FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 33

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 1 November, 2016

1. The House met at 11.22 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, 27 October, 2016.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

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

(*i*) Staff and Students of ***Pakit Foundation School***, Dakwa, Niger State; and

(*ii*) Staff and Students of ***Early Beginners International School***, Lokogoma, Abuja.

4. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
(*i*) ***Urgent Need for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to immediately conclude all Postponed Re-run Elections in the Country to Safeguard our Democracy:***
Hon. Leo Ogor (*Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency and 5 others*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

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

(*b*) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (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 Eight, Rule 4 (3) *to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

Need for INEC to Conclude all Postponed Re-Run Elections in the Country Immediately and Safeguard our Democracy:

The House:

Notes with great concern incidence of several postpone re-run elections in Nigeria, particularly in Rivers and Anambra States;

Also notes with dismay the continuous and persistent denial thereby, of such affected Constituencies and her constituents of their constitutionally guaranteed right to representation at the National and State Assemblies;

Further notes that the following provisions in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFRN), 1999 (as amended), namely:

(*i*) S.48 which provides that the Senate **shall** consist of three Senators from each State and one from the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja;

(*ii*) 8.49 which provides that subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the House of Representatives **shall** consist of three Hundred and sixty members representing constituencies of nearly equal population as far as possible, provided that no constituency shall fall within more than one State;

Equally notes that the above constitutional provisions are mandatory, thus failure to comply with any of them is unconstitutional;

Aware that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is set up under section153 (1) (*f*) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFRN), 1999 (as amended), and has power under **paragraph 15 (*a*) of Part I, of the third schedule to the CFRN** to among other things: "organize, undertake and supervise all elections to the offices of the President and Vice-President, the Governor and Deputy Governor of a State, and to the membership of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the House of Assembly of each State of the Federation";

Also aware that in the case of Rivers State, the Court of Appeal in December 2015 ordered that re-run elections be conducted within sixty days, but INEC has since consistently failed, neglected and/or refused to do so; apart from the one it conducted on March 19, 2016 in only four out of twelve Federal (and few State) Constituencies that re-run elections were ordered in December 2015.

Further aware that in March 2015, INEC under Professor Attahiru Jega successfully conducted peaceful elections in Bornu and other North Eastern States that were then faced with crisis caused by the activities of Boko Haram; yet the present leadership of INEC has consistently neglected, failed and/or refused to conduct elections in only about Eight Local Governments of Rivers State, citing security concerns;

Concerned that while almost all States of the Federation are adequately represented in Parliament in compliance with Sections 48, 49 and 91, CFRN,1999, Rivers State continues to be unrepresented (particularly in the Senate where it has no Senator) due to INEC's deliberate neglect, refusal and/or failure to conduct outstanding elections in the State;

Worried that INEC's action is has denied Anambra, Rivers and other States right to participate in critical National issues that have come up at the National Assembly, including National Appropriations;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge INEC to immediately conduct all outstanding elections in Rivers State: and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Legislative Compliance, and Electoral matters to ensure compliance with the House Resolution of 23 June, 2016, as applicable, and that INEC concludes all elections in Rivers State and revert to the House within two (2) weeks, with a confirmed date for the elections (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Isoko Noth/Isoko South Federal Constituency and 5 Others*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 158/2016).

(*ii*) ***Wanton Destruction of Properties by Teenage Students in Five Secondary Schools in Oyo State:***

Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi (*Afijio/Atiba/Oyo East/Oyo West Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

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

(*b*) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (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 Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Wanton Destruction of Properties by Teenage Students in Five Secondary Schools in Oyo State:

The House:

Notes with consternation that on Thursday, 27 and Friday, 28 October, 2016, five Secondary Schools in Oyo State were razed down by secondary school teenage students who decided to take laws into their hands and constitute themselves into arsonists, hoodlums, hooligans and vandals;

Also notes with grave disappointment that these students embarked on these heinous and criminal-acts purportedly in response to the Oyo State Government Policy of "no automatic promotion" which policy seeks to insist on better educational performance at secondary school level;

Disappointed with the said students who carried out their dastardly acts simultaneously in Isale Oyo Community High School, Oyo, Oba Adeyemi High School, Oyo, Anglican Methodist Secondary School, Oyo, Community Secondary School, Iyana Idi-Ose, Ibadan and Ojoo High School, Ojoo, Ibadan all in Oyo State;

Concerned that these acts of wanton display of thuggery did not only bring about the razing down of the Administrative blocks, principal's office, school library and school laboratory, it also led to the loss of sacred human lives in some of the schools;

Observes that most of those secondary schools are surrounded by Indian hemp smoking and drug dealing joints and hide-outs which have been perverting the character of the 13, 14, 15 years old teenagers aided by other hoodlums who are members of the same gangster group;

Also observes that unless this development is checked, the teenage students will continue to take laws into their hands and the drug peddling joints which are their accomplices will continue to constitute nuisance to the peace-loving people of Oyo State

Resolves to:

Urge the Inspector General of Police and the Director-General of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to move to Sanitize the Surroundings of the five (5) Secondary Schools affected and other Secondary Schools in Nigeria that are located in unsafe environment, in other to restore safety and security of lives and property in the community and around the secondary schools (*Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Atiba/Oyo East/West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Insert a new Prayer (*ii*) as follows:
"urge the National Orientation Agency to draw up a programme to educate Nigerians on the importance of family values in our society" (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with consternation that on Thursday, 27 and Friday, 28 October, 2016, five Secondary Schools in Oyo State were razed down by secondary school teenage students who decided to take laws into their hands and constitute themselves into arsonists, hoodlums, hooligans and vandals;

Also noted with grave disappointment that these students embarked on these heinous and criminal-acts purportedly in response to the Oyo State Government Policy of "no automatic promotion" which policy seeks to insist on better educational performance at secondary school level;

Disappointed with the said students who carried out their dastardly acts simultaneously in Isale Oyo Community High School, Oyo, Oba Adeyemi High School, Oyo, Anglican Methodist Secondary School, Oyo, Community Secondary School, Iyana Idi-Ose, Ibadan and Ojoo High School, Ojoo, Ibadan all in Oyo State;

Concerned that these acts of wanton display of thuggery did not only bring about the razing down of the Administrative blocks, principal's office, school library and school laboratory, it also led to the loss of sacred human lives in some of the schools;

Observed that most of those secondary schools are surrounded by Indian hemp smoking and drug dealing joints and hide-outs which have been perverting the character of the 13, 14, 15 years old teenagers aided by other hoodlums who are members of the same gangster group;

Also observed that unless this development is checked, the teenage students will continue to take laws into their hands and the drug peddling joints which are their accomplices will continue to constitute nuisance to the peace-loving people of Oyo State

Resolved to:

(*i*) urge the Inspector General of Police and the Director-General of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to move to Sanitize the Surroundings of the five (5) Secondary Schools affected and other Secondary Schools in Nigeria that are located in unsafe environment, in other to restore safety and security of lives and property in the community and around the secondary schools; and

(*ii*) "also urge the National Orientation Agency to draw up a programme to educate Nigerians on the importance of family values in our society (**HR. 159/2016**).

5. **Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) (Rescission of Decision)**
Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila (*Surulere I Federal Constituency*) noted that although the **Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 230)** was passed by the House on Tuesday, 7 June, 2016, certain provisions of the Bill are in conflict with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended). He further noted that some of the provisions of the Bill can therefore only be effective if the relevant provisions in the Constitution are amended. He thus prayed the House to rescind its decision on the Bill (HB. 230), having regard to the provision of section 1 (3) of the Constitution.

Ordered: *Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila to present a substantive motion for rescission of the decision on the Bill, pursuant to Order Nine, Rule* 1 (6).

6. **Presentation of Reports**

(*i*) ***Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the National Broadcasting Commission, the Total Sum of ₦1,922,919,000,000.00 (One Billion, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Nine Hundred and Nineteen Thousand Naira) only and for Other Related Matters (HB. 743)" (*Hon. Olusegun Odebunmi — Ogo Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the News Agency of Nigeria the Total Sum of ₦132,296,029.00 (One Hundred and Thirty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand and Twenty-Nine Naira) only and for Other Related Matters (HB. 745)" (*Hon. Olusegun Odebunmi — Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iii*) ***Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Radio Nigeria the Total Sum of ₦2,342,251,002.05 (Two Billion, Three Hundred and Forty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-One Thousand, Two Naira and Five Kobo) only and for Other Related Matters (HB. 754)" (*Hon. Olusegun Odebunmi — Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) ***Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values:***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Television Authority, the Total Sum of ₦5,000,000,000.00 (Five Billion Naira) only and for Other Related Matters (HB. 756)" (*Hon. Olusegun Odebunmi — Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(v) ***Committee on Telecommunications:***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Telecommunications, on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission, the Total Sum of ₦70,672,492.00 (Seventy Billion Six Hundred and Seventy-Two Million, Four Hundred and Ninety-Two Thousand Naira) only from the Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), the Sum of ₦16,325,268,000 (Sixteen Billion, Three Hundred and Twenty-Five Million , Two Hundred and Sixty-Eight Thousand Naira only for the Year Ending on 31 December, 2016, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 740)" (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. **Consolidation of Bills:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act, Cap P17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Re-enact the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, to Regulate the Training and Practice of Pharmacy and for Other Related Matters (HB. 656), a Bill for an Act to Amend the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. P17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Streamline the Number of Pharmacy Schools on the Council, Ascertain Certainty of False Statements and Review Fines Upwards and for Other Related Matters (HB. 364) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Bankruptcy Act, Cap. B2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Re-enact the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, 2016, to make Provisions for Corporate and Individual Insolvency, to Provide for the Rehabilitation of the Insolvent Debtor, and to Create the Office of the Supervisor of Insolvency, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 700) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Bankruptcy Act, Cap. B2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Re-enact the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, 2016, to make Provisions for Corporate and Individual Insolvency, to Provide for the Rehabilitation of the Insolvent Debtor, and to Create the Office of the Supervisor of Insolvency, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 700) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Provide a Regulatory Framework for the Agriculture Credit Fund, which shall Promote Commercial Agriculture in Nigeria, Ensure Credit Support for Production, Storage and Processing of Target Commodities, Develop Markets and Agricultural Enterprise; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 701) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide a Regulatory Framework for the Agriculture Credit Fund, which shall Promote Commercial Agriculture in Nigeria, Ensure Credit Support for Production, Storage and Processing of Target Commodities, Develop Markets and Agricultural Enterprise; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 701) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Defence Space Administration, Develop Satellite Technology, Ensure Security of the Nation's Cyber Activities and for Other Related Matters (HB. 816) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Defence Space Administration, Develop Satellite Technology, Ensure Security of the Nation's Cyber Activities and for Other Related Matters (HB. 816) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment, and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment, and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Pension Practitioners of Nigeria and for Other Related Matters; and a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Pension Practitioners of Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HBs 726 and 727) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Amend Sections 34 (2), 44, 162 (2) and (4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to among others, broaden the definition of torture and for Other Related Matters (HB. 779) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies Act, Cap. N51, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Reduce the Size of the Board, Make Provision for Removal of Members of the Board, Give the Board the Power to Approve Additional Directors and Expand the Borrowing Powers of the Institute, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 210) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependent Children and Orphans; a Bill for an Act to Establish a Welfare Trust Fund and Management Commission for Effective Management of the Welfare of the Unemployed, People with Disability (Temporal/Permanent), Orphans, Widows, the Elderly and the Youths, Compensation for Citizens who are Deprived of Means of Livelihood as a Result of Population, Demolition, Forced Relocation, Retirement and Health, Provision of Medical Care and Subsidies for Poor Families and to Protect the Less Privileged in the Society; a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Registration and Control of Orphanages and Other Institutions for the Boarding, Care and Maintenance of Orphans and Deserted Children and a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Youth Development Commission and for Other Related Matters (HBs 124, 126, 183 and 122) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Vigilante Group of Nigeria (VGN) charged with Responsibilities, among others, to Provide Community Service for Nigerians and for Other Related Matters (HB. 718) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Vigilante Group of Nigeria (VGN) charged with Responsibilities, among others, to Provide Community Service for Nigerians and for Other Related Matters (HB. 718) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen — Zaria Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Police Affairs.

18. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria Act of 2010, to Expand the Board of the Corporation so as to Enhance its Efficiency in the Discharge of its Statutory Duties, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 543) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria Act of 2010, to Expand the Board of the Corporation so as to Enhance its Efficiency in the Discharge of its Statutory Duties, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 543) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Joseph Edionwele — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

19. Urgent Need to Complete the East-West Road
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the East-West road project, a dual carriage way of about 338km, which traverses all the oil producing States in the heart of the Niger-Delta area up to the South West Zone, is one of the major Federal roads in the country;

Also notes that due to the strategic nature of the road, a dualization project was conceived and expected to be completed within a 10 year time frame;

Aware that when the road is completed, it will enhance the programme of the Federal Government, in diversifying the economy by creating easy access to the fertile lands of the region for agricultural production and also the vast untapped mineral deposits;

Observes that the stalling of the construction project has adversely affected the easy movement of perishable goods in the region, thereby causing economic loss and hardships to the people;

Concerned that the delay in completing the project is resulting in loss of lives through avoidable accidents, as well as taking heavy toll on the cost of maintaining vehicles that ply the road;

Resolves to:

(*i*) call on the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to include the completion of the East-West road in the 2017 budget; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry to ensure implementation (*Hon. Douye Diri — Yenagoa/Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 160/2016).

Motion referred to the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

20. Urgent Need for the Federal Government to Intervene in the Adequate Provision of Functional Radiography Machines in Nigerian Hospitals
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the Report of the World Health Organization that cancer accounts for 13 percent of all deaths registered in the world and slightly above that figure occurred in the middle and low income countries;

Also notes that the WHO recorded Nigeria as having the highest cancer death rates in Africa in which a conservative number of 10,000 related deaths are recorded annually while about 250,000 new cases are recorded annually and breast and cervical cancer are the commonest;

Recalls that at the time of the report, Nigeria had the highest recorded cases with the prediction that it would triple due to "vastly inadequate healthcare system, and that the country had only 7 (seven) functional radiotherapy machines and 5 (five) Linear Accerator (UNAC) in the following health institutions:

1. Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH),
2. University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Enugu,
3. University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBCH),
4. Usman Dan Fodio Hospital, Sokoto,
5. National Hospital, Abuja;

Aware that there are two cobalt 60 Teletherapy Machines in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and University College Hospital, Ibadan;

Concerned that as at today, none of those machines is functional and the Management of the respective hospitals cannot service them due to lack of foreign currency to do so;

Also concerned that Nigeria, with a population of about 170 million people does not have a functional machine required for Radiotherapy which is an integral part of the treatment of cancer, while South Africa with less than 53 million people has over 70 functional machines and even a centre in the United States of America, Anderson Cancer Centre has over 30 functional machines;

Worried that thousands of Nigerians who cannot afford to travel abroad for cancer treatment die needlessly from an ailment that could be treated even in the neighbouring African countries;

Also worried that if urgent steps are not taken by the Federal Government to remedy the situation, the effects on the nation would be catastrophic, not to talk of the embarrassment to the nation;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, ensure that the Radiotherapy machines in all the Federal Health Institutions in Nigeria are repaired;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to take necessary steps to ensure the provision of funds in the 2017 Appropriation Act for the provision of Radiotherapy machines in all the Federal Health Institutions in Nigeria with the target of at least one machine in each State of the Federation before 2019, with adequate training for personnel to manage and maintain such machines; and

(*iii*) also urge the Federal Government to take steps towards encouraging all States of the Federation to procure Radiotherapy machines, and train their personnel on the use of the machines (*Hon Chris Azubogu — Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
In Prayer (*i*), immediately after the word "urgency", *leave out* all other words, and *insert* the words "provide functional Radiography and Radiotherapy machines in all the Federal Health Institutions in Nigeria" (*Hon. Abiodun Dada Awoleye — Ibadan North Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the Report of the World Health Organization that cancer accounts for 13 percent of all deaths registered in the world and slightly above that figure occurred in the middle and low income countries;

Also noted that the WHO recorded Nigeria as having the highest cancer death rates in Africa in which a conservative number of 10,000 related deaths are recorded annually while about 250,000 new cases are recorded annually and breast and cervical cancer are the commonest;

Recalled that at the time of the report, Nigeria had the highest recorded cases with the prediction that it would triple due to "vastly inadequate healthcare system, and that the country had only 7 (seven) functional radiotherapy machines and 5 (five) Linear Accerator (UNAC) in the following health institutions:

1. Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH),
2. University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Enugu,
3. University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBCH),
4. Usman Dan Fodio Hospital, Sokoto,
5. National Hospital, Abuja;

Aware that there are two cobalt 60 Teletherapy Machines in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and University College Hospital, Ibadan;

Concerned that as at today, none of those machines is functional and the Management of the respective hospitals cannot service them due to lack of foreign currency to do so;

Also concerned that Nigeria, with a population of about 170 million people does not have a functional machine required for Radiotherapy which is an integral part of the treatment of cancer, while South Africa with less than 53 million people has over 70 functional machines and even a centre in the United States of America, Anderson Cancer Centre has over 30 functional machines;

Worried that thousands of Nigerians who cannot afford to travel abroad for cancer treatment die needlessly from an ailment that could be treated even in the neighbouring African countries;

Also worried that if urgent steps are not taken by the Federal Government to remedy the situation, the effects on the nation would be catastrophic, not to talk of the embarrassment to the nation;

Resolved to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, provide functional Radiography and Radiotherapy machines in all the Federal Health Institutions in Nigeria;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to take necessary steps to ensure the provision of funds in the 2017 Appropriation Act for the provision of Radiotherapy machines in all the Federal Health Institutions in Nigeria with the target of at least one machine in each State of the Federation before 2019, with adequate training for personnel to manage and maintain such machines; and

(*iii*) also urge the Federal Government to take steps towards encouraging all States of the Federation to procure Radiotherapy machines, and train their personnel on the use of the machines (**HR. 161/2016**).

21. **Urgent Need to Investigate the Technical Agreements between the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company with Firms to Provide Funding and Technical Services for the NPDC's Petroleum Exploration and Production Activities**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

22. **Call for the Revitalisation of the Textile Industry in Nigeria**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes with concern that the Nigerian Textile Industry, a once booming sector of the economy which was one of Africa's largest industrial sectors capable of producing an estimated 1.4 billion different textile items ranging from bed sheets, African prints, shirting materials and so on, is now distressed;

Aware that the industry that used to spread across the Federation, namely Lagos, Kaduna, Kano, Funtua, Asaba, Port Harcourt, to name a few, sometime in the 1980s was the second largest employer of labour after the Federal Government, a period that is wistfully being regarded as the golden era of the industry;

Concerned that the industry has been bedeviled by problems, such as dependence on imports of raw materials, sourcing of foreign exchange, inadequate power supply, Government policy somersaults, poor infrastructure, high cost of production leading to inability to compete favourably with imported clothing items and smuggling;

Realizes that many textile factories have been closed while some have been relocated to West African countries such as Ghana and Sierra Leone, thereby causing revenue and job losses for the teeming Nigeria youths who now engage themselves in social vices or insecured jobs;

Also aware that revitalizing the textile industry would have a ripple effect, as other sectors such as agriculture would greatly benefit because more cotton farmers would be engaged, skills and expertise would be developed, and more youth would be trained in handling, repairing and fabricating machinery required in the industry;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to grant concessions, bailout and intervention funding to the textile industry and mandate the Ministries, Departments and Agencies to patronize locally made fabrics; and

(*ii*) mandate Committees on Industry, and Local Content to liaise with the Government and stakeholders to fashion out measures to revive the industry, and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Akinyede Julius Awodumila — Emure/Gbonyin/Ekiti East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:
(*i*) *Leave out* Prayer (*i*) (*Hon. Jimoh A. Olajide — Lagos Mainland Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*ii*) as follows:
"Mandate the Committee on Industry to investigate the textile intervention fund of ₦100 billions by Federal Government of Nigeria and additional ₦50 billion support by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) which was disbursed through the Bank of Industry and report back to the House" (*Hon. Agbedi Yeitiemone Frederick — Sagbama/Ekeremor Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with concern that the Nigerian Textile Industry, a once booming sector of the economy which was one of Africa's largest industrial sectors capable of producing an estimated 1.4 billion different textile items ranging from bed sheets, African prints, shirting materials and so on, is now distressed;

Aware that the industry that used to spread across the Federation, namely Lagos, Kaduna, Kano, Funtua, Asaba, Port Harcourt, to name a few, sometime in the 1980s was the second largest employer of labour after the Federal Government, a period that is wistfully being regarded as the golden era of the industry;

Concerned that the industry has been bedeviled by problems, such as dependence on imports of raw materials, sourcing of foreign exchange, inadequate power supply, Government policy summersaults, poor infrastructure, high cost of production leading to inability to compete favourably with imported clothing items and smuggling;

Realized that many textile factories have been closed while some have been relocated to West African countries such as Ghana and Sierra Leone, thereby causing revenue and job losses for the teeming Nigeria youths who now engage themselves in social vices or insecured jobs;

Also aware that revitalizing the textile industry would have a ripple effect, as other sectors such as agriculture would greatly benefit because more cotton farmers would be engaged, skills and expertise would be developed, and more youth would be trained in handling, repairing and fabricating machinery required in the industry;

Resolved to:

(*i*) mandate Committees on Industry, and Local Content to liaise with the Government and stakeholders to fashion out measures to revive the industry, and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Industry to investigate the textile intervention fund of ₦100 billions by Federal Government of Nigeria and additional ₦50 billion support by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) which was disbursed through the Bank of Industry and report back to the House (**HR. 162/2016**).

23. Adjournment
That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 2 November, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.33 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker