

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA NOTICE PAPER

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Monday, 9 April, 2018

1. Need to Reconstruct the Ulakwo-Imerienwe-Ozuzu-Etche Road:

Hon. Bede Eke:

The House:

Notes that Ulakwo-Imerienwe-Ozuzu-Etche road is a Federal road connecting Imo State to Rivers and other States;

Also notes that due to the deplorable condition of the road, the indigenes of Imo State and those resident in those areas have been cut off from both the State Capital and neighbouring States;

Dismayed that the deplorable condition of the road is one of many reasons for accidents and proliferation of criminal activities in those areas, and has consequently stalled economic activities in the affected communities;

Cognizant of the need for the Federal Government to begin construction of the road to enhance commercial activities as well as security of lives and properties in the eastern and southern parts of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to commence reconstruction of the Ulakwo-Imerienwe-Ozuzu-Etche Road and ensure that money is provided for in the NDDC 2018 budget estimates;
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance.

2. Need to Connect the Local Government Areas in Ogoni Land in Rivers State to the National Grid through the Afam Power Station: Hon. Mpigi Barinada:

The House:

Notes that electricity is critical to the socio-economic and industrial growth and development of any society;

Also notes that Tai, Gokana and Khana Local Government Areas of Rivers State are not connected to the national grid for dependable power supply;

Aware that the famous Afam Power Station located at Oyigbo Local Government Area in Rivers State was built in 1962 with 20 megawatts capacity, and has grown to over 1,000 megawatts;

Also aware that the inconveniences and hardship hitherto faced by Oyigbo Community due to inadequate power supply led to its connection to the national grid through the Afam power station;

Further aware that residents of Tai, Gokana and Khana Local Government Areas and indeed the entire Ogoni people are currently facing similar challenges of inadequate power supply;

Cognizant that Oyigbo residents now enjoy uninterrupted power supply while the Ogoni people are experiencing perpetual epileptic power supply;

Worried that the non-availability of power supply to the affected Local Government Area is hampering the productivity, economic growth, poverty alleviation and wealth creation capacity of the people;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to facilitate the connection of the four Local Government Areas to the national grid through Afam Power Station and make provisions for it in the 2018 Appropriation estimates;
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Power and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

3. Need to Review the Ban and Restriction on Motorcycle Operators within the Federal Capital City:

Hon. Fredrick Agbedi:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), on October 1, 2006, introduced the ban on the operation of commercial motorcycles, popularly known as okada, as a means of transportation in the Federal Capital City;

Concerned that in a bid to enforce the ban, the task force has resorted to seizing the motorcycles and, rather than impose a fine, burn the motorcycles including those owned by individuals for their personal use;

Aware that some areas in the satellite towns of the Federal Capital Territory can only be accessed by motorcycles, being the sole means of transportation in those areas;

Also aware that some security personnel and courier service operators use motorcycles in the discharge of their duties;

Also concerned that as noble as the ban policy is, there are no clear means of identifying and/or differentiating a commercial motorcycle from a private one, hence private motorcyclists have suffered unduly from the enforcement of the ban;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory to direct the task force to immediately release all seized motorcycles not used for commercial purposes;
- (ii) work out modalities for differentiating between private and commercial motorcycle operators; and
- (iii) issue a directive to the effect that, rather than burn confiscated motorcycles, a punitive fine should be imposed to serve as a deterrent.

4. Call for Audit on Facilities at the Benin Airport, Edo State: Hon. Omosede G. Igbinedion:

The House:

Notes that the Benin Airport which was constructed in 1956, and located about 2km Southwest of the ancient Benin Kingdom is one of the oldest Airports in Nigeria;

Also notes the importance of the Airport to the people of Edo and Delta States which currently does not render night services such as landing or taking off;

Aware that sometimes in 2013, a 13 years old Daniel Ohikhena, stowed in the wheel of Arik flight W3544 to Lagos, among other incidences;

Also aware that sometimes in 2015, the Airport was shut down for weeks to allow for upgrading of the runaway and firefighting department;

Concerned about the gradual dilapidated of the Benin Airport runaway, absence of Perimeter fencings which makes the Airport susceptible to trespass by both people and animals, and lack of capacity to operate flight travels beyond certain times in a day;

Recall that when Mr. Saleh Dunomas, the Managing Director of the Federal Airports Authority visited the Airport in 2017 he expressed the intention of the Authority to concession the Airport and to partner with the Edo State Government to operate 24 hours flight schedule daily;

Desirous of taking pro-active measures to ensuring that the Benin Airport is upgraded to meet International standards;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Airports Authority (FAAN) and the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) to:
 - (a) Commence the repairs of the Benin Airport runaway and erect Perimeter fencings at the Airport;
 - (b) Upgrade the Navigational, Communications and Surveillance Equipment's at the Benin Airport Traffic Control Towers;
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Aviation to visit the Benin Airport to inspect and take an audit of the Airport Air Traffic Control Towers.

5. Need to Investigate the Constructing of Shopping Mall at Car Park of Utako Market in Gross Violation of Abuja Master – Plan:

Hon. Chris Azubogu

The House:

Notes that the Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) is currently constructing a large shopping mall in the car park of Utako Market which was meant to accommodate vehicles of visitors to the market, in gross violation of Abuja master – plan which provides that every market in the territory must have a car park;

Further notes that this came shortly after effort to evict shop owners in the market to use their shop sites for this new project failed, on the ground that the shop owners bought the shops with C-of-O which remain valid for 99 years;

Aware that Utako Market is one of the major commercial centers in the Federal Capital Territory, and replacing a motor park with shopping mall without alternative provision will automatically mean that those vehicles that are supposed to be parked in that portion of the market will now be parked at roadsides leading to unimaginable traffic congestion;

Further aware that one of the major reasons cited for relocating the capital of this country from Lagos to Abuja was that Lagos was not properly planned, hence the country need a new Federal Capital that is properly planned in line with international best practices;

Observes that most demolition of structures that usually occur are as a result of individuals, group or companies putting up buildings that violate the Abuja master-plan;

Concerned that it is the same Government Agency that goes about demolishing illegal structures that distort the city master-plan;

Worried that if this project is allowed to go on, the market environment will become too congested and aside displacing vehicles that ought to be parked in that area, there will be no space to escape in the event of emergencies like fire out-break;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Abuja Municipal Area Council AMAC to discontinue the project in question;
 - (ii) Set up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate this particular violation of the city masterplan and similar cases as these continues to pose serious threat to sustainable development of Abuja as a model capital city, and to equally summon the Honourable Minister of FCT, Federal Capital Development Agency, FCDA, Development Control and Abuja Environmental Protection Board to brief the Committee on what they know about this environmental infringement.

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