

LEAD DEBATE ON A BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MANCHOK (SB. 538).

Sponsor: Sen. Danjuma La'ah (*Kaduna South*)

Mr. President, Distinguished Colleagues, permit me to lead the debate of this very important Bill for the establishment of the Federal University of Technology, Manchok (SB. 538).

The Bill was read for the first time in this Hallowed Chamber on Tuesday, 25th July, 2017 and it seeks to establish the Federal University of Technology, Manchok and comprehensive provisions for its due management and administration.

Mr. President and Distinguished colleagues, the very essence of this Bill is to provide a highly specialized institution that are more productive and very much needed for technological advancement of this nation.

The objects of the University among others include –

(a) to encourage the advancement of learning and to hold out to all persons without distinction of race, creed, sex or political conviction the opportunity of acquiring a higher education in science and technology;

(b) to develop and offer academic and professional programmes leading to the award of diploma, first degrees, post graduates research and higher degrees which emphasize planning, adaptive, technical, maintenance, development and productive skills in the engineering, scientific, agricultural, medical and allied professional disciplines with high moral standard and capability not only to understand, use and adapt to existing technology, but also to improve on it and develop new ones;

(c) to act as agents and catalysts, through post-graduate training, research and innovation for the effective and economic utilization, exploitation and conservation of the country's natural and human resources;

(d) to offer to the general population, as a form of public service, the results of training and research and to foster the practical applications of these results;

(e) to establish appropriate relationship with other national or private institutions involved in training, research and development of science technology;

(f) to identify technology problems and needs of the society and to find solutions to them within the context of overall national development.

Mr. President, Distinguished Colleagues, our economy has very high potentials, and requires high level technical, scientific and administrative skills to drive it. The university is therefore to further advanced knowledge through research and nurture unique innovations in science and technology.

Mr. President, Distinguished Colleagues, the enactment of this Bill will help in transforming the technological fortunes of Nigeria in producing the desired manpower and expertise that Nigeria is yearning for.

I wish to state that there is no financial implication to this Bill, all the operational structures are already in place as the University is taken over from the existing Federal College of Statistics, Manchok, Kaduna State.

I urge you all to support this Bill for the Second Reading.

Thank you.