



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 13 February, 2020

1. The House met at 11.38 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 12 February, 2020.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, the Executive Governor of Imo State, Hope Uzodima, his entourage, and Sen. Rochas Okorocha, to observe proceedings, pursuant to Order Nineteen, Rule 8 of the Standing Orders of the House" (*Hon. Peter Akpatason — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

5. **Announcements**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:

- (i) Staff and Students of *Noble Guide Academy*, Kubwa, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of *Lyngra High School*, Karu, Nasarawa State;
- (iii) Staff and Students of *Maraken International School*, Karu, Nasarawa State;
- (iv) Staff and Students of *Al-Areeb Schools*, Kaduna, Kaduna State.

(b) **Defection:**

Mr Speaker read the following communications from:

- (i) Hon. Uju Kingsley Chima (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*), announcing his defection from the Action Alliance (AA) to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

- (ii) Hon. Pascal Chigozie Obi (*Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency*), announcing his defection from the Action Alliance (AA) to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

6. Petitions

- (i) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Ntufam Eta Mborah (*Calabar Municipal/Odukpani Federal Constituency*):

(a) Ugherighe Abiweanye on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police Force;

(b) Simon Sunny Ejue and 11 others, on behalf of Ikot Eneobong Community tenants, on the attempt to demolish over sixty of their houses by the Cross River Basin Development Authority (CRBDA), Calabar;

- (ii) A petition from Akindole Ebenezer Adebisi and 12 others, on the alleged financial impropriety and embezzlement by the Standard Alliance Insurance Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Akinfolarin Mayowa (*Ileoluji/Okeigbo-Odigbo Federal Constituency*);

- (iii) A petition from Peter Azi, on behalf of Concerned Amalgamated Plateau Youth Forum, on the alleged abuse of office by the Provost, Federal School of Medical Laboratory Science, Jos, Plateau State, was presented and laid by Hon. Dachung Musa Bagos (*Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*); and

- (iv) A petition from Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni NAOC Oil & Gas Landlords, on the alleged intimidation and breach of contract by Nigerian Agip Oil Company Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Nnam-Obi Uchechuku George (*Ahoada West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

7. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)

- (i) ***Need to Checkmate Fake Professors in the Nigerian Higher Institutions:***

Hon. Mohammad Yakubu Bello (*Birnin Kebbi/Bunzai/Kalgo 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.

Need to Checkmate Fake Professors in the Nigerian Higher Institutions:

The House:

Notes that in December 2019, the National Universities Commission (NUC) announced the discovery of 100 self-acclaimed professors in the 174 different universities in Nigeria;

Aware that according to NUC, while compiling a directory of professors, it discovered self-acclaimed professors who had uploaded their curriculum vitae on the website of the National Universities Commission parading themselves as professors;

Also aware that the NUC has directed universities to create desk officers to monitor such abuse in their various universities to ensure that only genuine professors are in universities;

Worried that the NUC did not publish the names of the fake professors and that by keeping the identities of the self-acclaimed professors secret, the NUC is indirectly encouraging the criminal act of forgery and impersonation and that failure to publish the names of the fake professors, would create the impression that some real professors may be fake, thus, to clear the names of the genuine professors, the fake professors need to be disclosed;

Cognizant that Professorship is the highest academic honour in a university which is awarded to lecturers who have made outstanding contributions to knowledge through scholarly research and publications, and that self-acclaimed professors should not be allowed to take the title without merit;

Concerned that in 2017, a panel set up by the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, recommended that 28 professors be demoted, and in October 2019, the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, withdrew a PhD it had awarded to one of its lecturers, whom it was set to appoint as an associate professor, obviously for lack of merit;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Universities Commission (NUC) to publish the names of the fake professors and make it available to the public;
- (ii) also urge the National Universities Commission to ensure that universities that harbour the fake professors are punished by withdrawing their certificates, to serve as deterrent to others; and
- (iii) further urge every university in Nigeria to create a data base for professors with their full names, phone numbers, certificates, photographs and other identities (*Hon. Muhammad Yakubu Bello — Birnin Kebbi/Bunza/Kalgo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in December 2019, the National Universities Commission (NUC) announced the discovery of 100 self-acclaimed professors in the 174 different universities in Nigeria;

Aware that according to NUC, while compiling a directory of professors, it discovered self-acclaimed professors who had uploaded their curriculum vitae on the website of the National Universities Commission parading themselves as professors;

Also aware that the NUC has directed universities to create desk officers to monitor such abuse in their various universities to ensure that only genuine professors are in universities;

Worried that the NUC did not publish the names of the fake professors and that by keeping the identities of the self-acclaimed professors secret, the NUC is indirectly encouraging the criminal act of forgery and impersonation and that failure to publish the names of the fake professors, would create the impression that some real professors may be fake, thus, to clear the names of the genuine professors, the fake professors need to be disclosed;

Cognizant that Professorship is the highest academic honour in a university which is awarded to lecturers who have made outstanding contributions to knowledge through scholarly research and publications, and that self-acclaimed professors should not be allowed to take the title without merit;

Concerned that in 2017, a panel set up by the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, recommended that 28 professors be demoted, and in October 2019, the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, withdrew a PhD it had awarded to one of its lecturers, whom it was set to appoint as an associate professor, obviously for lack of merit;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Universities Commission (NUC) to publish the names of the fake professors and make it available to the public;
 - (ii) also urge the National Universities Commission to ensure that universities that harbour the fake professors are punished by withdrawing their certificates, to serve as deterrent to others; and
 - (iii) further urge every university in Nigeria to create a data base for professors with their full names, phone numbers, certificates, photographs and other identities (HR. 31/02/2020).
- (ii) ***Need to Declare a State of Emergency in the Power Sector:***
Hon. Nnolim Nnaji (*Nkanu East/Nkanu 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.

Need to Declare a State of Emergency in the Power Sector:

The House:

Notes that in 1972, the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) was created to generate and distribute electricity in the country;

Also notes that as at the year 2000, the generating capacity of NEPA from 4 thermal and 2 hydro plants was 6,200 MW which resulted in very unstable power situation thus exposing consumers to regular power cuts and long period of outages;

Further notes that in 2001, the Federal Government commenced the reform of the electricity sector with a policy to create an efficient electricity market in preparation for the transfer of ownership and management of the infrastructure and assets of the electricity industry to the private sector;

Equally notes that NEPA's failure to live up to its mandate necessitated the 2005 Electricity Power Sector Reforms (EPSR) Act that gave birth to the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), with powers to regulate the sector, thus NEPA was renamed Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN);

Aware that in recent years electricity has become very significant owing to the seemingly indispensable role it plays in every facet of lives, and the absence of electricity for long periods causes discomfort and hampers productivity as electricity consumption has become a parameter by which the standard of living as well as the level of industrialization of a nation is measured;

Also aware that currently, there is a failure of the sector to provide adequate electricity supply to domestic and industrial consumers, despite being a rapidly growing economy, and that only a limited number of Nigeria's population is connected to the national grid while power supply difficulties are experienced around the country with average daily power supply estimated at 4 hours, with a serious decline in power generation, currently as low as 2,000 to 3,000 MW or less which is highly unacceptable considering the electricity dependence;

Recognizes that power supply difficulties cripple the agricultural, industrial and current economic development of Nigeria, and that the power supply crisis is complex, as it stems from a variety of persistent issues causing Nigerian businesses and households to resort to diesel-fuelled generators to supplement the intermittent power supply, while some manufacturing industries have collapsed and some others are now operationally located outside the country, especially in Ghana due to power degeneration;

Observes that Nigeria should take advantage of the peculiar endowments of nature to its environment, and harness the various alternatives and viable sources of energy worth like solar, coal power plant, wind turbine, gas turbine, hydro-electric (Dam), including mini-grid and renewable energy options available in different regions to enhance its current and pitiable state of electricity supply;

Also observes that fixing the energy crises in Nigeria is of paramount importance, as it will help to reduce crime rate, create employments, reduce health hazards, rural-urban migration, high production costs in the industries, post-harvest losses in agriculture via storage facilities, boost small and medium scale entrepreneurship (SME), eradicate poverty, attract foreign investors and generally revitalize the economy and developmental agenda of the nation;

Concerned that on Tuesday, 7 January, 2020, the current Minister of Power, Alhaji Saleh Mammari made some remarks on the failures and intangible results of the immediate past Minister of Power in resuscitating the power sector, despite the huge financial resources invested into it;

Also concerned that if there is no urgent declaration of state of emergency in the power sector, the collateral damage this will cause in the nearest future will be unprecedented and that there is need to establish a strong and reliable power supply system and possibly seek the support and/or collaboration of international organizations, experts, investors, and other well-meaning Nigerian organizations, to tackle this epileptic power supply;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to declare a state of emergency in the power sector;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Power to urgently call for a public hearing on the current state of electricity generation, transmission and distribution; to evaluate the real problems and come up with ideas on how to expand the energy sources beyond hydro and gas plant to include coal, solar and other renewable sources of energy;

- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Power to visit the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), and other relevant agencies under the Ministry of Power, with a view to ensuring absolute compliance with all the provisions of the existing Acts; and
- (iv) further mandate the Committees on Power, and Legislative Compliance to ensure prompt compliance and report back within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Nnolim Nnaji - Nkanna East/Nkanna West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in 1972, the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) was created to generate and distribute electricity in the country;

Also noted that as at the year 2000, the generating capacity of NEPA from 4 thermal and 2 hydro plants was 6,200 MW which resulted in very unstable power situation thus exposing consumers to regular power cuts and long period of outages;

Further noted that in 2001, the Federal Government commenced the reform of the electricity sector with a policy to create an efficient electricity market in preparation for the transfer of ownership and management of the infrastructure and assets of the electricity industry to the private sector;

Equally noted that NEPA's failure to live up to its mandate necessitated the 2005 Electricity Power Sector Reforms (EPSR) Act that gave birth to the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), with powers to regulate the sector, thus NEPA was renamed Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN);

Aware that in recent years electricity has become very significant owing to the seemingly indispensable role it plays in every facet of lives, and the absence of electricity for long periods causes discomfort and hampers productivity as electricity consumption has become a parameter by which the standard of living as well as the level of industrialization of a nation is measured;

Also aware that currently, there is a failure of the sector to provide adequate electricity supply to domestic and industrial consumers, despite being a rapidly growing economy, and that only a limited number of Nigeria's population is connected to the national grid while power supply difficulties are experienced around the country with average daily power supply estimated at 4 hours, with a serious decline in power generation, currently as low as 2,000 to 3,000 MW or less which is highly unacceptable considering the electricity dependence;

Recognized that power supply difficulties cripple the agricultural, industrial and current economic development of Nigeria, and that the power supply crisis is complex, as it stems from a variety of persistent issues causing Nigerian businesses and households to resort to diesel-fuelled generators to supplement the intermittent power supply, while some manufacturing industries have collapsed and some others are now operationally located outside the country, especially in Ghana due to power degeneration;

Observed that Nigeria should take advantage of the peculiar endowments of nature to its environment, and harness the various alternatives and viable sources of energy worth like solar, coal power plant, wind turbine, gas turbine, hydro-electric (Dam), including mini-grid and renewable energy options available in different regions to enhance its current and pitiable state of electricity supply;

Also observed that fixing the energy crises in Nigeria is of paramount importance, as it will help to reduce crime rate, create employments, reduce health hazards, rural-urban migration, high production costs in the industries, post-harvest losses in agriculture via storage facilities, boost small and medium scale entrepreneurship (SME), eradicate poverty, attract foreign investors and generally revitalize the economy and developmental agenda of the nation:

Concerned that on Tuesday, 7 January, 2020, the current Minister of Power, Alhaji Saleh Mammam made some remarks on the failures and intangible results of the immediate past Minister of Power in resuscitating the power sector, despite the huge financial resources invested into it:

Also concerned that if there is no urgent declaration of state of emergency in the power sector, the collateral damage this will cause in the nearest future will be unprecedented and that there is need to establish a strong and reliable power supply system and possibly seek the support and/or collaboration of international organizations, experts, investors, and other well-meaning Nigerian organizations, to tackle this epileptic power supply:

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to declare a state of emergency in the power sector;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Power to urgently call for a public hearing on the current state of electricity generation, transmission and distribution; to evaluate the real problems and come up with ideas on how to expand the energy sources beyond hydro and gas plant to include coal, solar and other renewable sources of energy;
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Power to visit the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), and other relevant agencies under the Ministry of Power, with a view to ensuring absolute compliance with all the provisions of the existing Act; and
- (iv) further mandate the Committees on Power, and Legislative Compliance to ensure prompt compliance and report back within six (6) weeks (HR. 32/02/2020).

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Federal Polytechnic, Orogun, Delta State (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.642).
- (2) Chartered Institute of Finance and Control of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.680).
- (3) Electric Power Sector Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.681).
- (4) National Icons, Symbols Legacy Agency Bill, 2020 (H.B.682).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (H.B.683).
- (6) Nigeria Police Academy (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (H.B.684).
- (7) Nigerian Police Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.685).
- (8) Federal University of Education, Pankshin (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.686).
- (9) Federal College of Forestry Management and Tourism, Idanre (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (H.B.687).

- (10) Export (Prohibition) Act (Repeal) Bill, 2020 (HB.688).
- (11) Subsidiary Legislation (Monitoring and Control) Bill, 2020 (HB.689).
- (12) Chartered Institute of Cost Managers of Nigeria Bill, 2020 (HB.690).
- (13) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.691).
- (14) Federal University of Agriculture, Patigi, Kwara State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB.692).
- (15) Nigeria Sugar Technology Institute Bill, 2020 (HB.693).
- (16) Federal College of Agriculture (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.694).
- (17) Electoral Offences Tribunal (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.695).
- (18) Federal University of Science and Technology, Kosubosu, Kwara State (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.696).
- (19) Federal Medical Centre, Toro (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.697).
- (20) Federal Polytechnic, Orozo (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB.698).
- (21) National Agency for the Control of Cancer (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.699).
- (22) National Volunteer Services Agency Bill, 2020 (HB.700).
- (23) Social Security Bill, 2020 (HB.701).
- (24) Chartered Institute of Auctioneers of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.702).
- (25) Electric Power Sector Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.703).
- (26) Insurgency or Military Victim Stigmatization(Prohibition) Bill, 2020 (HB.704).
- (27) Rural Areas Development Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB.705).
- (28) State of the Nation Address Bill, 2020 (HB.706).
- (29) Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Urban Development and Planning Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB.707).
- (30) National Agency for Sickle Cell Disease and other Heritable Blood Disorder (Prevention and Treatment) Bill, 2020 (HB.708).
- (31) National Directorate of Employment Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.709).
- (32) North West Development Commission Bill, 2020 (HB.710).
- (33) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.711).

9. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. P17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Enact the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria Bill to Regulate the Training and Practice of Pharmacy; and for Related Matters(HB. 334) — *Third Reading***
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 Enact the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria Bill to Regulate the Training and Practice of Pharmacy; and for Related Matters(HB. 334) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Akpatason Peter — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University, Gashua and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 503) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University, Gashua and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 503) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Akpatason Peter — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Trade and Investment to Provide for Investment, Indemnity Assurance Scheme, Trade and Investment Tribunal, Trade and Investment Registry Data Bank; and for Related Matters (HB. 154) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Trade and Investment to Provide for Investment, Indemnity Assurance Scheme, Trade and Investment Tribunal, Trade and Investment Registry Data Bank; and for Related Matters (HB. 154) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency and 6 others*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Medical Centre, Oghara; and for Related Matters (HB. 573) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Medical Centre, Oghara; and for Related Matters (HB. 573) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Igbakpa Ben Rollands — Ethipoe East/Ethiopo West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Polytechnic, Abi to Provide Full-Time Courses in Technology, Applied Sciences, Management and other Fields of Study and to make Provisions for the General Management of the Polytechnic; and for Related Matters (HB. 349) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Polytechnic, Abi to Provide Full-Time Courses in Technology, Applied Sciences, Management and other Fields of Study and to make Provisions for the General Management of the Polytechnic; and for Related Matters (HB. 349) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Alex Eghona Abi/Yakurr Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

14. **Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negatived or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the under-listed Bills were passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly:

- (i) National Inland Waterways Authority Bill, 2019 (HB. 173).
- (ii) Nigerian Film Corporation Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 324).
- (iii) Firearms Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 327).
- (iv) Dietitians Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 515), and
- (v) Nigerian Television Authority Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 517);

Aware that the Bills were re-gazetted as HB. 173, HB. 324, HB. 327, HB. 515 and HB. 517 and respectively read the first time;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata — Birniwa/Kiri-Kasamma/Guri Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

15. Need to Utilize Zobe Dam in Dutsin-ma Local Government Area of Katsina State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that one of the focal points of the Administration of President Muhammadu Buhari's to diversify the economy to agriculture which will improve Nigeria's internally generated revenues, achieve food security, thereby motivating millions of Nigerians to go back to the farms;

Also notes that the anti-corruption drive of the Administration has put to a halt the exogenous leakages in the agricultural sector to encourage, empower and enhance locally made farm produce, thereby increasing the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) index and foreign exchange reserve to over \$45 Billion in cash and bonds;

Aware that some of the successful programs introduced by the Administration are the Anchor Borrowers Program, the Presidential Fertilizer Initiative, the Youth Farm Lab and the Presidential Economic Diversification and Food Security Council;

Informed that Zobe Dam was constructed in 1972 under the Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority with the purpose of achieving comprehensive and integrated rural development, such as provision of irrigation facilities, flood control, domestic/industrial water supply and hydroelectricity;

Also informed that since the commissioning of the Dam in 1983, it has not been put to use for irrigation, water supply or power generation and even though it has the capacity of irrigating over 20,000 hectares of land, supplying 80 million litres of water daily and generating hydro-power that can supply the whole of Katsina State with electricity;

Aware that the dam also has the capacity of supplying water for the production of wheat, rice and vegetables that can meet domestic requirements of over 30% of Nigerians, but it has been abandoned, a development that can lead to its overflow which will cause serious flood to communities around the dam as had happened in the past;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to award contract for establishment of ultramodern irrigation canals of the Dam and ensure full functionality and utilization of the Zobe Dam; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to ensure implementation (*Hon. Armya'u Abdulkadir — Dutsin-Ma/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 33/02/2020).

Motion referred to the Committee on Water Resources, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

16. Call for Completion and Utilization of the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at Victor Attah International Airport, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. Need to Construct a Flyover or Roundabout at Jama'are - Itas - Gadau Junction on the Kano-Maiduguri Expressway

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

18. Rehabilitation of Damaged Infrastructure in Ezinihitte Mbaise Local Government Area, Imo State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that residents of Egberemiri, Eziundo and Oboama communities in Ezinihitte Local Government Area, Imo State are being devastated by gully erosion which is rapidly eating away their lands and means of livelihood;

Also notes that indigence of the communities whose main occupation is farming, are on the verge of losing their farm lands, properties and roads with each passing rainy season;

Worried that the gully erosion has adversely affected movement of persons, as well as commercial activities within the communities;

Concerned that if urgent actions are not taken to address the menace caused by the erosion, residents of the communities will be displaced and their properties destroyed;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, and the Ecological Fund Office to embark on erosion and flood control works in the affected areas and other prone areas in Ezinihitte Local Government Area; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment, and Ecological Fund to ensure compliance (*Hon. Chinedu Emeke Martins — Abiaku/Ezinihitte/Mbaise Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 34/02/2020).

Motion referred to the Committees on Environment, and Ecological Fund, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

19. Incidence of Mortality from Cancer in Nigeria

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Need to Investigate the Utilization of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Section 11 of the National Health Act which was enacted in 2014 provides that not less than 1% of Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) of the Federal Government be set aside as a grant to finance the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPE or the Fund) which commits the Federal Government to dedicating national resources to improving the lives of all citizens, especially, women and children, to access a high impact and highly cost effective package of health services, thereby achieving health for all by strengthening institutions and increasing financing for essential health care services;

Also notes that the Basic Health Care Provision Fund will fund operational budgets for public primary health care facilities (1per ward), purchase an explicit set of high impact services for all Nigerians address under performance at the primary care level by removing the barriers to health care;

Aware that the Program will enable Nigerians access services and will be delivered in 22 States, including the FCT in the first instance and will serve as a catalyst to facilitate complete overhaul of the Primary Health Care system in Nigeria;

Recalls that the operational manual of the Fund states that all program funds must be kept in a dedicated account at the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), consequently, the Federal Ministry of Health, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA) and relevant State agencies have all opened accounts with the CBN;

Also aware that 50% of the total amount appropriated has so far been released from the 2018 budget for the program, similarly, the Global Financing Facility and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have contributed \$20m and \$2m grant respectively to the program with other donor agencies also showing interests;

Cognizant that over 30 States have formally expressed interests and facility assessments have been carried out, with the release of approximately 50% of the fund;

Worried that in spite of the laudable program and intent of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund, the Primary Health Care system of the country is in shambles, infant mortality is on the increase, rate of death at childbirth is still very high in most rural communities and hardly would one find a functional Primary Health care facility in most Local Governments Areas much less the wards;

Further aware that the Global Facility Financing (GFF) has committed \$20m while the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will commit up to \$75m over the next 5 years and the Department for International Development (DFID) also committed 60m Pound Sterling to support the Program whose goal is to have one functional Primary Health Care (PHC) per political ward in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to investigate the utilization of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Shina Abiola Peller – Iseyin/Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Section 11 of the National Health Act which was enacted in 2014 provides that not less than 1% of Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) of the Federal Government be set aside as a grant to finance the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPE or the Fund) which commits the Federal Government to dedicating national resources to improving the lives of all citizens, especially, women and children, to access a high impact and highly cost effective package of health services, thereby achieving health for all by strengthening institutions and increasing financing for essential health care services;

Also noted that the Basic Health Care Provision Fund will fund operational budgets for public primary health care facilities (1 per ward), purchase an explicit set of high impact services for all Nigerians address under performance at the primary care level by removing the barriers to health care;

Aware that the Program will enable Nigerians access services and will be delivered in 22 States, including the FCT in the first instance and will serve as a catalyst to facilitate complete overhaul of the Primary Health Care system in Nigeria;

Recalled that the operational manual of the Fund states that all program funds must be kept in a dedicated account at the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), consequently, the Federal Ministry of Health, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA) and relevant State agencies have all opened accounts with the CBN;

Also aware that 50% of the total amount appropriated has so far been released from the 2018 budget for the program, similarly, the Global Financing Facility and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have contributed \$20m and \$2m grant respectively to the program with other donor agencies also showing interests;

Cognizant that over 30 States have formally expressed interests and facility assessments have been carried out, with the release of approximately 50% of the fund;

Worried that in spite of the laudable program and intent of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund, the Primary Health Care system of the country is in shambles, infant mortality is on the increase, rate of death at childbirth is still very high in most rural communities and hardly would one find a functional Primary Health care facility in most Local Governments Areas much less the wards;

Further aware that the Global Facility Financing (GFF) has committed \$20m while the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will commit up to \$75m over the next 5 years and the Department for International Development (DFID) also committed 60m Pound Sterling to support the Program whose goal is to have one functional Primary Health Care (PHC) per political ward in Nigeria;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to investigate the utilization of the Basic Health Care Provision Fund and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 35/02/2020).

21. Consideration of Reports

- (i) *A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Cap. A18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Arbitration and Mediation Bill to Provide a Unified Legal Framework for the fair and Efficient Settlement of Commercial Disputes by Arbitration and Mediation; make Applicable the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention) to any Award made in Nigeria or in any Contracting State arising out of International Commercial Arbitration, the Convention on the International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (the Singapore Convention); and for Related Matters (HIB. 91) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Cap. A18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Arbitration and Mediation Bill to Provide a Unified Legal Framework for the fair and Efficient Settlement of Commercial Disputes by Arbitration and Mediation; make Applicable the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention) to any Award made in Nigeria or in any Contracting State arising out of International Commercial Arbitration, the Convention on the International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (the Singapore Convention); and for Related Matters (HB. 91)" (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno -- Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION ACT, CAP. A18, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND ENACT THE ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION BILL TO PROVIDE A UNIFIED LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE FAIR AND EFFICIENT SETTLEMENT OF COMMERCIAL DISPUTES BY ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION; MAKE APPLICABLE THE CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN ARBITRAL AWARDS (NEW YORK CONVENTION) TO ANY AWARD MADE IN NIGERIA OR IN ANY CONTRACTING STATE ARISING OUT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION, THE CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS RESULTING FROM MEDIATION (THE SINGAPORE CONVENTION); AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 91)

Consideration deferred for further consultation.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Cap. A18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Arbitration and Mediation Bill to Provide a Unified Legal Framework for the fair and Efficient Settlement of Commercial Disputes by Arbitration and Mediation; make Applicable the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention) to any Award made in Nigeria or in any Contracting State arising out of International Commercial Arbitration, the Convention on the International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (the Singapore Convention); and for Related Matters (HB. 91).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(ii) *A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Managements; and for Related Matters (HB. 169) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Managements; and for Related Matters (HB. 169)" (Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL), BIRNIN KUDU, JIGAWA STATE, TO PROVIDE FULL-TIME COURSES TEACHING, INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING IN TECHNOLOGY, APPLIED SCIENCE, ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND MANAGEMENT; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 169)

Clause 1: Establishment of Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State.

(1) There is established the Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu (herein after referred to as "the College").

- (4) (a) The Deputy Provost (Academic) shall:
- (i) assist the provost in the performance of his function in academic matters of the college;
 - (ii) act as the provost when the post of the provost is vacant or if the Provost is for reasons absent or unable to perform his function
- (b) The Deputy Provost (administration) shall:
- (i) perform such other functions as the provost or the council may from time to time assign to him.
- (5) Each of the deputy provost shall hold offices for a period of two years no more (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 11: The Registrar and other Staff of the College.

- (1) There shall be a Registrar for the College to be appointed by the council.
- (2) The Registrar shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the council.
- (3) The Registrar shall be the secretary to:
 - (a) the council;
 - (b) the Academic Board of the council;
 - (c) any committee of the council.
- (4) The Registrar may perform any duty as may be assigned to him by the council or the provost.
- (5) The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five years and no more (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 12: Other Principal Officers of the College.

- (1) There shall be for the college in addition to the Registrar:
 - (a) the Bursar; and
 - (b) the College Librarian who shall be appointed by the Council.
- (2) The Bursar shall be the chief financial officer of the College and be responsible to the provost for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the college.
- (3) The College Librarians shall be responsible to the provost for the administration of the College library and the coordinator of the library services in the teaching units of the college.

- (4) The Bursar and the College librarian shall each hold office for a period of five years and no more (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 13: Resignation of appointment of Principal Officer.

A principal officer of the College may resign his appointment:

- (a) in case of the provost by notice to the visitor for; and
- (b) in any other case by advise to the Council (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu -- Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 14: Other employees of the College.

- (1) The council may appoint other persons to be employees of the College as the council may deem to assist the provost and the principal officers in the performance of their functions.
- (2) The remuneration, tenure of office and condition of services of the employee of the college shall be determined by the council in conjunction with the Federal Civil Service Commission (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 14 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 15: Pensions.

Service in the College shall be approved services for the purpose of the Pension Reform Act and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the College shall be entitled to pension, gratuity and other retirement benefits as may be prescribed in their respect letters of appointment (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 15 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 16: Selection Board for other Principal Officers.

- (1) There shall be selection Board for the College which shall consist of:
- (a) the Chairman of the Council;
- (b) the Provost;
- (c) four members of the Council not being members of the academics Board; and
- (d) two members of the Academic Board.
- (2) The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the selection Board constituted under subsection (1) of this section shall be determined from time to time by the council (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

Section 2 (2)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

Terms of Service

1. There may be paid to the members of the council or any Committee, other than *ex-officio* members, such remuneration and allowance may from time to time be determine by the president
2. Where vacancy occurs in respect of the membership specified in section 3, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor in office and such Successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.
3. The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or any defect in the appointment of a member or the absence of a member.

Proceedings

4. (1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times, places and on such days as the Chairman may appoint but shall meet not less than once every four months.
- (2) The Chairman may at time and shall at the request in writing of not less than six members, convene a meeting of the council.
- (3) Where the council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the Council may co-opt persons who are members of the Council but persons co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the Council.
- (4) The Quorum of the Council shall be one of the total members of the council, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed by the President.
- (5) Decision of the Council shall be made on approval by a simple Majority of members.

Miscellaneous

5. (1) The fixing of the seal of the college shall be authenticated by the Signature of the Chairman, provost and of some other members of the council Authorized generally or specially by the council to act for that purpose.
- (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person other than a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may be made executed on behalf of the college by any person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the council.
- (3) Any document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the College shall be received in evidence and shall unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that the provisions of the Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State, to provide Full-time Courses Teaching, instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State, to Provide Full-time Courses Teaching, instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and for Related Matters (HB. 169) (*Hon. Magaji Dau Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Managements; and for Related Matters (HB. 169) and approved Clauses 1 - 22, the Schedule, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

- (iii) *A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Administration of Nigeria and to make Provisions among other things, for Membership and Control of the Profession of Public Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 329) (Committee of the Whole):*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Administration of Nigeria and to make Provisions among other things, for Membership and Control of the Profession of Public Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 329)" (Hon. Gideon Gwani Lucas — Kaura Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF
 ADMINISTRATION OF NIGERIA AND TO MAKE PROVISIONS AMONG
 OTHER THINGS, FOR MEMBERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THE PROFESSION
 OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.329)

Consideration deferred for further consultation.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Administration of Nigeria and to make Provisions among other things, for Membership and Control of the Profession of Public Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 329).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

22. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 18 February, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Peter Akpatason -- Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.27 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker