



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

Wednesday, 12th March, 2025

-
- 1. National Anthem**
 - 2. Prayers**
 - 3. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings**
 - 4. Oaths**
 - 5. Announcements (if any)**
 - 6. Petitions**
-

BUSINESS OF THE DAY

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Sports Talent Search Scheme (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 516) - *First Reading*
Sen. Buhari, Abdulfatai (*Oyo North*).
 2. National Youth Service Corps Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 687) - *First Reading*
Sen. Ani, Anthony Okorie (*Ebonyi South*).
 3. Electoral Offences Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 740) - *First Reading*
Sen. Saliu, Mustapha (*Kwara Central*).
 4. Federal College of Vocational Studies Mbeke Ishieke, Ebonyi State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 742) - *First Reading*
Sen. Nwebonyi, Onyeka Peter (*Ebonyi North*).
 5. Gender Equity Bill, 2025 (SB. 743) - *First Reading*
Sen. Kingibe, Ireti Heebah (*FCT*).
-

ORDERS OF THE DAY

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Vocational and Technical Studies Ikire, Osun State to provide full-time courses in technical, vocational and applied sciences and carry out research, innovation, development and adaptation of teaching techniques and for other related matters, 2025 (SB. 666) - *Second Reading*
Sen. Oyewumi, Kamorudeen Olalere (*Osun West*).
2. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Geomatics, Oyo, Oyo State and to make comprehensive provisions for its due management and administration and for other related matters, 2025 (SB. 496) - *Second Reading*
Sen. Akintunde, Yunus Abiodun (*Oyo Central*).
3. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electoral Act No. 13 2022 to provide for early voting at elections, including criteria for eligibility, procedure at the elections and for other related matters, 2025 (SB. 412) - *Second Reading*
Sen. Yar'adua, Abdulaziz Musa (*Katsina Central*).

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT

1. Report of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND

Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences Egbe, Kogi State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 299)
 Sen. Mohammed, Dandutse Muntari (*Katsina South*)

-That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND on the Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences Egbe, Kogi State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 299).

MOTION

1. Urgent Need to address systemic abuse and ineffective implementation of the Federal Character Principle in Nigeria's Public Sector.

Sponsor: Sen. Osita, Ngwu (*Enugu West*)

The Senate:

Notes the persistent challenges in achieving balance and equity within Nigeria's public service due to limited recruitment opportunities, skewed promotions based solely on years of service, and insufficient avenues for worker mobility outside the public sector;

Also notes that the Federal Character Principle, entrenched in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) mandates fair representation in federal appointments to reflect the linguistic, ethnic, religious, and geographic diversity of the nation;

Aware that Section 14(3) & (4) of the Constitution, which unequivocally stipulate that "no predominance of persons from a few states or from a few ethnic or sectional groups" should exist within the federal government or its agencies;

Also aware that despite a focus on geographical quotas, imbalances persist between institutions, often relocating problems rather than resolving them, while certain regions remain underrepresented;

Observes with concern that the process of addressing public sector disparities has been undermined by institutional inertia and a lack of accountability, particularly as recruitment at senior levels is influenced more by internal preferences than by merit and fairness

Also observes that the quota system has, in many cases, created confusion between merit-based recruitment and equitable state representation, to the detriment of discipline, morale and institutional efficiency;

Highlights the constitutional criteria for equitable distribution of employment which requires that each state contributes its proportionate quota of 2.75% of the national workforce; and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to account for 1.00% of the workforce; while catchment areas are to address localized recruitment for junior staff up to 75% of positions;

Regrets that against the spirit of Order 96(27)(a-g) of the Senate Standing Orders 2023 (as amended) and Sections 62, 88, 89, 14(3)-(4) and the Third Schedule Part I C8(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) which bestowed on its Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs the power of legislative oversight in matters connected to the implementation and monitoring of the policy, it is deemed that various federal institutions including NNPC and its subsidiaries, NUPRC, NAFDAC, NPA, NCAA, PenCom, NAICOM, NDIC, FUTA, NLN, SMEDAN, ECN, NASRDA, SMDF, SON have consistently failed to adhere to federal character mandates, often bypassing regulations in their recruitment exercise (evidences abound);

Also regrets that the contempt emanating from the foregoing, if unchecked, will continually erode the efficacy of Section 14(d) & (e) of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017, Part I(1)-(2) of the Subsidiary Legislation 23 of 1997 and Sections 11(2), 20(2) & 23(1)-(3) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2011; and

Concerned that the Federal Character Commission (FCC), whilst constitutionally empowered, remains hindered by chronic underfunding, political interference and limited enforcement capabilities, Accordingly resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs to Conduct thorough investigative hearings on all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government with a view to immediately ascertaining their degrees of compliance with the provisions of Sections 14(3) and 14(4) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), ensuring fair and equitable representation across all regions and ethnic groups in appointments, promotions, and recruitment and report back in four (4) weeks.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Interior	Wednesday, 12 th March, 2025 (Public Hearing)	2.30pm	Meeting Room 117 Senate New Building
2.	Ad-hoc Committee on Incessant Crude Oil Theft	Wednesday, 12 th March, 2025	4.00pm	Suite 2.19 Chairman's Office, New Building
3.	Public Accounts	Wed. 12 th & Thur. 13 th March, 2025 (Public Hearing)	3.00pm	Hearing Room 4 White House