



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 12 March, 2024

1. The House met at 10.52 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, 7 March, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Message**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

7th March, 2024

Rt. Honourable Tajudeen Abbas, CON
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Rt Hon. Speaker,

***SUBMISSION OF 2024 STATUTORY BUDGET PROPOSAL OF
THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION***

In line with the provisions of Sections 121 and 299 of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has prepared the 2024 Statutory Budget Proposal of the FCTA which is forwarded herewith for consideration and approval by the National Assembly.

The Budget Proposal has been prepared on the basis of the FCTA's revenue and expenditure forecasts and is aligned with fiscal and developmental policies of the Federal Government and the Renewed Hope Agenda. In addition, the Budget Proposal takes into consideration the 2024-2026 Economic Recovery Growth Plan as well as key assumptions in the 2024 Appropriation Act.

The FCTA is prioritizing improvement in Healthcare Services, job creation, youth empowerment and increased productivity in agriculture, in order to lift as many citizens as possible out of poverty.

I hereby forward the 2024 Statutory Budget Proposal of the FCTA and trust that it would receive the kind. consideration and expeditious approval of the House of Representatives.

Please accept, Rt Hononourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Bola Ahmed Tinubu

5. Announcement

(i) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Adegboyega Adeyemi Adefarati (*Akoko South East/Akoko South West Federal Constituency*), informing the House of the demise of a former Member, Hon. Olutoba Adeyemi (1979 - 1983), which occurred on Tuesday, 20 February, 2024.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) Special Committee on Restructuring of Federal Agencies and Commissions:

Mr Speaker announced additional members of the Committee as follows:

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|-----|---------------------------|---|----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Ahmed Idris | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Sekav Dzua Iyortyom | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Ja'afar Mohammed Ali | — | <i>Member.</i> |

(iii) Ad-hoc Committee to Access and Fix Abandoned Federal Government Projects Across the Country:

Mr Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:

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|-----|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Amos Daniel | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Marie Ebikake | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Yemi Olabinjo | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (4) | Hon. Jeremiah Umaru | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (5) | Hon. Uche Okwonko | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (6) | Hon. Sagir Koki | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (7) | Hon. Inuwa Garba | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (8) | Hon. Kelechi Nwogu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (9) | Hon. Moses Oluwatoyin Fayinka | — | <i>Member.</i> |

6. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Members of Transparent Lenders Association, on alleged criminal

conspiracy, forgery and breach of trust by the Workers Aggregated Credit Solutions Limited (WACSL) and Humanity Empowerment and Development Association for Criminal Conspiracy, Forgery, Breach of Trust and Cheating, was presented and laid by Hon. Adedayo Samuel Adesola (*Apapa Federal Constituency*);

- (ii) Hon. Mathew Nwogu (*Abo-Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency*) presented and laid the following petitions:
- (a) Network Against Corruption and Trafficking (NACAT), on the alleged theft of the sum of Ninety-Five Billion Naira (₦95,000,000,000.00), and breach of Extant Laws by the Director-General of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA);
- (b) Network Against Corruption and Trafficking (NACAT) on alleged theft of the sum of Twenty Billion Naira (₦20,000,000,000.00) by the Director-General, Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NNRA) and his Cronies, Friends, Relatives;
- (iii) A petition on behalf of the family of Late Oraka Shedrack, on the non-payment of his pension arrears, and refusal of the Chairman, the Military Pension Board, to appear before the 9th National Assembly Committee on Public Petitions, was presented and laid by Hon. Osawaru Billy Famous (*Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*);
- (iv) A petition from S. O. Abdulkareem & Co. (Legal Practitioners & Property Consultancy), on behalf of Mr Anthony Agbo for seizing of his two hundred (200) bags of rice since 2019, by the Nigerian Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Paul Nnamchi (*Enugu East/Isi-Uzo Federal Constituency*);
- (v) Hon. Paschal Agbodike (*Ihiala Federal Constituency*) presented and laid the following petitions:
- (a) Network Against Corruption and Trafficking (NACAT) on alleged massive corruption, money laundering, and breach of Extant Laws by the Director Procurement, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC);
- (b) Network Against Corruption and Trafficking on alleged massive corruption of money laundering, abuse of public office, and breach of other Extant Laws by the Solicitor General of the Federation and Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice;
- (vi) A petition from Network Against Corruption and Trafficking (NACAT) on alleged massive corruption of laundering, abuse of public office and breach of 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and other Extant Laws by the Commandant, National Defence College, was presented and laid by Hon. Ibe Okwara Osonwa (*Arochukwu/Ohafia Federal Constituency*);
- (vii) A petition from Network Against Corruption and Trafficking (NACAT) on alleged illegal running of Bureau De Change (BDC) and other Companies not declared in his Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB) by the Director Legal Services of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), was presented and laid by Hon. Victor Abang (*Ikom/Boki Federal Constituency*);.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

7. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 5)

- (i) ***Abhorrent Abduction of Over 200 Students in Kuriga Community of Chikun and Secure Lives and Property in Kaduna State:***
Hon. Munir Ahmed Mohammed (*Lere 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 5 (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 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Abhorrent Abduction of Over 200 Students in Kuriga Community of Chikun and Secure Lives and Property in Kaduna State:

The House:

Notes that on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, gunmen stormed Local Education Authority (LEA) Primary School and Government Secondary School in Kuriga Community where over 200 students and teachers have been forcibly abducted and moved to the forest unchallenged;

Also notes that two months back, this ugly menace occurred in the same community where a school Principal, Malam Abu Sufyan, was killed days earlier and his wife and baby abducted, though the wife and baby were later rescued in a successful joint security operation on 3 February, 2024;

Aware that on Friday, 8 March, 2024, gunmen attacked worshippers in a mosque at Angwar Makera, Kwasakwa Community in Birin Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State, with two persons declared dead;

Also aware that that this trend of violence is seeping into other parts of the State affecting persons of all religious and ethnic backgrounds;

Concerned that despite the 3.25 trillion Naira appropriation in 2024 Appropriation Act in the defence and security sector for acquisition of drones and other military equipment that could have tracked, located and rescued victims representing 11.8 percent of the national budget in 2024, yet, the security act as are reactionary rather than proactive;

Also concerned of the negative effect of the restrictive envelope system in the Budget process, which does not prioritize the actual needs assessment of the security sector on security procurement, planning and recruitment of personnel;

Aware that sometime in May 2014, the Nigerian Government with an initial ten million dollars, with another additional pledge of ten million dollars from coalition of Nigerian business leaders along with the United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education Gordon Brown launched the Safe Schools Initiative, whereby the fund is to be managed by the Federal Ministry of Finance, for protection of students and teachers in areas prone to security threats. "*The "Safe School Initiative" entails a combination of (1) school-based interventions; (2) community interventions to protect schools; and (3) special measures for at-risk populations*" A decade has gone by and yet the utilization and impact of this fund is at best questionable;

Also aware that the factors fueling insecurity ranges from illicit drug trade, human trafficking and proliferation of small arms is a serious threat to the development of Kaduna State and the Nation and therefore a coordinated effort encompassing all security apparatus and relevant agencies that include and not limited to Army, Navy, Air force, Police, Civil Defense, Immigration, Customs, NDLEA, DSS, DIA, NIA, Military Intelligence, Financial Intelligence Unit to track terrorism funding, NAPTIP, Refugee Commission anchored by the

Office of the National Security must quit working in silos and draw up and execute a comprehensive plan;

Further aware of the need for a Marshall plan on security with short-, medium- and longterm goals with specific timelines that holds security personnel found incapable accountable and to be replaced with capable hands;

Cognizant that Kaduna State borders the North-Western States of Zamfara, Katsina and Kano, borders the North-Eastern State of Bauchi and the North Central States of Plateau, Nasarawa, Abuja and Niger and therefore an isolated plan for just Kaduna alone will be ineffective without taking cognizant of border communities and even neighbouring countries of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Benin Republic and the wider Sahel;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Office of the National Adviser (ONSA) to coordinate and galvanize all security and intelligence networks to develop and execute a proactive master plan to restore security with defined plans on coordinating with neighbouring countries and the plan must include boots on ground land and aerial sweep of locations that include but not limited to Kuyambana Forest in Zamfara, Kamuka Forest in Kaduna, Falgore Forest in Kano, Borgu and Zugurma Forests in Niger State;
- (iii) also urge the Office of the National Security Adviser (NSA), to revisit and optimize fully the Acts passed for the National Counter Terrorism Centre as well as The National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons , and ensure that they fully serve the purpose of their establishment;
- (iv) further urge the Executive Arm of Government to absolve the Military and Security establishment from the restrictive envelope budget system, allowing them to develop a robust budget that is based on need assessments that reflects security peculiarities and reality on ground;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Finance to investigate the utilization and effectiveness of the Safe School Initiative Fund and report within 4 weeks;
- (vi) also mandate the Committees on National Security, Finance, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Ahmed Mohammed Munir — Lere Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, gunmen stormed Local Education Authority (LEA) Primary School and Government Secondary School in Kuriga Community where over 200 students and teachers have been forcibly abducted and moved to the forest unchallenged;

Also noted that two months back, this ugly menace occurred in the same community where a school Principal, Malam Abu Sufyan, was killed days earlier and his wife and baby abducted, thought the wife and baby were later rescued in a successful joint security operation on 3 February, 2024;

Aware that on Friday, 8 March, 2024, gunmen attacked worshippers in a mosque at Angwar Makera, Kwasakwasa Community in Birin Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State, with two persons declared dead;

Also aware that that this trend of violence is seeping into other parts of the State affecting persons of all religious and ethnic backgrounds;

Concerned that despite the 3.25 trillion Naira appropriation in 2024 Appropriation Act in the defence and security sector for acquisition of drones and other military equipment that could have tracked, located and rescued victims representing 11.8 percent of the national budget in 2024, yet, the security act as are reactionary rather than proactive;

Also concerned of the negative effect of the restrictive envelope system in the Budget process, which does not prioritize the actual needs assessment of the security sector on security procurement, planning and recruitment of personnel;

Aware that sometime in May 2014, the Nigerian Government with an initial ten million dollars, with another additional pledge of ten million dollars from coalition of Nigerian business leaders along with the United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education Gordon Brown launched the Safe Schools Initiative, whereby the fund is to be managed by the Federal Ministry of Finance, for protection of students and teachers in areas prone to security threats. "*The "Safe School Initiative" entails a combination of (1) school-based interventions; (2) community interventions to protect schools; and (3) special measures for at-risk populations*" A decade has gone by and yet the utilization and impact of this fund is at best questionable;

Also aware that the factors fueling insecurity ranges from illicit drug trade, human trafficking and proliferation of small arms is a serious threat to the development of Kaduna State and the Nation and therefore a coordinated effort encompassing all security apparatus and relevant agencies that include and not limited to Army, Navy, Air force, Police, Civil Defense, Immigration, Customs, NDLEA, DSS, DIA, NIA, Military Intelligence, Financial Intelligence Unit to track terrorism funding, NAP TIP, Refugee Commission anchored by the Office of the National Security must quit working in silos and draw up and execute a comprehensive plan;

Further aware of the need for a Marshall plan on security with short-, medium- and longterm goals with specific timelines that holds security personnel found incapable accountable and to be replaced with capable hands;

Cognizant that Kaduna State borders the North-Western States of Zamfara, Katsina and Kano, borders the North-Eastern State of Bauchi and the North Central States of Plateau, Nasarawa, Abuja and Niger and therefore an isolated plan for just Kaduna alone will be ineffective without taking cognizant of border communities and even neighbouring countries of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Benin Republic and the wider Sahel;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Office of the National Adviser (ONSA) to coordinate and galvanize all security and intelligence networks to develop and execute a proactive master plan to restore security with defined plans on coordinating with neighbouring countries and the plan must include boots on ground land and aerial sweep of locations that include but not limited to Kuyambana Forest in Zamfara, Kamuka Forest in Kaduna, Falgore Forest in Kano, Borgu and Zugurma Forests in Niger State;

- (iii) also urge the Office of the National Security Adviser (NSA), to revisit and optimize fully the Acts passed for the National Counter Terrorism Centre as well as The National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons , and ensure that they fully serve the purpose of their establishment;
- (iv) further urge the Executive Arm of Government to absolve the Military and Security establishment from the restrictive envelope budget system, allowing them to develop a robust budget that is based on need assessments that reflects security peculiarities and reality on ground;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Finance to investigate the utilization and effectiveness of the Safe School Initiative Fund and report within 4 weeks;
- (vi) also mandate the Committees on National Security, Finance, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 130/03/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) *Banditry Attack on Mbaikyor Community of Gwer East Local Government Area, Benue State:*

Hon. Austin Asema Achado (*Gwer Esst/Gwer West 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 5 (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 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Banditry Attack on Mbaikyor Community of Gwer East Local Government Area of Benue State:

The House:

Notes that according to Section 14 2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the primary objective of the State is the provision of maximum security of lives and properties of all citizens of our nation;

Also notes that, on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, between 4pm and 7pm, the Mbaikyor Community of Mbalom Council Ward in Gwer East Local Government Area was attacked by bandits, killing over 20 people including a 90-year-old set of twins, one of who was burnt beyond recognition and an 8-year-old child, who was cut into pieces;

Further notes that the bandits burnt down over fifty (50) houses including the village market and sacked the entire community leaving many with various degrees of injuries;

Worried that within the 3 hours that the attack lasted, there was no response from the security agencies, despite distress calls to the relevant government and security agencies by an indigene Barr. Ajinge Saa;

Also worried that the Nigerian Air Force Base, Makurdi is less than 30km to the Mbaikyor Community, while a Joint Military Security Task Force Check Point is less than 15km from Mbaikyor community. Sadly, the security forces only arrived the scene of the incident 20 hours after the bandits left;

Further worried that the marauding bandits have for a long time been left to operate in Benue State unhindered, built up the resilience, capacity and courage to go into communities, kill and burn down villages, without any resistance from security agencies;

Perturbed that as a result of the frequent baanditry, many farmers now have no access to their homes and farmlands;

Also perturbed that the farming communities of Mbaikyor in Benue State have known no peace as they are hindered from embarking on their daily means of livelihood as farmers;

Concerned with the loss of lives and the utmost implication of having farmers from Mbaikyor and across the farming regions of Benue State, without steady and peaceful settlements to practice their profession and livelihood of producing surplus food crops for the nation;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives;
- (ii) investigate the failure of the Nigerian Air Force Base, Makurdi and the Joint Military Security Task Force in Benue State in responding to the distress calls from Mbaikyor Community and other distress calls in the State, despite their proximity;
- (iii) urge the Joint Military Security Task Force stationed in Benue State to initiate full and coordinated security operations, with aerial surveillance and other necessary combat mission plans, to flush out the bandits around Mbaikyor and other banditry camps in Benue State, so as to allow the farmers to return to their farm lands to continue to ensure adequate food production within a secured environment;
- (iv) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to facilitate the return, resettlement, and rehabilitation of the victims;
- (v) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of absolute urgency, send relief materials to assuage the sufferings of the affected communities;
- (vi) mandate the Committees on Defence, and Police Affairs to investigate the deplorable condition of the Mbaikyor community and other communities faced by banditry attacks in Benue State and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Austin Asema Achado — Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that according to Section 14 2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the primary objective of the State is the provision of maximum security of lives and properties of all citizens of our nation;

Also noted that, on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, between 4pm and 7pm, the Mbaikyor Community of Mbalom Council Ward in Gwer East Local Government Area was attacked by bandits, killing over 20 people including a 90-year-old set of twins, one of who was burnt beyond recognition and an 8-year-old child, who was cut into pieces;

Further noted that the bandits burnt down over fifty (50) houses including the village market and sacked the entire community leaving many with various degrees of injuries;

Worried that within the 3 hours that the attack lasted, there was no response from the security agencies, despite distress calls to the relevant government and security agencies by an indigene Barr. Ajinge Saa;

Also worried that the Nigerian Air Force Base, Makurdi is less than 30km to the Mbaikyor Community, while a Joint Military Security Task Force Check Point is less than 15km from Mbaikyor community. Sadly, the security forces only arrived the scene of the incident 20 hours after the bandits left;

Further worried that the marauding bandits have for a long time been left to operate in Benue State unhindered, built up the resilience, capacity and courage to go into communities, kill and burn down villages, without any resistance from security agencies;

Perturbed that as a result of the frequent baanditry, many farmers now have no access to their homes and farmlands;

Also perturbed that the farming communities of Mbaikyor in Benue State have known no peace as they are hindered from embarking on their daily means of livelihood as farmers;

Concerned with the loss of lives and the utmost implication of having farmers from Mbaikyor and across the farming regions of Benue State, without steady and peaceful settlements to practice their profession and livelihood of producing surplus food crops for the nation;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives;
- (ii) investigate the failure of the Nigerian Air Force Base, Makurdi and the Joint Military Security Task Force in Benue State in responding to the distress calls from Mbaikyor Community and other distress calls in the State, despite their proximity;
- (iii) urge the Joint Military Security Task Force stationed in Benue State to initiate full and coordinated security operations, with aerial surveillance and other necessary combat mission plans, to flush out the bandits around Mbaikyor and other banditry camps in Benue State, so as to allow the farmers to return to their farm lands to continue to ensure adequate food production within a secured environment;
- (iv) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to facilitate the return, resettlement, and rehabilitation of the victims;
- (v) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of absolute urgency, send relief materials to assuage the sufferings of the affected communities;
- (vi) mandate the Committees on Defence, and Police Affairs to investigate the deplorable condition of the Mbaikyor community and other communities faced by banditry attacks in Benue State and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 131/03/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(iii) ***Call on the Federal Government for the Salvation of People of Anyigba District in Dekina Local Government Area, Kogi State on the Incessant Armed Robbery Facing the Town:*** Hon. Paul Gowon Haruna (*Bassa/Dekina 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 5 (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 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Salvation of People of Anyigba District in Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi State on the Incessant Armed Robbery Facing the Town:

The House:

Notes that Anyigba is a cosmopolitan town in the Eastern part of Kogi State and presently within Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency which hosts the famous Prince Abubakar Audu University formerly known as Kogi State University. It is a central hub for commercial, educational and socio-political activities of the peace loving people of the Igala nation;

Also notes that Anyigba and its environs became a spectrum of attraction to criminals around the year 2000 when commercial activities became bullish due to the establishment of the State University. The hype in commercial activities, attracted prominent and numerous commercial Banks to Anyigba. This brought succor to the entire region as regards the financial inclusivity but this relief was soon truncated by armed robbery of unbearable magnitude;

Further notes that in 2007, there were two robbery incidences, in 2008, it had thrice of similar attacks, while in 2009, such attacks have risen to twelve banks. This led to an agonizing loss of over twenty five lives including some security personnel;

Worried that the armed robbers continued their attacks as they re-equipped themselves with high tech armament. In 2023 alone, Anyigba and Ankpa have had two major robbery attacks that claimed many lives and properties of immeasurable value; due to the menace of armed robberies, some Commercial Banks in the towns of Oguma and Shintaku in Bassa Local Government Area, Abejukolo the headquarters of Omala Local Government Area while Abocho in Dekina Local Government Area and Dekina town which is the headquarter of Dekina Local Government Area have shut down their operations while sizeable numbers of other commercial ventures had also closed down respectively. Undoubtedly, several measures to arrest the ugly situation have been undertaken by the Kogi State House of Assembly in collaboration with the State Commissioner of Police that resulted in the deployment of an Armoured Personnel Carrier to Anyigba town. But, regrettably, the cases of armed robbery are still on the increase with evident of resultant economic and social consequences;

Aware that on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, Anyigba was thrown into another chaotic situation. The very attacked was tagged the "Mother of all Robbery" (MOR) was experienced as they came in their large numbers with bombs and other sophisticated assaulted Rifles. They overran the Area Command, bombed the armoured personnel carrier, the Divisional Police Headquarters was not spared, a Police Officer and a member of vigilante group were killed. In the same vein, two other persons that were on their lawful businesses were also killed and several other wounded persons are undergoing medical treatment while three banks were robbed simultaneously;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) call on the Executive Arm of Government to:
- (a) intensify measures and partner with the Kogi State Government in order to

find a holistic and lasting solution to the perennial insecurity challenges arising from armed robbery attacks on the town and people of Kogi State,

- (b) through the Inspector General of Police to urgently mobilize more armour personnel carrier to Anyigba to replace the one that was bombed. As it is currently, the town is left porous for possible repeat of such dastardly act by the armed robbers and other forms of criminality,
 - (c) establish an Army base in Anyigba that will serve the Nine Local Government Areas of Kogi East Senatorial Zone and its environs in order to forestall or abort similar incident that may occur in the future;
- (iii) mandate the Committees of Police Affairs, Army, National Security and Intelligence, and Defence to interface with the relevant security Agencies on the perennial cases of armed robbery and other related cases in Anyigba and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Paul Gowon Haruna — Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

Noted that Anyigba is a cosmopolitan town in the Eastern part of Kogi State and presently within Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency which hosts the famous Prince Abubakar Audu University formerly known as Kogi State University. It is a central hub for commercial, educational and socio-political activities of the peace loving people of the Igala nation;

Also noted that Anyigba and its environs became a spectrum of attraction to criminals around the year 2000 when commercial activities became bullish due to the establishment of the State University. The hype in commercial activities, attracted prominent and numerous commercial Banks to Anyigba. This brought succor to the entire region as regards the financial inclusivity but this relief was soon truncated by armed robbery of unbearable magnitude;

Further noted that in 2007, there were two robbery incidences, in 2008, it had thrice of similar attacks, while in 2009, such attacks have risen to twelve banks. This led to an agonizing loss of over twenty five lives including some security personnel;

Worried that the armed robbers continued their attacks as they re-equipped themselves with high tech armament. In 2023 alone, Anyigba and Ankpa have had two major robbery attacks that claimed many lives and properties of immeasurable value; due to the menace of armed robberies, some Commercial Banks in the towns of Oguma and Shintaku in Bassa Local Government Area, Abejukolo the headquarters of Omala Local Government Area while Abocho in Dekina Local Government Area and Dekina town which is the headquarter of Dekina Local Government Area have shut down their operations while sizeable numbers of other commercial ventures had also closed down respectively. Undoubtedly, several measures to arrest the ugly situation have been undertaken by the Kogi State House of Assembly in collaboration with the State Commissioner of Police that resulted in the deployment of an Armoured Personnel Carrier to Anyigba town. But, regrettably, the cases of armed robbery are still on the increase with evident of resultant economic and social consequences;

Aware that on Thursday, 7 March, 2024, Anyigba was thrown into another chaotic situation. The very attacked was tagged the "Mother of all Robbery" (MOR) was experienced as they came in their large numbers with bombs and other sophisticated assaulted Rifles. They overran the Area Command, bombed the armoured personnel carrier, the Divisional Police Headquarters was not spared, a Police Officer and a member of vigilante group were killed. In the same vein, two other persons that were on their lawful businesses were also killed and several other wounded persons are undergoing medical treatment while three banks were robbed simultaneously;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) call on the Executive Arm of Government to:
 - (a) intensify measures and partner with the Kogi State Government in order to find a holistic and lasting solution to the perennial insecurity challenges arising from armed robbery attacks on the town and people of Kogi State,
 - (b) through the Inspector General of Police to urgently mobilize more armour personnel carrier to Anyigba to replace the one that was bombed. As it is currently, the town is left porous for possible repeat of such dastardly act by the armed robbers and other forms of criminality,
 - (c) establish an Army base in Anyigba that will serve the nine Local Government Areas of Kogi East Senatorial Zone and its environs in order to forestall or abort similar incident that may occur in the future;
- (iii) mandate the Committees of Police Affairs, Army, National Security and Intelligence, and Defence to interface with the relevant security Agencies on the perennial cases of armed robbery and other related cases in Anyigba and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 132/03/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

8. Personal Explanation (Order Eight, Rule 5)

Hon. Unyime Josiah Idem (*Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to the motion on “*Suspicious Practices of the Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) Parastatal and Institutions in the Execution of Capital Projects in the Appropriation Act*” in the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 7 March, 2024. He noted that the matter was referred to the Committees on Financial Crimes, Public Service Matters and Public Procurement, and informed the House that the Committee on Public Procurement was already investigating the matter. He therefore sought the leave of the House to allow the Committee on Public Procurement serve as the lead Committee.

Ordered: Committee on Public Procurement to serve as lead Committee.

9. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1140).
- (2) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1141).
- (3) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1142).
- (4) Government Promissory Notes Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1143).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1144).
- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1145).
- (7) Debt Management Bureau Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1146).
- (8) National Inland waterways Authority Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1181).

- (9) Nigerian Ports Authority Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1182).
- (10) Federal University of Agriculture, Oba - Ofemili, Anambra State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1257).

10. Presentation of Report

Committee on National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC):
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control on the Need to Suspend the Ban Imposed by the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control on the Sachet Alcoholic and 200ML Pet Bottles (HR. 16/02/2024)" (Hon. Regina Akume — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

11. A Bill for an Act to Ensure Proper Control of Usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.942) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred to enable the Committee on Rules and Business to consolidate the Bill with the National Artificial Intelligence and Robotic Science (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.601).

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Criminal Code Act, Cap. C38, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide Stiffer Penalties to Selected Sections of the Act and for Related Matters (HB.151) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Criminal Code Act, Cap. C38, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide Stiffer Penalties to Selected Sections of the Act and for Related Matters (HB.151) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu 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.

13. A Bill for an Act to Establish Nigerian Mining Development Bank (NMDB) to Provide financial support, Promote Investment and Foster Sustainable Development in the Mining Sector of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.808) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Nigerian Mining Development Bank (NMDB) to Provide financial support, Promote Investment and Foster Sustainable Development in the Mining Sector of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.808) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo — Idemili North/Idemili 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 Solid Minerals and Development.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical

**Centre, Boki Local Government Area, Cross River State and for Related Matters (HB.588) —
Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Boki Local Government Area, Cross River State and for Related Matters (HB.588) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Bisong Victor Abang — Ikom/Boki 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.

15. Need to Complete the Construction of Uwa Junction-Urua Edet Obo-Nto Edino Road in Essien Udim and Obot Akara Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Uwa Junction/Urua Edet Obo-Nto Edino Road is a major road in Akwa Ibom State that run through two local governments of Essien Udim and Obot Akara, connects over 40 communities with several schools and businesses, and leads to Abia State of Nigeria;

Also notes that whereas contract for the construction of the road was awarded sometime in the year 2021 by the Federal Government through the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the construction of the road has been abandoned owing to poor funding;

Further notes that the abandonment of the construction of the 18 kilometres road has affected several communities; upended the livelihood of the people, stalled transportation of goods and services, and derailed smooth access to education by school children; thereby bringing upon the people of the communities untold hardship;

Aware that the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) has proposed a paltry sum of (₦50,000,000) Fifty million Naira in the 2024 budget for the construction of the road, which sum is adjudged insufficient given the length, breadth and the kilometres of the road, construction of bridges and installation of streetlights;

Conscious that if the sum proposed for the construction of the road is not reviewed, the people of the communities will continue to be exposed to serious hardship, and the road will remain a death trap;

Worried that the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) is embarking on other projects within the two Local Governments of Essien Udim and Obot Akara without first completing the road, which has more impact on the people as it traverses many communities;

Concerned that embarking on other projects by the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) without first completing the road will lead to abandonment of many projects;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Niger Delta and the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to upwardly review the sum budgeted for the construction of the Uwa Junction- Urua Edet Obo-Nto Edino Road in Essien Udim and Obot Akara Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom for completion of the road; and

- (ii) mandate the Committees on Niger Delta Ministry, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 133/03/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Niger Delta Ministry, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

16. Deplorable state of Ulakwo - Imerienwe Umuekwune - Etche and Ulakwo - Umuneke Ngor - Ezianya - Igirita, Road Rivers State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the primary function of government is to preserve lives and property as enshrined in section 14 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Also notes that the National Assembly is saddled with the responsibility of making laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation or any part thereof as enshrined in Section 4 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Worried that the Ulakwo-Imerienwe-Umuekwune-Etche and Ulakwo-Umuneke Ngor-Ezianya-Igirita Rivers State Roads, which connect Owerri North and Ngor-Okpala Local Government Areas in Imo State, have been abandoned for over 30 years;

Observes that the two roads which used to take half an hour to ply now take two or more hours have become a hub of criminal activity, with gunmen stealing and kidnapping road users;

Also observes that both perishable and perishable goods are destroyed on the two routes, costing ordinary Nigerians billions of naira due to the ceaseless worsening conditions of the roads;

Disturbed that the road is plagued by potholes and gullies, causing accidents, thus making life in the Local Government Area difficult, uninteresting resulting to economic hardship for locals and making life difficult and uninteresting for inhabitants;

Informed that the long-standing abandonment of the road project is primarily due to the non-disbursement of funds allocated to the consortium by the relevant ministry/agency;

Cognizant that if urgent steps are not taken to construct the roads, the social and economic lives of inhabitants of the affected areas will be completely destroyed;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to commence construction and rehabilitation of the Ulgcwo-Meienne-Urmuecune- Etche and Uliakwo-Ngor-Eziarno-Igirita Roads to ease the difficulties encountered by the inhabitants and other road users;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mathew Nwogu — Abo-Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 134/03/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

17. Need to Restrain Commercial Banks from Holding Funds Reversal Beyond the Date Prescribed by the Central Bank of Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that according to the Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System Plc, over One hundred and thirty-three million five hundred thousand Nigerians use banks;

Also notes that the Central Bank of Nigeria released a press release on June 8, 2020, revising timelines for reversals and resolution of refund complaints as follows:

- (a) failed "On-Us" ATM transactions (when customers use their cards on their bank's ATMs) shall be instantly reversed from the current timeline of three (3) days, where instant reversal fails due to any technical issue or system glitch, the timeline for manual reversal shall not exceed 24 hours,*
- (b) refunds for failed "Not-on-US" ATM transactions (where customers use their cards on other banks' ATM) shall not exceed 4% hours from the current 3-5 days,*
- (c) resolution of disputed/ ailed POS or Web transactions shall be concluded within 72 hours from the current five (5) days,*
- (d) all banks are directed to resolve the backlog of all ATM, POS, and Web customer refunds within two weeks starting June 8, 2020;*

Worried that Nigeria's financial sector is facing serious concerns due to persistent complaints of failed customer transactions, with over 69% of complaints in July 2023 encompassing failed transactions;

Cognizant of the rapid increase in numbers of failed banks and the magnitude of the problem which has reached an unprecedented level;

Alarmed that the high rate of failed bank transactions is causing a decrease in business investments and lending across the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct banks to work on their systems in mitigating failed transactions and immediately reverse failed transactions without the customer's prompting;*
- (ii) also urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct banks to reverse customers' funds within the stipulated periods whether or not the customers lodge complaints;*
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Banking Regulations, Banking and other Ancillary Institutions, and Digital and Electronic Banking to liaise with the Apex Bank and Nigeria Interbank Settlement System (NIBSS) to look into the issues and provide solutions (*Hon. Emmanuel Effiong Ukpong-Udo — Ikono/Ini Federal Constituency*).*

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iii), immediately after the word "solutions", insert the words "and report within four weeks" (*Hon. Dominic Okafor — Aguata Federal Constituency*).*

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ii) *Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:*

“urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct Commercial Banks to reverse immediately any amount erroneously credited to any bank account other than the intended bank account customers wish to credit the money into” (*Hon. Fayinka Moses Oluwatoyin — Mushin II Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that according to the Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System Plc, over One hundred and thirty-three million five hundred thousand Nigerians use banks;

Also noted that the Central Bank of Nigeria released a press release on June 8, 2020, revising timelines for reversals and resolution of refund complaints as follows:

- (a) failed "On-Us" ATM transactions (when customers use their cards on their bank's ATMs) shall be instantly reversed from the current timeline of three (3) days, where instant reversal fails due to any technical issue or system glitch, the timeline for manual reversal shall not exceed 24 hours,
- (b) refunds for failed "Not-on-US" ATM transactions (where customers use their cards on other banks' ATM) shall not exceed 4% hours from the current 3-5 days,
- (c) resolution of disputed/ailed POS or Web transactions shall be concluded within 72 hours from the current five (5) days,
- (d) all banks are directed to resolve the backlog of all ATM, POS, and Web customer refunds within two weeks starting June 8, 2020;

Worried that Nigeria's financial sector is facing serious concerns due to persistent complaints of failed customer transactions, with over 69% of complaints in July 2023 encompassing failed transactions;

Cognizant of the rapid increase in numbers of failed banks and the magnitude of the problem which has reached an unprecedented level;

Alarmed that the high rate of failed bank transactions is causing a decrease in business investments and lending across the country;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct banks to work on their systems in mitigating failed transactions and immediately reverse failed transactions without the customer's prompting;
- (ii) also urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct banks to reverse customers' funds within the stipulated periods whether or not the customers lodge complaints;
- (iii) further urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to direct Commercial Banks to reverse immediately any amount erroneously credited to any bank account other than the intended bank account customers wishes to credit the money into; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Banking Regulations, Banking and other Ancillary Institutions,

and Digital and Electronic Banking to liaise with the Apex Bank and Nigeria Interbank Settlement System (NIBSS) to look into the issues and provide solutions, and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 135/03/2024**).

18. Need to Provide Electricity Supply to Kunusha, Igovia and Udoda in Engenni, Ahoada West Local Government Area, Rivers State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Kunusha, Igovia and Udoda communities in Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District of Ahoada West Local Government Area of Rivers State have never experienced electricity, which is an oddity in the 21st century;

Also notes the Manuso Oil Well, operated by the Nigerian Agip Oil Company and Obaran/Enwe pipeline operated by Shell Nigeria Ltd are key revenue generating assets of the Federal Government derived from the communities;

Cognizant that the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are integrated and as a result, action in one area will affect outcomes in others;

Aware that the provision of electricity in Kunusha, Igovia, and Udoda communities in Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District, Ahoada West Local Government Area, Rivers State, will significantly impact the area's social and economic development;

Recalls that the Hon. Member representing Ahoada West/Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni Federal Constituency in the 9th Assembly, along with three paramount rulers, appealed to the Ministry of Power for a basic amenity but despite pleas, the issue persists, breeding high level of insecurity in the area;

Concerned that the government's critical and non-critical assets in certain areas are being vandalized due to perpetual darkness, which serves as a cover for criminals and non-state actors;

Cognizant that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) states that security and welfare shall be the primary purpose of government and as a result it behoves on the government to provide electricity to the strategic communities;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power to urgently address the electricity issue in Kunusha, Lgovia, and Udoda communities in the Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District, Ahoada West Local Government Area, Rivers State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Power, and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Victor Obuzor — Ahoada West/Ogba/Egbemi/Ndoni Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (i), *leave out* the words “Federal Ministry of Power”, and *insert* the words “Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)” (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayer (i), as amended, immediately after the letters “NDDC”, *insert* the words “and the

Ministry of Power via the Rural Electrification Agencies (REA)” (*Hon. Victor Obuzor — Ahoada West/Ogba/Egbemi/Ndoni Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Kunusha, Igovia and Udoda communities in Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District of Ahoada West Local Government Area of Rivers State have never experienced electricity, which is an oddity in the 21st century;

Also noted the Manuso Oil Well, operated by the Nigerian Agip Oil Company and Obaran/Enwe pipeline operated by Shell Nigeria Ltd are key revenue generating assets of the Federal Government derived from the communities;

Cognizant that the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are integrated and as a result, action in one area will affect outcomes in others;

Aware that the provision of electricity in Kunusha, Igovia, and Udoda communities in Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District, Ahoada West Local Government Area, Rivers State, will significantly impact the area's social and economic development;

Recalled that the Hon. Member representing Ahoada West/Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni Federal Constituency in the 9th Assembly, along with three paramount rulers, appealed to the Ministry of Power for a basic amenity but despite pleas, the issue persists, breeding high level of insecurity in the area;

Concerned that the government's critical and non-critical assets in certain areas are being vandalized due to perpetual darkness, which serves as a cover for criminals and non-state actors;

Cognizant that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) states that security and welfare shall be the primary purpose of government and as a result it behooves on the government to provide electricity to the strategic communities;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the Ministry of Power via the Rural Electrification Agencies (REA) to urgently address the electricity issue in Kunusha, Igovia, and Udoda communities in the Ediro- Ede Clan, Engenni District, Ahoada West Local Government Area, Rivers State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Power, and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to ensure compliance (**HR. 136/03/2024**).

19. Rehabilitation and Equipping of Unity Schools Across the Country

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Need to Rehabilitate Rice Mill, Gboko-Ameladu Road in Benue State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

21. Environmental Impact of Transporting Crude Oil by Mega Seagoing Vessels from Nembe Creek Trunk to Offshore Crude Oil Storage in the Atlantic Ocean by Aiteo E & P

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the acquisition of OML29 from Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) and the takeover of the Nembe Creek Trunk Line by Aiteo E&P in 2016;

Also notes the commencement of the transportation of crude oil using mega seagoing vessels by Aiteo E & P to reduce the distance of crude oil transportation through pipelines and drastically minimize the incidence of crude oil theft;

Aware of the construction of an Oil Tank farm at the Nembe Creek flow station from where crude oil are transported via the St John/Rio Bento River, through Nembe, Brass, Okpoama and Beletiana, to the offshore crude oil storage facility in the Atlantic Ocean, 27km off the shoreline of the island of Brass;

Worried about the effects of the project on the environment and humans, in terms of shoreline erosion, accidents from collision of operational vessels and the possible loss of lives, massive crude oil spillage that will destroy the ecosystem, damage aquatic life with negative impact on the basic means of livelihood, which is fishing, the deforestation of the mangrove forests and the attendant noise pollution;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to compel the Management of Aiteo E&P to conduct an environmental impact assessment of the project, as dictated by the Environment Impact Assessment Act, 2004, and include the host communities, the State Government and stakeholders, in line with international global practice, subject to scrutiny of the public and environmental experts;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment and Petroleum Resources (Midstream) to:
 - (a) investigate Environmental Impact of Transporting Crude Oil by Mega Seagoing Vessels from Nembe Creek Trunk to Offshore Crude Oil Storage in the Atlantic Ocean by Aiteo E & P, and
 - (b) monitor compliance with the Ministry of Environment and the Management of Aiteo E&P with this requirement, and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Marie Enenimiete Ebikake — Brass/Nembe Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the acquisition of OML29 from Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) and the takeover of the Nembe Creek Trunk Line by Aiteo E&P in 2016;

Also noted the commencement of the transportation of crude oil using mega seagoing vessels by Aiteo E & P to reduce the distance of crude oil transportation through pipelines and drastically minimize the incidence of crude oil theft;

Aware of the construction of an Oil Tank farm at the Nembe Creek flow station from where crude oil are transported via the St John/Rio Bento River, through Nembe, Brass, Okpoama and Beletiana, to the offshore crude oil storage facility in the Atlantic Ocean, 27km off the shoreline of the island of Brass;

Worried about the effects of the project on the environment and humans, in terms of shoreline erosion, accidents from collision of operational vessels and the possible loss of lives, massive crude oil spillage that will destroy the ecosystem, damage aquatic life with negative impact on the basic means of livelihood, which is fishing, the deforestation of the mangrove forests and the attendant noise pollution;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to compel the Management of Aiteo E&P to conduct an environmental impact assessment of the project, as dictated by the Environment Impact Assessment Act, 2004, and include the host communities, the State Government and stakeholders, in line with international global practice, subject to scrutiny of the public and environmental experts;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment and Petroleum Resources (Midstream) to:
 - (a) investigate Environmental Impact of Transporting Crude Oil by Mega Seagoing Vessels from Nembe Creek Trunk to Offshore Crude Oil Storage in the Atlantic Ocean by Aiteo E & P, and
 - (b) monitor compliance with the Ministry of Environment and the Management of Aiteo E&P with this requirement, and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 137/03/2024**).

22. Need to Establish Garri Processing and Storage facility in Otuokpoti, Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that food is essential to the existence of man and Garri is one of the staple foods in Nigeria that cuts across all tribes and social strata;

Aware that the people of Ogbia Federal Constituency in Bayelsa State are predominantly Cassava farmers, a major raw material in the manufacturing of Garri, Fufu, Cassava Flour, Farina Colloquially referred to as Kpokpo garri;

Worried that Farmers face significant losses due to inadequate storage facilities and limited production on small scales, while younger generations are discouraged by the rigorous manual procedures;

Recognizes that establishing a Garri processing and storage facility will reduce waste from cassava farm produce, encourage youth farming, reduce unemployment, boost economic conditions, and address the hunger crisis.

Cognizant that Bayelsa State government plans to upgrade its mini Garri processing facility due to outdated equipment and machinery, and to expand it to accommodate the growing population and neighbouring States;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Fadama II to approve the construction of a Garri storage and processing facility to be located in Otuokpoti, Ogbia; and
- (ii) mandate Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mitema Obordor — Ogbia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the word “Ogbia”, *insert* the words “and the entire three hundred and sixty Federal Constituencies” (*Hon. Obinna Aguocha — Ikwuano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question on the Motion as amended — Negatived.

23. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 13 March, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Usman A. Bello Kumo — Chief Whip).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.23 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker