



**SENATE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER**

Tuesday, 4th July, 2023

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1. **Prayers**
 2. **Approval of the Votes and Proceedings**
 3. **Oaths**
 4. **Announcements (if any)**
 5. **Petitions**
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ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. **Urgent Need to Halt the Extortion, Intimidation and Harassment of Motorists and Commuters by the Police on Public roads.**

Sponsor: Sen. Onyekachi, Nwebonyi Peter (*Ebonyi North*)

The Senate:

Notes that one of the primary functions of Police Personnel is to, among other things is to facilitate the free passage and movement on highways;

Also notes that Section 49 (1) of the Police Act, 2020 empowers the Police to conduct stop and search operations while subsection (2) empowers them to search and detain any person or vehicle where reasonable ground for suspicion exists;

Observes that Police Personnel which has as one of its primary duties to facilitate the free passage and movement of commuters and motorists on public roads have taken undue advantage by resorting to extortion, intimidation and harassment of motorists; and

Believes that the continuous intimidation, harassment and torture that ordinary Nigerians experience in the hands of those security agents calls for action,

Accordingly Resolves to:

Call on the Inspector General of Police to direct his officers and men to stop forthwith, the extortion, intimidation and harassment of motorists and commuters on the highways.

2. **Need for Construction of the Onne /Eleme communities axis of the East West Road.**

Sponsor: Sen. Mpigi, Barinada (*Rivers South-East*)

The Senate:

Recalls the decision of government to seek alternative sources for funding critical national projects to increase the stock of infrastructure, without which we cannot grow our nation, through initiatives such as private sector partnership, SUKUK funds and the NNPC Road Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme;

Notes that the 7km stretch of the Federal Government Trunk 'A' Road, a major economic artery in the Niger Delta region which traverses the Eleme - Ogoni corridor and also connects the South South, South East and the Western parts of this country, remains moribund;

Also notes that despite spending over N600b and over N1.5tn respectively on the project, such critical National projects if abandoned will bring untold hardship, neglect and exacerbating the sufferings and pain on the people and the attendant loss of revenue that would have accrued to the government;

Further notes the presence of critical infrastructure and industries located along that corridor which include two refineries, two petrochemical industries, an Oil and Gas Economic Free Zone, a Deep-Sea Port, NPA, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Immigration Service, Naval College, the Federal Ocean Terminal, West African Container Terminal, all the IOCs and many other businesses and industries, which contribute huge sums of needed revenue for the Nation;

Aware that currently, the project is transferred from the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to the Ministry of Works & Housing and the placement of the project under the Sukuk financial system and currently to be financed through the NNPC Road Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme;

Observes that while the Chief Executive Officer of the NNPC has publicly stated that the sum of N1.9tn of the phase 2 of the scheme is awaiting disbursement, consideration should be given to the detrimental effects of the abandoned road on the social and economic experienced that has affected the well-being of the affected communities, as well as the potential risks posed to human lives and the local economy; and

Acknowledges the preparedness of NNPC to commence payments to the contractors, being RCC, Gitto and Setraco which will enable them to move back to site,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i.* *Set up* an Adhoc Committee to look into the reasons of back to back failures of every attempt of Government to successfully complete this economically important stretch of the East West road by inviting the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Works and Housing, the Ministry of the Niger Delta Affairs, the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning, the Group CEO of NNPC Ltd, the Managing Director of RCC Construction Company and any other relevant stakeholder, to present detailed information on the following:
 - the reasons for the prolonged delays and abandonment of the project;
 - the current status of the contract and the progress made thus far;
 - the challenges being faced by the contractor in executing the project in order to avoid future delays;
 - the measures being taken to address the socio-economic impact of the abandoned road on the affected communities; and
 - the plans, timelines, and strategies to ensure the completion of the project within a reasonable timeframe and thereafter ensure the prioritization of the East-West Road project and allocation of necessary resources and support to enable its speedy completion.

3. **Urgent Need to Curb the Incessant Cases of Collapse of Buildings, Bridges and other structural failures occasioned by the lack and poor production quality, manpower and rising cost of reinforcement materials in the construction industry.**

Sponsor: Sen. Abubakar, Sadiku-Ohere (Kogi Central)

The Senate:

Notes that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Also notes that iron rods, cement, and steel bars also known as reinforcements are very important components used in the construction of buildings, bridges, roads, and other structural engineering works;

Aware that in the past 15 months, there has been an astronomical increase across board in the prices of these materials per tonne ranging from N45, 000.00 per tonne in the early 2000's to its current price of N530, 000.00 per tonne;

Also aware that this has led to structural failures in construction as the challenges of affordability has led some developers to resort to cutting cost by purchasing substandard materials which is resulting in the high spate of building collapse and other poor job execution in the country, a situation that has now assumed a worrisome dimension as many lives are lost and huge investments wasted;

Worried by the report by the Building Collapse Prevention Guild, an umbrella body of all construction professionals in the country as well as the Nigerian Society of Engineers that there are thousands of buildings across the country waiting to collapse due to the usage of inferior materials in construction which can be attributed to the rising cost of reinforcement materials in buildings, construction sector, inadequate personnel, and lack of targeted intervention by the government;

Informed that the revamping and operationality of the Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited (ASCL), the Nigerian Iron Ore Mining Company, Itakpe, the Delta Steel Company, amongst others should be one of our utmost national priorities as getting them operational would meet the local demand of steel consumption;

Conscious of an urgent need to address the myriad of challenges in the steel industry as a total overhaul will make the product more affordable and will in turn address the menace of building collapse, structural defects and substandard construction prevalent in the country to avert losses, both in human lives and properties occasioned by the avoidable malaise; and

Also conscious that it is the responsibility of government at all levels to protect lives and properties and respond to the myriad of planning and environmental challenges facing its citizens by ensuring that the issue of building collapse is controlled and eventually eliminated,

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) **Urge the Federal Government to explore the modalities of liaising with stakeholders in the construction industry to address factors necessitating affordability and quality challenges of reinforcement materials etc;**
- (ii) **Also urge the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and other regulatory bodies to sanitize the building and construction materials sector to get rid of sub-standard goods in the market as the raining season is upon us;**
- (iii) **Further urge the Nigerian Institute of Building (NIOB) and the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) to ensure proper supervision of workmen and to further carry out sensitization campaigns to enlighten the public on the need to use quality materials and professionals in the construction of buildings;**

- (iv) *Equally urge* the Council for the Regulation of Engineers in Nigeria (COREN), the Architects Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON) and other professional bodies to investigate, publish periodic report and penalize their members involved in cases of building collapse;
- (v) *Call* on the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to liaise with the Building Collapse Prevention Guild to carry out assessment of buildings prone to collapse by way of "Integrity Test" of suspected structures in order to alert residents and avert the impending loss of lives and properties;
- (vi) *Also call* on the Federal Government that as a matter of national concern, the Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited should be made functional while encouraging investments in the steel sector as savings from the oil subsidy removal can be productively reinvested in this direction; and
- (vii) *Mandate* the Committees on Works and Housing, Solid Minerals, and Habitat (when constituted) to ensure implementation and report within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

4. **Call on the Federal Government to Address the General Insecurity and Incessant Attack on Plateau State.**

Sponsor: Sen. Plang, Diket Satso (Plateau Central)

The Senate:

Notes the general insecurity and continued attacks on communities in Plateau State, a state known for its hospitality, peace and tourism;

Also notes that the past decade has seen recurrent crises across the state, especially in rural areas, where insecurity has become a major issue that any administration in the state has to contend with. There is no respite; the cycle of killings and kidnappings has continued unabated, despite all efforts by successive administrations at the state and federal levels to tame the ugly trend;

Aware that as a result of this, many lives have been lost and properties destroyed, affecting the livelihood of innocent people. The economy of the affected parts of the state, Plateau North and Central, is lying prostrate, occasioned by incessant attacks coupled with the number of people being killed in the barbaric acts;

Further notes that the marauders behind the attacks, who can be classified as terrorists because of the clandestine nature of their operations in recent times, have stepped up their nefarious activities in Plateau communities. The attack, which started in Plateau North, precisely in Bassa, Barakin-Ladi, Jos North, and Riyom local government areas of the state, has spread to Plateau Central, especially Bokokos and Mangu local government areas;

Observes that in Mangu and Bokokos, within the past month, no fewer than 300 people have been brutally murdered by those terrorists. Plateau North has lost count of casualties because, in recent times, there is no day that one or two communities will not be under attack by those elements;

Informed that the attacks on communities in Mangu local government have continued unabated from April 2023 to date as many villages and communities have witnessed this ugly incident where people killed are in large numbers, farms mulled for no reason, and houses set ablaze and destroyed;

Also Informed that as a result of those frequent attacks, many people had been forced to flee their homes; either their houses were burned or they fled for fear of further attacks and as a result, there is serious humanitarian crises;

Observes that many of the Secondary School students in the affected areas could not participate in the just-concluded WAEC examination. Both students in secondary and primary schools in those areas are presently hibernating in IDP camps; and

Also observes that this continued and incessant attacks on the Plateau Central and other parts of Plateau State are taking toll on the economy while agriculture is at an ebb, which might result to food crisis, if urgent steps are not taken to curb the ugly trend,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Commend* President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for the appointment of new Service Chiefs in line with the yearnings of Nigerians and his readiness to tackle the insecurity in different parts of the country;
- ii. *Call on* the Service Chiefs to carry out on the spot assessment of insecurity in the troubled parts to give our people a sense of belonging and also serve as impetus for the military operations in those affected local government areas;
- iii. *Urge* the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to cushion the hardship of the IDPs by providing them with basic amenities, especially building materials to rebuild their homes; and
- iv. *Also urge* the Chief of Defence Staff to, as a matter of urgency, establish joint security posts in strategic locations in the state.