



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NOTICE PAPER

Monday 22 July, 2019

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- Devastating Fire Disaster in Amigbo-Ama-Hausa Market in Obiagu, Enugu North LGA, Enugu State:**
Hon. Ofor Chukwuegbo:
The House:

Notes that Amigbo-Ama-Hausa Market in Obiagu, Enugu North Local Government of Enugu State an Igbo and Hausa cohabited traders market;

Also Notes that this novel trader market is unique and have existed in Obiagu community for a very long time;

Disturbed that on Friday 12th July 2019, the devastating fire outbreak in Amigbo-Ama-Hausa Market in Obiagu suburb, Enugu North/South Federal Constituencies of Enugu State which destroyed over 100 shops and several residential houses including other valuables worth millions of naira were ravaged;

Aware that as a result of the fire disaster, economic activities in the Market has virtually been grounded to a halt, leaving the victims financially handicapped, emotionally and psychologically distressed;

Disturbed that the current state of economic activities in the market has eventually led to shop and property owners being idle and young people business individuals roaming the streets with concomitant effects of increase in social devices due to the incidence;

Appreciates the efforts by the State and Local Government who have shown concerned and visited the affected area and victims of the fire disaster;

Worried that the remote and immediate causes of the fire outbreak is yet unknown and sustainable solutions have not been proffered;

Resolve to:

- (i) commiserate with the Government of Enugu State and people of the affected area;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the victims of the fire disaster;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (when constituted) to embark on a fact-finding visit to identify the remote cause of the fire outbreak; assess the level of damages caused by the fire incident with a view to preventing future occurrence and report back within four (4) weeks.

2. Deplorable State of Federal Roads Across the Country:

Hon. Tajudeen Adefisoye:

The House:

Notes that most Federal roads across the country are now death traps, going -1) by their present state of disrepair in spite of the huge budgetary allocations for repair of the roads on a yearly basis;

Also notes that no meaningful development can be achieved, just as no viable investment can be attracted into the country without a good road infrastructure;

Concerned that a lot of innocent lives have been lost through avoidable accidents due to the poor state of Federal roads and a number of Nigerians who ordinarily would have traveled within the country by road are now left with the option of having to travel by air due to the poor state of the roads;

Aware that criminals across the country are capitalizing on the dilapidated state of roads across the country to perpetrate evil acts through which many innocent lives have been lost;

Concerned that in addition to the negative effects of the prevailing poor state of roads, kidnaping and Armed Robbery, loss of vital man-hour on a daily basis are recorded thus affecting the growth of a developing economy like the Nigeria;

Informed that roads that the tale of bad roads cut across the six geo-political zones of Nigeria and therefore not peculiar to a particular geo-political zone, and of particular mention is the Owo-Akoko road in Ondo State which serves as the gate way to the North from the South-West;

Recalls that contracts for the construction of Lagos-Ibadan expressway and Lokoja- Okene - Abuja road were awarded more than ten years ago, yet, not much work had been done on the roads, equally the Owo-Akoko Road in Ondo State, which is the gateway to the Northern part of the country is in a state of disrepair;

Resolves to:

- (i) Set up Ad-hoc Committee to make an assessment of the state of Federal Roads across the country and make recommendations on how to ensure an enhancement of the pace of work on those currently under reconstruction;
- (ii) Invite Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works or the Minister of Works as the case may be to explain the reasons for slow pace of work on strategic federal roads in spite of the yearly budgetary allocations.
- (iii) Also invite the Director General of Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to explain why impact of the Agency is not being felt or seen despite the yearly allocations that accrue to it.

3. Increasing Incidents of Sim Swap Fraud Leading to Illegal Withdrawal of Money from Customer's Accounts:

Hon. Ifeanyichukwu Ibezi:

The House:

Recalls that in 2012, the Central bank of Nigeria (CBN) established a Cash-less Policy, which was an initiative to reduce the amount of physical cash in circulation, thereby encouraging the use of electronic platforms for settlement or payment for goods and services;

Informed that the policy prescribed cash handling charges on daily withdrawal above five hundred thousand naira for individuals and three million naira for corporate bodies, thereby assuring that more transactions take place within the banking system, the more effective monetary policy will be in managing inflation and driving economic growth and also address the risks and expenses associated with handling large volume of cash;

Notes the report in the Guardian Newspaper of Monday July 1, 2019 that despite the numerous advantages of electronic platforms for banking transactions, some draw backs are already manifesting in the form of Subscribers Identification Modules (SIM) swap fraud which occurs when a fraudster steals someone's personal information, mainly from the internet and uses it to request for a new SIM card from that person's network provider, effectively cloning that person;

Also notes that as soon as the network provider issues the new SIM card with the same number of the person whose identity was stolen, that person's network signal will disappear from his original line which he would still have in his possession all these while;

Further informed that while the person is bemused as to why the signal in his line disappeared and would be battling to have the matter resolved, including trying to contact his network provider, the fraudster immediately sets to work by diverting the incoming SMS messages and completing the text-based two-factor authentication checks that protect an owner's most sensitive accounts in financial services, social networks, webmail services and instant messengers;

Equally informed that Kaspersky Lab Research showed that Mobile payments are suffering a wave of attacks through SIM swap fraud and customers are losing colossal amount of money in the process;

Concerned that this type of attack is used not only to steal credentials and capture One-Time Passwords (DTPs) sent via an SMS, but also to cause financial damage to victims, resetting the accounts on financial services, allowing the fraudsters access to currency accounts, not only in banks but also in fin-techs, credit unions and also to steal money using WhatsApp, loading the messages in a new phone and linking up with the victim's contacts to ask them for money, while simulating an emergency;

Further notes that the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau had posited that the SIM splitter's first step is to access the victim's personal information through bank statements and by scouring social media profiles, the hacker then obtains a blank SIM card, calls the mobile phone operator of the victim, and with the victim's information he has at his disposal, he is able to pass the security checks and then reports the victim's phone as having been stolen, at this point, the operator blocks the victim's SIM and the hacker activates the "new" SIM, and while the victim is left without service, the hacker is able to access all the victim's texts and calls, including the unique code that the bank sends to access their online system, thus granting the hacker free reign over the victim's account from which he can transfer funds whenever and wherever he wishes;

Equally notes that fraudsters are using phishing attacks to obtain victims cell phone or internet banking login details with which they empty the accounts of the victims before they know what has happened;

Cognisant that the increasingly widespread nature of this fraud has the potential to discourage people from embracing mobile and internet banking facilities, especially in the face of the buck passing between the banks and telecommunications operators as to whether victims of financial frauds should be classified as bank customers or as telecommunications operators customers;

Resolves to:

Set an Ad-Hoc Committee to conduct an investigative hearing on the increasingly emerging trend of SIM swap fraud with a view to determining ways that banks and telecommunications operators can collaborate in devising measures to combat the menace, and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

4. Need to Address Erosion Problem Along the Disina-Jama'Are River Bank in Shira Local Government Area of Bauchi State:

Hon. Kani Abubakar Faggo:

The House:

Notes, the loss of lives, properties and farmlands in recent times as a result of persistent erosion problem along the Disina-Jama'are river bank that affects the people of Disina Town, Ajangara, Guddu, Kungo, Dango, Tsumba, Jalkatari, Malori, Gagidiba, Abarbawo Bakin Kogi, Abarbawo Kunshi, Agursa, Ganuwa, Majiyan Kaya Villages. of Shira Local Government Area;

Also notes that the ugly trend which started in 2004 and has reached its peak in August, 2018 as a result of excessive rainfalls, where properties and farmlands worth several millions of naira have been destroyed;

Aware that the large part of Disina District of shira LGA is located along the river bank of Disina-Jama'are has had a protracted history of environmental challenges partly due to flooding especially in areas around the communities above mentioned;

Also aware that experts have warned that allowing the trend to continue poses threat to lives and properties of the residents of the communities;

Acknowledges that the Hadejia/Jama'are River Basin Development Authority and the Bauchi State Government have for the last 15 years being doing so much to control the ugly disaster;

Informed that, the resultant effects of the disaster was the cutting-off of the 27 kilometre Beli-Gagidiba-Zubo Rural Road at Abarbawa Village and the constant disruption of electricity supply along the 15 kilometre Beli-Zubo National grid line;

Concerned that despite the efforts of the Hadejia/Jama'are River Basin Development Authority and the Bauchi State Government, the menace continue to escalates and have gone beyond their control;

Worried that if the situation is not given the desired attention, it will adversely continue to affects the socio-economic activities of Shira Local Government Area and beyond;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to propose in the 2020 budget estimates for construction of small Dams for irrigation farming purposes along the Disina-Jama'are River Bank to ameliorate the intense suffering of the affected communities.
- (ii) also urge the Department of Rural Development of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to carry out on the immediate repairs of the cut-off point of the 27 kilometre Beli-Gagidiba-Zubo Rural Road and the replacement of damaged electricity poles along the 15 kilometre Beli-Zubo national grid line;
- (iii) Again urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and related regulatory Authorities to provide relief materials for the affected members of the communities;
- (iii) Further urge, the office of the secretary to the Government of the Federation, (SGF), (Ecological Unit) to cause a supplementary Budget to include adequate funds for commencement of work on the Disina-Jama'are River Bank and also make adequate provision in the 2020 Budget Estimates for the continuation/completion of the erosion work of the river bank;

- (iv) Request the Hadejia/Jama'are River Basin Development Authority to commence the dredging of the ANDIW A water point to ensure free flow of the river water and to avert the persistent flood;
- (v) Mandate the Committee on Environment (when constituted) to inspect the affected areas, Proffer a long time solution and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

5. Need to Address the menace of gully erosion in Njikoka/Dunukofia/ Anaocha federal Constituency of Anambra State in Particular and the South East Geo-Political Zone in General:

Hon. Valentine Ayika:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria like other Sub-Saharan African countries is besieged by serious environmental degradation resulting, among others, in soil erosion which is mainly due to very high intensive rainfall that culminate in heavy runoff and soil loss;

Further notes that the torrential rainfall in South-Eastern Nigeria coupled with the soil texture create an enabling environment for catastrophic soil erosion in the region;

Worried that the soil erosion by water through gradual and constant dissection and desecration of the natural landscape is now the greatest threat to the environmental settings of South-Eastern Nigeria.;

Informed that about 1.8% of the entire land area of South-Eastern Nigeria is occupied by gullies, and this is very alarming for an area that has the highest population density of more than 500 persons per km² in Nigeria;

Further informed that Njikoka/Dunukofia/Anaocha Federal Constituency of Anambra state is home to numerous classical gully erosion sites littering the length and breadth of the constituency;

Regrets that it is the same predicament in the entire South-Eastern part of Nigeria where gully erosion sites litter the space;

Mindful of the fact that with the increased human activities and other adverse environmental changes, the magnitude of the gully sites in the region will increase;

Worried that the consequence of the gully erosion menace is the loss of land for agriculture and for habitation, lives and property, roads and cultivated lands being washed away, communities being separated;

Aware that other parts of Nigeria are also facing other environmentally related challenges;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Ministry of finance to give priority attention to erosion control projects in the extant Appropriation Act;

- (ii) Also urge the Ministry of Environment and other relevant Government Agencies in the environment related sector to take a holistic, pragmatic and systematic approach in containmg the gully erosion menace particularly ill NjikokalDunukofia! Anaocha Federal Constituency of Anambra State and Southeast geopolitical zone in general.

6. Need for a Conscious and a Clear Cut Policy to Check the Alarming Tides of Nigeria's Population:

Hon. Afolabi Rasheed Olalekan:

The House:

Notes with concern that fifty-eight years after political independence, rule, Nigeria is still struggling to find its footing as other nations that attained independence in the 1960s due to an ever increasing population without commensurate economic development;

Further notes that at independence Nigeria population was at 45.2 million according to available data from the National Bureau of Statistics, while Britain Population was 52.4million, however, the current Nigeria population estimated at 200,980,215 Britain current population estimated to be 66,963,173, based on the United Nation estimation as at Sunday, July 7, 2019, constituting a change of about 344.4% and 27.6% between 1960 and 2019 respectively;

Disturbed that Nigeria population is growing faster than its economy, with the current population growing rate, Nigeria GDP Per capital which was \$92.96 at independence currently stood at \$2,178, and as per world bank estimates makes it a poor country despite been African's largest economy, while that of Britain which was \$13,827 in 1960 is now \$42,986, and South Africa the second largest economy with a GDP per capital of \$433.94 in 1960, is now \$6,325, with that of Egypt the 3rd largest economy having a GDP of \$708 in 1960 currently stood at \$2,549, with over 80% of Nigerians still living below poverty level;

Aware that Nigeria is ranked 152nd among 188 nations in the global human development index of the United Nation program, also in terms of GDP per capital at nominal values, Nigeria is ranked 131st by IMF, 128th by World Bank and 133rd by United Nation respectively;

Further aware that over the years in Nigeria, numerous brilliant policies have been formulated with population policy inclusive, but no apparent and significant development to show for that as evidenced by the fact that Nigeria has continued to remain in the category of the least developed country of the world;

Worried that development economists have for long argued that developing countries must control their population to achieve higher per capital income growth rate, improve the quality of life of citizens, transits to industrial age and that the GDP must expand at a higher rate to improve human development indexes;

Further worried that a further projection by the United Nation Development, Programme put Nigerian population in 2050 at over 400million, thereby placing it at a very precarious situation;

Observes that China and India have proved that the greatest wealth of a country is its people, by transiting from a poor agrarian economy to becoming the world second and seventh largest economy using their large pool of cheap labour to mass produce agricultural, mineral and consumer goods;

Concerned that according to the latest statistics, Nigeria has been adjudged as the country with the largest number of people living in extreme poverty, with half of her population living with less than \$1.90 a day with the population boom not abating;

Resolves to:

- (i) Call on the Federal Government to come up with a conscious and a clear cut policy to check the rising and alarming tides of the Geometrical rate of Nigeria Population;
- (ii) Urge the Government to aggressively move and re-energize its family planning program;
- (iii) Further call on the Federal Government to invest in Agriculture, technology, human development and policy that will change the course of our economic development;
- (iv) Mandate the Committee on Population (when constituted) to ensure implementation.

7. Urgent Need to Save the Multi-Million Electrical Installations to Connect Borgu/Agwara Federal Constituency from Vandalization:

Hon. Jafa Mohammed:

The House:

Note that the Kainji Dam as Nigeria's first hydro power plant was commissioned in 1968 to among others provide a good source for electricity power generation in the country;

Further note that it is located in the heart of Borgu/Agwara Federal Constituency of Niger State and shares boarder with neighbouring towns of Yauri emirate of Kebbi State;

Recall that inspite of the fact that Borgu/Agwara Federal Constituency hosts the Kainji Dam, only three towns (Wawa, Busa and Karabande) which serve as headquarters of three wards in Borgu Local Government are connected to the National Grid while seventeen (17) wards with minimum of eighty communities in the Federal Constituency are not connected;

Conscious that parts of Shagunu ward, Dugga Ward, Papiri ward, Gallah ward, Kashini ward, Rofia ward, Adahe ward, Mago ward and part of Konkoso ward were provided with transformers and all electrical fittings fixed since 2003 but have not been connected to the National Grid;

Cognizance that the huge amount of money spent in providing the electrical equipment and installations makes little or no meaning since the installations are vulnerable and frequently vandalized while communities remain in darkness despite the fact that 100% percent of the job has been done but remains inconclusive without connectivity to the National grid;

Worried that the 2007 the Mu-azu Babangida Aliyu Administration in Niger State had to make significant financial commitment to purchase the vandalized electrical installations which occurred as a result of failure to connect the Federal Constituency with National Grid by appropriate power regulatory authority;

Further worried that between 2007 - 2017, the installations were also vandalized while several equipment stolen due to unimaginable failure of connectivity to National Grid despite its 100% completion;

Disturbed that between 2018 - 2019, the Abubakar Sani Bello Administration had to spend about N200 million to re-purchase the electrical installations and other equipment to complete the project but is still vulnerable to vandalisation as was the case in previous years unless it is commissioned with immediate effect;

Recall that about eight wards (Malale, Shagunu, Dugga, Kokoli, Seteku-mahuta, Kasabo, Pisa/kabe and Busuru) in both Borgu and Agwara which are deeply located in the riverine areas are not provided with any electrical installations at all;

Concerned that the peculiarity of the entire wards not provided with any electrical installations within the riverine areas, subjects them to further recurring hazards of frequent water accidents resulting to death of people, prevalent malaria attacks and flooding with severe destruction of farm lands, crops and death of animals;

Regret that the riverine areas that are not provided with any form of electricity infrastructure are presently in darkness while the water is utilized to generate electricity for other parts of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) Pass a resolution to direct the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC), Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) and the National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) to ensure the prompt commissioning and connection of the Federal Constituency to the National Grid within one month especially areas whose electrical installations have been completed;
- (ii) Direct appropriate Power Regulatory Authorities to provide relevant electrical infrastructure that will facilitate the connection of the remaining areas which have not been provided with electrical installations at all; and
- (iii) Direct such other orders as may be deemed fit in the circumstance.

8. Need to Establish More Radiology Centers and Provision of the Latest Linear Acceleration Machines in General Hospitals Across the Country:

Hon. Dachung M. Bagos:

The House:

Notes with concern the poor level of service very and inefficiency prevalent in the Notion's government hospitals and health sector generally;

Also note that the poor service delivery and inefficiency are as a result of poor funding, inadequate facilities and personnel in institutions in various places across the country;

Aware that cancer is very serious killer disease and that the World Health Organization (WHO) reported an estimate 116,000 new cases of cancer, while 41,000 cancers related deaths were recorded in Nigeria in 2018 alone;

Also aware that inspite of the increase in the number of cancer patient in Nigeria, there exist only about seven (7) radiotherapy machines in the country, of which five (5) are at present faulty and non-functional; Conversely, the United Kingdom have Fifty-Two (52): America has over two thousand five hundred (2500) for human being, and at least sixty-five (65) for animal therapy more that there are for human begin in Nigeria;

Further aware that radiotherapy could be used to cure cancer, either alone or in combination with other systematic therapies and / or surgery. It could also be used to palliate distress symptoms in patients with incurable disease;

Aware also that radiotherapy is a vital component of cancer care service and modern radiotherapy gives patients a chance to survival where there had hitherto been little or no hope, such as those with lung cancer where treatment options can be limited.

Cognizant of the fact that the establishment of more radiotherapy centers and the provision of the latest linear accelerator machines in general hospitals across the country would be a huge source of raising revenue and income for the Federal Government through the reduction of medical tourism abroad by Nigerians;

Concerned that the WHO report is not only scary, but should indeed be serious concern to us all, more so, as the figures are likely to increase and perhaps worsen if very urgent steps are not taken to address the situation;

Also concerned that unless and until drastic and pragmatic steps are taken, which includes. the establishment of more radiology centers and provision of the latest linear accelerator machines in general across the country, mortality rate is likely to increase to increase;

Worried that the above situation has made health care delivery in Plateau State Nigeria in general to remain abysmally poor, inadequate and short of the people's expectations.

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Health and other relevant agencies to immediately take steps to establish more radiology centers and provide the latest accelerator machines in general hospital across the country;
- (ii) Mandate the House Committee on Health (when constituted) to immediately take steps to ensure that resolution (1) above is complied with;
- (iii) Urge the House to ensure that provision is made in the 2020 Appropriation of the Federal Ministry of Health for resolution in (1) above to be capture therein;
- (iv) Direct the committee on Appropriation (when constituted) to ensure that resolution (iii) above is complied with;
- (v) Forward above resolutions of the House to the Senate for its concurrence.

9. Call to Reinforce Security Along Benin-Okada Road to Stem the Rise in Kidnappings and Robberies:**Hon. Dennisidahosa:****The House:**

Notes that section 33 (1) of constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria of Nigeria, 1999 provide that every person has a right to life, and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life, save in execution of the sentence of a court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty;

Also notes that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be primary purpose of the Government;

Aware that the Benin-Okada road in Edo State links the Southern and Northern parts of the country, hence the heavy vehicular movement on it daily which is now being taken advantage of by bandits and kidnappings and killing travelers; most recent of which was Warrant Officer Felix Akanbi, of the Nigerian Navy who was shot during a kidnaping incidents; as well as others;

Acknowledges the efforts of the Government to ensure security along the nation's highways and the commitment in this regard was recently restated when the Government announced the deployment of more troops on the roads to drastically reduce insecurity along those roads;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to devise measures that would ensure the security of lives of travelers along the Benin-Okada road, as well as other roads across the country;

- (ii) also call on the Inspector-General of Police to increase Police presence on the highway to forestall incidents of robberies and kidnappings on the highways;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

10. The Menace of Harassment and Extortion by Officers of the Nigerian Customs Service On the Highways:

Hon. Okwudili Christopher E. Hon. Linda Chuba Ikpeazu Hon. Prestige Ossy

Hon. Ifeanyi Chudi Momah Hon. Nnolim John Nnaji Hon. Kingsley Obinna O.

Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo Hon. Akinola Adekunle Alabi:

The House:

Notes the core mandate of the Nigerian Customs services is the collection of the import and excise duties and counting for the same and prevention and suppression of smuggling of goods which are on the prohibited list into the country;

Also Notes that in a bid to curb the activities of smugglers, the service posts its personnel on spots along the nation's highways where they routinely stop vehicles and trucks transporting goods to various parts of the country for searching to determine whether they were carrying any prohibited goods that had been smuggled into the country; and even for vehicles that may have been brought into the country illegally;

Further notes that in the cause of carrying out those searches along the highway, personnel and extortion by traders and motorists conveying goods and vehicles, and where they refuse to give into the demands of the customs personnel, the trucks conveying the goods or the vehicles are delayed for days and which exposes the victims to attacks by robbers and incurring avoidable losses;

Informed that following public outing on the extortionist activities of its personnel on the highways, the service set up federal operations units and task force points at a plethora of destinations across the country to monitor and curb illegal activities of its personnel posted on the highways to combat smuggling, but who were being alleged to have turn the opportunity into avenues to harass and extort people;

Concerned that even some officials posted to those operations units and task force points are being accused of participating in the high level intimidation and extortion, having abandoned their core functions;

Cognizant of the fact that it will be of an overarching public benefit to stamp out those extortionist activities of personnel of the customs service, or indeed remove those check points on the highways and take them to the nation's border crossing and airports, which are the proper point to mount check points;

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Also informed that the ripple effects of this menace reflects on the economic development of the economy, as the traders are forced to sell their goods at exorbitant rate in order to cover all or some of the losses incurred, either from direct extortion by corrupt customs officials or losses incurred in a bid to escape extortion routes that have fewer checkpoints;

Resolve to:

- (i) Urge the Nigeria customs service to ensure that it is only vehicles that their duties have been fully paid are cleared; and
- (ii) Mandate the committee on customs and excise to investigate the allegation of harassment of vehicles owners and cars dealers by customs personnel at the highways across the country and ensure that the perpetrators are punished and also cause the operations of the customs personnel to be restricted to the seaports, airports and land borders.

12. Urgent Need to Rehabilitate the River Katsina-Ala Bridge in Benue State:

Hon. Richard I. Gbande:

The House:

Aware that River Katsina-Ala bridge is located on trunk A344 road in Katsina-Ala town, the head quarter of Katsina-Ala Local Government in Benue state. The town harbour's an important archaeological site where artefacts of the rich Nok culture were discovered;

Also note that the bridge was constructed in the year **1976 by Sterling Astaldy**, an Italian construction company under the **then led General Olusegun Obasanjo's regime**. The bridge is long overdue for rehabilitation as the present day defect, cracks, vibration, wear and tears of the bridge imply. The alarming condition of the bridge in question couples with the dilapidated **Wukari-Zaki Biam-Katsina-Ala-Gboko-Aliade-Otukpo-9th Mile** road;

Concerned that the bridge poses a serious threat to a lot of Nigerian commuters plying the route. This is evident to the incessant episodes of motor accidents that occur along the route resulting to loss of lives and Properties. It is no doubt that the deteriorated part of the bridge has become a death trap for road users and a den for criminals who takes cover under the bridge to terrorize the communities of **Katsina-Ala Ugbema Junction, Ikowe, Ayua, Abwa** and business men amongst other road users;

Worried that the bridge is a major link to Zaki-Biam, a town known to be the largest yam market in Africa. It is quite disappointing to note that the yam hub of Africa which is estimated to dispatch on a daily basis, over a thousand truckloads of yams ranging from various sizes and species may be cut off from business due to the sorry state of the bridge. The bridge links **Wukari, Dan Anacha, Jalingo in Taraba State, Yola** in Adamawa State and other **severals; including Obudu, Ogoja, Ikon-Calabar axis in Cross River State, South-South Nigeria; Obollo Afor, 9th Mile in Enugu State, South Eastern part of Nigeria;**

Further aware that the people of the area are primarily agrarian and the bridge serves as a link to the main source of evacuating farm produce to both rural and urban markets. Without that bridge, the economic activities of the area and Nigeria at large may experience a major set-back. The present defect, cracks, vibration, wear and tears on the bridge is worrisome leaving the users with doubts as to their safety while plying through the bridge;

Worried that the present state of the bridge questions the primary purpose of government as enshrined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) particularly section 14 (2b) which states that “the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government”. This is prior to the consistent loss of lives, properties and the insecure feelings experienced by the road users;

Aware that various attempts made by the past administrations to rehabilitate the bridge remained either abortive or unsuccessful. The federal government must be commended for carrying out palliative and remedial measures to cushion the effect of the damaged portion of the bridge and ultimately prevent an unforeseen disaster that may occur in future times;

Resolves to:

- (i) Call on the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing and the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to urgently rehabilitate the River Katsina-Ala bridge to avoid the impending disaster that is waiting to happen and the road from **Wukari-Zaki-Biam –Katsina-Ala-Gboko-Aliade-Otukpo-9th Mile and;**
- (ii) Set-up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the remote and major causes of the damage with a view to proffering solutions and minimizing the recurrence of the sorry state of bridges in other parts of the country and report back within two (2) weeks for further legislative actions;
- (iii) Mandate the Committee on Works, Power, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance.

13. Need to Address the Humiliating and Poor Treatment of Nigerians and Other Nationals at Nigerian Missions Abroad:

Hon. Aniekan Umanah:

The House:

Notes that primary duty of all Nigerian diplomatic missions abroad though not limited is to represent the government and people of Nigeria in the receiving States, serve as Liaison for Information, Communication, Immigration, other relevant Services; representative for Nigerians and other Nationals;

Aware of reported cases (Mr. Ewohime Akpovweta in UK) of poor and humiliating treatment, unwarranted delays, extortion of Nigerians and other Nationals including Students seeking Immigration services;

Worried that while the violence means of self-expression is condemnable, it is important that the attention of this hallowed chamber is drawn to the harrowing experiences of Nigerians and other Nationals at the Nigerian missions abroad;

Resolve to:

- (i) **Urge** the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nigeria Diaspora Commission and other relevant agencies to hold the plight, dignity and concerns of every Nigerian and other nationals in the host countries in high esteem;
- (ii) **Urge** the overseeing Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to regularly organize training and retraining of staff of foreign missions to ensure compliance with acceptable global standards;
- (iii) **Mandate** the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora (when constituted) to interface with these government agencies and report back to the House within 6 weeks for further legislative action.