FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 55

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 22 October, 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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. National Transport Commission Bill, 2015 (HB. 51) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *First Reading*.

2. Federal Land Registry (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 52) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *First Reading*.

3. Federal Character Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 53) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *First Reading*.

4. Internet Child Pornography Prevention Bill, 2015 (HB. 81) (*Hon. Joan Onyemaechi Mrakpor*) — *First Reading*.

5. Security Services Welfare Infrastructural Development Commission Bill, 2015 (HB. 83) (*Hon. Joan Onyemaechi Mrakpor*) — *First Reading*.

6. Chartered Institute of Export and Commodity Brokers of Nigeria Bill, 2015 (HB. 85) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Call for a State of Emergency and Legislative Intervention in the Unemployment Crisis in Nigeria:

Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila
Hon. Yakubu Abiodun Balogun
Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha
Hon. Abdullahi Idris Garba
Hon. Abayomi Dauda Kako Are
Hon. Muhammad Sani Abdu
Hon. Muhammad Bala Faruk
Hon. Bode Ayorinde
Hon. Oladele Bosun George
Hon. Baderinwa S. Bamidele
Hon. Abdulrahman Shuaibu
Hon. Shehu Saleh
Hon. Yusuf Buba
Hon. Prestige Ossy
Hon. Abdullahi Bello
Hon. Jimoh Olajide Abdulraheem
Hon. Abubakar Lado Abdullahi
Hon. Babatunde G. Kolawole
Hon. Shoyinka Olatunji
Hon. Sumaila Gadaka
Hon. Kingsley Sunny Ebenyi
Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam
Hon. Bolaji Yusuf Ayinla
Hon. Igariwey Iduwa Enwo
Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed
Hon. Hassan Adamu Shekarau
Hon. Joseph Edionwele
Hon. Emmanuel Orker-Jev.
Hon. Abass Tajudeen
Hon. Beni Lar
Hon. Sunday Adepoju
Hon. Abdullahi U. Faruk.
Hon. Muhammad A. Wudil
Hon. Goni Bukar Lawan
Hon. Isreal A. Famurewa
Hon. Babajimi Benson
Hon. Abubakar A. Yunusa
Hon. Micky Kazzim
Hon. Adedapo Lam-Adesina
Hon. Abayomi Ayeola.
Hon. Henry Nwawuba
Hon. Jimoh Ojugbele
Hon. Elijah Olu Adewale
Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi
Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo
Hon. Umar M. Rofia
Hon. Philip Shaibu
Hon. Sani U. Bala
Hon. Ajisafe Olowookere
Hon. Philip A. Gutawa
Hon. Diya Oyewole
Hon. Muhammad Usman
Hon. Agboola E. Kehinde
Hon. Monguno M. Tahir
Hon. Eucharia Azodo
Hon. Peter Akpatason
Hon. Muhammad U. Jega
Hon. Kabiru Marafa Achida
Hon. Musa Sarkin Adar
Hon. Ahmed Babba Keita.
Hon. Samaila Suleiman
Hon. Adaranijo T. Abiodun
Hon. Adekunle Akindele
Hon. Bamgbose H. Joseph
Hon. Ayodeji Joseph
Hon. John Dyegh
Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka
Hon. Tasir Olawale Raji
Hon. Saidu Yusuf Miga
Hon. Aliyu Danladi
Hon. Ahmed Idris
Hon. Jacob Nbina
Hon. Oluwole Busayo Oke
Hon. Danburam A. Nuhu
Hon. Nasiru Sule Garo
Hon. Mojeed Alabi
Hon. Olajide Boladale O.
Hon. Sunday Katung
Hon. Tajudeen A. Obasa

The House:

Notes that the unemployment crisis in Nigeria has reached such an alarming rate as to be of serious concern to all as various reports had put the percentage of the unemployed in Nigeria now at 24 percent;

Aware that the variety of reports and the glaring evidence of joblessness in all States of the Federation indicate that there has been no time in the history of the country that unemployment has been as serious as it is at the moment;

Acknowledges the desire of the Government, and indeed all Nigerians, to tackle the problems of corruption, insecurity, poverty and crime, which breed unemployment or result from it as there is an inextricable nexus between unemployment, corruption, crime, poverty and insecurity;

Convinced that if this tide is not stemmed, it will portend great danger to the welfare of the citizens of Nigeria;

Determined to discharge its responsibility for the security and welfare of the citizenry as enshrined in sections 14 and 16 of the 1999 Constitution:

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Government to immediately declare a State of Emergency on Unemployment;

(*ii*) take urgent steps to amend the Immigration Act, to provide stiffer punishment for violations of immigration laws, including employment of undocumented aliens, and to tighten all other relevant sections of the Act with a view to protecting Nigerian workers;

(*iii*) in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Productivity, within 4 weeks, conduct a comprehensive audit of all foreign nationals working in the country to determine whether or not any private or public organization has illegally engaged the services of foreign workers to the detriment of Nigerians, in violation of the laws;

(*iv*) immediately commence the process of amending the Construction (Local Content) Act, for forwarding to the President for assent;

(*v*) mandate the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Labour, Employment and Productivity to conduct comprehensive audit of the pay and staff roll of all government bodies and organisations with the view of eliminating ghost workers, if any;

(*vi*) urge all Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning to immediately establish a Career Development and Job Placement Department to assist students in job placements even before their graduation;

(*vii*) ensure the immediate passage of an Unemployment Benefit Scheme Bill with laid out requirements and conditions to assist the unemployed;

(*viii*) within two weeks, amend the Federal Inland Revenue Service Act, to give tax breaks and tax incentives to Companies and Organizations that offer employment based on laid out criteria;

(*ix*) process the Vocational Education (Establishment) Bill and the Economic Stimulus Bill for passage;

(*x*) further amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to reflect a true federal structure so as to empower component States and open up the job market in the various States;

(*xi*) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to hold a public hearing where stakeholders can make inputs for further legislative intervention.

2. **Call for a Dual Carriageway along Wudil-Birnin-Kudu-Babaldu-Ningi-Bauchi-Gombe-Yola Road traversing Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Gombe and Adamawa States:**
Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil:

The House:

Notes that the Wudil-Birnin-Kudu-Babaldu-Bauchi-Gombe-Yola Road links Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Gombe and Adamawa States of Nigeria and also leads to the neighbouring country of Cameroun;

Concerned that this major road is still a single lane road, as a result of which there is a heavy vehicular movement which stretches its capacity;

Worried about the loss of time being experienced by commuters which have negative consequences for economic pursuits of the people of those States, coupled with the high accident rate on the ever busy road, leading to loss of lives and destruction of properties;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Ministry of Works to make provisions in the 2016 Budget proposal for the construction of a dual carriageway along the Route.

3. **Call for Rehabilitation of the Lagos-Badagry Express Road:**
Hon. Bamgbose H. Joseph:

The House:

Notes that the Lagos-Badagry Express Road, which was constructed in 1971, links Nigeria to Benin Republic and other countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);

Concerned that after more than 40 years, no major rehabilitation work has been carried out on the Road which is one of the major revenue points among land borders in Nigeria as it connects three land borders namely, Seme, Owode-Asheri and Palshie borders;

Worried that the deplorable state of the road is bringing avoidable risks to commuters, causing hardships to residents of nearby communities and giving a bad impression of the country to Diplomats from neighbouring countries who ply the road for tourism and other official duties;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to urgently rehabilitate the affected portions of the road in order to put an end to the hardships being experienced by commuters;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and FERMA to constantly monitor the road and other federal roads to avoid their completely dilapidating before remedial works are undertaken; and

(*iii*) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works and FERMA to collaborate with Lagos State Government for early completion of the expansion of the road to a ten (10) lane dual carriageway with a light rail public transport system.

4. **Urgent Need to Curb the Incessant Incidents of Snake Bites in Pankshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency and Other Neighbouring Communities:**
Hon. Golu Timothy Simon **Hon. Binta Bello**
Hon. Beni Lar **Hon. Johnbull Shekarau**
Hon. Danladi Baido

The House:

Notes with concern the alarming rate of snake bites in Pankshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency and other neighbouring communities in Langtang, Shendam (Plateau), Kaltungo (Gombe) and Karim Lamido (Taraba) which have claimed many lives and is threatening the socio-economic and agricultural activities of the people;

Also notes that the problem of snake bites has, in the recent time, significantly added to the disease burden in Nigeria, particularly among farmers, causing many deaths each year and permanent disability as a result of an increasing shortage of anti-venom (vaccine) which has also given rise to the high cost of available therapy and created illicit production of fake and adulterated vaccines;

Concerned that with its triad of high mortality, high disability and deformity, and substantial psychological morbidity, snake bite warrants high priority attention, intervention and research, rather than the neglect it is currently receiving from the Governments, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Donor Agencies;

Also concerned that unless the situation is treated as an urgent public health emergency warranting the manufacture of effective, safe and affordable anti-venom vaccine, millions of lives will continue to be lost to snake bites;

Recalls that the Administration of former President Olusegun Obansajo had approved the local production of a mono- specific anti snake venom vaccine and clinical trials that were conducted confirmed the efficacy of the vaccine which reduced mortality rate, at that time;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Health to declare snake bites a national public health emergency and a neglected tropical disease that requires urgent action to tackle;

(*ii*) also urge the Ministry to immediately resume technical talks with relevant partners on the need to commence local production of affordable, safe, effective and non-cold-chain anti -venom to curb the situation;

(*iii*) further urge the 36 State Governments and the 774 Local Government Councils to sensitize the citizenry about snake bites, train medical staff, encourage the use of hand gloves and rain boots, promote the spread of pesticides and insecticides on farmlands and vulnerable areas, embark on fumigation of the environment, residential, commercial and agricultural premises to reduce snake bites and commit funds to purchase and store vaccines for the people;

(*iv*) call on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to declare snake bites as a global plague with high morbidity rate.

5. Call for Measures to stop the Incessant Collapse of Buildings in Nigeria:
Hon. Solomon Bulus Maren:

The House:

Notes with concern the frequent cases of collapse of buildings with the attendant loss of lives and destruction of properties worth millions of naira;

Concerned about the continued incidents despite the many professional bodies in the building industry to monitor the activities of professionals and the efforts of the executive and legislative arms of government to develop the needed policies and laws to curb the menace;

Recalls the recent collapse of the six-storey building of the Synagogue Church of All Nations in Lagos, which killed over one hundred people, including foreign nationals; and also a building in Barnawa Housing Estate, Kaduna in which twenty-seven people were killed, among others;

Worried that in spite of the existence of quality control agencies such as the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), sub-standard building materials still flood the markets;

Also worried that Tribunals put in place by various Governments to look into cases of collapsed buildings have seemingly concealed their proceedings, findings and directions from the public against the provision of paragraph 7 of the Registered Engineers (Disciplinary Tribunal and Assessors) Rules, Cap. E14 of 1980 as amended;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal and States Governments to mandate all Tribunals handling cases of collapsed buildings to conduct their proceedings in public and make their directions known to the public as provided for by the law;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal and States Governments to mandate relevant agencies to undertake strict regulatory measures to forestall the importation, production and sales of substandard building materials in Nigeria;

(*iii*) further urge the Federal Government to put in place a scheme that will require professional bodies to mandate all professionals handling projects in the building and construction industry to submit quarterly reports to their various professional bodies for easy monitoring in order to avert further occurrence of these incidents;

(*iv*) mandate the Committee on Housing (when constituted) to investigate the reports, findings and directions of Tribunals empaneled by the various professional and regulatory bodies in the building and construction industry on collapsed buildings, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action.

6. **Devastating Gully Erosion Threatening Ideato North and South Federal Constituency of Imo State:**
Hon. Austin Ikechukwu Chukwukere:

The House:

Notes that Ideato North and South Federal Constituency is located within the tropical rainforest that gives it the ecological basis for production of a wide range of tropical crops with widespread potentials for industrial uses and export;

Worried that apart from the enormous challenges confronting the people, Ideato North and South Federal Constituency is also faced with mammoth erosion and environmental issues as a result of its bad land topography;

Concerned that erosion has continued to wreak severe havoc in the area, especially in Obodoukwu, Isiekenesi, Urualla, Isiokpo, Osina, Uzii, Akpulu, Umualaorna and Akokwa communities, just to mention but a few;

Also worried that many families have been displaced from their ancestral homes while several hectares of farmlands have been washed away by erosion;

Aware that the Union Newspaper of Thursday, July 23, 2015 showed one of the numerous sites left in desolate state in Isiekenesi by erosion;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to intervene and help check this devastating erosion in order to save lives and properties and allow families to live with kit and kin together in safe and harmonious natural environment;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Environment (when constituted) to assess the situation and liaise with relevant authorities to proffer lasting solutions and report back to the House within four weeks.

7. **Call for Upgrade of Radio Nigeria Shortwave to Broadband and Scrapping of the Voice of Nigeria (VON):**
Hon. Ahmed Yerima:

The House:

Notes that the Voice of Nigeria (VON), was created in the 1960's to project Nigeria's strategic interests and culture globally and also maintain its leadership position in Africa;

Also notes that VON fashioned its broadcasting style just like the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Radio France International, Voice of America (VOA), Deutshe Welle, Radio Moscow International and their likes, however, while those other stations have been dynamic and constantly upgrading their Media technology to meet their political, economic and strategic objectives, VON has remained stagnant and stuck to the 1970's era;

Aware that the original broadcasting aim of VON was to target audiences in German, English, and Kiswahili in East Africa, French and Hausa in the West African sub- region and Arabic in the Middle East, but for purely political correctness, there was a proliferation of additional Nigerian languages to the broadcast medium which ended up defeating the aim of international broadcasting;

Concerned that VON was not designed to broadcast to the local audience as it uses the short wave band which is a long distance frequency, and what is more, the short wave Radio transistor is virtually outdated as the target countries no longer use it, given that Europe and America have since switched to Broadband ~~broadcasting; besides,~~ short wave band gulps billions of Naira ~~annually with~~ little or no dividend to show for the huge cost of sustaining the broadcasting;

Observes that with over thirty-six (36) FM stations and many AM stations, the Government should not continue to waste resources in funding a bogus and ineffective system of the Voice of Nigeria;

Also observes that the interactive instant Communication, the Internet, the emergence of global TV and many advanced technologies have connected the world more than any radio station, and the Nigerian domestic affairs that are reported by VON are no longer the focus of global attention, therefore, the strategic vision of outside broadcasting by VON has no positive influence whatsoever in the mindset of the target audience;

Also concerned that a dispassionate appraisal of the performance of VON in enhancing the country's image abroad and promoting its foreign policy is next to zero;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Government to scrap the Voice of Nigeria (VON), since it has failed to meet up with the International Broadcasting Standard and has also failed to meet Nigeria's political, economic and strategic objectives;

(*ii*) also call on the Federal Government, which maintains AM and FM stations across the country, to absorb the technical staff of the VON while the Federal Ministry of Information should absorb some of them and retrain others;

(*iii*) urge the Federal Government to invest in Broadband digital technology which is more cost effective in operating its radio stations;

(*iv*) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values (when constituted) to review the importance of the Broadband, with a view to changing the status quo and realign it to conform to economic and political realities of the 21st century.

8. **Call on Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal and State Governments to pay their Electricity Debts to Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs):**
Hon. Benson Babajimi:

The House:

Aware that privatization of the Power Sector was carried out to ensure uninterrupted power supply, enhance efficiency, reduce wastes and losses and create employment in the electricity sector;

Notes a report in Thisday Newspaper of August 5, 2015 that Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of both the Federal and State Governments have been owing a staggering sum of ₦31 billion since November 2013 to the six (6) Distribution Companies, namely: Abuja Electricity Distribution Company, AEDC, Kaduna Electric, KE, Kano Electricity Distribution Company, KEDC, Eko Electricity Distribution Company, EKEDC, Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) and Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IEDC);

Observes that the Federal Ministry of Defence, military formations and paramilitary forces alone, owe ₦15.5 billion of the outstanding debt of ₦31 billion;

Also aware that all the MDAs have provisions for payment of utility bills in their respective budgets, and wonders what happened to the budgeted sums since 2013 they have not been paying the bills;

Concerned that continuous indebtedness to the DISCOs would adversely affect their performances, cripple their businesses that are supposed to create employment opportunities for the teeming youths, enhance the Nation's economic base and ultimately, defeat the very purpose of privatization of the Power sector;

Also concerned that the indebtedness has, in turn, made the DISCOs to default in payment to the Nigerian Electricity Bulk Trading Company, which has given them a deadline to pay the balance for power supplied to them by the Generation and Transmission Companies in the last three months;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power (when constituted) to investigate the indebtedness to the Distribution Companies (DISCOs) by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA's) of the Federal and State Governments and on what they spent the money budgeted for payment of utilities from November 2013 to date, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks.

9. **Call for Reconstruction of Owerri-Amaraku-Okigwe, Amaraku-Nkwerre-Orlu and Anara-Orlu Roads:**
Hon. Chukwudi Jones Onyereri:

The House:

Notes that the Owerri-Amaraku-Okigwe Road connects Imo State with Enugu State, while the Amaraku-Nkwerre-Orlu and Anara-Orlu Road connects Imo State with Anambra State and the roads are of vital economic and social importance to the people of the South East and the generality of Nigerians who travel on the roads;

Also notes that the Roads have, over the years, been in states of utter decay as a result of the failure of successive governments to carry out rehabilitation/reconstruction works as the Roads were deteriorating incrementally;

Concerned about the deplorable nature of the roads which is causing unimaginable anguish to commuters who have to continuously slow down to negotiate the numerous crater-like potholes that dot the stretches of the roads, a situation which armed robbers are taking advantage of to rob commuters and residents of the adjoining communities;

Believes that only the intervention of the Government can bring reprieve to commuters and residents from years of abandonment of the roads and the consequent hardship their deplorable nature has been inflicting on them;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works to include the reconstruction of the roads in the 2016 budget proposal; and

(*ii*) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to undertake rehabilitation of the Roads, in the interim, to avoid their complete collapse.

10. **The Increasing Incidents of Brutality by Security Personnel on Hapless Nigerians: Hon. Solomon E. O. Adaelu:**

The House:

Notes that the primary function of the various security agencies is the protection of lives and property of the general public as well as maintenance of law and order in the society;

Also notes the excellent work being done by various security agencies in their efforts to ensure that there is order, peaceful co-existence, as well as protection of the territorial integrity of the nation;

Further notes that in carrying out their functions, security agencies are permitted by law when necessary, to use only justifiable minimum amount of force or coercion;

Aware of past and condemnable cases of brutality, harassment, extra-judicial killings and excessive use of force by security personnel on hapless Nigerians resulting in deaths or grievous harm, which has tarnished the image of the security agencies;

Also aware that in recent time, the trend has become more alarming in the recent time as security agents use their firearms indiscriminately and unlawfully on unarmed Nigerians even when some relevant laws provide for the observance of rules of engagement in dealing with the civil populace;

Concerned that in most cases, the security agencies are either quick to defend their own or tactfully refuse to investigate the matter, let alone prosecuting the erring officers or paying compensation to the victims or their families;

Worried that if left unchecked, these excesses may spiral out of control and could lead to breakdown of law and order;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to direct the Heads of various security agencies to call their personnel to order and embark on continuous training of their personnel to forestall further incidents of brutality and abuse of fire arm; and

(*ii*) also urge the President to constitute a Presidential Task Force or Committee charged with the responsibility of investigating incidents of brutality by security agencies and ensure compensation of victims or their families.

BILLS

11. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Railways Corporation Act, Cap. N129, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-Enact the Nigerian Railways Act, 2015, to provide for the Regulation of the Railways Sector and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 22) (*Hon. Gideon L. Gwani*) — *Second Reading*.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Medical Laboratory Science, Jos and to provide for Courses leading to the award of Degrees, Fellowships, Diplomas and Certificates in Medical Laboratory Science, Biomedical Science and Other Related Courses and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 39) (*Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung*) — *Second Reading*.

13. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Roads Fund for the Purpose of Financing the Rehabilitation and Maintenance of National Roads and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 49) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) — *Second Reading*.