



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 29 September, 2021

1. The House met at 11.41 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 Tuesday, 28 September, 2021.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
4. **Announcement**
Bereavement:
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Mansur Manu Soro (*Darazo/Ganjuwa Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of his brother, Ibrahim Manu Soro on Friday, 24 September, 2021.
A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.
Hon. Dan Agundi Munir Babba prayed for the repose of the soul of the deceased.
5. **Petitions**
The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Haruna Dederi Isa (*Karaye/Rogo Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Ibrahim K. Bawa SAN & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Abubakar Mamman Abaka, on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Correctional Service;
 - (b) Udo Uduma & Associates (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Elder James Okwara, CEO Velvet Trading Limited, on the non-payment of his October 2001st dividend in the sum of ₦181,929,237.51 by the National Deposit Insurance Company (NDIC); and
 - (c) A. A. Fingilla & Associates (Solicitors and Advocates), on behalf of Faruk Sani, on alleged withholding of his Ph.D Thesis and Certificate by the University of Putra, Malaysia.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

Skyrocketing Prices of Commodities, Goods and Services Across the Nation:

Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka (*Ife/Ewekoro 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.

Skyrocketing Prices of Commodities, Goods and Services Across the Nation:

The House:

Notes that the Prices of food items, Commodities, Goods and Services have Skyrocketed by as much as 100 per cent in many parts of Nigeria in the last one year attributed largely to monetary policy, border closures, COVID-19 containment measures, and insecurity, causing Nigeria's inflation rate to rise in geometric progression in August 2021;

Also notes that the Prices Index in the past months increased astronomically owing to controllable and uncontrollable factors with inflation at a 48-month high, posing the challenge for increased spending on housing, shelter, medicals clothes baby food and even cooking gas, as a result of shortfall in nation's local production, and demand for local products, with attendance of the population increase climate change, and hunger;

Cognizant of the World Bank's Report that Nigeria's economy contracted by - 1.8 per cent in 2020, lower than the - 3.2 per cent loss predicted at the beginning of the pandemic the lowest decline Nigeria's economy has experienced since 1983 thereby giving credence to the quote by - **Virginia Woolf**, "**One cannot think well, love well sleep well if one has not dined well**";

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to curb the rising cost of commodities in the market, the country will be faced with multiple economic problems:

Resolves to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to liaise with critical stakeholders such as captain of Industries, Trade Union Associations, Board of Directors, Manufacturers Associations of Nigeria (MAN) and promoters in the economic Sector to investigate the rising cost of living with view to curbing the skyrocketing prices of goods and services in the country; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka - Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the Prayers, and insert a new Prayer as follows:

“Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to conduct an investigative hearing with all critical stakeholders in the country, such as captains of industries, Trade Unions, Associations, Board of Directors, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and other promoters in the economic sectors, on ways for drastic reduction in the prices of goods and services in the country that are skyrocketing and report within four (4) weeks” (*Hon. Elumelu Ndudi — Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Prices of food items, Commodities, Goods and Services have Skyrocketed by as much as 100 per cent in many parts of Nigeria in the last one year attributed largely to monetary policy, border closures, COVID-19 containment measures, and insecurity, causing Nigeria's inflation rate to rise in geometric progression in August 2021;

Also noted that the Prices Index in the past months increased astronomically owing to controllable and uncontrollable factors with inflation at a 48-month high, posing the challenge for increased spending on housing, shelter, medicals clothes baby food and even cooking gas, as a result of shortfall in nation's local production, and demand for local products, with attendance of the population increase climate change, and hunger;

Cognizant of the World Bank's Report that Nigeria's economy contracted by - 1.8 per cent in 2020, lower than the - 3.2 per cent loss predicted at the beginning of the pandemic the lowest decline Nigeria's economy has experienced since 1983 thereby giving credence to the quote by - **Virginia Woolf**, “**One cannot think well, love well sleep well if one has not dined well**”;

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to curb the rising cost of commodities in the market, the country will be faced with multiple economic problems;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to conduct an investigative hearing with all critical stakeholders in the country, such as captains of industries, Trade Unions, Associations, Board of Directors, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and other promoters in the economic sectors, on ways for drastic reduction in the prices of goods and services in the country that are skyrocketing and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 82/09/2021**).

Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Skyrocketing Prices of Commodities, Goods and Services Across the Nation:

Mr Speaker named Members of the Committee as follows:

- | | | | |
|------|--------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Peter Akpatason | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Sani Maaruf Nass | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Bamisile Olufemi Richard | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Zannah Usman | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Mansur Manu Soro | — | Member |
| (7) | Hon. John Dyegh | — | Member |
| (8) | Hon. Kolawole Lawal | — | Member |
| (9) | Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka | — | Member |
| (10) | Hon. Ogumlola Omoyumi Olubunmi | — | Member |
| (11) | Hon. Ayinla Bolaji Yusuf | — | Member |
| (12) | Hon. Balarabe Abdullahi Salame | — | Member |

(13)	Hon. Haruna Dederi Isa	—	Member
(14)	Hon. Dan'Agundi Munir Babba	—	Member
(15)	Hon. Dolapo Badru Enitan Akami	—	Member
(16)	Hon. Obi Pascal	—	Member
(17)	Hon. Ajilesoro Abimbola Taofeek	—	Member
(18)	Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie	—	Member

7. Presentation of Report

Ad-hoc Committee Investigating the Governing Lease of Federal Government Owned Assets: Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Interim Report of the Ad-hoc Committee Investigating the Governing Lease of Federal Government Owned Assets" (Hon. Daniel Asuquo — Akamkpa/Biase Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. Consolidation of Bills

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Entrepreneurship Development Bank of Nigeria and to charge it with the Responsibility, among other things to provide Medium and Long Term Finance for Indigenous Small Businesses; and for Related Matters (HB. 188); a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act, 2011 to include Federal Institutes and Colleges of Forestry as beneficiaries of the Fund; and for Related Matters (HB. 1323); and a Bill for an Act to Establish Nigerian Entrepreneurship Development Bank to Provide for Establishment of Nigerian Entrepreneurship Development, Encourage Aspiring Entrepreneurs and Small Scale Enterprises in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1386) be now consolidated (Hon. Kuye Ademorin Aliu — Shomolu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omuo, Ekiti State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1559) — Second Reading

Order deferred by leave of the House.

10. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Psychiatric Hospital, Budo-Egba, Kwara State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1593) — Second Reading

Order deferred by leave of the House.

11. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, Cap. M8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and Enact the Medical and Dental Practitioners Bill; and for Related Matters (HB. 1468) — Second Reading

Order deferred by leave of the House.

12. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Third Alteration) Act, 2011 to provide for Establishment of the Code of Conduct Tribunal as part of the Judicature under the Constitution in order to Ensure its Independence; and for Related Matters (HBs. 961 and 999) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Islamic Finance Professionals to Regulate the Activities of Members of the Profession; and for Related Matters (HB. 457) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Islamic Finance Professionals to Regulate the Activities of Members of the Profession; and for Related Matters (HB. 457) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Jimoh Abdulraheem Olajide — Lagos Mainland 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. **A Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for Establishment of National Roots and Tubers Production, Processing and Research Institute, Zing, Taraba State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1513) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for Establishment of National Roots and Tubers Production, Processing and Research Institute, Zing, Taraba State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1513) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Kasimu Bello Maigari — Jalingo/Yorro/Zing 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 Agricultural Production and Services.*
15. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Decontamination Centre Within Each of the Thirty - Six (36) States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) of Nigeria charged with Responsibility of Cleaning, Disinfecting and Sterilization of Medical Devices and Instruments prior to Re-use with a view to Preventing Transmission of Iatrogenic Infection also called Hospital Acquired Infection; and for Related Matters (HB. 581) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Decontamination Centre Within Each of the Thirty - Six (36) States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) of Nigeria charged with Responsibility of Cleaning, Disinfecting and Sterilization of Medical Devices and Instruments prior to Re-use with a view to Preventing Transmission of Iatrogenic Infection also called Hospital Acquired Infection; and for Related Matters (HB. 581) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ajilesoro Taofeek Abimbola — Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South 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 Healthcare Services.*

16. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act, Cap. N141, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review upward the penalty imposed for Malfeasance and other Offences under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 1259) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act, Cap. N141, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to review upward the penalty imposed for Malfeasance and other Offences under the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 1259) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Sergius Ose Ogun — Esan Northeast/Esan Southeast 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 Justice.

17. **Need to Investigate Alleged Extortions and Sundry Charges on Airfreighting and Agro-Export Businesses in Nigeria**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the Federal Government's interest in economic diversification and promotion of non-oil exports;

Also notes that Nigeria is a signatory to various regional, continental and global trade arrangements such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA);

Further notes the investigative report in the September 23, 2021 edition of the Guardian Newspaper which alleged that foreign cargo airlines were departing Nigeria empty due to extortion and multiple charges;

Cognizant of Nigeria's huge agro-export potential, with 22 non-oil products worth over \$150 billion in export value yearly already penciled in the new export promotion programme of the Federal Government;

Aware that export is supposed to be free in Nigeria under extant laws and regulations, except for the airline's charges and payments to ground handlers;

Worried by recent reports that 11 out of 16 sundry charges lined up against air cargo are illegal and that official bottlenecks, extortion, exorbitant and multiple charges are discouraging cargo airlines from operating in Nigeria as they prefer cargos from other African countries which offer them more favourable conditions;

Concerned about Nigeria's import-to-export airfreight ratio imbalance, which is estimated at 87:13 and also that Nigeria's agro-allied market potential worth over \$250 billion is wasting away, while local exporters are fast abandoning the multi-billion dollars' worth agro-export business;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn all charges and actions that are debilitating air cargo exports in Nigeria;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Finance, Aviation, and Agricultural Production and Services to investigate the issues adversely affecting air cargo freighting in Nigeria and report within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Awgu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

(i) *Leave out Prayer (i) (Hon. Elumelu Ndudi — Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency).*

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(i) *Leave out Prayer (ii), and insert a new Prayer as follows:
“mandate the Committees on Customs and Excise, Finance, Aviation, and Agricultural Production and Services to investigate the issues adversely affecting air cargo freighting in Nigeria and report within two (2) weeks” (Hon. Leke Abejide — Yagba Esst/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency).*

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the Federal Government's interest in economic diversification and promotion of non-oil exports;

Also noted that Nigeria is a signatory to various regional, continental and global trade arrangements such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA);

Further noted the investigative report in the September 23, 2021 edition of the Guardian Newspaper which alleged that foreign cargo airlines were departing Nigeria empty due to extortion and multiple charges;

Cognizant of Nigeria's huge agro-export potential, with 22 non-oil products worth over \$150 billion in export value yearly already penciled in the new export promotion programme of the Federal Government;

Aware that export is supposed to be free in Nigeria under extant laws and regulations, except for the airline's charges and payments to ground handlers;

Worried by recent reports that 11 out of 16 sundry charges lined up against air cargo are illegal and that official bottlenecks, extortion, exorbitant and multiple charges are discouraging cargo airlines from operating in Nigeria as they prefer cargos from other African countries which offer them more favourable conditions;

Concerned about Nigeria's import to export freight ratio imbalance, which is estimated at 1:1.5 and also that Nigeria's agro-allied market potential worth over \$250 billion is wasting away, while local exporters are fast abandoning the multi-billion dollars' worth agro-export business;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Customs and Excise, Finance, Aviation, and Agricultural Production and Services to investigate the issues adversely affecting air cargo freighting in Nigeria and report within two (2) weeks (HR. 83/09/2021)

18. Need to Enforce Compulsory Teaching of Moral Lessons and Orientation Subjects/Courses in Nigeria's Educational Curricula

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that good morals and proper orientation are indisputable basic components of child upbringing and training, thus a lack of it, especially in young people, would result in societal decay;

Recalls that Moral Instructions was a compulsory subject in Nigerian Schools curricula in the past;

Worried that due to the removal of Moral Instructions from the school system, the current generation of youths lack the benefits of such lessons, and may end up as nuisances in the society;

Cognizant that with the increasing rate of violence and various forms of immorality in recent times, the need for reintroduction and enforcement of the teaching of Moral Lessons and Orientation Subjects/Courses in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions cannot be over emphasized;

Also cognizant that the reintroduction of moral lessons and proper orientation will keep rebuilding good morality in the younger generation and provide proper orientation for future generations;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports Development, the National Orientation Agency and other relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies to collaborate with a view to reintroducing Moral Instructions as a compulsory subject in the school curricula as well as develop effective orientation for the school system;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Basic Education and Services, Tertiary Education and Services, and Youth Development to ensure compliance (*Hon. Uju Kingsley Chima — Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that good morals and proper orientation are indisputable basic components of child upbringing and training, thus a lack of it, especially in young people, would result in societal decay;

Recalled that Moral Instructions was a compulsory subject in Nigerian Schools curricula in the past;

Worried that due to the removal of Moral Instructions from the school system, the current generation of youths lack the benefits of such lessons, and may end up as nuisances in the society;

Cognizant that with the increasing rate of violence and various forms of immorality in recent times, the need for reintroduction and enforcement of the teaching of Moral Lessons and Orientation Subjects/Courses in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions cannot be over emphasized;

Also cognizant that the reintroduction of moral lessons and proper orientation will keep rebuilding good morality in the younger generation and provide proper orientation for future generations;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports Development, the National Orientation Agency and other relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies to collaborate with a view to reintroducing Moral Instructions as a compulsory subject in the school curricula as well as develop effective orientation for the school system;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Basic Education and Services, Tertiary Education and Services, and Youth Development to ensure compliance (HR. 84/09/2021).

19. **Need to Look into the Debt Crisis in the Aviation Industry**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Aviation Industry plays a pivotal role in providing a rapid worldwide transportation network, which makes it essential for global activities;

Also notes that the Industry generates economic growth, creates employment and facilitates international trade and tourism and other essential services, like defence;

Also aware that the Nigerian Government has invested massively in the aviation sector thereby heightening the expectations of stakeholders;

Informed that the Hon. Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika had raised concerns over billions of naira debt owed agencies, like the Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) by Airlines;

Disturbed that the debt claims and counterclaims are misleading, unprofessional, unethical and strongly deviate from the tenets of transparency and accountability;

Cognizant of the need to investigate the debt crisis in the Aviation Industry and other related matters to straighten the records and proffer lasting solutions to the debt crisis in the Industry;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate the claims and counterclaims regarding the issues of debts within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Alli Adeyemi Taofeek — Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Aviation Industry plays a pivotal role in providing a rapid worldwide transportation network, which makes it essential for global activities;

Also noted that the Industry generates economic growth, creates employment and facilitates international trade and tourism and other essential services, like defence;

Also aware that the Nigerian Government has invested massively in the aviation sector thereby heightening the expectations of stakeholders;

Informed that the Hon. Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika had raised concerns over billions of naira debt owed agencies, like the Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) by Airlines;

Disturbed that the debt claims and counterclaims are misleading, unprofessional, unethical and strongly deviate from the tenets of transparency and accountability;

Cognizant of the need to investigate the debt crisis in the Aviation Industry and other related matters to straighten the records and proffer lasting solutions to the debt crisis in the Industry;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate the claims and counterclaims regarding the issues of debts within six (6) weeks (**HR. 85/09/2021**).

20. Need to Curb Illegal Mining in Ijeshaland, Osun State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act was passed into law on March 16, 2007 to regulate the exploration and exploitation of solid minerals in Nigeria;

Also notes that the Act vests the control of all properties and minerals in Nigeria in the State and prohibits unauthorized exploration or exploitation of minerals;

Observes that under the Land Use Act, all lands in which minerals have been found in commercial quantities are acquired by the Federal Government and that any property with mineral resources shall pass from the Government to the person by whom the mineral resources are lawfully won, upon their recovery;

Concerned about reported cases of illegal mining activities going on in Ijesha South Federal Constituency of Osun State;

Aware that Ilesa, which is part of Ijeshaland, is known to have large deposits of gold in commercial quantities and other minerals in considerable proportions;

Worried that over the past few years, certain individuals and unverified companies have embarked on exploration activities across Ijeshaland, and their activities have caused untold hardship to the villagers who have been forcefully displaced and dispossessed of their lands by the miners;

Also worried that the excavation of the area may expose the people to environmental hazards/natural disaster such as landslide, earthquakes, erosion, formation of sinkholes, loss of biodiversity and contamination of soil, groundwater and surface water by chemicals released during the mining processes;

Disturbed that if necessary measures are not put in place to check illegal mining, it may result in the breakdown of law and order as the original inhabitants of Ijeshaland who are being deprived access to their heritages may embark on self-help to recover their lands;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Solid Minerals Development to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development to ascertain the authorized and licensed miners within Ijesha South Federal Constituency and report within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Lawrence Babatunde Ayeni — Atakumosa East/Atakumosa West/Ilesa West/Ilesa West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act was passed into law on March 16, 2007 to regulate the exploration and exploitation of solid minerals in Nigeria;

Also noted that the Act vests the control of all properties and minerals in Nigeria in the State and prohibits unauthorized exploration or exploitation of minerals;

Observed that under the Land Use Act, all lands in which minerals have been found in commercial quantities are acquired by the Federal Government and that any property with mineral resources shall pass from the Government to the person by whom the mineral resources are lawfully won, upon their recovery;

Concerned about reported cases of illegal mining activities going on in Ijesha South Federal Constituency of Osun State;

Aware that Ilesa, which is part of Ijeshaland, is known to have large deposits of gold in commercial quantities and other minerals in considerable proportions;

Worried that over the past few years, certain individuals and unverified companies have embarked on exploration activities across Ijeshaland, and their activities have caused untold hardship to the villagers who have been forcefully displaced and dispossessed of their lands by the miners;

Also worried that the excavation of the area may expose the people to environmental hazards/natural disaster such as landslide, earthquakes, erosion, formation of sinkholes, loss of biodiversity and contamination of soil, groundwater and surface water by chemicals released during the mining processes;

Disturbed that if necessary measures are not put in place to check illegal mining, it may result in the breakdown of law and order as the original inhabitants of Ijeshaland who are being deprived access to their heritages may embark on self-help to recover their lands;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Solid Minerals Development to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development to ascertain the authorized and licensed miners within Ijesha South Federal Constituency and report within six (6) weeks (**HR. 86/09/2021**).

21. Need to Fund the Completion of the Federal Medical Center, Makurdi Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Medical Center, Makurdi, Benue State was established in 1995 in line with the Federal Government's policy to provide at least one tertiary health care in each state of the federation that does not have a Federal University Teaching Hospital;

Aware that there are over twenty-two (22) Federal Medical Centers all over the country and as a general policy, most of the Centres are situated in the state capital, especially where the apex secondary health institution being run by the state does not adequately meet the demands for specialist healthcare for the citizenry;

Also aware that the Federal Medical Center, Makurdi is the only Federal Government-owned tertiary health facility in the state that renders medical services to neighbouring states and is currently being housed in five different locations across Makurdi, the state capital as a result of inadequate funding to complete the permanent site, a development that makes its operation very difficult, cumbersome and expensive;

Further aware that Makurdi is a transit capital that links the Northern and Southern parts of Nigeria, and therefore handles enormous cases of accidents resulting from traffic volumes, hence the need to relocate the hospital to its permanent site to effectively enhance its proper management and operational activities;

Worried that medical facilities in Benue state are already overstretched as a result of the recurring clashes, hence the need for the Federal Government to release funds to enable the Federal Medical Centre relocate to its permanent site;

Cognizant that operating the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi is becoming a huge challenge to effective delivery of health care services to Nigerians from five different sites across the State Capital;

Also cognizant that unless the Federal Government takes urgent steps by releasing funds for the completion of the permanent site, more lives will continue to be lost as a result;

Observes that the current facilities and buildings housing the Center, especially the one at Atiku Abubakar road, has existed for over seventy (70) years as it was formerly a general hospital building, whose architectural designs were not meant to house a federal medical centre as they are obsolete and dilapidated;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to include the funding of the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi in the 2022 budget estimates
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mzor. u Benjamin Bem — Makurdi/Guma Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* Prayer (i) and *insert* a new Prayer (i) as follows:
“Urge the Federal Ministries of Finance and Health respectively to include the funding of the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi in the 2022 budget estimates” (*Hon. Elumelu Ndudi — Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* Prayer (ii), and *insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
“mandate the Committees on Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance” (*Hon. Elumelu Ndudi — Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Medical Center, Makurdi, Benue State was established in 1995 in line with the Federal Government's policy to provide at least one tertiary health care in each state of the federation that does not have a Federal University Teaching Hospital;

Aware that there are over twenty-two (22) Federal Medical Centers all over the country and as a general policy, most of the Centres are situated in the state capital, especially where the apex secondary health institution being run by the state does not adequately meet the demands for specialist healthcare for the citizenry;

Also aware that the Federal Medical Center, Makurdi is the only Federal Government-owned tertiary health facility in the state that renders medical services to neighbouring states and is currently being housed in five different locations across Makurdi, the state capital as a result of inadequate funding to complete the permanent site, a development that makes its operation very difficult, cumbersome and expensive;

Further aware that Makurdi is a transit capital that links the Northern and Southern parts of Nigeria, and therefore handles enormous cases of accidents resulting from traffic volumes, hence the need to relocate the hospital to its permanent site to effectively enhance its proper management and operational activities;

Worried that medical facilities in Benue state are already overstretched as a result of the recurring clashes, hence the need for the Federal Government to release funds to enable the Federal Medical Centre relocate to its permanent site;

Cognizant that operating the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi is becoming a huge challenge to effective delivery of health care services to Nigerians from five different sites across the State Capital;

Also cognizant that unless the Federal Government takes urgent steps by releasing funds for the completion of the permanent site, more lives will continue to be lost as a result;

Observed that the current facilities and buildings housing the Center, especially the one at Atiku Abubakar road, has existed for over seventy (70) years as it was formerly a general hospital building, whose architectural designs were not meant to house a federal medical centre as they are obsolete and dilapidated;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Finance and Health respectively to include the funding of the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi in the 2022 budget estimates;
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR. 87/09/2021).

22. Need to Investigate the Deteriorating Conditions of Nigerian Police Training Colleges

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that sequel to the Federal Government's initiatives and commitment to tackle the shortage of manpower and the prevalent menace of insecurity afflicting the nation, the President Muhammadu Buhari approved the recruitment of Sixty Thousand (60,000) police personnel across the seven hundred and seventy-four (774) Local Government Areas, translating into ten thousand (10,000) personnel in a year;

Recalls that the Inspector General of Police, on 15 September 2021 revealed that the 2020 recruitment exercise has not been actualized, therefore, twenty thousand (20,000) personnel are expected to be recruited before the end of this year;

Aware that in September 2019, Senate summoned the Hon. Minister of Police Affairs over the deteriorating conditions of the Colleges with most of them dilapidated states and inadequate to conveniently and efficiently accommodate trainees of such magnitude;

Cognizant of the effect on the health, morale, and productivity of trainees, urgent steps need to be taken in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 Sub-section (d), (e) and (j) of the Nigerian Police Act to renovate facilities at the Police Training Colleges;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to investigate the matter and report within two (2) weeks (Hon. Zayyad Ibrahim — Igabi Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Notes that sequel to the Federal Government's initiatives and commitment to tackle the shortage of manpower and the prevalent menace of insecurity afflicting the nation, the President Muhammadu Buhari approved the recruitment of Sixty Thousand (60,000) police personnel across the seven hundred and seventy-four (774) Local Government Areas, translating into ten thousand (10,000) personnel in a year;

Recalls that the Inspector General of Police, on 15 September 2021 revealed that the 2020 recruitment exercise has not been actualized, therefore, twenty thousand (20,000) personnel are expected to be recruited before the end of this year;

Aware that in September 2019, Senate summoned the Hon. Minister of Police Affairs over the deteriorating conditions of the Colleges with most of them dilapidated states and inadequate to conveniently and efficiently accommodate trainees of such magnitude;

Cognizant of the effect on the health, morale, and productivity of trainees, urgent steps need to be taken in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 Sub-section (d), (e) and (j) of the Nigerian Police Act to renovate facilities at the Police Training Colleges;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to investigate the matter and report within two (2) weeks (HR. 88/09/2021).

23. **Devastating Effects of Floods in Offa, Oro-Ago, Erin-Ile in Ifelodun, Offa, Oyun Local Government Area of Kwara State**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Oro-Ago and Erin-Ile in Ifelodun, Offa, Oyun Local Government Areas of Kwara State are heavily populated communities who are predominantly farmers and traders;

Also notes that on 22 September 2021, there was a downpour in the communities leading to heavy flooding which destroyed livestock and properties;

Further notes that the flood destroyed farms and thirty-five (35) fish pounds worth over 30 million of naira, a Hotel along Station Road/Paka area, Erin-Ile, Oro -Ago, Oki-Oyo Ifelodun respectively;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to mobilize to the affected areas and provide relief materials to the victims;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Disaster Management and Preparedness to visit the affected areas and quantify the level of destruction to properties and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Tijani Kayode Ismail — Ifelodun/Offa/Oyun Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 89/09/2021).

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

24. **Consideration of Reports**

- (i) *A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of a Specialized National Dermatology Hospital, Garkida, Management Board for the Hospital, provide Dermatological Treatment, Research and Training; and for Related Matters (HB.1382) (Committee of the Whole):*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

- (ii) *Committee on Tertiary Education and Services:
That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Ako, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State; and for Related Matters (HB 430):*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

25. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till 1.35 p.m. (Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malamfashi Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.30 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabamila
Speaker

