposes passengers, airplanes and the general public to avoidable risks;

Also concerned that the combined effects of inadequate navigational lighting system and the apparent failure of the runway could result into unimaginable disaster;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation (when constituted) to investigate the quality of work done on the Akanu Ibiam International Airport runway and the absence of navigational lighting system and other defects at the airport (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Agwu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Aviation (when constituted), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) **(HR. 118/2015)**.

10. **Need to Adhere to some Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) in the Implementation of the Presidential Directives of Additional Recruitment of the Ten Thousand (10,000) Officers and Men into the Police Force**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware of the recent directive by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, to the Nigerian Police Force to recruit additional Ten Thousand (10,000) officers and men into the service of Nigerian Police Force;

Also aware of the provision of section 3 (6) of the 1999 Constitution which states that "there shall be Seven Hundred and Sixty-Eight Local Government Areas in Nigeria as shown in the 2nd Column of Part I of the First Schedule to the Constitution and Six Area Councils (in the FCT) as shown in Part II of that Schedule";

Further aware that Section 4 (2) of the Constitution states that: "the National Assembly shall have power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Federation or any part thereof with respect to any matter included in the Exclusive Legislative List and it shall, save as otherwise provided in the Constitution, be to the exclusion of the Houses of Assembly of States";

Recognizes Section 14 (1) which states that: "the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice";

Also recognizes Section 14 (2) (*c*) which stipulates that the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, and equally Section 14 (3) of the Constitution which provides that the composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such a manner as to reflect the Federal Character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also command national loyalty thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few States or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that government or in any of its agencies;

Notes that Section 15 (2) of the Constitution emphasizes that national Integration shall be actively encouraged, whilst discrimination on the grounds of place of origin, sex, religion, State or linguistic association or ties shall be prohibited;

Also notes with dismay the flagrant abuse of the above provisions of the Constitution in the previous recruitment exercises by Federal Agencies, especially Security services (Military and Paramilitary);

Equally recognizes the need to ensure balance, equity, fair-play and justice in all recruitment exercises in the future in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Commend President Muhammadu Buhari for such a giant stride aimed at checkmating the high level of insecurity, unemployment and such other challenges that were hitherto neglected by previous administrations.

(*ii*) urge the Police Service Commission, the Ministry of Police Affairs and the Nigerian Police Force to ensure that the recruitment exercise of 10,000 officers and men into the Nigerian Police Force shall be based on an allotment of ten (10) slots to each of the Seven Hundred and Sixty-Eight Local Government Areas and Six (6) Area Councils (of the FCT), in the first instance;

(*iii*) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Federal Character, Legislative Compliance, and the Judiciary (when constituted) to regularly monitor compliance and report back to the House for further legislative action (*Hon. Muhammad Sani Abdu — Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency and* 80 *Others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) In Prayer (*i*) immediately after the word "insecurity", *leave out* all other words (*Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo — Afikpo North/Afikpo South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

(*ii*) In Prayer (*ii*), line 2, immediately after the word "recruitment", *leave out* all the other words and *insert* as follows instead thereof:
"of the 10,000 policemen is based on an allotment of 12 slots to each of the seven hundred and seventy-four (774) Local Government Areas and six (6) Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and appropriate the balance there-of on the basis of States of the Federation and FCT" (*Hon. Abubakar Hussaini Moriki — Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(*iii*) In Prayer (*ii*), line 2, immediately after the words "exercise of", *leave out* the figure "10,000" and *insert* the figure "100,000" instead thereof (*Hon. Kwewum Rimamnde Shawulu — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(*iv*) In Prayer (*iii*), line 2, immediately after the words "and the", *leave out* the word "Judiciary" and *insert* the word "Justice" instead thereof (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Aware of the recent directive by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, to the Nigerian Police Force to recruit additional Ten Thousand (10,000) officers and men into the service of Nigerian Police Force;

Also aware of the provision of section 3 (6) of the 1999 Constitution which states that "there shall be Seven Hundred and Seventy-Four Local Government Areas in Nigeria as shown in the 2nd Column of Part I of the First Schedule to the Constitution and Six Area Councils (in the FCT) as shown in Part II of that Schedule";

Further aware that Section 4 (2) of the Constitution states that: "the National Assembly shall have power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Federation or any part thereof with respect to any matter included in the Exclusive Legislative List and it shall, save as otherwise provided in the Constitution, be to the exclusion of the Houses of Assembly of States";

Recognized Section 14 (1) which states that: "the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice";

Also recognized Section 14 (2) (c) which stipulates that the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, and equally Section 14 (3) of the Constitution which provides that the composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such a manner as to reflect the Federal Character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also command national loyalty thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few States or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that government or in any of its agencies;

Noted that Section 15 (2) of the Constitution emphasizes that national Integration shall be actively encouraged, whilst discrimination on the grounds of place of origin, sex, religion, State or linguistic association or ties shall be prohibited;

Also noted with dismay the flagrant abuse of the above provisions of the Constitution in the previous recruitment exercises by Federal Agencies, especially Security services (Military and Paramilitary);

Equally recognized the need to ensure balance, equity, fair-play and justice in all recruitment exercises in the future in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Commend President Muhammadu Buhari for such a giant stride aimed at checkmating the high level of insecurity;

(*ii*) urge the Police Service Commission, the Ministry of Police Affairs and the Nigerian Police Force to ensure that the recruitment exercise of 10,000 officers and men into the Nigerian Police Force shall be based on an allotment of ten (10) slots to each of the Seven Hundred and Seventy-four (774) Local Government Areas and Six (6) Area Councils (of the FCT), in the first instance; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Federal Character, Legislative Compliance, and the Justice (when constituted) to regularly monitor compliance and report back to the House for further legislative action (**HR. 119/2015**).

11. **Need to Investigate the Alleged Non-Transparent and Fraudulent Sale of Power Assets by the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the disengagement of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) from generation, distribution and transmission of electricity, in line with the privatization policy in the power sector;

Also notes that in fulfillment of the driving force behind the privatization of the Federal Government's interests in the PHCN, the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) set the process for the sale of the Power Assets in Nigeria and eventually sold the Assets to 11 Distribution and 12 Generation companies;

Further notes that the process of sale of these assets fell short of the prescribed criteria set down by the enabling law guiding the activities of the BPE in the privatization process and also not in tune with international best practices;

Aware that the privatization policy in the power sector was geared towards improving efficiency and performance, ensuring transparent management, eliminating government's involvement in utility management, encouraging private investments in generation in order to address the inadequate supply of power and ensuring a level playing field for all investors;

Also aware that the privatization of the PHCN was aimed at ending subsidies to PHCN by the government and such gains will be channeled to other sectors like agriculture, health and generally redirect spending to other critical social services;

Concerned that all the gains expected from the privatization process were lost through alleged underhand deals, manipulation of rules of engagement, corruption and disregard of extant laws that are the hall mark of business transactions;

Also concerned that the sale of the power distribution utilities was marked by lack of transparency in bid awards in the three sectors of generation, transmission and distribution as it was alleged that the preferred bidders who were selected had low capacity, and lacked technical knowledge in the sector and also had little or no financial and managerial know how to run power companies;

Equally aware that the Lagos to Jebba track rehabilitation project was awarded at a total contract sum of ₦12,293,390,000.00 with the payment made so far at ₦11,699,999,218.00, without any tangible work done;

Again aware that the Jebba to Kano track rehabilitation project had a total contract sum of ₦12,169,237,337 with the payments so far made being ₦10,337,023,111.69 without any appreciable work done;

Still aware that the Zaria to Kaura track rehabilitation project with a total contract sum of ₦3,206,241,650 and payment of ₦1,147,471,038.00 made without any commensurate work done;

Informed that procurement/rehabilitation of wagons, coaches and locomotives (narrow gauge) were projected at a total sum of ₦6,502,914,067.00 with ₦4,071,008,628.64 so far paid, all to no avail;

Again informed that the track rehabilitation consultancy fee was ₦1,482,100.000.00 with payment made so far being ₦718,205,192.00;

Also notes that Kuru to Maiduguri track rehabilitation project was awarded at ₦23,720,359,034.00 with payment made so far being ₦6,499,618,120.55;

Concerned that with the Billions of funds sunk to upgrade the Railways Transport System, there has been little or nothing to show for it as the Locomotives and Coaches running on the nation's tracks are still a relic of Modern Railway Transport;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the activities of the Federal Ministry of Transport, the Management of SURE-P, the Management of Nigeria Railways Corporation, and all the Contractors handling the Rail Project rehabilitation from 2010-2014 (*Hon. Solomon Ahwinahwi — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Railways Corporation (NRC) is a rail transport agency owned by the Federal Government which has spent billions of Naira on the award of contracts for Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Rail Tracks, Standard Gauge, Bridges, Procurement of Locomotives, Wagons and Coaches etc. from 2010 to 2014;

Aware that the funding of the Nigeria Railways Corporation contracts/projects is through appropriation in the budget, foreign loans and the Subsidy Re-investment Programme (SURE-P) which has expended over ₦18,735,279,876.33 since taking the funding of Capital Project;

Worried that the level of performance with respect to the Rail Track Contracts, particularly the 463 km Port Harcourt - Makurdi Rail Track Rehabilitation of Eastern Line with a total sum of ₦19,963,752,330.20 and out of which the Nigeria Railways Corporation (NRC) has paid ₦4,017,054,841,00, while SURE-P paid ₦5,594,021,377.07 and only about 3 km of Ballast has been done with 4QO km left undone and the total money released so far is ₦9,611,076,218.01;

Also aware of the report of a Project Monitoring Committee that not more than 3kms of ballast has been done on the entire track network from Port Harcourt - Enugu - Markurdi out of a total 46[illegible] km of rail track, thus the ₦9,611,076,218.01 expended cannot be justified;

Further aware that the Abuja - Kaduna Rail Project had 841 Million US Dollars as the project cost, out of which the China Exim Bank provided a loan of 500 Million US Dollars with about 25% of the project completed when the entire project was envisaged to be have been completed in 2014;

Equally aware that the Lagos to Jebba track rehabilitation project was awarded at a total contract sum of ₦12,293,390,000.00 with the payment made so far at ₦11,699,999,218.00, without any tangible work done;

Again aware that the Jebba to Kano track rehabilitation project had a total contract sum of ₦12,169,237,337 with the payments so far made being ₦10,337,023,111.69 without any appreciable work done;

Still aware that the Zaria to Kaura track rehabilitation project with a total contract sum of ₦3,206,241,650 and payment of ₦1,147,471,038.00 made without any commensurate work done;

Informed that procurement/rehabilitation of wagons, coaches and locomotives (narrow gauge) were projected at a total sum of ₦6,502,914,067,00 with ₦4,071,008,628.64 so far paid, all to no avail;

Again informed that the track rehabilitation consultancy fee was ₦1,482,100.000.00 with payment made so far being ₦718,205,192.00;

Also noted that Kuru to Maiduguri track rehabilitation project was awarded at ₦23,720,359,034.00 with payment made so far being ₦6,499,618,120.55;

Concerned that with the Billions of funds sunk to upgrade the Railways Transport System, there has been little or nothing to show for it as the Locomotives and Coaches running on the nation's tracks are still a relic of Modern Railway Transport;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the activities of the Federal Ministry of Transport, the Management of SURE-P, the Management of Nigeria Railways Corporation, and all the Contractors handling the Rail Project rehabilitation from 2010-2014 (**HR. 121/2015**).

13. **Need to Retain the Daily Withdrawal Limit of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (₦150,000) from Automated Teller Machines (ATM)**

Order deferred by leave of the House.

14. **Call for Remembrance of the Role of Dr Ameyo Adadevoh in Preventing the Spread of the Deadly Ebola Disease in the Country**.
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that on July 10, 2014, the late Patrick Sawyer, a Liberian- American citizen flew into Lagos from Liberia and was shortly after diagnosed with the Ebola disease;

Notes that at the First Consultant Hospital, Obalende where he was rushed to for treatment, some of the staff that attended to him, including Dr Adadevoh, being primary contact persons contracted and later died from the disease;

Believes that the effort, courage and sacrifice of those persons who lost their lives in the course of treating Patrick Sawyer need to be acknowledged, including the Management and other staff of the hospital;

Aware that the courage and bravery of Dr Ameyo Adadevoh who, having realized that the patient was a carrier of the deadly disease, physically restrained him from leaving the hospital, despite knowing the risks involved, thus preventing the spread of the disease;

Cognizant of the bravery and sacrifice of Dr Adadevoh who put her life on the line in the course of duty and paid the utmost price, and in the process, saved the country from the spread of the deadly disease;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to confer a posthumous National Honour on Dr Ameyo Adadevoh; and

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to name a medical institution after her (*Hon. Akinade Fijabi Saheed — Ibadan South West/Ibadan North West Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Commend the Management of First Consultant Hospital, for their patriotic gesture that led to the saving of many lives by their timely action" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*iv*) as follows:
"urge the Federal Government to construct/build a hospital for research and treatment of such uncommon diseases as hepatitis, cancer, Ebola, etc, and name the hospital after Dr Ameyo Stella Adadevoh" (*Hon. Asabe Vilitai Bashir — Gwoza/Damboa/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

(*iii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*v*) as follows:
"urge the Federal Government to give scholarship to the children of Dr Ameyo Stella Adadevoh and the 2 Nurses who lost their lives in the exercise" (*Hon. Asabe Vilitai Bashir — Gwoza/Damboa/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

(*iv*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*vi*) as follows:
"urge the Federal Ministry of Health to put in place a sustenance/awareness program so that our nation can maintain its status of Ebola free country as declare by World Health Organization (WHO)" (*Hon. Olusunbo Olugbemi — Oluyole Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that on July 10, 2014, the late Patrick Sawyer, a Liberian- American citizen flew into Lagos from Liberia and was shortly after diagnosed with the Ebola disease;

Noted that at the First Consultant Hospital, Obalende where he was rushed to for treatment, some of the staff that attended to him, including Dr Adadevoh, being primary contact persons contracted and later died from the disease;

Believed that the effort, courage and sacrifice of those persons who lost their lives in the course of treating Patrick Sawyer need to be acknowledged, including the Management and other staff of the hospital;

Aware that the courage and bravery of Dr Ameyo Adadevoh who, having realized that the patient was a carrier of the deadly disease, physically restrained him from leaving the hospital, despite knowing the risks involved, thus preventing the spread of the disease;

Cognizant of the bravery and sacrifice of Dr Adadevoh who put her life on the line in the course of duty and paid the utmost price, and in the process, saved the country from the spread of the deadly disease;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to confer a posthumous National Honour on Dr Ameyo Adadevoh;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to name a medical institution after her;

(*iii*) commend the Management of First Consultant Hospital, for their patriotic gesture that led to the saving of many lives by their timely action;

(*iv*) further urge the Federal Government to construct/build a hospital for research and treatment of such uncommon diseases as hepatitis, cancer, Ebola, etc, and name the hospital after Dr Ameyo Stella Adadevoh; and

(*v*) again urge the Federal Government to give scholarship to the children of Dr Ameyo Stella Adadevoh and the 2 Nurses who lost their lives in the exercise (**HR. 122/2015**).

15. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Companies and Allied Matters Act, Cap. C21, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (HB. 9) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Companies and Allied Matters Act, Cap. C21, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (HB. 9) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Commerce (*when constituted*).

16. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Establishment, etc.) Act to Expressly Provide that Colleges of Agriculture shall benefit from the Fund and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 38) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Establishment, etc.) Act to Expressly Provide that Colleges of Agriculture shall benefit from the Fund and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 38) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung — Barikinladi/Riyom Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services (when constituted).

17. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 15 *October*, 2015 *at* 10.00 *a.m. (Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).*

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.08 *p.m.*

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 13 October, 2015, item 8, in Prayer (*ii*), immediately after the word "Gwarzo", *leave out* the word "Ikabo" and *insert* the word "Kabo" instead thereof.