



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 11 March, 2020

1. The House met at 11.17 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 *Second Votes and Proceedings* Tuesday, 10 March, 2020.

*The Second Votes and Proceedings* was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcements**

(a) *Visitors in the Gallery:*

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:

(i) Staff and Students of *Decent Model Academy*, Bwari, Abuja;

(ii) Staff and Students of *Praise & Goodnews International Secondary School*, Uke, Nasarawa State; and

(iii) Members of the *National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS)*, South West (Zone D).

(b) *Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to Ensure Implementation of the National Assembly Budget of 2018, Particularly on Staff Matters:*

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the *Ad-hoc* Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Babangida Ibrahim	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga	—	Deputy Chairman
(3)	Hon. Haruna Isa Dederi	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Chike Okafor	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Shehu Ladan	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Yunusa Abubakar Ahmed	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Kingsley Chinda	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Edionwele Joseph Eghoghon	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Taofeek Ajilesoro	—	Member

- |      |                               |   |        |
|------|-------------------------------|---|--------|
| (10) | Hon. Olajide Adedeji Stanley  | — | Member |
| (11) | Hon. Nalaraba Abubakar Hassan | — | Member |
| (12) | Hon. Dachung Musa Bagos       | — | Member |

(c) **Additional Members of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Recent Global Crash in the Price of Crude Oil on the Appropriation Act, 2020:**

Mr Speaker announced additional membership of the Ad-hoc Committee as follows:

- |     |                                    |   |        |
|-----|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| (1) | Hon. Olododo Cook Abdulganiyu Saka | — | Member |
| (2) | Hon. Aliyu Muktar Betara           | — | Member |

(d) **Membership of the Special Committee on Constitution Review:**

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Committee as follows:

- |     |             |                                  |   |        |
|-----|-------------|----------------------------------|---|--------|
| 1.  | Abia        | Hon. Nkem-Abonta Uzoma           | — | Member |
| 2.  | Adamawa     | Hon. La'Ori Bitrus Kwamoti       | — | Member |
| 3.  | Akwa Ibom   | Hon. Onofiok Akpan               | — | Member |
| 4.  | Anambra     | Hon. Vincent Ekene Ofumere       | — | Member |
| 5.  | Bauchi      | Hon. Umar Muda Lawal             | — | Member |
| 6.  | Bayelsa     |                                  |   |        |
| 7.  | Benue       | Hon. John Dyegh                  | — | Member |
| 8.  | Borno       | Hon. Haruna Mshelia              | — | Member |
| 9.  | Cross River | Hon. Daniel Asuquo Effiong       | — | Member |
| 10. | Delta       | Hon. Afe Oberuakpepe Anthony     | — | Member |
| 11. | Ebonyi      | Hon. Iduma Igariwey              | — | Member |
| 12. | Edo         | Hon. Sergius Ogun Oseasochie     | — | Member |
| 13. | Ekiti       | Hon. Peter Owolabi               | — | Member |
| 14. | Enugu       | Hon. Patrick Asadu               | — | Member |
| 15. | FCT         | Hon. Usman Hassan Sokodabo       | — | Member |
| 16. | Gombe       | Hon. Abubakar Yunusa Ahmad       | — | Member |
| 17. | Imo         | Hon. Ikenna Elezianya            | — | Member |
| 18. | Jigawa      | Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata      | — | Member |
| 19. | Kaduna      | Hon. Tajudcen Abbas              | — | Member |
| 20. | Kano        | Hon. Suleiman Aminu              | — | Member |
| 21. | Katsina     | Hon. Ahmed Usman Liman           | — | Member |
| 22. | Kebbi       | Hon. Muhammed Umar Jega          | — | Member |
| 23. | Kogi        | Hon. Joseph Bello                | — | Member |
| 24. | Kwara       | Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio           | — | Member |
| 25. | Lagos       | Hon. Babajimi Benson             | — | Member |
| 26. | Nasarawa    |                                  |   |        |
| 27. | Niger       |                                  |   |        |
| 28. | Ogun        | Hon. Isiaka Ibrahim              | — | Member |
| 29. | Ondo        | Hon. Ade Adeogun                 | — | Member |
| 30. | Osun        | Hon. Femi Fakeye                 | — | Member |
| 31. | Oyo         | Hon. Olajide Olatunbosu Boladele | — | Member |
| 32. | Plateau     |                                  |   |        |
| 33. | Rivers      | Hon. Ogundu Kingsley Chinda      | — | Member |
| 34. | Sokoto      | Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame   | — | Member |
| 35. | Taraba      | Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum     | — | Member |
| 36. | Yobe        | Hon. Abubakar Yerima             | — | Member |
| 37. | Zamfara     | Hon. Shehu Ahmed                 | — | Member |

**Female Membership of the Special Committee on Constitution Review:**

- |    |         |                                 |   |        |
|----|---------|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. | Abia    | Hon. Onyejeocha Nkeiruka        | — | Member |
| 2. | Anambra | Hon. Chuba Ikpeazu Lynda        | — | Member |
| 3. | Benue   | Hon. Onu Onyeche Blessing       | — | Member |
| 4. | Borno   | Hon. Gimba Zainab               | — | Member |
| 5. | Ekiti   | Hon. Ogunlola Omowunmi Olubunmi | — | Member |
| 6. | Gombe   | Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku       | — | Member |

7.	Imo	Hon. Princess Mariam Odinaka	—	Member
8.	Ogun	Hon. Onanuga Adewunmi Oriyomi	—	Member
9.	Osun	Hon. Oluga Taiwo Olukemi	—	Member
10.	Oyo	Hon. Akand-Sadipe Tolulope Tiwalola	—	Member
11.	Plateau	Hon. Lar Butmak Beni	—	Member
12.	Rivers	Hon. Goodhead Boma	—	Member
13.	Yobe	Hon. Ibrahim Khadija Bukar	—	Member

**General/Zonal Membership of the Special Committee on Constitution Review:**

1.	South East	Hon. Chukwuegbo Ofor Gregory	—	Member
2.	South South	Hon. Ben Rollands Igbakpa	—	Member

**5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)  
Need to Increase Security Presence in Isiala Mbanu/Onuimo, Imo State to Forestall Unwarranted Killings of Innocent Citizens in the Area:**

Hon. Miriam Onuoha (Isiala Mbanu/Okigwe/Onuimo 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 Increase Security Presence in Isiala Mbanu/Onuimo, Imo State to Forestall Unwarranted Killings of Innocent Citizens in the Area:**

The House:

*Notes* the recent killing on Wednesday, 4 March, 2020, of helpless and unprotected citizens in Isiala Mbanu/Onuimo area of Imo State by unknown gunmen;

*Also notes* that the attacks which lasted for several hours unchallenged by any security operatives resulted in the loss of lives, with many sustaining injuries;

*Recalls* the unfortunate death of one Mr Ndubuisi Emenike, on Sunday, 26 January, 2020 as a result of the attack;

*Informed* that the recent shooting and the attack in Okigwe Metropolis was allegedly targeted at the leader and members of the Neighbourhood Vigilante Group, who had been collaborating with the Nigeria Police to checkmate robbery and crime in the area;

*Aware* that the primary purpose of government is the security of lives and property, and no meaningful development can take place in the face of reoccurring security challenges;

*Conscious* of the fact that security is everybody's business, there is need to strengthen the security apparatus in the country so as not to encourage citizens to resort to self help;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the security agencies to beef up security within Okigwe zone to avoid future occurrence;

- (ii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to interface with the Heads of all Federal security apparatus in Imo State with a view to investigating the unfortunate gruesome killings and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Miriam Onuora – Isiala Mbano/Okigwe/Onuimo Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* the recent killing on Wednesday, 4 March, 2020, of helpless and unprotected citizens in Isiala Mbano/Onuimo area of Imo State by unknown gunmen;

*Also noted* that the attacks which lasted for several hours unchallenged by any security operatives resulted in the loss of lives, with many sustaining injuries;

*Recalled* the unfortunate death of one Mr Ndubuisi Emenike, on Sunday, 26 January, 2020 as a result of the attack;

*Informed* that the recent shooting and the attack in Okigwe Metropolis was allegedly targeted at the leader and members of the Neighbourhood Vigilante Group, who had been collaborating with the Nigeria Police to checkmate robbery and crime in the area;

*Aware* that the primary purpose of government is the security of lives and property, and that no meaningful development can take place in the face of reoccurring security challenges;

*Conscious* of the fact that security is everybody's business, there is need to strengthen the security apparatus in the country so as not to encourage citizens to resort to self help;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the security agencies to beef up security within Okigwe zone to avoid future occurrence;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to interface with the Heads of all Federal security apparatus in Imo State with a view to investigating the unfortunate gruesome killings and report back within four (4) weeks (**HR. 98/03/2020**).

## 6. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Finance Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 802).
- (2) Security Services Welfare Infrastructure Development Bill, 2020 (HB. 803).
- (3) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fifth Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB. 804).
- (4) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fifth Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB. 805).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fifth Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB. 806).
- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fifth Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB. 807).
- (7) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Fifth Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB. 808).

(8) Court of Appeal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 809).

(9) Police Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 810).

7. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of Chapter III of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Provide for Citizenship by Marriage; and for Related Matters (HB. 612) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of Chapter III of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Provide for Citizenship by Marriage; and for Related Matters (HB. 612) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Adekoya Adesegun Abdu-Majid — Ijebu North/Ijebu East/Ogun Waterside Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Special Committee on Constitution Review.*

8. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja Area Courts Act, 2010 and Enact the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja Area Courts Bill to, among other things, Expand the Jurisdiction of the Area Courts to entertain both Civil and Criminal Matters; and for Related Matters (HB. 67) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja Area Courts Act, 2010 and Enact the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja Area Courts Bill to, among other things, Expand the Jurisdiction of the Area Courts to entertain both Civil and Criminal Matters; and for Related Matters (HB. 67) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Babba Dan-Agundi — Kumbotso 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 FCT Judiciary.*

9. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agency for Food Technology Development; and for Related Matters (HB. 712) — Second Reading**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

10. **A Bill for an Act to make Provision for the Prohibition of Stigmatization of Persons who are Victims of Insurgency or Militancy from Re-integration with the Community and to Provide for the Prosecution and Punishment of any Person or Group of Persons who stigmatize such Victims with a view to uphold and Protect their Fundamental Rights to Dignity and Free Association as Provided in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999; and for Related Matters (HB. 704) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to make Provision for the Prohibition of Stigmatization of Persons who are Victims of Insurgency or Militancy from Re-integration with the Community and to Provide for the Prosecution and Punishment of any Person or Group of Persons who stigmatize such Victims with a view to uphold and Protect their Fundamental Rights to Dignity and Free Association as Provided in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999; and for Related Matters (HB. 704) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ben Rolland Igbakpa — Ethiope East/Ethiope 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 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone.*

**11. Amendment of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives Pursuant to Order 19, Rule 7 of the Standing Orders**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**12. Need to complete the Construction of Federal Secretariat Lafia, Nasarawa State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Federal Government, about seven years ago, commenced the construction of a three story building Federal Secretariat in Nasarawa State that would contain 456 offices, but the project was later abandoned;

*Aware* that in 2016, the Federal Executive Council approved ₦700m for completion of Federal Secretariat Complexes across the country but that of Nasarawa State remained abandoned and has now been overgrown by weeds while criminals have made it their hiding place from where they carry out their criminal activities;

*Cognizant* that the Secretariat, when completed, will provide staff with a good working environment that will motivate them to put in their best, bring government closer to the people and provide employment and economic development to the State;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Government to make provisions in the 2021 budget estimates for the completion of the Federal Secretariat in Lafia, Nasarawa State;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance (*Hon. Abubakar Sarki Dahiru — Lafai/Obi Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 99/03/2020).**

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

**13. Need to Investigate the Influx of Fake, Sub-Standard and Counterfeit Products in Nigeria**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Standards Organisation of Nigeria is vested with the powers to confiscate sub-standard or counterfeit products and also has supervisory and prosecutorial powers against importers, manufacturers and producers of counterfeit products;

*Also notes* that the Standards Organisation of Nigeria is yet to live up to its mandate to ensure the standards and quality of products imported into Nigerian or manufactured locally creating value for money for the products;

*Worried* that the domestic market is awash with all kinds and categories of fake products including electrical electronic, household appliances and equipment, building materials, automobile parts, and the government of Nigeria appears overwhelmed by the enormity of the menace;

*Also worried* that sub-standard products manufactured or imported into Nigeria endanger lives and create a disincentive to investments and local production, thereby negating the whole essence of protecting Nigerian industries and have negatively affected the economy as foreign investors and Nigerian entrepreneurs who create jobs and contribute significantly to the economy are closing down because of their inability to compete with fake and sub-standard products being dumped in Nigeria;

*Cognizant* that the reoccurring tragedy of collapsed buildings has mostly been linked to the usage of substandard building materials imported or manufactured in Nigeria and also that most vehicular accidents have been attributed to faulty sub-standard or expired mechanical parts and tires;

*Also cognizant* that goods and other products produced or imported into Nigeria should be of standards that guarantees quality, save lives, encourages local industries and foreign investments in Nigeria and provides value for money;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committees on Commerce, Industry, and Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to invite the Hon. Minister, Federal Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Director-General /Chief Executive of Standard Organization of Nigeria, and Director-General, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission to brief the Committees on the measures taken so far to proffer lasting solution on the spread of fake and counterfeit goods in Nigeria and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Chike John Okafor — Ehime Mbano/Ihite Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Standards Organisation of Nigeria is vested with the powers to confiscate sub-standard or counterfeit products and also has supervisory and prosecutorial powers against importers, manufacturers and producers of counterfeit products;

*Also noted* that the Standards Organisation of Nigeria is yet to live up to its mandate to ensure the standards and quality of products imported into Nigerian or manufactured locally creating value for money for the products;

*Worried* that the domestic market is awash with all kinds and categories of fake products including electrical electronic, household appliances and equipment, building materials, automobile parts, and the government of Nigeria appears overwhelmed by the enormity of the menace;

*Also worried* that sub-standard products manufactured or imported into Nigeria endanger lives and create a disincentive to investments and local production, thereby negating the whole essence of protecting Nigerian industries and have negatively affected the economy as foreign investors and Nigerian entrepreneurs who create jobs and contribute significantly to the economy are closing down because of their inability to compete with fake and sub-standard products being dumped in Nigeria;

*Cognizant* that the reoccurring tragedy of collapsed buildings has mostly been linked to the usage of substandard building materials imported or manufactured in Nigeria and also that most vehicular accidents have been attributed to faulty sub-standard or expired mechanical parts and tires;

*Also cognizant* that goods and other products produced or imported into Nigeria should be of standards that guarantees quality, save lives, encourages local industries and foreign investments in Nigeria and provides value for money;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committees on Commerce, Industry, and Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to invite the Hon. Minister, Federal Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Director-General /Chief Executive of Standard Organization of Nigeria, and Director-General, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission to brief the Committees on the measures taken so far to proffer lasting solution on the spread of fake and counterfeit goods in Nigeria and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 100/03/2020).

**14. Need to Address the Lapses of Security Operatives at the Nation's Airports**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that one of the regulations of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) provides that liquids above 100ml are prohibited beyond the check points;

*Also notes* that despite this clear regulation, passengers are still allowed to carry drinks, water etc. into planes, even after having supposedly been checked by the security operatives;

*Cognizant* that the rules and regulations were put in place to secure the lives of airline passengers and their breaches pointedly indicate lapses in the work ethics of the airports security operatives;

*Aware* that some security officers at the airports are overwhelmed by the overbearing attitudes of some elites or public office holders, who by reason of their status and/or positions refuse to comply with basic rules and regulations;

*Regrets* that those unruly behaviours by certain individuals are accommodated by some security personnel who in a bid to obtain favour(s) forget that no one is above the laws, and in the process risk endangering the lives of passengers;

*Concerned* that those lapses in security are the probable causes of security incidences which have now become major concerns in the airports across the nation.

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Aviation Security (AVSEC) to improve the training and orientation of its security personnel;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) to ensure that equipment necessary for effective and efficient screening of passengers are provided and in proper working conditions;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Aviation to ensure compliance (Hon. Alabi Akinola Adekunle - Egbeda/Ona-Ara Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*



*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that one of the regulations of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) provides that liquids above 100ml are prohibited beyond the check points;

*Also noted* that despite this clear regulation, passengers are still allowed to carry drinks, water etc. into planes, even after having supposedly been checked by the security operatives;

*Cognizant* that the rules and regulations were put in place to secure the lives of airline passengers and their breaches pointedly indicate lapses in the work ethics of the airports security operatives;

*Aware* that some security officers at the airports are overwhelmed by the overbearing attitudes of some elites or public office holders, who by reason of their status and/or positions refuse to comply with basic rules and regulations;

*Regretted* that those unruly behaviours by certain individuals are accommodated by some security personnel who in a bid to obtain favour(s) forget that no one is above the laws, and in the process risk endangering the lives of passengers;

*Concerned* that those lapses in security are the probable causes of security incidences which have now become major concerns in the airports across the nation.

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Aviation Security (AVSEC) to improve the training and orientation of its security personnel;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) to ensure that equipment necessary for effective and efficient screening of passengers are provided and are in proper working conditions;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Aviation to ensure compliance (**HR. 101/03/2020**).

15. **Need to Provide and Protect the Interests of Blind Students (Special Students) in the Higher Institutions of Learning**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the educational system is largely structured in favour of the able bodied men and women in tertiary institutions even though the society has special students, especially those who have deformity of sight;

*Also notes* that the dearth of learning facilities for special students compounds the plight of visually impaired persons in schools across Nigeria;

*Observes* that it is a mirage for special students be expected to read their numerous textbooks in schools and at home without let or hindrance and they do not have specially structured learning facilities in tertiary institutions;

*Disturbed* by the inability of special students to progress beyond secondary education which deprived them the chances to realize their full potentials, as books in the library and those recommended by lecturers are only available in print form and it is difficult to get them translated into Braille;

*Worried* that the Federal and States Governments have turned a blind eye to the need of special students by not providing adequate facilities in schools such as braille, hand frame and stylus, Slate, Perkins Braille, Smart Braille, Braille embosser/Braille printer and Braille note taken to aid their learning;

*Also worried* by the challenges of special students that are exceptionally brilliant and students who determine to become medical and legal practitioners but cannot be owing to the necessities associated with the study which has been harrowing and depressing for the special students;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Education, the National Universities Commission and Tertiary Educational Institutions to come up with programs aimed at affording special students opportunities to attain their full potentials;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Basic Education and Services, and Tertiary Education and Services to liaise with the Ministry of Education towards having a forum in anticipation of harmonized program for special students to enable them attain higher education (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba — Mbaitolu/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the educational system is largely structured in favour of the able bodied men and women in tertiary institutions even though the society has special students, especially those who have deformity of sight;

*Also noted* that the dearth of learning facilities for special students compounds the plight of visually impaired persons in schools across Nigeria;

*Observed* that it is a mirage for special students be expected to read their numerous textbooks in schools and at home without let or hindrance and they do not have specially structured learning facilities in tertiary institutions;

*Disturbed* by the inability of special students to progress beyond secondary education which deprived them the chances to realize their full potentials, as books in the library and those recommended by lecturers are only available in print form and it is difficult to get them translated into Braille;

*Worried* that the Federal and States Governments have turned a blind eye to the need of special students by not providing adequate facilities in schools such as braille, hand frame and stylus, Slate, Perkins Braille, Smart Braille, Braille embosser/Braille printer and Braille note taken to aid their learning;

*Also worried* by the challenges of special students that are exceptionally brilliant and students who determine to become medical and legal practitioners but cannot be owing to the necessities associated with the study which has been harrowing and depressing for the special students;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Education, the National Universities Commission and Tertiary Educational Institutions to come up with programs aimed at affording special students opportunities to attain their full potentials;

- (ii) mandate the Committees on Basic Education and Services, and Tertiary Education and Services to liaise with the Ministry of Education towards having a forum in anticipation of harmonized program for special students to enable them attain higher education (HR. 102/03/2020).

16. **Need to Intervene in the Disconnection of Electric Power Supply to Ife South Local Government Area, Osun State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that successive Governments had made concerted efforts to reform the power sector with the aim of improving supply of electricity for Nigerians which have cost billions of Naira but despite such expenditure, majority of Nigerians still grapple with blackout almost on a daily basis;

*Also notes* that Ife South Local Government Area with its headquarters in Ifetedo town comprises fifteen (15) ancient towns, including Olode, Ayesan, Oke and Owena, among others and over fifty (50) villages, like Daranjo, Dagbolu, Olorombo, Aba Oba and several others;

*Aware* that the Local Government Area is situated at the boundary with Ondo State, in the southern part of Ile-Ife with high population density and the inhabitants are majorly, civil servants, saw millers, artisans and farmers;

*Also aware* that the disconnection of electric power supply to Ife South Local Government Area was done when the control of electricity distribution changed from National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), to the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) and presently, Distribution Companies (DisCos);

*Concerned* that the people of Ife South Local Government Area have been grappling with lack of electricity supply for the past ten (10) years following their disconnection by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) due to the outrageous charges of over fifty (50) million naira which the company claimed the entire Local Government Area owes it;

*Worried* that the continued blackout in the communities for that length of time has brought untold hardship on the inhabitants as it has paralyzed all forms of business activities, many public and private organizations which cannot afford running generators all through those years have been forced out of business and the lengthy power outage has also damaged most of those transformers in the communities thus requiring that new transformers would be installed before electricity could be restored;

*Also worried* that the prevailing situation has adversely affected the social well-being of the people, created serious security challenges leading to increase in crime rate;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Rural Electrification Agency to disconnect Ife-South from Ondo State Power Station and connect them to Osun State Power Station, located in Ile-Ife, Osun State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Power to carry out comprehensive inspection and evaluation of the communities to ascertain the level of damages on the transformers with a view to rehabilitating them;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Power to interface with the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) and the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) on the disconnection

of electricity in Ife South Local Government Area for the past ten (10) years and also investigate the outrageous bill of over fifty million Naira (₦50 million) allegedly owed to the company and report back in 4 weeks (*Hon. Ajilesoro Taofek Abimbola — Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that successive Governments had made concerted efforts to reform the power sector with the aim of improving supply of electricity for Nigerians which have cost billions of Naira but despite such expenditure, majority of Nigerians still grapple with blackout almost on a daily basis;

*Also noted* that Ife South Local Government Area with its headquarters in Ifetedo town comprises fifteen (15) ancient towns, including Olode, Ayesan, Oke and Owena, among others and over fifty (50) villages, like Daranjo, Dagbolu, Olorombo, Aba Oba and several others;

*Aware* that the Local Government Area is situated at the boundary with Ondo State, in the southern part of Ile-Ife with high population density and the inhabitants are majorly, civil servants, saw millers, artisans and farmers;

*Also aware* that the disconnection of electric power supply to Ife South Local Government Area was done when the control of electricity distribution changed from National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), to the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) and presently, Distribution Companies (DisCos);

*Concerned* that the people of Ife South Local Government Area have been grappling with lack of electricity supply for the past ten (10) years following their disconnection by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) due to the outrageous charges of over fifty million Naira (₦50 million) which the company claimed the entire Local Government Area owes it;

*Worried* that the continued blackout in the communities for that length of time has brought untold hardship on the inhabitants as it has paralyzed all forms of business activities, many public and private organizations which cannot afford running generators all through those years have been forced out of business and the lengthy power outage has also damaged most of those transformers in the communities thus requiring that new transformers would be installed before electricity could be restored;

*Also worried* that the prevailing situation has adversely affected the social well-being of the people, created serious security challenges leading to increase in crime rate;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Rural Electrification Agency to disconnect Ife-South from Ondo State Power Station and connect them to Osun State Power Station, located in Ile-Ife, Osun State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Power to carry out comprehensive inspection and evaluation of the communities to ascertain the level of damages on the transformers with a view to rehabilitating them;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Power to interface with the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) and the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) on the disconnection of electricity in Ife South Local Government Area for the past ten (10) years and also investigate the outrageous bill of over fifty million Naira (₦50 million) allegedly owed to the company and report back in 4 weeks (**HR, 103/03/2020**).

17. **Need to Investigate the Contentious Delay in Contracting Export Processing Zone (EPZ), Ogidigben**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

18. **Consideration of Report**

***Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management:***

That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management on the 2016-2018 Federal Government External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan.

*Order deferred by leave of the House.*

19. **Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 12 March, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba -- House Leader).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 1.24 p.m.*

**Femi Hakeem Gbajabamila**  
*Speaker*