



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NOTICE PAPER

Monday 18 November, 2019

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NOTICE OF MOTIONS

**1. Construction of the 74km Dansadau–Birnin Gwari Road:  
Hon. Shehu Ahmed:  
The House:**

Notes that the 74km Birnin Gwari – Dansadau road connects Zamfara and Kaduna States and there is a thick forest along the corridors of Dansadau in Zamfara State which shares boundary with Niger, Kaduna, Kebbi and Katsina States and thus provides safe haven for criminals who terrorize commuters traveling along the road;

Also notes that the thick forest makes it difficult for the criminals to be tracked down as they conveniently move from one location to the other within the five states of Zamfara, Kebbi, Katsina, Kaduna and Niger and therefore evade being arrested after committing crimes;

Aware that travelling from Kaduna to Gusau would be shorter through Dansadau rather than following the Funtua route;

Also aware that constructing a road from Birnin Gwari- Dansadau will assist security operatives to monitor the activities of criminals as well as aid rescue efforts in the event of any unforeseen incidents;

Further aware that the absence of road connecting Birnin Gwari – Dansadau makes it difficult for farmers to transport their farm produce to markets in those axis which is adversely affecting the socio-economic wellbeing of the citizens in Dansadau and Birnin Gwari towns;

Believes that constructing the 74km road that will link Birnin Gwari and Dansadau will ease the transportation problems in the area as well as help curb incidents of banditry, armed robbery and kidnappings.

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to make provisions in the 2020 budget estimates for the construction of the 74km Birin-Gwari-Dansadau Road;
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriation to ensure implementation.

**2. Provision of Infrastructure at Border Communities:**

**Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio:**

**The House:**

Notes that Nigeria has many communities that share borders with neighboring Countries like Republic of Benin, Niger, Chad and Cameroun and Baruten and Kaiama Local Government Areas of Kwara State border, the Republic of Benin as the furthestmost local government areas in Nigeria;

Cognizant that several towns and villages like Chikanda, Sinaguru, Aroguru, Taberu, Boriya, Gure, Yanri, Bukuro, Gbabe, Karonji, are some of the Border communities in Baruten and Kaiama and the proximity of those communities to the Republic of Benin opens doors for national and international businesses transctions between both sides;

Concerned that despite the commercial importance of those border communities there are no significant infrastructural facilities like pipe borne water, primary health centers or well-equipped primary and secondary schools and their absence of these necessary infrastructural facilities in those communities leads to mass movement of our citizens to Benin Republic for medical attention and quality education which does not portray a good image for the Nation;

Also cognizant that if the absence of infrastructural facilities in the border communities is not urgently addressed, the people will continue to suffer deprivation and Nigeria will be the worst for it;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Border Communities Development Agency (BCDA) to provide infrastructure in the border communities and create offices in the local government areas that constitute border communities;
- (ii) Also urge the BCDA to employ indigenes of border community to ensure that they represent the interests of the Communities;
- (iii) Mandate the Committees on Special Duties and Appropriations to provide funds in 2020 budget for the provision of the infrastructural facilities in the border communities for the purpose of discharging her (BCDA) administrative responsibilities effectively.

**3. Rehabilitation and Re-Construction of Roads Destroyed by Tankers, Trailers and Other Articulated Vehicles in Ajegunle, Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency:**

**Hon. Kolawole Taiwo M.**

**The House:**

Notes that as a result of the construction of a modern park currently going on at Apapa Wharf complex, many trailers, tankers and other articulated vehicles that transact business at the wharf can no longer park within the port complex;

Also notes that those adjoining vehicles now park at various parts of Lagos State, particularly in adjoining areas to the port, like Apapa/Igamu, Lagos Island, Surulere, Lagos Mainland and Ajeromi/Ifelodun local government areas;

Furthet notes that many of tose vehicles ply Kirikiri, Otto Wharf, Mba/Orege roads, Rashidi Afuwape and Apere streets in Ajegunle, Ajeromi/Ifelodun areas on daily basis and are parked continuously along those roads because of their nearness to Apapa Wharf port;

Aware that owing to its nearness to the port complex, Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituencies was bound to carry such loads to aid the laudable goal of construction of a modern park at the port but concerned that those roads were neither designed nor were constructed to carry those heavy vehicles, and

Also aware that the Federal Government recently awarded contracts for reconstruction of major roads linking the port, however, none of those roads that have been destroyed by the trailers, tankers and articulated vehicles in Ajeromi/Ifelodun area was listed for reconstruction;

Federal Constituency on daily basis and are parked continuously on these roads because of their nearness to Apapa wharf port, Lagos.

Cognizant if those roads are not urgently reconstructed, they will further detrotiate and compound the agony being experience by motorists and other road users in the area;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Call on the Federal Government to award contracts for reconstruction of Kirikiri, Otto Wharf, MbajOrege Roads, Rashidi Afuwape and Apere streets in Ajegunle, Ajeromi/Ifelodun, Federal Constituency;
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Works and FERMA o ensure implementation.

**4. Need to Investigate the Reforms Being Proposed in the National Broadcasting Code:  
Hon. Solomon Bob:  
The House:**

Recalls that following the directive of President Muhammadu Buhari, the Minister of Information to instituted an inquiry into the conduct of broadcasting stations in Nigeria whereupon a five-member committee was inaugurated by the Minister on 10th April, 2019;

Notes that the terms of reference of the Committee included finding out the extent to which the National Broadcasting Commission was able to effectively carry out its regulatory role before and during the 2019 general elections and recommending measures that would strengthen the NBC's regulatory role and make it more effective;

Aware that one of the recommendations of the Committee to the Federal Government was a review of the National Broadcasting Code and extant broadcasting laws to reflect some amendments including:

- (i) Upward review of fines from N500,000.00 to N5,000,000.00 for breaches relating to hate speeches, inciting comments and in decency;
- (ii) Upgrade of breach of political comments relating to hate speeches and divisive comments to Class "A" offence in the Broadcasting Code;
- (iii) Suspension of License for willful repeat of infractions on three occasions after levying a fine;

Further aware that the President has approved the recommendations of the Committee which the Minister is planning to implement by setting up an Implementation Committee on 9th October, 2019;

Worried that full implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on NBC reforms is capable of eroding the fundamental right of Nigerians to freedom of expression under section 39 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended)

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which provides that "every person shall be entitled to freedom of expression including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart ideas and information without interference";

Convinced that there is need for the House to investigate the Committee's recommendations to ensure that repressive laws are not incorporated into our laws to muzzle the broadcast media;

***Resolves to:***

Mandate the Committee on Communications and Justice to investigate the reforms being proposed for the NBC by the Federal Government and report back to the House within four (4) weeks.

**5. Flood Disaster in Makurdi, Benue State:**

**Benjamin Bem Mzondu:**

**The House:**

Notes the recent devastating flood that occurred in parts of Makurdi, the Benue State Capital caused by torrential rainfall which started on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 and lasted till Tuesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 recorded as one of the worst floods since 2012 in Makurdi sweeping away property and valuables worth millions of naira;

Aware that the flood submerged about two thousand houses across seven communities in Makurdi metropolis displacing over fifteen thousand people thereby making residents stranded and forced into camps as several families were rendered homeless;

Disturbed that though the flood was widely reported in the media, there has been no response from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to assist the communities, Local Government Council and State Government;

Concerned that the most affected areas are Achusa Media Village, Wadata Rice Mill, behind police zone 4, Judges Quarters, Gboko Road, Logo I, Logo

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

119

Monday 18 November, 2019

No. 15

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II, New Bank Road, Abu Shuluwa Road, Wurukum Market and the neighborhood of Radio Benue, where all the houses in the community including the transmitter of the State-owned Radio Station were submerged;

Also Concerned that there has been an unprecedented loss of valuables and property as the flood also washed away roads Schools and business in some parts of Makurdi like Wadata, Wurukum, Idye, Apkehe and Gboko Road shutting down business in such areas;

Worried that the flood has brought strange snakes and reptiles that are increasingly attacking victims and threatening lives in the area;

Also worried that if urgent steps are not taken by the Federal Government to address the root causes of the perennial flooding, the devastating ecological problem will continue to occur with adverse socio-economic consequences for the people in the affected communities;

Convinced that the Federal government needs to urgently direct all relevant agencies to respond to the plight of victims of flood in Makurdi.

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Commiserate with the affected people and Government of Benue State over the disaster;
- (ii) Mandate the committee on Environment to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Environment, Ecological Fund Office and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to mobilize to the affected Communities, commence temporary erosion control projects;
- (iii) Also mandate the Committee on Environment to liaise with Federal Ministry of Environment with a view to taking steps to continue the erosion control projects in the affected communities as a permanent solution to the flooding problems;

- (iv) Urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster management and Social Development, the National Emergency

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

No. 15

Monday 18 November, 2019

120

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Management Agency, the National Commission for Refugees, Migration and internally displaced persons to mobilize and provide relief materials and Anti-Snake venom (ASV) to palliate the suffering of the victims.

- (v) Also urge the Fund Office to work out a lasting solution to the ecological problems in the area and to include Benue among the states to benefit from the 1.6 billion ecological intervention funds for states affected by flood disasters.

**6. Call on the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to Extend Agricultural Support to Mallam Madori/Kaugama Federal Constituency of Jigawa State:**

**Hon. Abubakar Makki Yalleman:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is saddled with the responsibility of growing Nigeria's agricultural sector, and integrating rural development for the transformation of the economy and accelerating food production;

*Also notes* that the Ministry equally has the mandate to promote agricultural businesses, encourage rural development, support private sector institutions and stakeholders to assure food security, provide raw materials for agro-based industries, diversify employment opportunities and agricultural products along commodity value chains and generate foreign exchange for the nation;

*Concerned* that Mallam Madori/Kaugama federal constituency as a purely agriculture based enclave has consistently been denied the benefits of supply



of agricultural materials like improved quality seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides, periodic and consistent education and enlightenment;

*Worried* that the planting season is underway and so many constituencies have benefited immensely and severally from the Ministry except the Mallam

Madori/Kaugama Federal Constituency, and evidence of this flag off of the commencement of distribution of high yielding cotton seeds and other farm inputs like fertilizer and pesticides to over 100,000 cotton farmers in Katsina State which was reported on the Ministry's website on May 6, 2019;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and other Agriculture and Rural Development to provide periodic training programs and also supply materials that can meet the agricultural needs of farmers in Mallam Madori/Kaugama Federal Constituency, Jigawa State;
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to ensure implementation.

**7. Need to Deploy Modern Technology to Combat Crimes in the Country:  
Hon. Chinedu Obidigwe:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the country is currently beset by multifarious issues that range I from economic, socio-cultural, political and security challenges which, particularly, have overstretched the capacity of the various security agencies to contain;

*Also notes* that the various security challenges the country has been facing for many years now have lingered, and even escalated, in part due to the continued adoption of the outdated manual approach to crime detection and containment, in the face of modern technologies that aid security agents in the developed world to track, detect, prevent and solve otherwise complex

crimes that would befuddle their less equipped counterparts in the developing countries;

*Further notes* reports in the electronic and print media that the Government of Anambra State, on Friday October 11, 2019, launched a Super Smart Closed-Circuit Cameras (COVs) in the three cities of Awka, Onitsha and

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

**No. 15**

**Monday 18 November, 2019**

**122**

---

Nnewi to aid the security agencies in fighting crime in the State, and looks forward to extending the system to other parts of the State;

*Informed* that the Smart City Security Project was inspired by the visit of Governor Willie Obiano to Massachusetts, United States of America in October, 2018 where he toured the Cambridge Innovation Centre and the Boston University and Industrial Video and Control where he was struck by the sophisticated surveillance cameras, which, though are not yet installed in a number of American cities, and even States, the Governor decided to have them installed in Anambra State at huge expenses;

*Also informed* that in order to eliminate the functionality of the equipment being hampered by epileptic power supply, the State Government opted for the Solar-powered type and went ahead to procure 109 vehicles from Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing Company, Nnewi which were equipped with state of the art electronic devices to work in unison with the Super Smart gadgets, and select police officers have, in the last two months, been undergoing training on how to operate the sophisticated CCTVs and equipment in the vehicles;

*Recognizes* those efforts of the Government of Anambra State which has led to the State being one of the safest in the country, a development that has boosted its economy through the over four billion dollars' worth of investments, especially in the fields of technology and agriculture;

*Believes* that the Federal Government, and indeed the Governments of the States of the Federation can benefit tremendously from the lead already taken by Anambra State by replicating the Super Smart and Closed Circuit

Cameras (CCTV's) in major cities across the Federation in order to contain the security challenges confronting the nation;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Commend the Government of Anambra State for installing the Super Smart Closed Circuit Cameras (CCTV's) in the three main cities of

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

Awka, Onitsha and Nnewi to help in the bid to eliminate crimes in the State;

- (ii) Urge the Federal Government and the Governments of the States of the Federation to replicate the Anambra experiment to aid in tracking, detection and combating of crimes in the country;
- (iii) Mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence and Police Affairs to ensure implementation.

**8. Implementation of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability Act:**

**Hon. Chukwuma Umeoji:**

**The House:**

*Aware* that the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act, 2018 provide for the full integration of persons with disability into the society bearing and assuring for their education, healthcare, social, economic and civil rights;

*Notes* that Parts II, III and IV of the Act provides that disable persons are to have easy access to public buildings, structures or automobiles, seaports, railways and airports and that those facilities are to be modified to be accessible to, and usable by persons with disabilities, including those on wheelchairs;

*Also notes* that the Act further requires that plans for public structures will be inspected by relevant Authorities to ensure that the plans conform to the Building Code before the structures are constructed in accordance with

condition for approval of public structures such as offices, seaports, railways and airports;

*Informed* that a Government agency, body or individual responsible for approval of building plans shall not approve the plan of a public building if it does not make provision for accessibility facilities in line with the Building Code;

*Also informed* that it is an offence to approve a Public Structure that shall not be accessible to persons with disability and the government agency, body or

individual is liable on conviction to a fine of at least one million naira (N1,000,000.00) or a term of imprisonment of two (2) years or to both such fine and imprisonment;

*Concerned* that since the commencement of the Act, Parts II, III and IV of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act have not been fully implemented and as a result, persons with disability are still being denied the benefits of the Act which is also being made to look like a toothless bulldog and equally, the legislative time spent on its passage appears like a wasted effort;

*Resolves to:*

Constitute an Ad-Hoc Committee to Investigate with a view to unraveling the reasons for the non-implementation of Parts II, III and IV of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

**9. Flood in Ughelli North, Ughelli South and Udu Federal Constituency of Delta State:**

**Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive:**

**The House:**

*Notes* the recent and extensive flooding and its destructive aftermath along the Rivers Niger and Benue and their inland tributaries which has become recurrent during the rainy season in several locations across the country;

*Also notes* that torrential rainfall and consistent rise in water level has caused the displacement of over 50,000 persons in various communities under Ughelli North, Ughelli South and Udu Local Government Areas of Delta State, leading to tremendous loss of properties, farmlands, crops and livelihood of the people in the rural communities which may further impoverish the already struggling people of the various communities;

*Informed* that the communities that were more adversely affected by the flood include Etefe, Assah, Omafuvwe and Adjekwo of Ewu Clan in Ughelli South Local Government Area and Agadama, Ohoror, Oreba, Ophororo, Avwon,

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

125

Monday 18 November, 2019

No. 15

---

Ogeti, Iwhrokpogonogo, Iwhremevwreni, Iwhremako, Iwhrovwre, Egbo and Urwheru clan of Ughelli North Local Government Area respectively;

*Concerned* that the scale of devastation is beyond the capacity of Ughelli North, Ughelli South and Udu Local Government Councils, hence the need for the intervention of the relevant agencies of the Federal Government;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to render assistance to the Government of Delta State to repair and reinforce the damaged infrastructure to pave way for the resettlement of the flood victims;
- (ii) Also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to victims of the flooding;
- (iii) Mandate the Committees on Governmental Affairs and Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation.

**10. Investigation of the \$396.33 Million Allegedly Spent On Turn Around Maintenance of the Nation's Three Refineries in Four Years:**

**Hon. Ifeanyi Chudy Momah:**

**The House:**

Aware that Nigeria has been living with the derogatory appellation of being a major oil producing nation that is heavily reliant on importation of refined

petroleum products for its domestic consumption, as a result of its low local refining capacity;

Also aware that Nigeria has three major refineries situated at Port- Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna, with installed capacity to refine 445,000 barrels of oil enough for domestic consumption and export;

Notes that this objective has not been realized owing to a combination of factors, including corruption and inefficiency in the running of the refineries which regular "Turn Around Maintenances" have been mismanaged over the years;

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

**No. 15**

**Monday 18 November, 2019**

**126**

---

Also notes a report in the This Day Newspaper of Friday October 18, 2019 by the Nigeria National Resource Charter (NNRC) on "Reducing Losses from Refineries Operations" which reviewed the operations of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) refineries from a cost 'perspective of efficiency and value for money;

Further notes that the Nigeria National Resource Charter (NNRC) implements the Natural Resources Charter, (NRC) in Nigeria, which is a set of principles intended for use by Governments, Societies and the International Community to determine how best to manage natural resources wealth for the benefit of current and future generations of citizens;

Observes the assertion by the NNRC in the report that the NNPC spent a whopping \$396.33 mil 'on between 2013 and 2017 to carry out repair works under the "Turn Around Maintenance" (TAM) scheme on its three decrepit refineries Port-Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna;'

Also observes the claim that the NNPC also spent N276.872 billion on operating expenses of the refineries between 2015 and 2018, as well as \$36 billion on importation of petroleum products between 2013 and 2017;

Informed that the three refineries contribute less than ten (10) percent annually to Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and they are also among the league of refineries with the highest operating costs worldwide,

as their consolidated capacity utilization dropped to 6.1 percent at the end of September, 2017;

Concerned that the strategic goal of establishing local refining facilities and its associated supply chain as a socio-economic game-changer that will result in national development has continued to elude the country's oil and gas industry;

Further observes that going by the reckoning of the NNRC, the \$36 billion the Country spent on importation of petroleum products in the last four years could have built four brand new refineries of similar capacity for the Country

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

127

Monday 18 November, 2019

No. 15

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with the same 650,000 barrels per day processing capacity as the refinery that Dangote Group is currently building in Lagos State;

Worried about the huge costs of undertaking the "Turn Around Maintenance" of the refineries, which, despite all the expenses, have remained comatose, leaving the Country dependent on importation of refined petroleum products for its domestic consumption at great expenses to the nation;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Call on the Federal Government to consider divesting a 'certain percentage of its shareholding in Port-Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna refineries to competent investors under transparent and fair bidding process;
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to conduct an investigative hearing on the processes of the "Turn Around Maintenance" (TAM) at the Port-Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna refineries by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) between 2013 and date and report back in eight (8) weeks for further legislative action.

**11. Establishment of Additional Centres of the Inter-University French Language Village, Badagry, Lagos:**

**Hon. Salisu Iro Isansi.**

**The House:**

Notes that Nigeria is an Anglo-Phone country which is sandwiched between French speaking countries in West Africa and its geographical location makes it imperative for Nigerians to learn French language;

Also aware that there are over one hundred universities and Colleges of Education in Nigeria where French language is taught and part of the requirement for the award of either a degree or National Certificate of Education (NCE) in French language is that the student concerned must attend

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

No. 15

Monday 18 November, 2019

128

---

the French Language Village, Badagry, Lagos State for his acculturation and immersion programmes;

Worried that the number of students attending the French Language Village, Badagry result in the Institution being overcrowded, hence they encounter series of hardships and inconveniences;

Recalls that in the past students of the Nigerian Law School, Lagos were encountering the same experience which were overcome with the decentralization of the school which led to improvements in the results of students of the Law School;

Believes that decentralizing the Inter-University French Language Village Badagry will ameliorate the hardships being caused by the concentration of many students in one Centre;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Education to establish additional Centres of the Inter-University French Language Village in States that border



French speaking countries to reduce the pressure on the Badagry campus;

- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to ensure compliance;

**12. Menace of Drug Abuse Amongst Youths in Nigeria:**

**Hon. Hafiz Ibrahim Kawu:**

**The House:**

Notes that drugs provide remedy to a sick person to nurse him back to good health when prescribed by a doctor and administered by a pharmacist but they can be harmful when taken without prescription, when it is referred to as drug abuse;

Also notes that the habitual intake of illicit drugs, most especially among the

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

youths, is a real social malaise which keeps escalating by the day across all social strata;

Aware that the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), in its bid to curtail drug abuse, has made lots of seizures and arrests especially in Kano State which is ranked among the highest in the country with drug abuse related cases;

Concerned that the resultant effects of abusing such drug abuse as nicotine, cocaine, marijuana etc include kidnapping, rape, thuggery, armed robbery which has been on the rise in recent time in both the cities and rural communities across the country;

Worried that the trend has degenerated such that minors now routinely indulge in drug abuse;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Education to formulate a curriculum for all levels of education with emphasis on discouraging drug abuse;

- (ii) also urge the National Orientation Agency to initiate regular sensitization programs, especially in the States where the menace is more rampant;
- (iii) Mandate the Committees on Narcotic Drugs, Tertiary Education and Service, Basic Education and Services and Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to ensure implementation.

**13. Indiscriminate Erection of Bumps on Federal Roads:**

**Hon. Omowumi Olubunmi Ogunlola:**

**The House:**

Notes that on most Federal roads bumps of different sizes and shapes erected by the host communities through which the road passes;

Aware that it is the responsibilities of the Federal Ministry of Works and

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

**No. 15**

**Monday 18 November, 2019**

**130**

---

Housing, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to construct and maintain all federal roads across Nigeria;

Worried about the way and manner bumps are being erected by the communities on federal highways which often constitute danger to road users;

Also notes that the reason for erection of those blimps by the communities is to safeguard lives of the pedestrians in those communities;

Also aware that the bumps being erected are without approval from the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing or FERMA thus excluding experts opinions concerning specification in terms of size, width and suitable places for erection of such bumps;

Acknowledge the existence of controllers of Works in each States which ordinarily issues rules and guideline on erection of bumps on highways within their jurisdiction;

Appreciate the need for any community wishing to erect bumps on federal highways to obtain approval from the Federal Ministry of Works or FERMA regarding its length, width and quality of such bumps;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Work and Housing to develop guidelines as conditions precedent for erecting bumps on the Nation's Highway in order to lessen the burden of obtaining approval by the host communities;
- (ii) call on the Communities desirous of erecting bumps on federal highways to seek approval from the relevant authorities before embarking on such ventures in order to avert accidents which some of the bumps may cause;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance.

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

**14. Call for the Creation Awareness on the reduction of communicable Disease in the Country:  
Hon. Hassan Abdullahi:  
House:**

Notes that despite the monthly sanitation exercise being carried out across the nation, some communicable and preventive diseases still spreading at an alarming rate and are ravaging the bulk of the population, particularly rural dwellers, hence the urgent need to initiate measure to stem the spread;

Amazed that even in some cities where public toilets are provided, many of them are not well kept, thereby preventing potential users from patronizing them as the fear of contacting communicable diseases like toilet disease and other health related issues looms large in the minds of the users;

Worried that if necessary actions are not taken against the spread of this social malaise, it can lead to outbreak of epidemic as majority of the rural populace defecate in open places;

Convinced that the existing laws on environmental sanitation are either defective or not adequately entered, thus rendering the whole efforts ineffective;

***Resolves to:***

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with the Federal Ministries of Health and relevant stakeholders on whether the need has arisen for the reintroduction of sanitary inspection at the local government areas across the country in order to curb the widening spread of communicable diseases, particularly in the rural areas.

**15. Incessant Deaths on the Akoda-Oke Gada Road in Ede North and Ede South Local Government Areas of Osun State:**

**Hon. Bamidele Salam:**

**The House:**

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

---

**No. 15**

**Monday 18 November, 2019**

**132**

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Notes that Section 14, (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government and believes that quality road infrastructure has a role to play in ensuring the security and welfare of the people;

Also notes that the Akoda-Oke/Goda Federal road in Ede North and Ede South Local Government Areas of Osun State has become so deplorable that it has now become a death trap;

Informed that some days ago, four (4) persons, three of whom were members of the same family were involved in a fatal motor accident at the Oke-Gada axis of Akoda/Oke Gada road which led to their death;

Concerned that the popular Oje market of Ede is situated along this road and vehicles that lost control at various bad portions of the road have continued to put the lives of people in grave danger;

Believes that if the road is not urgently rehabilitated, it is likely to continue recording more fatalities considering its size and the extent of its use in view of the market along its stretch;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) urge the Federal Road Safety Commission to urgently deploy its officers to strategic portions of the road to safeguard the lives of road users;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to, as a matter of urgency, rehabilitate the bad portions of the road to avoid further fatalities;
- (iii) call on the Nigerian Railway Corporation to forthwith desist from digging trenches along the sides of the rail track intersecting the road around Oke Gada axis;
- (iv) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to, as a matter of urgency commence the reconstruction of the Akoda-Oke Gada road;

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*PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS*

(v) mandate the Committees on FERMA and Works to ensure the compliance.

**16. Need to Investigate Banks Lending Practices, Protect Borrowers from Exploitative Interest Rates and Promote Economic Development:**

**Hon. Fatoba Olusola Steve:**

**The House:**

Notes that the current lending interest rates of the commercial banks is as high as 30%, making Nigeria one of the countries with the highest lending rates in Africa and probably the world;

Also notes that lending rates are largely determined by the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) set out by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), hence the higher the MPR, the higher the interest rates charged by commercial banks;

Further notes that the MPR in Nigeria is held at 14% while that of South Africa, the longtime economic rival of Nigeria is at 6.5%, making Nigeria one of the top five countries in Africa with the highest interest rates;

Concerned that the lending interest rates of banks restrict lending, particularly to the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), manufacturers and Industrialists, all belonging to a sector which employs a large percentage of the workforce in Nigeria;

Worried that the lending rates impede economic growth as it negatively impacts on the performance of the manufacturing sector due to the difficulty of accessing loans from banks;

Cognizant that banks are the primary source of capital for manufacturers and industrialists, but when the lending is at a high interest rate, profits in the manufacturing process are eroded which makes it difficult or unattractive for manufacturers to continue in business;

Also concerned that the resolve of President Muhammadu Buhari to lift 100 million Nigerians out of poverty may be difficult to achieve if the issue of

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high lending rates and the challenges of having access to loans are not critically addressed;

Also worried that when interest rates are high, investors and banks are often willing to invest in government securities only which pay high returns, a phenomenon known as crowding out, as high interest rates on government securities draw investments away from other areas of the economy;

Further concerned that high interest rates cannot both contain inflation and stimulate economic growth at the same time, while in reality citizens, Small Medium Enterprises, manufacturers and investors are bearing the brunt of the "cut throat" lending rates where the banks and their directors remain the major beneficiaries of the high lending rates;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to review the Monetary Policy Rates (MPR) and its implementation, putting into consideration the cost of doing business by banks;
- (ii) also urge the National Economic Council to critically consider how to reduce the cost of doing business in Nigeria in a manner that the common man will feel the impact;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency to engage commercial banks to ascertain the justification for the big gap between the MPR and the lending rates;
- (iv) also mandate the Committees on Banking and Currency, Finance, and Industry to organize a round-table session with Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Banks, the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Industrialists and Industry Experts with a view to finding immediate, sustainable and lasting solutions that would help usher in a new interest rate regime that would support development in Nigeria.

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**17. Deployment of Security Agents to Shagari, Tambuwal and Kebbe Local Government Areas of Sokoto State to tackle the High Rate of Kidnappings and other Security Challenges in the areas:**

**The House:**

**Hon. Abubakar Umar Yabo:**

Notes that with the recent measures adopted by the security agencies, Kaduna, Zamfara and the Katsina States have started getting relief from the criminal activities of kidnappers, cattle rustlers, and other criminal elements;

Also notes that some of the known measures adopted by the Federal Government included the deployment of security agencies with required facilities in strategic locations in the affected areas of Kaduna, Zamfara and Katsina States which made the criminals to start operating around Isa Local Government Area of Sokoto State, where so many people lost their lives and properties as a result of cattle rustling and kidnappings;

Further notes that the criminals, moving in large numbers recently attacked some villages in Shagari and Tambuwal Local Government Areas where so many lives were lost and properties either damaged or carted away;

Concerned that if security agents are not urgently deployed to the affected areas and indeed the whole of Sokoto and Kebbi States, the entire areas could be overrun by the criminals and the cost of curbing the situation would be enormous;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Chiefs of Army, the Chief of Air Staff, the Inspector – General of Police and the Commandant General of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps to deploy security personnel to Sokoto State to curb the activities of the criminals;
- (ii) Also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the victims.

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- (iii) Mandate the Committees on Army, Air Force, Police Affairs, Interior and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation.

**18. Commencement of the long Overdue National Population Census in Nigeria:**

**Hon. Ademorin Kuye:**



## **The House:**

Notes that the holding of a population census is an important national assignment because its figures are critical for national planning and It is for this reason, among others, that most countries of the world carry out this exercise once every ten years;

Also notes that without a census, and an accurate data of the number of people in a given country; no government can provide adequately for its citizens as Government requires data to know the number of children being born, the number of schools and hospitals that will be needed, how many workers are in a given town and how many foreigners are in the country for proper provision of infrastructural facilities;

Further notes that most times, Nigeria's population is predicted on projected figures provided by foreign organisations like the United Nations, thus making planning extremely difficult in the absence of a population census which the National Population Commission would have been ready to conduct every ten (10) years, as is obtainable in other countries, but it is now left to the whims and caprices of the government;

Recalls that since the first census which was held in Lagos in 1866, there had been a trend towards a better planned and more reliable census exercises as subsequent Census took place in 1869, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1911, but they were limited to Lagos and environs and some parts of the Southern Protectorate;

Dismayed that the 1952/1953 census which was the first modern, national and carefully planned census. However, population census could not be held as it was not conducted simultaneously throughout the country simultaneously

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counting of the population was abandoned. The census took place at various times between 1950 and 1953, the 1962/63 and 1973 were well planned;

Concerned that the last National census that was conducted here in Nigeria was in 2006, until it becomes a law included in the constitution of the

Federal Republic of Nigeria, like the election, we will continue to have frequent delays in organizing our National Census;

Importantly, it is extremely important now to conduct another census to ascertain the country's actual population. We want to do away with the projected figure because there is more to census than funds and we are waiting for presidential proclamation that will empower NPC to conduct the head count;

Specifically, since the revelation of the new population estimate, the controversy over Nigeria's exact population has reared up its head. While some think the figure is a mere assumption, other seeks to know how NPC arrived at it;

Note that dishing out bogus population figures can be very contentious and will be difficult to defend, 'especially if the figures are based on the 2006 population census that was contested by many states;

Concerned that if adequate measure are not put in place where population census are conducted periodically (once every 10 years), Nigeria will be lackey in the statistical data for its citizenry either politically or economically;

Note that in 2016, the World Bank estimated Nigeria's population at 186 million;

Also, the United Nations in 2017 put Nigeria's population at 180 million with a growth rate of 2.7 per cent. Prior to that, in 2016, the former Director-General of the NPC, Alhaji Ghali Bello, estimated Nigeria's population to be 182 million with a growth rate 3.5 per cent;

Concerned that the National Assembly had last year called for the

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postponement of the planned 2018 population census on grounds that such an exercise, coming on the eve of the 2019 general election, could end in chaos;

Note that Nigeria has a dynamic economy and a large population which is expected to double in the next two decades; and census is pivotal and necessary tool for the growth of any emerging society, which in turns informed decision-making at all facets of public and private sector;

Also note that lack of up-to-date and accurate data on the population in Nigeria had affected national planning and development at all levels and has culminated in human and agricultural insecurity in Nigeria.

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the NPC should come up with a feasible time table to conduct a National Census not later than end of year 2020;
- (ii) mandate Committees of the House should come up with a Bill to amend the constitution to compel census exercise every ten (10) years;
- (iii) Urge the Federal Government of Nigeria should give approval and provide necessary logistics for the audit of national census by 2020 as a way of ending the uncertainties surrounding Nigeria's actual population size because different figures being bandied around is as a result of government failure to count its own people many years after the last exercise;
- (iv) set up an Ad-hoc Committee to liaise with National Population Census (NPC) and Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning and National Bureau of Statistics to work out modalities on how to conduct a census in 2020;
- (v) urge Ad-hoc Committee to liaise with other foreign donors such as UNFPA, EU, USAID, UNESCO, AU, and so on for necessary support for the exercise.

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**19. Curbing the Rising Menace of Counterfeit Drugs, Adulterated and Substandard Packaged Foods, Drinks and Products in Nigeria:**

**Hon. Taiwo Olukemi Oluga:**  
**The House:**

Notes that counterfeit drugs and substandard food and drinks remain a public health concern in Nigeria and the World Health Organization (WHO) has posited that one out of ten (10) drugs in Africa is either falsified or substandard as they contain little or no active ingredients, thereby leading to prolongation of illness;

Recalls that on 1 October 1992, the Federal Government enacted the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act, which stipulates its functions in Section 5 to include the regulation and control of the importation, exportation, manufacture, advertisement, distribution, sale and use of food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, bottled water and chemicals and since then, the Agency and other related organizations such as the Consumer Protection Council and the Standard Organization of Nigeria have been battling with the monster of counterfeit drugs, substandard food items and products and in 2018 alone the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) revealed that it destroyed fake drugs and food items worth N4.7billion naira in four (4) exercises in Shagamu, Ogun state and in Kaduna and Gombe States;

Concerned that counterfeiting has continued unabated and Nigeria is fast losing the milestones it achieved when the country attained 40% reduction in counterfeit medicines in 2001 and this development is partly due to the failure of the Federal Government to implement the National Drug Policy and the National Drug Distribution Policy (2012) after over four (4) years of their being put in place;

Aware that the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN) had asserted that fake drug proliferation is a major source of avoidable death in Nigeria and a key reason for loss of public confidence in medicines and medical structures in the country;

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Also aware that the major causes of counterfeiting of drugs in Nigeria include ineffective enforcement of existing laws, prevalence of non-

professionals in the drug business loose control systems, high cost of genuine drugs, greed, ignorance, corruption, illegal drug importation and chaotic drug distribution network;

Cognizant that while safe medicines are fundamental to public health, counterfeit drugs lead to poisoning, untreated diseases, early death and treatment failure, and all over the world, counterfeit medicines has remained a serious public health concern and this has led governments and regulatory agencies to take tougher steps on criminal organizations involved in flooding the markets with such medicines, such steps include a cohesive drug distribution policy;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Condemn the production, importation, sale and distribution of adulterated and fake drugs and substandard food items and products in Nigeria;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control, the Consumer Protection Council and the Standard Organization of Nigeria to ascertain the reasons for the unabated incidence of fake drugs and substandard food items in Nigeria;
- (iii) Also mandate the Committee to invite the Minister of Health to explain the reasons for the non-implementation or partial implementation of the National Health Policy and the National Drug Distribution Guideline.

**20. Establishment of Settlements and other Basic Infrastructure to ease Overpopulation Problems in Kubwa, Abuja:**

**Hon. Micah Yohanna Jiba:**

**The House:**

Notes that over the years, the Federal Capital Territory has undergone such

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several infrastructural development that has resulted in massive influx of people to the city;

Also notes that in the master plan of the Federal Capital Territory, Kubwa is one of the five major sub-districts designed to cater for between 150,000 to 250,000 people, and organised around local businesses and employment that is to be autonomous, yet accessible to other parts of the city;

Further notes that Kubwa is the fastest growing satellite towns in Abuja as there is a concentration of a large number of the Federal Government workforce and businessmen residing in the axis;

Aware that due to the increasing migration of people to the district, Kubwa currently has a population of over 700,000 people as against the maximum number of 250,000 the area was originally intended to accommodate;

Also aware that the large volume of human migration to Kubwa has been accompanied with its attendant environmental and socio-economic challenges of varying degrees;

Concerned that there are currently acute housing shortages and a rapid growth of satellite towns that clearly lack basic amenities and social infrastructure, which is at complete variance from the core values set out in the Abuja Master Plan;

Also concerned that Kubwa has become overpopulated and the situation is having direct consequences on the environment and further demand on land resources, power, housing and social facilities among others;

Further concerned that the overpopulation has contributed to a disruption in the balance which had existed hitherto, thus resulting in environmental degradation, and solid waste accumulation, which has dire consequences on the health and safety of the residents;

Worried that the amenities put in place in the district, such as hospitals, roads, electricity, water, etc. are no longer adequate to accommodate the current population in the area;

Cognizant of the need for expansion and creation of more settlements so ease the pressure on amenities in the district;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to review the masterplan of Kubwa District to cater for the current and future changes in the area, establish more settlements as well as establish more healthcare facilities, schools and other basic amenities to cater for the growing number of residents around the area;
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Urban Development and Regional Planning and FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters to ensure compliance.

**21. Need for a Comprehensive Audit on Water Infrastructure Across the Country:**

**Hon. Awaji-Inombek D. Abiante:**

**The House:**

Recall that a survey conducted by Nigeria Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF Revealed that millions of households in Nigeria do not have access to clean water;

Further recall that the World Bank's statistics revealed that about fifty-one percent (51%) of Nigerians reside in the rural areas, an area that is more challenged in terms of clean and portable water availability;

Aware that poor access to improved water remain a major contributing factor to high morbidity and mortality rates in Nigeria, especially from waterborne diseases of cholera, dysentery, diarrhea etc.;

Also aware that water supply in Nigeria is shared between the three-tiers of government (Federal, State and Local);

Disturbed that despite the huge amount being budgeted annually for the provision/supply of clean water to Nigerians by the three-tiers of government,

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majority of Nigerians, either living in urban or rural areas still have no access to clean water sources;

Observes that poor coordination of water infrastructure/intervention by the three-tiers of government constitute a major challenge towards adequate provision of clean water to Nigerians;

Observes further that duplication of efforts by various government agencies to provide clean and portable water in our communities have not yielded any positive result, rather it shows enormous waste and abandonment;

Believes that if there is a comprehensive audit of water infrastructure in the Country and better coordination by all the relevant agencies of government, a complementary effort rather than duplication can be used to ensure adequate supply of clean, safe and portable water in our communities;

***Resolves to:***

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to liaise with relevant agencies in the States and Local government across the Country to carry out a comprehensive audit of all water infrastructures across the Country;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, its States and Local Government counterparts to use the outcome of the auditing to draw a roadmap which will include complementary efforts of relevant agencies to achieve adequate supply of clean, safe and portable water to Nigerians.
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to ensure compliance.