



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 10 October, 2023

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1. Prayers
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## PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Federal College of Education, Kamba, Kebbi State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.549) (*Hon. Rabiu Garba Kamba*) - *First Reading*
2. Federal Medical Centres, Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 550) (*Hon. Kabiru Yusuf Alhaji*) - *First Reading*
3. National institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture Studies, Abigi, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.551) (*Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan*) – *First Reading*
4. Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Awa-Ijebu, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.552) (*Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan*) – *First Reading*
5. Federal Cancer Research and Treatment Centre, Asa, Kwara State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.553) (*Hon. Muktar Shagaya*) – *First Reading*
6. Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skill Acquisition, Ilorin West, Kwara State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.554) (*Hon. Muktar Shagaya*) – *First Reading*
7. National Prosecution Management Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.555) (*Hon. Mohammed Jamilu Katsina*) - *First Reading*
8. Nigerian Agricultural Promotion Council Bill, 2023 (HB. 556) (*Hon. Sesoo Ikpagher*) - *First Reading*
9. Labour Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.557) (*Hon. Sesoo Ikpagher*) - *First Reading*

10. Child Rights and Welfare Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.558) (*Hon. Jesse Okey- Joe Onuakalusi*) - *First Reading*
11. Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.559) (*Hon. Jesse Okey- Joe Onuakalusi*) - *First Reading*
12. National Agriculture Commodity and Price Control Board (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.560) (*Hon. Abiola Peter Makinde*) - *First Reading*
13. Bitumen Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.561) (*Hon. Abiola Peter Makinde*) - *First Reading*
14. Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.562) (*Hon. Ademorin Kuye*) - *First Reading*
15. Nigerian Ports Authority Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.563) (*Hon. Miriam Onuoha*) - *First Reading*
16. Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund Act(Amendment)Bill, 2023 (HB.564) (*Hon. Miriam Onuoha*) - *First Reading*
17. Psychiatric Hospitals Management Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.565) (*Hon. Sulaiman Abubakar Gumi*) - *First Reading*
18. Small Scale Enterprises Development Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.566) (*Hon. Sulaiman Abubakar Gumi*) - *First Reading*
19. Minimum Qualification for Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors Bill, 2023 (HB.567) (*Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji*) - *First Reading*
20. Examination Malpractices Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.568) (*Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji*) - *First Reading*
21. Legal Aid Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.569) (*Hon. Ime Okon*) - *First Reading*
22. Army Colour (Prohibition of Use) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.570) (*Hon. Emmanuel Ukpong-Udo*) - *First Reading*
23. Investment and Securities Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.571) (*Hon. Emmanuel Ukpong-Udo*) - *First Reading*
24. Federal College of Agriculture , Mbatie, Buruku, Benue State (Establishment) Bill ,2023 (HB.572) (*Hon. Sekav Dzua Iyortyom*) - *First Reading*
25. National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.573) (*Hon. Chinedu Ogah*) - *First Reading*
26. Chartered Institute of Professional Printers of Nigeria (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.574) (*Hon. Chinedu Ogah*) - *First Reading*
27. National Park Service Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.575) (*Hon. Victor Abang*) - *First Reading*
28. Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.576) (*Hon. Akingbaso Festus*) - *First Reading*
29. Dishonoured Cheques act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.577) (*Hon. Akingbaso Festus*) - *First Reading*
30. National Institute for Information Communication Technology, Suleja (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.578) (*Hon. Adamu Tanko*) - *First Reading*
31. Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.579) (*Hon. Wale Hammed*) - *First Reading*
32. Counterfeit Medical Products, Fake Drugs and Wholesome Processed Foods (Prohibition and Control) Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.580) (*Hon. Wale Hammed*) - *First Reading*

33. Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.581) (*Hon. Wale Hammed*) - *First Reading*
34. Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2023 (HB.582) (*Hon. Sagir Koki*) - *First Reading*
35. Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis and Chocerciasis Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.583) (*Hon. Sadiq Ango Abdullahi*) - *First Reading*

## PRESENTATION OF REPORT

***Ad-hoc* Committee to Convene a Legislative Summit on Students Loans and Access to Higher Education in Nigeria:**

**Hon. Terseer Ugbor:**

“That the House do receive the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee to Convene a Legislative Summit on Students Loans and Access to Higher Education in Nigeria (hr.43/07/2023) (*Referred: 5/7/2023*)

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### BILLS

1. **Consolidation of Bills:**
  - (a) A Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff and for Related Matters (HB. 07) (*Hon. Benjamin Okeize Kalu and six others*); *and*
  - (b) A Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the engagement as Consultants of Senior Compulsory Retired Officers of the Nigerian Armed Forces to provide Training and Guidance to Serving Officers and for Related Matter (HB. 13) (*Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi*).
2. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Steel Development Act, Cap. N134 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 36) *Hon. Yusuf Gadi* – *Second Reading*.

### MOTIONS

3. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from Preceding Assembly:**  
**Hon. Francis E. Waive:**
  - (i) *ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Ratification and Enforcement) Bill, 2023 (HB.314);*
  - (ii) *Federal Roads Authority Bill, 2023 (HB.288);*
  - (iii) *National Transport Commission Bill, 2023 (HB.306);*
  - (iv) *Federal University of Agriculture Mpu Bill, 2023 (HB.308);*
  - (v) *National Postgraduate College of Medical Laboratory Science Bill, 2023 (HB.310);*
  - (vi) *Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.311);*
  - (vii) *Nigerian Service Civil Defence Corps Act (Amendment) Bill 2023 (HB.312);*
  - (viii) *Nigeria Police Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.313);*
  - (ix) *Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.315);*
  - (x) *Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.316);*
  - (xi) *Nigerian Peace Corps (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB 482);*
  - (xii) *Federal College of Education, Mutu Biyu Taraba State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.494);*

- (xiii) *Federal College of Horticulture, Okigwe (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.171);*
- (xiv) *Traditional Complementary and Alternative Medicine Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.473);*
- (xv) *Federal University of Sports, Afuze, Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.476);*
- (xvi) *Federal School of Nursing and Midwifery, Sobe, Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.477);*
- (xvii) *Nigerian Medical Research Council (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.470);*
- (xviii) *National Ethics and Values Compliance Agency (Establishment Bill, 2023 (HB. 528);*
- (xix) *Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.500) and*
- (xx) *Federal Medical Centre, Sabon-gida-ora, Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.478).*

#### **The House:**

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

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

*Aware* that the Bills were re-gazetted as HBs. 314, 288, 306, 308, 310,311, 312, 313, 315, 316, 494, 211, 171, 473, 476, 477, 470, 500, 528, and 478 read the first time, respectively;

*Resolves to:*

Commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

#### **4. Need for the Reconstruction of the Federal Highway in Edo State:**

<b>Hon. Julius O. Ihonvbere</b>	<b>Hon. Akpatason O. Z</b>	<b>Hon. Dennis Idahosa</b>
<b>Hon Marcus Onobun</b>	<b>Hon. Okojie Henry S. Dekeri</b>	<b>Hon. Iyawe Esosa</b>
<b>Hon. Osawaru Billy</b>	<b>Hon. Omoruyi Murphy Osaro</b>	

#### **The House:**

*Notes* that the federal highways in Edo State are in poor condition, causing concern for daily motorists. These major highways connect the South-South to parts of the South East, South West, and Northern regions.

*Also notes* that the State serves as a transit point or drive-through for travellers, connected to the East via Ewu/Uronigbe/Agbor/Asaba roads, the West via Uzebba\_Ifon/Ofosu/Okada/Ovia roads, and the North via Auchi/Ekpoma/Benin and Afuze/Sabongidda Ora/Sobe roads;

*Observes* that the state is facing serious threats of being cut off from the rest of the country, causing significant economic erodiment, as several failed portions on various routes have become a nightmare for travellers;

*Aware* that the roads in the State is strategically located between the South, East, West, and Northern regions, collectively produce over 45% of agricultural produce and are the highest producer of granulated cassava;

*Also aware* that the roads serve as major gateways to Edo State Government-owned Universities, including Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Federal Polytechnic Auchi, College of Education, Igueben, and University of Benin, providing knowledge and sustainable future endeavours;

*Worried* that the road gradual degradation and abandonment over the years is causing commercial buses and motorcyclists to abandon it for alternative routes, this has caused widespread dissatisfaction;

*Concerned* that the deplorable state of the road has caused chaos and insecurity, leading to avoidable deaths through armed robbery, kidnappings, accidents, and traffic jams, imposing inconveniences and danger to communities and the state;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Works to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and the Ministry of Niger Delta to come up with a workable modality that will ensure the speedy construction of the roads; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Works and Legislative Compliance to ensure implementation and report back to the House within four(4) weeks for further legislative action.

**5. Need for the Central Bank of Nigeria to Address the Impact of the Failing Naira against the Dollar and other Currencies on the Nigerian Economy:  
Hon. Ismaila Haruna Dabo:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that in June 2023, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Bola Ahmad Tinubu through the Central Bank of Nigeria announced changes to the country's foreign exchange market, that is, the foreign currencies can now be bought and sold at rates determined by the market and not by the central bank;

*Also notes* that the President's intention is to allow market forces to determine naira value, but the alarming exchange rate has impacted Nigeria's economy, causing untold hardship due to increased demand for dollars and a dollar shortage;

*Aware* that about 90% of Nigeria's total export earnings are from oil, which is the mainstay of the country's economy, but changes in the price of oil around the world have a big impact on the country's foreign exchange market, this explains why the naira has continued to depreciate;

*Recognizes* that Nigeria's foreign exchange inflows are lagging despite unification in June, with high demand for foreign currency and limited access to official markets incentivizing black market purchases, the naira has lost a greater percent of its value against the dollar, falling from N778.602/\$ as of September 26, september 2023, and nearly N1000/\$ at the parallel market, making it the first time Nigeria has liberalised the foreign exchange market;

*Worried* about inflation and the cost of living, depreciating naira makes imported goods more expensive, leading to higher inflation rates. This increased cost of living disproportionately affects the most vulnerable citizens, as they struggle to afford basic necessities, which are now glaring across the country;

*Also worried* about the reduction in investment, as the value of the naira continues to lose value and depreciates against the dollar and other foreign currencies, foreign investors may be deterred from investing in Nigeria, fearing potential currency losses, which is capable of stunting economic growth and hindering the creation of new job opportunities for unemployed Nigerian youth;

*Aware* that a weaker and depreciating Naira could increase Nigeria's external debt servicing costs, potentially reducing government spending on critical sectors like healthcare and education;

*Also aware* that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) frequently uses its foreign reserves to stabilise the naira, but this can deplete its reserves, making the country vulnerable to economic shocks;

*Cognizant* that addressing Nigeria's financial challenges requires collective responsibility from all stakeholders, including Parliament, which has been the voice of the common man;

*Resolved to.*

- (i) urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to implement monetary policy adjustments to stabilise the currency, address speculative activities in the forex market, and increase the withdrawal limit of the naira to reduce the pressure on dollars and other foreign currencies;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to formulate policies and structural Reforms to reduce corruption and promote economic diversification within the nation's economy;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Government to promote exportation and reduce importation by enhancing foreign investors' Confidence on its Fiscal and Monetary Policies;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Banking Regulations and National Security and Intelligence to interface with the Central bank of Nigeria with the purpose of initiating compliance strategies; and
- (v) also mandate the Committee on Banking Regulation to investigate the use of US Dollars and other foreign currencies as legal tender for domestic transactions in Nigeria.

**6. Alleged Mismanagement of Funds and Other Irregularities in the Operations of the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA):**

**Hon. Esosa Iyawe:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the National Health Insurance Authority, formerly known as the National Health Insurance Scheme, was established in 1999 to ensure the effective implementation of the National Health Insurance Policy and address the gaps in getting affordable treatment as well as ensuring universal access to quality healthcare for all Nigerians;

*Also notes* that the Federal Government has, over the years, driven the Health Insurance Policy through budgetary allocation under the management of the National Health Insurance Authority and some Health Maintenance Organisations (HMOs);

*Aware* that HMOs were engaged and funded by the Federal Government to play an intermediary role in the implementation of the health insurance scheme by providing a wide range of medical services for enrollees;

*Concerned* that despite the huge budgetary allocations, records have shown that only a negligible 3% of persons in the formal sector have access to health insurance, leaving over 170 million Nigerians without Health Insurance;

*Also concerned* that the programme has been fraught with poor service delivery by the HMOs as well as low-quality services on the part of the healthcare service providers, as evidenced by the high level of dissatisfaction amongst enrollees who are thus discouraged from recommending the scheme to potential subscribers;

*Disturbed* by reports that in some hospitals, the pharmacy for patients covered by the NHIA is separate from the hospital's main pharmacy, and is allegedly stocked with low-quality drugs, as against the main pharmacy;

*Also disturbed* by reports that funds allocated for the implementation of the national health insurance policy are being mismanaged, as well as allegations that some HMOs fail to remit funds or pay monthly capitations to the healthcare providers;

*Worried* that 25 years after the programme commenced, reports have shown that, out of a population of about 200 million, only about four million Nigerians are covered under the scheme, which is contrary to the claim by the Authority that over 10 million Nigerians are currently enrolled in the programme;

*Also worried* that the implementation of the scheme had been mired with corruption, lack of transparency and accountability, irregularities among HMOs and ill-treatment of enrollees by healthcare providers;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to investigate alleged mismanagement of funds and other irregularities in the National Health Insurance Authority with a view to making relevant interventions to ensure effective implementation of the National Health Insurance Policy.

**7. Need to Commence the Construction of Section V, of the East West Road to Link Oron, Akwa Ibom State and Odukpani Calabar in Cross River State:**

**Hon. Basse Akiba**

**Hon. Mike Etaba**

**Hon. Alex Egbona**

**Hon. Joseph Bassey**

**Hon. Emil Inyang**

**Hon. Victor Abang**

**Hon. Peter Akpanke**

**Hon. Godwin Offiono:**

*Notes* that the East-West Road, a 388-kilometer Federal Trunk A2 dual carriageway, connects the Niger-Delta states and Ikom Federal Trunk A4 road, initially designed with 42 bridges and 1000 culverts was awarded N246 Billion naira in 2006;

*Alsop notes* that the road is divided into five sections, Warri - Kaiama in Delta/Bayelsa State, Port Harcourt–Ahoada–Kaiama in Rivers/Bayelsa State, Eleme – Onne – Ete in Rivers/Akwa Ibom State, Ikot Abasi - Eket–Oron Road in Akwa Ibom/Cross River State;

*Aware* that Sections I to IV of the road have reached 85% completion, with the Federal Government releasing funds for a new bypass and other works. This has increased the contract sum from N246 billion to N506 billion, with over 80% of the funds already released;

*Concerned* that the construction of Section IV of the 30km dual carriageway from Oron to Calabar is still ongoing, despite contract awards from the Federal government. The road, which links Cross River and Akwa Ibom states, is in poor condition with potholes causing numerous losses and forcing commuters to travel by sea;

*Believes* that the construction of Section V of the East-West Road is expected to address Nigeria's infrastructural deficit and enhance economic stability by facilitating the movement of goods;

*Cognizant* that construction of a new East-West road section is expected to alleviate the current six-hour journey time, which has significantly increased transportation costs in the region;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Work to ensure commencement of the construction of section V of the East West Road.; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to make provision for the Construction of Section V of the East West Road to link Oron, Akwa Ibom State and Odukpani Calabar, Cross River State in the 2024 budget estimates.

**8. Need to Intervene on the Perennial Gully Erosion Menace in Nkisi Aroli 1 and Obeleagu Communities of Onitsha North/ South Local Government Areas of Anambra State:  
Hon. Idu Emeka G. O:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that Section 14(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), provides that the security, safety, and welfare of the people of Nigeria shall be the primary purpose of government and that the National Assembly is saddled with the task of making laws for the peace, order, and good governance of the Federation;

*Also notes* that the issue of gully erosion is a significant concern in the Nkisi Aroli and Obeleagu communities of Onitsha North Local Government Area, Anambra State;

*Aware* of the massive devastation and destruction of private and public buildings in the Nkisi Aroli and Obeleagu communities of Onitsha North Local Government Area in Anambra State has resulted in the loss of lives and properties;

*Worried* that the menace poses a significant threat to the communities, thus causing displacement and disruption of economic and commercial activities and the loss of ancestral homes and graves;

*Also worried* that despite efforts by successive State Governments, the erosion menace in the State is causing immense destruction to the lives and properties of residents in the area;

*Concerned* that since the rainy season began this year, numerous buildings have collapsed, leaving residents homeless, this devastation is beyond the state government's capacity, thus, and requiring urgent intervention by the Federal Government.

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, Ecological Fund Office and other relevant Agency of the Government to contain and stop the gully erosion in Nkisi Aroli / Obeleagu Area of Onitsha North/South Local Government Areas of Anambra State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment and Ecological Fund to ensure compliance.

**9. Need to Control the Erosion Ravaging Bauchi –Gombe, Alkaleri/Kirfi Local Government Areas, Section of the Federal High Way of Bauchi State:  
Hon. Kabiru Yusuf Alhaji:**

**The House:**

*Notes* the devastating effect of ravaging gully erosion and landslide on the Bauchi-Alkaleri Gombe Federal road between Alkaleri and Bara, all within Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency, Bauchi State; Also notes that the road has been cut off by the gully erosion and the entire road network is under serious threat of imminent collapse;

*Worried* that the erosion and landslide are creating traffic gridlock along the section of the Bauchi-Gombe Highway thereby causing untold hardship to road users, loss of lives and destruction of farmlands;

*Concerned* that if the menace of gully erosion and landslide is not urgently controlled, the section of the road will completely cave in, thus leading to disconnection of the highway with attendant severe consequences and cutting off of vehicular movement into Bauchi, Gombe and other North Eastern States;



*Also concerned* that the magnitude of the menace is beyond the control of the State Governments. Worried that the Bauchi-Gombe highway is a gateway to business activities and other relationships between the North-East and the North Central of Nigeria;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to Commence reconstruction of the affected parts of the Bauchi-Gombe Federal road and particularly, the section between Alkaleri and Bars, in Alkaleri/Kirfi Local Government Areas of Bauchi State;
- (ii) also urge the Ecological Fund Office and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure regular surveillance of erosion-prone areas to rip erosion threats on the Federal roads across the country; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee of Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure implementation.

**10. Establishment of Functional Libraries in the Seven Hundred and Seventy-Four Local Government Areas in Nigeria:**

**Hon. Jesse Okey–Joe Onuakalusi**

**Hon. Mohammed Murtar**

**Hon. Dabo Haruna**

**Hon. Salman Idris**

**Hon. Hassan K. Jakduwa**

**Hon. Engr. Bukar Talba**

**Hon. Rufai Jingi**

**Hon. Olawande George**

**Hon. Hassani M. Jallo:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that Libraries serve as vital catalysts for intellectual growth, education, and societal progress and that many local governments lack functional libraries within their communities;

*Also notes* that the establishment of functional libraries at the local government levels will enhance literacy rates and educational opportunities and provide access to a diverse range of books, educational resources, and learning materials, enabling children, youth and adults to develop their reading skills, expand their knowledge, and pursue lifelong learning;

*Aware* that local libraries will provide essential information, empowering individuals to make informed decisions, develop critical thinking skills, and promote cultural exchange, social cohesion, and engagement through educational programs, workshops, events, and cultural celebrations, fostering a sense of belonging and unity;

*Informed* that functional libraries can bridge the digital divide by offering computers, internet connectivity, and digital literacy training, enhancing digital skills, online resources, and employability prospects;

*Also aware* that establishing functional libraries requires a suitable infrastructure, including buildings, furniture and necessary equipment, the need for Local governments to collaborate with educational institutions and utilize existing facilities or consider repurposing community spaces to minimize costs;

*Convinced* that the establishment of active functional libraries in all 774 Local government areas in Nigeria will contribute to the overall development of the nation;

*Further aware* that Nigerians' reading culture is low, and functional libraries can reshape reading habits and enhance the agricultural revolution. These libraries provide practical information and pedagogic knowledge on farming and farm implementations;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Education to establish an active and functional library and e-library across the 774 Local Government Areas in Nigeria; and

(ii) mandate the Committee on University Education to ensure implementation.

**11. Need to Rehabilitate the Okpanam–Asaba Federal Highway, Delta State:**

**Hon. Ngozi Okolie:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the Okpanam-Asaba Road in Delta State is a strategic road which connects the State and major parts of the South to the Eastern part of the country;

*Also notes* that the road is an essential aspect of infrastructural development that would enhance economic activities in the region being a link road to the commercial city of Onitsha;

*Concerned* that the road is currently in a deplorable state as it is at the verge of being cut off by erosion, thus impeding the human and vehicular movement and consequently slowing down economic activities as well as posing great threat to both the lives and livelihood of the people who depend on the road for business activities;

*Worried* that if the road is not urgently rehabilitated, it could deteriorate even further with the resultant effect of completely paralyzing economic activities within the region;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to include reconstruction of the Okpanam-Asaba Road in Delta State in the 2024 budget estimates;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to commence remedial work on parts of the road that are not completely destroyed; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Works and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure implementation.

**12. Need to Investigate the Untimely Death of Medical Personnel on Duty:**

**Hon. Adedayo Samuel Adesola:**

**The House:**

*Notes* the importance of medical personnel as the fulcrum of the healthcare delivery system;

*Aware* that on September 17, 2023, a medical officer on residency programme in the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), Dr. Michael Umoh reportedly died after spending 72 hours on duty in the Neurosurgery unit of the Institution;

*Also aware* of a recent related incident of a young female medical doctor who lost her life due to elevator failure in a general Hospital, which could have been avoided with improved working conditions;

*Concerned* that there have been several other reports of medical personnel dying as a result of harsh working conditions and other forms of negligence, thus robbing the country of her best brains;

*Cognizant* that such similar cases have reinforced the agitation of National Association of Resident Doctors, Nigeria Medical Association and other associated bodies for improved conditions of service as evidenced by the recent industrial strike embarked upon by Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) to press home their demands;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) observe a minute of silence in honour of the deceased doctors; and

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Health Institutions to investigate the anomalous deaths of Dr. Michael Umoh, a medical personnel at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) to ensure that medical personnel in Nigeria work under favourable conditions and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

**13. Need to Rehabilitate and Adequately Equip Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano:  
Hon. Hassan Shehu Hussain:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital was established in 1988 to provide specialist medical attention to the sick, train medical personnel and undertake research for the advancement of medical knowledge;

*Concerned* that the hospital, which caters for patients from Kano and neighbouring States, including Jigawa, Gombe, Yobe, Katsina, and Bauchi is overstretched and lacks adequate equipment to function optimally, especially in critical units such as the Accident and Emergency (A&E) section;

*Also concerned* that the hospital's Cardiology Department, which was widely reputed for excellence, is currently in a deplorable state and may soon become moribund as most of the equipment are obsolete and non-functional;

*Worried* that considering the rising cases of cardiovascular diseases in the country and the inadequacy of specialized care for such cases in public hospitals, patients are often referred to private hospitals which they mostly cannot afford, hence the increasing death rate from the disease continues to rise;

*Also worried* about the shortage of experts such as Cardiovascular Percussionists, anesthetists and heart surgeons in Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to rehabilitate, adequately equip and recruit relevant personnel, including experts required for effective and efficient operations in the Cardiology Department and the Accident and Emergency Unit of the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano; and
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Health Institutions to conduct a needs assessment of the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano and make provision in the 2024 budget estimates to ensure that the hospital is rehabilitated and adequately equipped to provide specialized and optimum healthcare services to Nigerians, and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

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## CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

- 14.** A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Fire Service Act, Cap. F29, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Federal Fire and Rescue Service (Establishment) Bill, 2023; and for Related Matters (HB. 211) (*Leader*) – *Committee of the Whole: 26/7/2023.*
- 15.** A Bill for an Act to Establish a National Centre for the Coordination and Control of the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Nigeria; and for Related Matters. (HB. 207) (*Leader*) – *Committee of the Whole: 25/7/2023.*