



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 7 July, 2020

1. The House met at 11.28 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 Thursday, 2 July, 2020.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**
 - (i) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker announced the presence of the Councillors of the Ovia South West Local Government Council of Edo State.
 - (ii) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Chinedu Ogah (*Ezza South/Ikwo Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of a former Member, Hon. Nweke Isaac Anyigor (*Ezza South/Ikwo Federal Constituency, 1979 - 1983*), which occurred on Tuesday, 23 June, 2020.
 - (iii) **Ad-hoc Committee on Assessment and Status of All Recovered Loots, Movable and Immovable Assets from 2002 - 2020 by Agencies of Federal Government of Nigeria for Effective/Efficient Management and Utilization (HR. 06/07/2020):**
Mr Speaker announced the name of Hon. Abdullahi Ken-Ken Lawal as Deputy Chairman of the Committee.
5. **Petition**
A petition from Abdullahi Dahiru Samson & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Bashir Abdullahi Albashu, on alleged breach of tenancy agreement and refusal to pay outstanding rent by the International Institute of Journalism (IJ), was presented and laid by Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu (*Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*);

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) ***Need to Investigate the Illegal Withdrawals from the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Dividends Account by the Management of Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC):***

Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu (*Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South 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 Investigate the Illegal Withdrawals from the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Dividends Account by the Management of Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC):

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) was incorporated as a limited liability company in 1989 with the aim of producing liquefied natural gas for export purposes which started operation in 1999;

Also notes that the NLNG is jointly owned by the Government of Nigeria through the NNPC with a shareholding of 49%, Shell Gas B.V 25.6%, Total LNG Nigeria Ltd 15% and ENI International 10.4%;

Aware that the dividends from the NLNG are supposed to be paid into the Consolidated Revenue funds account of the Federal Government and to be shared amongst the three tiers of government;

Worried that the NNPC, which represents the Government of Nigeria on the board of the NLNG had, without the required consultations with stakeholders and the mandatory appropriation from the National Assembly illegally tampered with the funds at the NLNG dividends account to the tune of 1.05 billion dollars, thereby violating the nations Appropriation Act;

Disturbed that there was no transparency in this extra budgetary spending as only the Group Managing Director and the Corporation's Chief Financial Officer had knowledge of how the 1.05 billion dollars was spent;

Concerned that there are no records showing the audit and recovery of accrued funds from the NLNG by the Office of the Auditor General for the Federation, hence the need for a thorough investigation of the activities on the NLNG dividends account;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Accounts to investigate the allegations and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) was incorporated as a limited liability company in 1989 with the aim of producing liquefied natural gas for export purposes which started operation in 1999;

Also noted that the NLNG is jointly owned by the Government of Nigeria through the NNPC with a shareholding of 49%, Shell Gas B.V 25.6%, Total LNG Nigeria Ltd 15% and ENI International 10.4%;

Aware that the dividends from the NLNG are supposed to be paid into the Consolidated Revenue funds account of the Federal Government and to be shared amongst the three tiers of government;

Worried that the NNPC, which represents the Government of Nigeria on the board of the NLNG had, without the required consultations with stakeholders and the mandatory appropriation from the National Assembly illegally tampered with the funds at the NLNG dividends account to the tune of 1.05 billion dollars, thereby violating the nations Appropriation Act;

Disturbed that there was no transparency in this extra budgetary spending as only the Group Managing Director and the Corporation's Chief Financial Officer had knowledge of how the 1.05 billion dollars was spent;

Concerned that there are no records showing the audit and recovery of accrued funds from the NLNG by the Office of the Auditor General for the Federation, hence the need for a thorough investigation of the activities on the NLNG dividends account;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Accounts to investigate the allegations and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 11/07/2020).

(ii) *Need to Investigate the Arbitrary Breach of Presidential Directives on the Suspension of Top Management and Executive Committee Members of Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) and Other Government Agencies by Ministers:*

Hon. Leke Abejide Joseph (Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro 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 Investigate the Arbitrary Breach of Presidential Directives on the Suspension of Top Management and Executive Committee Members of Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) and Other Government Agencies by Ministers:

The House:

Notes that the Minister of Labour and Employment, by a letter dated 1 July, 2020, purportedly conveyed the directive of the President to suspend from office, the entire management of the Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) for "*prima facie* infractions on the Financial Regulation and Procurement Act";

Also notes that the said members of the Management Committee of the NSITF were variously appointed into the positions at the pleasure of the President who has approved a laid down procedure for removal of members of board of Government Parastatals;

Further notes that Circular (Ref No: SGF/OP/I.S.3/T/163) of 19 May, 2020 issued by the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, provides a mandatory procedural guide and that all Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and all other public officers in similar supervisory positions are enjoined to strictly abide by its content. The circular also provides among others, that "for emphasis, on no account shall a Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria unilaterally or arbitrarily remove a serving Chief Executive Officer without recourse to the procedure contained in the circular";

Aware that some other relevant portions of the said circular include:

- (a) requiring the supervisory Minister, through the Permanent Secretary, to refer the matter to the Governing Board for necessary action,
- (b) that in the absence of the Board, the Minister shall, with the support of the Permanent Secretary, function in that capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Administrative Guidelines, and
- (c) that the Secretary to the Government of the Federation shall implement and/or convey the approval and directives of the President on every disciplinary case against the Chief Executive officers in the Public Service;

Also aware that a Governing Board was constituted for the Fund by the President to oversee the affairs of the Fund and to take appropriate disciplinary actions among others, where necessary;

Further aware that though the Minister wrote to the Chairman of the Board, at no point did the Board meet to decide, resolve or take a decision to dissolve the Management Committee;

Concerned that a Ministry saddled with the responsibility of mediating in labour matters could flagrantly disobey laid down procedures of government in its unilateral dissolution of the Management Committee of an employee compensatory Fund, thereby jeopardizing the purpose of establishment of the Fund;

Cognizant that no Minister is procedurally empowered to remove the Chief Executive of any Agency under any guise, including suspension, but the Minister, Senator (Dr) Chris Nwabueze Ngige, in this case, constituted himself, into the sole authority, thereby by-passing all the stated procedures as approved by the President to convey the suspension of those officers;

Worried that the incessant and flagrant disobedience of presidential directives as witnessed recently with the actions of the Ministers of Labour and Employment, and Power left room for potential breaches of laid down rules and against laid down procedure, thereby making the government look unserious before the general public;

Observes and in confirmation of the unilateral decision of the Minister of Labour and Employment, that the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association (NECA), an institutional stakeholder in the NSITF representing 90% of the contributors to the Fund and a member

of the Board of the Fund by its letter of 3 July, 2020 to the Minister and the advertorials in some newspapers of 6 July, 2020, lent its voice to the arbitrariness of the action of the Minister, confirming the fact that though the Board was:

- (a) duly constituted and inaugurated by the Minister in line with the Act governing the Fund,
- (b) the Board was not informed of the allegations of infractions levelled against the Management,
- (c) the suspension is in complete disregard of the "well publicized disciplinary procedures approved by the President and released by the SGF;

Also cognizant that in the event where the Management is to be disciplined, and it ought to have been done by a resolution of the Board of the Fund and channelled through the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committed to investigate:

- (i) the procedural breaches of the Presidential directives by both the Ministers of Labour and Employment, and Power,
- (ii) the alleged breach in procurement procedures and financial malpractices and malfeasance by those agencies and report back within one (1) week (*Hon. Leke Joseph Abejide — Yagba East/West/ Mopamuro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Minister of Labour and Employment, by a letter dated 1 July, 2020, purportedly conveyed the directive of the President to suspend from office, the entire management of the Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) for "*prima facie* infractions on the Financial Regulation and Procurement Act";

Also noted that the said members of the Management Committee of the NSITF were variously appointed into the positions at the pleasure of the President who has approved a laid down procedure for removal of members of board of Government Parastatals;

Further noted that Circular (Ref No: SGF/OP/I.S.3/T/163) of 19 May, 2020 issued by the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, provides a mandatory procedural guide and that all Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and all other public officers in similar supervisory positions are enjoined to strictly abide by its content. The circular also provides among others, that "for emphasis, on no account shall a Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria unilaterally or arbitrarily remove a serving Chief Executive Officer without recourse to the procedure contained in the circular";

Aware that some other relevant portions of the said circular include:

- (a) requiring the supervisory Minister, through the Permanent Secretary, to refer the matter to the Governing Board for necessary action,

- (b) that in the absence of the Board, the Minister shall, with the support of the Permanent Secretary, function in that capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Administrative Guidelines, and
- (c) that the Secretary to the Government of the Federation shall implement and/or convey the approval and directives of the President on every disciplinary case against the Chief Executive officers in the Public Service:

Also aware that a Governing Board was constituted for the Fund by the President to oversee the affairs of the Fund and to take appropriate disciplinary actions among others, where necessary;

Further aware that though the Minister wrote to the Chairman of the Board, at no point did the Board meet to decide, resolve or take a decision to dissolve the Management Committee;

Concerned that a Ministry saddled with the responsibility of mediating in labour matters could flagrantly disobey laid down procedures of government in its unilateral dissolution of the Management Committee of an employee compensatory Fund, thereby jeopardizing the purpose of establishment of the Fund;

Cognizant that no Minister is procedurally empowered to remove the Chief Executive of any Agency under any guise, including suspension, but the Minister, Senator (Dr) Chris Nwabueze Ngige, in this case, constituted himself, into the sole authority, thereby by-passing all the stated procedures as approved by the President to convey the suspension of those officers;

Worried that the incessant and flagrant disobedience of presidential directives as witnessed recently with the actions of the Ministers of Labour and Employment, and Power left room for potential breaches of laid down rules and against laid down procedure, thereby making the government look unserious before the general public;

Observed and in confirmation of the unilateral decision of the Minister of Labour and Employment, that the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association (NECA), an institutional stakeholder in the NSITF representing 90% of the contributors to the Fund and a member of the Board of the Fund by its letter of 3 July, 2020 to the Minister and the advertorials in some newspapers of 6 July, 2020, lent its voice to the arbitrariness of the action of the Minister, confirming the fact that though the Board was:

- (a) duly constituted and inaugurated by the Minister in line with the Act governing the Fund,
- (b) the Board was not informed of the allegations of infractions levelled against the Management,
- (c) the suspension is in complete disregard of the "well publicized disciplinary procedures approved by the President and released by the SGF:

Also cognizant that in the event where the Management is to be disciplined, and it ought to have been done by a resolution of the Board of the Fund and channelled through the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate:

- (i) the procedural breaches of the Presidential directives by both the Ministers of Labour and Employment, and Power,
- (ii) the alleged breach in procurement procedures and financial malpractices and malfeasance by those agencies and report back within one (1) week (HR. 12/07/2020).

Ad-hoc Committee on Breach of Presidential Directives on the Suspension of Top Management and Executive Committee Members of Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) and Other Government Agencies by the Ministers (HR. 12/07/2020):

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

(1)	Hon. Princess Miriam Onuoha	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Muktar Ahmed	—	Member
(3)	Hon. James Abiodun Faleke	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ashiru Mani Aminu	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Ado Sani Kiri	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Ifeanyi Chudy Momah	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Fakeye Julius Olufemi	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Ali Wudil Muhammad	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Chinedu Onwuaso Samuel	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Ahmed Tijjani	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Abubakar Makki Yalleman	—	Member
(12)	Hon. Usman Zanna	—	Member
(13)	Hon. Dennis Amadi	—	Member
(14)	Hon. Sada Soli	—	Member
(15)	Hon. Leke Abejide Joseph	—	Member
(16)	Hon. Bamidele Salami	—	Member

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (Hon. Idem Unyime Josiah — Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(iii) ***Call on the Federal Government to Immediately Set Up Special Courts for Sex Offenders and Gender Violations to Enhance Speedy Trial of the Perpetrators of the Offence:***

Hon. Idem Unyime Josiah (Ukanafun/Oruk Anam 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.

Call on the Federal Government to Immediately Set Up Special Courts for Sex Offenders and Gender Violations to Enhance Speedy Trial of the Perpetrators of the Offence:

The House:

Recalls that in the last couple of months, the country, and indeed the world, has been ravaged by the deadly coronavirus and in the midst of waging the war, it started being confronted with another pandemic of rape and gender violence noting that rape is a gross violation of human rights to dignitary, life and sexuality;

Notes that the Nigeria Police Force has announced over 717 cases of rape between January 2020 and May 2020, which is an average of 143 cases per month and around five cases per day, not counting the unreported cases;

Also notes that public outrage on account of rape and other violent crimes against women and girls leading to the death of some of the victims had reached an unprecedented proportion in recent times and if not addressed, the society could be heading for doom, hence the need for stiffer legislation that would help reduce incidents of rape. The stigmatization of victims by the society should stop but rather encouraged to speak up when they fall victims of the dastardly act;

Cognizant of the need for setting up special courts to ensure accelerated hearings, as the delay in the trial of perpetrators has serious psychological impact on the victims and mostly the minors;

Further notes the unalloyed support for capital punishment for rapists whose victims, mostly include babies, younger women and older women who are often used for ritual purposes, leading to long-lasting psychological and physical trauma;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn, in strong terms, the act of rape and all other gender-based violence over the past months in the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to immediately set up Special Courts for the offence of Rape, Sexual and Gender Based Violence;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government, through relevant regulatory agencies, to set up accelerated Court hearing mechanism and prosecution for Rape, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) cases in courts;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Women Affairs and Social Development, Judiciary, and Human Rights to liaise with relevant government regulatory agencies to ensure compliance and report back within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Idem Unyime Josiah Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that in the last couple of months, the country, and indeed the world, has been ravaged by the deadly coronavirus and in the midst of waging the war, it started being confronted with another pandemic of rape and gender violence noting that rape is a gross violation of human rights to dignitary, life and sexuality;

Noted that the Nigeria Police Force has announced over 717 cases of rape between January 2020 and May 2020, which is an average of 143 cases per month and around five cases per day, not counting the unreported cases;

Also noted that public outrage on account of rape and other violent crimes against women and girls leading to the death of some of the victims had reached an unprecedented proportion in recent times and if not addressed, the society could be heading for doom, hence the need for stiffer legislation that would help reduce incidents of rape. The stigmatization of victims by the society should stop but rather encouraged to speak up when they fall victims of the dastardly act;

Cognizant of the need for setting up special courts to ensure accelerated hearings, as the delay in the trial of perpetrators has serious psychological impact on the victims and mostly the minors;

Further noted the unalloyed support for capital punishment for rapists whose victims, mostly include babies, younger women and older women who are often used for ritual purposes, leading to long-lasting psychological and physical trauma;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn, in strong terms, the act of rape and all other gender-based violence over the past months in the country;
 - (ii) urge the Federal Government to immediately set up Special Courts for the offence of Rape, Sexual and Gender Based Violence;
 - (iii) also urge the Federal Government, through relevant regulatory agencies, to set up accelerated Court hearing mechanism and prosecution for Rape, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) cases in courts;
 - (iv) mandate the Committees on Women Affairs and Social Development, Judiciary, and Human Rights to liaise with relevant government regulatory agencies to ensure compliance and report back within two (2) weeks (**HR. 13/07/2020**).
- (iv) ***Call on the Niger Delta Development Commission to Reconstruct the Broken Bridge Linking Ikot Ekpene and Obot Akara Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State:***
Hon. Ekong Nsikak Okon (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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.

Call on the Niger Delta Development Commission to Reconstruct the Broken Bridge Linking Ikot Ekpene and Obot Akara Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State:

The House:

Notes that the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) was established by Act. No. 6 of 2000 as an interventionist agency with the mandate to, among other things, undertake economic, environmental and infrastructural development towards improvement in the quality of life, economic transformation and prosperity in the Niger Delta Region;

Also notes that Section 7 (1) (b) of the NDDC Establishment Act, 2000 mandates the Commission to conceive, plan and implement projects and programmes in accordance with set rules and regulations;

Further notes that the major road linking Ikot Ekpene-Mbiaso-Ikot Ukpong-Obot Akara is a single carriage way which has a metal fabricated barley bridge that was constructed long before the Nigerian civil war;

Aware that the road connects over one hundred communities and is invaluable for the transfer of goods and services between the neighboring villages and local Government Areas;

Informed that early this year, a Dangote truck fully loaded with cement while trying to cross the bridge from the Ikot Ekpene axis to Obot Akara caused the bridge to collapse;

Also aware that the only alternative route which is the Ikot Ekpene-Obot Akara-Umuahia road is in a very deplorable state, especially with the current rainy season;

Further aware that the road has a great economic importance for both LGAs as it is the only route that farmers use in conveying farm produce to the various markets;

Worried that the collapse of the bridge has completely cut up several villages from participating in daily economic activities, thereby subjecting the people to undue hardship;

Also worried that students will not be able to access their schools when school resumes if urgent measure is not taken to address the situation;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to immediately commence the reconstruction of the road/collapsed bridge;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on NDDC, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Nsikak Okon Ekong — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 14/07/2020).

Motion referred to the Committees on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Federal Co-operative Colleges (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 913).

- (2) Family Support Trust Fund Act (Repeal) Bill, 2020 (HB. 914).
- (3) Nigerian Institute of Animal Science Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 915).
- (4) Orthopaedic Hospitals Management Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 916).
- (5) Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Establishment, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.863).
- (6) National Social Security Investment Bill, 2020 (HB. 917).
- (7) Chartered Institute of Information and Strategy Management (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB. 918).
- (8) Medical Negligence (Litigation) Bill, 2020 (HB. 919).
- (9) Limitation Periods (Freezing) Bill, 2020 (HB. 920).
- (10) National Water Resources Bill, 2020 (HB. 921).
- (11) Obafemi Awolowo University (Transitional Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.922).
- (12) University of Ibadan Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.923).
- (13) Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.924).
- (14) Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.925).
- (15) University of Maiduguri Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.926).
- (16) National Cocoa Board (Establishment and Administration) Bill, 2020 (HB.927).
- (17) Federal Institute for Coal Mining Research (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.928).
- (18) Federal Polytechnic Rano, Kano State (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.929).
- (19) National Agricultural Land Development Authority Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.930).
- (20) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Act (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB.931).
- (21) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Act (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB.932).
- (22) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Act (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB.933).
- (23) National Library Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.934).
- (24) Nigerian National Heroes Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.935).
- (25) Price Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.936).
- (26) Independent Electoral Institute (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB.937).
- (27) Kidney Transplant Bill, 2020 (HB.938).
- (28) School Year (Variation) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB.939).

- (29) Federal Medical Centre, Kafanchan (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 940).
- (30) Evidence Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 941).
- (31) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Act (Alteration) (State Police) Bill, 2020 (HB. 942).
- (32) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Act (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (HB.943).

8. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Finance:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Finance on the 2020 Budget of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS)" (Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — *Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) *Committees on Foreign Affairs, Inter-Parliamentary Relations, Human Rights and Diaspora (Joint Referral):*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Inter-Parliamentary Relations, Human Rights and Diaspora on the Investigation into Alleged Maltreatment and Institutional Racial Discrimination Against Nigerians Living in China by the Government of China" (Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub — *Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

Report on the Petition by Tolu Bableye & Co. on behalf of Mr Andrew Ayerim:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Tolu Babaleye & Co. on behalf of Mr. Andrew Ayerim against the Police Service Commission on a Passionate Appeal for Intervention for the payment of all the Monies and Emoluments, including Pension and Gratuity, due to Mr. Andrew Ayerim, a former Acting Superintendent of Police for Wrongful Dismissal from and later Re-instatement back to the Service" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — *Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

Report on the Petition by Pastor Yohanna U. Harry:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Pastor Yohanna U. Harry against the Independent National Electoral Commission on an Appeal to Conduct Future Elections in Nigeria on Days other than Saturdays, the Biblical Seventh Day Sabbath" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — *Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (v) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Haliru Magaji on behalf of Maganda Ta Isakiya Development Association:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Haliru Magaji on behalf of Maganda Ta Isakiya Development Association, Yanranda Bomo Village Zaria, Kaduna State against the Nigerian Army, an Appeal for Justice over the Seizure of their Farmland for the Construction of Basawa Barrack in 1977" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Falana's Chambers on Behalf of the Dismissed Staff of the Police Service Commission:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Falana's Chambers on Behalf of the Dismissed Staff of Police Service Commission for the Failure to Comply with the Judgement of the National Industrial Court in Suit No. NICN/ABJ/199/2017 Between Disukayode Rasheed and Nine (9) Others for their Reinstatement back to the Service of the Police Service Commission" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (vii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Okoro Finian and Others:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Okoro Finian and Others Against the Nigeria Maritime University, Okorenkoko, Delta State on the sacking of some of the University's Pioneer Academic Staff without any justification" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. Consolidation of Bills

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 to Prescribe the Offence and Punishment for Contempt of Legislative Houses, to Provide Punishment on the Police or any other Law Enforcement Agent that refuses to Arrest any Person as directed by a Legislative House, to provide exception to the kind of person to be compelled by a Legislative House, such as President, the Executive Governors and their Deputies, Diplomats and their agents, Representatives of International Organizations such as the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, ECOWAS; and for Related Matters (HBs. 510, 250); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 to Reserve the Legislative Powers of a Legislative House and Guarantee the Principle of Separation of Powers; and for Related Matter (HB. 887) be now consolidated" (Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency).

Mr Speaker noted that the two Bills were not on the same subject matter.

Ordered: That the Bills be rescheduled separately for their reading.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Medical Centre, Wase; and for Related Matters (HB. 885) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Medical Centre, Wase; and for Related Matters (HB. 885) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase 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.
11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Orthopedic Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. O10 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria; 2004 to provide for Establishment of Orthopedic Hospital, Jos, Plateau State; and for Related Matters (HB. 886) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Orthopedic Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. O10. Laws of the Federation of Nigeria; 2004 to provide for Establishment of Orthopedic Hospital, Jos, Plateau State; and for Related Matters (HB. 886) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase 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.
12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Technical), Yauri, Kebbi State to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching, Instructions and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management to carry out Research in the Development and Adaptation of Techniques; and for Related Matters (HB.629) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Education (Technical), Yauri, Kebbi State to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching, Instructions and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management to carry out Research in the Development and Adaptation of Techniques; and for Related Matters (HB.629) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Tanko Sununu Yusuf — Ngaski/Shanga/Yauri 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.
13. **A Bill for an Act to Preserve the Courts Sanctity and Authority of Court as a Sacred Institution in Order to effectively discharge its functions and excise the Judicial Power conferred on it under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and Related Matters (HB.675) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Preserve the Courts Sanctity and Authority of Court as a Sacred Institution in Order to effectively discharge its functions and excise

the Judicial Power conferred on it under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and Related Matters (HB.675) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Onofiok Luke — Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubuim 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 Judiciary.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Sheriffs and Civil Process Act, Cap. S8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to delete Section 84 in Order to expedite Enforcement of Judgement in Garnishee Proceedings and allow Litigants get benefits of their Judgement without delay; and for Related Matters (HB.676) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Sheriffs and Civil Process Act, Cap. S8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to delete Section 84 in Order to expedite Enforcement of Judgement in Garnishee Proceedings and allow Litigants get benefits of their Judgement without delay; and for Related Matters (HB.676) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Onofiok Luke — Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubuim 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 Judiciary.

15. **Order of the Day**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do set down items 7 - 13, and 15 - 18 on the Order Paper to another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)" (*Hon. Abubakar Fulata Hassan — Birniwa/Guri/Kirikasamma Federal Constituency*) — **Agreed to.**

16. **Consideration of Report**

Committee on Finance:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Finance on the 2020 budget of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY)

(*Mr Speaker in the Chair*)

Recommendation (i):

"That a total expenditure of ₦168,809,476,220 (One Hundred and Sixty-Eight Billion, Eight Hundred and Nine Million, Four Hundred and Seventy-Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Twenty Naira) be approved to defray the proposed Personnel, Overhead and Capital expenditure cost of the Service during the fiscal year 2020" (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That the digitalization of all processes in the administration of tax in FIRS should be undertaken so as to catch up with rapidly increasing economic activities most often carried out on-line without physical presence" (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That FIRS (Establishment) Act and other tax laws be amended to make it possible for FIRS to modernize its operations with relevant technology" (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"Accepts the need for the Service to have an Intervention Fund and recommends an approval of One-Off Special Purpose Fund to the tune of One Hundred Billion Naira (₦100,000,000,000) only. This fund will expressly assist the FIRS fund its immediate but pressing needs such as completion of the FIRS Head Office building complex within twelve months, six (6) Training Schools, 30 Prototype Tax Operations Offices, Purpose-built facilities for efficient taxation of the Upstream Petroleum Industry and ICT infrastructure to identify and track digital transactions" (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Supply considered the Report of the Committee on Finance on the 2020 budget of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and approved Recommendations (i) - (iv) of the Report.

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

17. Adjournment of First Sitting

That the House do adjourn the First Sitting till 1.40 p.m. (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.25 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker