FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 67

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 1 March, 2016

1. The House met at 11.17 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, 25 February, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement**
***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

(*i*) Staff and Students of Marist College, Yangoji, Kwali, Abuja;

(*ii*) Staff and Students of Spring Roses Model Academy, One Man Village, Karu, Nasarawa State;

(*iii*) Staff and Students of Nigerian-Egyptian International, Gwarimpa, Abuja;

(*iv*) Staff and Students of Lyngra Private Montessori School, Gopewi/Koroduma, Karu, Nasarawa State; and

(*v*) Staff and Students of Great Olympics (De-Grate Jewels) International Academy, Bwari, Abuja.

4. **Petitions**
(*i*) A petition from Tongshuwal Simon Musa on his dismissal by the Federal College of Forestry, Jos, Plateau State and non-payment of his entitlements, was presented and laid by Hon. Solomon Bukus Maren (*Mangu/Bokkos Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) A Petition from Muhammed Abubakar, on the murder of two brothers — Muhamma Kudu Abubakar, and Umar Tanko Abubakar, in Bida, Niger State, was presented and laid by Hon. Muhammadu Bala Faruk (*Katcha/Gbako/Bida Federal Constituency*); and

(*iii*) A Petition from Wodung Adamu Abubakar on the discontinuance of his salary and termination of his appointment by the Federal College of Education, Osiele, Abeokuta, Ogun State, was presented and laid by Hon. Golu Timothy Simon (*Paskshine/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency*).

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Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(*i*) ***Urgent Need to Intervene in the Plan to Close 556 Private Schools Allegedly Operating Illegally with over 100,000 Pupils in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja:***

Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun (*Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South Federal Constituency*) introduced 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 — Agreed to.

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

Urgent Need to Intervene in the Plan to Close 556 Private Schools Allegedly Operating Illegally with over 100,000 Pupils in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja:

The House:

Notes that public schools in the FCT are not sufficient to cater for the educational need of the increasing population as a result of which many private Nursery and Primary schools have emerged in the Federal Capital Territory;

Also notes that one of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (1006 - 2015) was the need to achieve Universal Primary Education in which children everywhere will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling;

Further notes that Universal Primary Education under the MDGs was adjudged as one of the goals that the Nigeria Government excelled upon among the other seven goals;

Aware that from the various media publications, the Department of Quality Assurance of the Education Secretariat of the FCT Administration had concluded all processes and approval to close down 556 schools described as below standard and illegal, as soon as funds are available to execute the plan;

Also Aware that the closure of the 556 schools will result into well over 100,000 children being thrown out of school process;

Concerned about the fate of the pupils who are in the various purported illegal private schools which have not been approved by FCT Administration;

Also concerned about the fate of the staff of those schools which have not sought and obtained the approval of the FCT;

Worried that the closure of the schools will impact negatively on the future of the children and destroy the need to improve the literacy rate of Nigerians;

Also worried that the closure of the schools without alternative panacea for the placement of the children in schools that can absorb the large population will expose the children to crime and abuse that may be the consequences of this policy;

Further worried that the children so laid off shall become victims of unwarranted and unfortunate circumstances by virtue of the closure of schools and may never have the opportunity of furthering education which shall not augur well for the country;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Hon. Minister of FCT to stop further actions on the closure of the 556 schools; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on FCT to investigate the plan of the FCT to close down 556 schools and report back to the House in 4 weeks (*Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun – Ife Central/Ife East/Ife South/Ife North Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that public schools in the FCT are not sufficient to cater for the educational need of the increasing population as a result of which many private Nursery and Primary schools have emerged in the Federal Capital Territory;

Also noted that one of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (1006 - 2015) was the need to achieve Universal Primary Education in which children everywhere will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling;

Further noted that Universal Primary Education under the MDGs was adjudged as one of the goals that the Nigeria Government excelled upon among the other seven goals;

Aware that from the various media publications, the Department of Quality Assurance of the Education Secretariat of the FCT Administration had concluded all processes and approval to close down 556 schools described as below standard and illegal, as soon as funds are available to execute the plan;

Also Aware that the closure of the 556 schools will result into well over 100,000 children being thrown out of school process;

Concerned about the fate of the pupils who are in the various purported illegal private schools which have not been approved by FCT Administration;

Also concerned about the fate of the staff of those schools which have not sought and obtained the approval of the FCT;

Worried that the closure of the schools will impact negatively on the future of the children and destroy the need to improve the literacy rate of Nigerians;

Also worried that the closure of the schools without alternative panacea for the placement of the children in schools that can absorb the large population will expose the children to crime and abuse that may be the consequences of this policy;

Further worried that the children so laid off shall become victims of unwarranted and unfortunate circumstances by virtue of the closure of schools and may never have the opportunity of furthering education which shall not augur well for the country;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Hon. Minister of FCT to stop further actions on the closure of the 556 schools; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on FCT to investigate the plan of the FCT to close down 556 schools and report back to the House in 4 weeks (**HR. 64/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

(*ii*) ***Need to Replace 23,000 Ghost Workers with Actual Workers from the Pool of Unemployment and Qualified Job Seekers*:**
Hon. Dickson Dominic Tarkighir (*Makurdi/Guma Federal Constituency*) introduced 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 — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Replace 23,000 Ghost Workers with Actual Workers from the Pool of Unemployed and Qualified Nigerian Job Seekers:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government through the Minister of Finance has announced that about 23,000 Ghost workers have been detected in the Federal Civil Service;

Also notes that the collaborators and abaters of this grossly criminal act are to be fished out;

Concerned that this repulsive activity transpired at a time legitimately qualified Nigerian youths roamed the street without jobs as the Federal Civil Service was thought to have employed to capacity;

Also concerned that salaries and allowances have been paid to none existing, none productive elements in the Federal Civil Service.

Aware though that the Government has demonstrated ability to cater for the remuneration of the hitherto existing staff strength that included these Ghost;

Also aware that these ghost workers have all along taken the space and place of eligible and existing Nigerian job seekers;

Worried that the number of unemployed Nigerians is high and a potential cause for hardship and insecurity;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Advise that the Federal Government immediately employs Nigerian applicants to fill up the numbers now vacated by the Ghost workers;

(*ii*) advise that, actual and productive roles be assigned to the newly employed towards a more vibrant and efficient Federal Civil Service; and

(*iii*) commend the Executive Arm of Government for efforts leading to the detection of this unholy act and ask that a more thorough exercise be employed to ensure that no culprits had scaled through the initial exercise (*Hon. Dickson D. Tarkighir — Makurdi/Guma Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Government through the Minister of Finance has announced that about 23,000 Ghost workers have been detected in the Federal Civil Service;

Also noted that the collaborators and abaters of this grossly criminal act are to be fished out;

Concerned that this repulsive activity transpired at a time legitimately qualified Nigerian youths roamed the street without jobs as the Federal Civil Service was thought to have employed to capacity;

Also concerned that salaries and allowances have been paid to none existing, none productive elements in the Federal Civil Service.

Aware though that the Government has demonstrated ability to cater for the remuneration of the hitherto existing staff strength that included these Ghost;

Also aware that these ghost workers have all along taken the space and place of eligible and existing Nigerian job seekers;

Worried that the number of unemployed Nigerians is high and a potential cause for hardship and insecurity;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Advise that the Federal Government immediately employs Nigerian applicants to fill up the numbers now vacated by the Ghost workers;

(*ii*) advise that, actual and productive roles be assigned to the newly employed towards a more vibrant and efficient Federal Civil Service; and

(*iii*) commend the Executive Arm of Government for efforts leading to the detection of this unholy act and ask that a more thorough exercise be employed to ensure that no culprits had scaled through the initial exercise (**HR. 65/2016**).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That Order VIII, Rule 46 (4) be suspended to enable the House take more than 2 Motions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(*iii*) ***Need to Stop Incessant Killings by Officers of the Nigeria Customs Service at Gwadabawa and Illela, Nigeria-Niger Border*:**
Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame (*Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*) introduced 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 — Agreed to.

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

Need to Stop Incessant Killings by Nigeria Custom Officers at Gwadabawa and Illela, Nigeria - Niger Border:

The House:

Notes that on Sunday, 28 February, 2016, one of my Constituents named **Shuaibu Lawal** from Gwadabawa town was shot dead by a Customs Officer after being stopped at Army Check point in Gidan Fulani near Gwadabawa Town on his way to Sokoto. The deceased was driving an eighteen seater bus allegedly carrying some bags of rice;

Also notes that similar incidences of incessant and brutal killings by men of Nigerian Customs Service have been re-occurring in border towns and villages around Gada, Wurno, Tangaza, Gwadabawa, Kware, Wammako, Binji and Sokoto, to mention but a few;

Establishes that sometime in 2012, one **Isa Miro** was shot dead while driving his car suspected to be tourist car (Takumbo) at Tashar Ragga, along Sokoto-Illela road;

Also establishes that in 2013, Ambu, a lady passenger from Konni was shot dead by a Customs officer while on their to Kaduna, upon suspicion that the vehicle she was riding in along Illela /Sokoto road was Tourist (Takumbo);

Confirms that in 2014, **Lawal Dan-Boka** was also shot dead after being stopped by a Customs Officer near Wammako town along Binji - Wammako - Sokoto road;

Also confirms that Danmaliki Rungumawa of Tabanni Village of Kwanni area, Niger Republic was also shot dead at Dabagi of Darnar Tsolawo in Illela Local Government Area in early 2015. Also late in 2015, an innocent boy **Murtala Garba Meli** standing by the road side in Meli was short dead by a Customs Officer;

Further notes that the Customs Officers have caused a lot of serious accidents in various towns and villages of the Area as result of either purusing suspected tourist cars (Takumbo) or vehicles suspected to be carrying smuggled goods, and there have led to lost of many lives;

Aware that since the beginning of these incidents from 2012 to date, there were no investigations, therefore none of the victims or their families have ever been compensated and the Officers were never brought to book;

Disturbs that these incessant and careless killings of our citizens has become very worrisome and if not stop, will likely lead to the breakdown of law and order, which may also lead to public disturbances and general insecurity, endanger the lives and properties of the public and men and women of the law enforcement agencies working in the areas;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Direct the Nigerian Customs Service to immediately stop the incessant killings of the citizens in the areas mentioned above;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Customs and Excise to conduct a holistic investigations on the matter and report back to the House withing two weeks;

(*iii*) also urge for the compensations of all the victims or their families affected by the atrocities of the Nigerian Customs Officers in the areas;

(*iv*) further urge the dismantling of all unnecessary road blocks mounted inn the areas by all security agencies such as the Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), which were used as apparatus of exploitation, extortion and harassments of innocent Nigerians in the area (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (*i*), *leave out* the word "Direct" and *insert* the word "Urge" (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Abdul Alkaleri/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — *Agreed to.*

Main Question on the Motion as amended — *Agreed to.*

The House:

Noted that on Sunday, 28 February, 2016, one of my Constituents named **Shuaibu Lawal** from Gwadabawa town was shot dead by a Customs Officer after being stopped at Army Check point in Gidan Fulani near Gwadabawa Town on his way to Sokoto. The deceased was driving an eighteen seater bus allegedly carrying some bags of rice;

Also noted that similar incidences of incessant and brutal killings by men of Nigerian Customs Service have been re-occurring in border towns and villages around Gada, Wurno, Tangaza, Gwadabawa, Kware, Wammako, Binji and Sokoto, to mention but a few;

Established that sometime in 2012, one **Isa Miro** was shot dead while driving his car suspected to be tourist car (Takumbo) at Tashar Ragga, along Sokoto-Ilela road;

Also established that in 2013, Ambu, a lady passenger from Konni was shot dead by a Customs officer while on their to Kaduna, upon suspicion that the vehicle she was riding in along Illela /Sokoto road was Tourist (Takumbo);

Confirmed that in 2014, **Lawal Dan-Boka** was also shot dead after being stopped by a Customs Officer near Wammako town along Binji - Wammako - Sokoto road;

Also confirmed that Danmaliki Rungumawa of Tabanni Village of Kwanni area, Niger Republic was also shot dead at Dabagi of Darnar Tsolawo in Illela Local Government Area in early 2015. Also late in 2015, an innocent boy **Murtala Garba Meli** standing by the road side in Meli was short dead by a Customs Officer;

Further noted that the Customs Officers have caused a lot of serious accidents in various towns and villages of the Area as result of either purusing suspected tourist cars (Takumbo) or vehicles suspected to be carrying smuggled goods, and there have led to lost of many lives;

Aware that since the beginning of these incidents from 2012 to date, there were no investigations, therefore none of the victims or their families have ever been compensated and the Officers were never brought to book;

Disturbed that these incessant and careless killings of our citizens has become very worrisome and if not stop, will likely lead to the breakdown of law and order, which may also lead to public disturbances and general insecurity, endanger the lives and properties of the public and men and women of the law enforcement agencies working in the areas;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Direct the Nigerian Customs Service to immediately stop the incessant killings of the citizens in the areas mentioned above;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Customs and Excise to conduct a holistic investigations on the matter and report back to the House withing two weeks;

(*iii*) also urge for the compensations of all the victims or their families affected by the atrocities of the Nigerian Customs Officers in the areas;

(*iv*) further urge the dismantling of all unnecessary road blocks mounted inn the areas by all security agencies such as the Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), which were used as apparatus of exploitation, extortion and harassments of innocent Nigerians in the area (**HR. 66/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Customs Service.

6. **Presentation of Report**
***Committees on Telecommunications, and Privatization and Commercialization*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Telecommunications, and Privatization and Commercialization on the Investigation of the Sales of Nigerian Telecommunications (NITEL) and Mobile Telecommunications (MTEL) to NATCOM" (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Report laid.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agency for Population Programmes and Development Act, Cap. N2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to change the qualification for appointment of Board members from "highly respected" to "highly qualified"; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 276) — *Second Reading*.**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Robbery and Firearms (Special Provisions) Act, Cap. R11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review the penalties and fines; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 226) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Robbery and Firearms (Special Provisions) Act, Cap. R11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review the penalties and fines; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 226) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Bill withdrawn by leave of the House.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Sales of Goods Act of 1893 and Re-enact the Sales of Goods Bill, 2016 to provide for Regulations of Sales of Goods in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 371) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Sales of Goods Act of 1893 and Re-enact the Sales of Goods Bill, 2016 to provide for Regulations of Sales of Goods in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 371) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Lawal Abubakar Garba — Yola North/Yola South/Gire Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committees on Commerce, and Justice.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Psychiatric Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. P34, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to give room for fair hearing in the disciplining of any student for misconduct; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 352) — *Second Reading*.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Psychiatric Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. P34, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to give room for fair hearing in the disciplining of any student for misconduct; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 352) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Adamu Dali Usman Kamale — Madagali/Michika Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Inland Fisheries Act, Cap. I10, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review upwards the penalties; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 357) — *Second Reading*.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Inland Fisheries Act, Cap. I10, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review upwards the penalties; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 357) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Abdussamad Dasuki — Kebbe/Tambunwal Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for the Appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 149) — *Second Reading*.**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Public Accounts Committee Act, Cap. P5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 341) — *Second Reading*.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Public Accounts Committee Act, Cap. P5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 341) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time - Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Regulate the Disposal of Waste by Industries or Companies; Prohibit Environmental Pollution, Prescribe Penalties against Offenders; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 346) — *Second Reading*.**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Loans (State Development) Act, Cap. L16, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 360) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Loans (State Development) Act, Cap. L16, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 360) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo Eseodo/Ilaje Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time *Agreed to.*

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management.

16. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly: Order XII, Rule 94**
***Electronic Transaction Bill*, 2016 (HB. 374):**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence were made or negatived, or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence were made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the aforementioned Bill was passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

Aware that the Bill has been re-gazetted as HB. 374 and read the first time;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Bill referred to the Committee of Whole, pursuant to Order XII Rule 94.

17. **Urgent Need For Completion of Kano Western By-Pass Linking Kano-Kaduna to Dawanau Village on Kano-Katsina Road**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government awarded a contract to Dantata and Sawoe for construction of Kano Western by pass linking Kano-Kaduna to Dawanau Village on Kano Katsina Road on the 10th of May, 2007 with an estimated completion date of May 19, 2010, which has been postponed twice;

Aware that the full complement of work on the 26.6 kilometers road include construction of an interchange at the tip of the bridges, an over pass bridge over a railway line and other ancillary works, but concerned that only 38.23% of the work has been done despite the passage of 80% of the allotted completion time;

Also aware that the completion of the road will boost the revenue profiles of the affected areas, enhance agricultural activities and socio-economic conditions of the people, provide alternative linkage to many settlements and ease difficulties and time for conveyance of goods from the Northern to other parts of the country;

Disturbed that the execution of the contract has been characterized by inadequate budgetary provisions since inception, the worst being lack of provision in the 2015 budget, which made it impossible for the contractor to receive the second advance installment in the payment plan, leading to stoppage of work;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Works, and Appropriations to appropriate money in the 2016 budget for the completion of the Road (*Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed Gwale Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(**HR. 67/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Appropriations, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 5).

18. **Need for Implementation of the 2015 Constituency Projects by the Rural Electrification Agency:**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

19. **Urgent Need to Resuscitate the Gamma Irradiation Facility (GIF) at the Sheda Science and Technology Complex (SHESTCO), Abuja**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that the Federal Government established the Gamma Irradiation Facility in 2006 at the cost of about ₦50 billion to provide farmers a means of storage to prevent post-harvest losses;

Also aware that there had been workshops that brought farmers and beverage and pharmaceutical companies together to see how they can benefit from the Facility, which has a capacity to treat over 20 metric tons of products daily and was expected to generate ₦7.245 billion annually but has never worked and is now wasting away at the Nuclear Technology Centre (NTC), Sheda Science and Technology Complex (SHESTCO), Abuja;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Science and Technology to determine the current status of the Gamma Irradiation Facility and recommend ways to make it functional within the shortest possible time; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Science and Technology to investigate the movement of the Facility from SHESTCO to Nigeria Atomic Energy Agency (NAEC) without amendment of the enabling law establishing SHESTCO and also determine NAEC's relationship with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the project (*Hon. Ahmed Yerima Misau/Dambam Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Aware that the Federal Government established the Gamma Irradiation Facility in 2006 at the cost of about ₦50 billion to provide farmers a means of storage to prevent post-harvest losses;

Also aware that there had been workshops that brought farmers and beverage and pharmaceutical companies together to see how they can benefit from the Facility, which has a capacity to treat over 20 metric tons of products daily and was expected to generate ₦7.245 billion annually but has never worked and is now wasting away at the Nuclear Technology Centre (NTC), Sheda Science and Technology Complex (SHESTCO), Abuja;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Science and Technology to determine the current status of the Gamma Irradiation Facility and recommend ways to make it functional within the shortest possible time; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Science and Technology to investigate the movement of the Facility from SHESTCO to Nigeria Atomic Energy Agency (NAEC) without amendment of the enabling law establishing SHESTCO and also determine NAEC's relationship with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the project (**HR. 68/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Agricultural Production Services, and Science and Technology.

20. Need to Investigate the Multiple Appointments being held by some Nigerians and the Unlawful Payments of Emoluments to them in those Capacities

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that there are some senior public and civil servants holding more than one public office at the same time and are receiving emoluments and benefits for such offices in contravention of Sections 6 and 8 of the Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act, Cap. 15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, an action that corrupts public morality;

Concerned that too much money is being spent to maintain public officials to the extent that about seventy percent of the nation's yearly budget is allocated for recurrent expenditure to the detriment of other developmental projects;

Convinced that there is a need to put an end to the illegal and unjust enrichment of such individuals with public funds to the detriment of millions of other Nigerians, especially at this period of dwindling resources as a result of fall in the price of oil;

Also convinced that stopping the practice of public officials holding multiple appointments and earning emoluments there from would help in reducing the recurrent expenditure of the Government, and curb this act of corruption;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Service Matters to conduct investigation to determine the number of Nigerians currently holding more than one public office and are receiving emoluments/benefits from such offices in the Ministries, Departments and Agencies and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Abdulahi Umar Faruk — Bunza/Birnin Kebbi/Kalgo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
In the Prayer, line 1, immediately after the word "Matters", *insert* the words "and Governmental Affairs" (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Abdul — Alkaleri/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that there are some senior public and civil servants holding more than one public office at the same time and are receiving emoluments and benefits for such offices in contravention of Sections 6 and 8 of the Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act, Cap. 15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, an action that corrupts public morality;

Concerned that too much money is being spent to maintain public officials to the extent that about seventy percent of the nation's yearly budget is allocated for recurrent expenditure to the detriment of other developmental projects;

Convinced that there is a need to put an end to the illegal and unjust enrichment of such individuals with public funds to the detriment of millions of other Nigerians, especially at this period of dwindling resources as a result of fall in the price of oil;

Also convinced that stopping the practice of public officials holding multiple appointments and earning emoluments there from would help in reducing the recurrent expenditure of the Government, and curb this act of corruption;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Service Matters, and Gove rnmental Affairs to conduct investigation to determine the number of Nigerians currently holding more than one public office and are receiving emoluments/benefits from such offices in the Ministries, Departments and Agencies and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 69/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Public Service Matters, and Governmental Affairs.

21. **Need for Intervention in the Activities of the Federal Scholarship Board**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that the Federal Scholarship Board has the mandate to provide sponsorship for eligible students to pursue undergraduate and post-graduate programmes in some selected Universities across the world under the Bilateral Education Agreement (BEA);

Also aware that under the Agreement, participating countries are responsible for the students' tuition and accommodation, while the Board takes care of the students' monthly stipends, health insurance, warm clothing allowance, research and yearly take off grant;

Notes the incessant reports of delays, under payment and neglect of students on scholarships in various foreign countries by the Board which has a dampening effect on their studies and general well-being and is also a breach of the Agreement;

Observes that in recent years, the activities of the Board have been shrouded in secrecy without adequate dissemination of information to the general public, thereby depriving some eligible students from taking part in the scholarship scheme;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Scholarship Board to settle all outstanding allowances to enable the students under its sponsorship have hitch free studies; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to carry out an oversight on the activities of the Board as it affects poor handling and selection of beneficiaries, including the level of compliance with the federal character principle and report back to the House within 4 weeks, for further legislative action (*Hon. Samaila Suleiman — Kaduna North Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out the words "Tertiary Education Services" and *insert* "Basic Education Services" (*Hon. Saheed Akinade Fijabi — Ibadan Northwest/Ibadan Southwest Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that the Federal Scholarship Board has the mandate to provide sponsorship for eligible students to pursue undergraduate and post-graduate programmes in some selected Universities across the world under the Bilateral Education Agreement (BEA);

Also aware that under the Agreement, participating countries are responsible for the students' tuition and accommodation, while the Board takes care of the students' monthly stipends, health insurance, warm clothing allowance, research and yearly take off grant;

Noted the incessant reports of delays, under payment and neglect of students on scholarships in various foreign countries by the Board which has a dampening effect on their studies and general well-being and is also a breach of the Agreement;

Observed that in recent years, the activities of the Board have been shrouded in secrecy without adequate dissemination of information to the general public, thereby depriving some eligible students from taking part in the scholarship scheme;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Scholarship Board to settle all outstanding allowances to enable the students under its sponsorship have hitch free studies; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to carry out an oversight on the activities of the Board as it affects poor handling and selection of beneficiaries, including the level of compliance with the federal character principle and report back to the House within 4 weeks, for further legislative action (**HR. 70/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Basic Education and Services.

22. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 2 March, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Orkev Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.49 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara,
Speaker