



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 17 December, 2024

1. The House met at 11.04 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House sang the National Anthem and recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**  
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 12 December, 2024.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

4. **Admittance into the Chamber**  
*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do admit into the Chamber, the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Vice President, the President of the Senate, Senators of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Ministers, Government Officials and other Dignitaries on Wednesday, 18 December, 2024, to receive an Address from the President on the 2025 budget estimates, pursuant to Order Six, Rule 4 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

5. **Announcement**
  - (i) **Friendship Groups:**  
Mr Speaker announced Hon. Alexander Mascot Ifeanyi as the Chairman, Nigeria - Czech Republic Friendship Groups.
  - (ii) **Conference Committee on Maize Export (Prohibition) Bill, 2024:**  
Mr Speaker announced membership of the Conference Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Babajimi Benson Adegoke	—	<i>Chairman</i>
(2)	Hon. Emeka Chinedu	—	<i>Member</i>
(3)	Hon. Usman Zannah	—	<i>Member</i>
(4)	Hon. Isah Bello Ambarura	—	<i>Member</i>
(5)	Hon. Ogewu David Agada	—	<i>Member</i>
(6)	Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis	—	<i>Member</i>

**6. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 5)****(i) *The Unlawful Arrest and Detention of a Community Leader, Alh. Bello Badejo by the Officers of 177 Battalion of the Nigerian Army:***

Hon. Mansur Manu Soro (*Darazo/Ganjuwa 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.*

**The Unlawful Arrest and Detention of a Community Leader, Alh. Bello Badejo by the Officers of 177 Battalion of the Nigerian Army:**

The House:

*Notes* that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees the fundamental human rights to life and dignity;

*Also notes* that the laws of the federation restricted the deployment of military personnel to external and territorial integrity of the Nigeria and in aid of the civil authorities;

*Informed* that on Monday, 9 December, 2024, a distinguished community leader in person of Alh. Bello Badejo was arrested in Maliya town of Nassarawa State in a commando style by the officers of the 177 battalion of the Nigerian Army without prior invitation;

*Concerned* that all efforts made by the immediate family of Alh Bello Badejo and his counsel to meet the Commanding Officer of the Battalion for discussion and to have access to their breadwinner proved abortive;

*Disturbed* that the continued detention of Alh Bello Badejo by officers of the Nigerian Army without formal charges is a violation of his fundamental human rights as provided in sections 34, 35 and 36 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Resolves to:*

- (i) call on the Chief of Army Staff to order the immediate release of Alh Bello Badejo from unlawful detention;
- (ii) also call on the Commanding Officer of 177 battalion to cause an appearance before the House Committee on Army on Tuesday, 18 December, 2024, to explain the rationale behind the action of his officers violating the provisions of the Nigerian Constitution (*Hon. Mansur Manu Soro — Darazo/Ganjuwa Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees the fundamental

human rights to life and dignity;

*Also noted* that the laws of the federation restricted the deployment of military personnel to external and territorial integrity of the Nigeria and in aid of the civil authorities;

*Informed* that on Monday, 9 December, 2024, a distinguished community leader in person of Alh. Bello Badejo was arrested in Maliya town of Nassarawa State in a commando style by the officers of the 177 battalion of the Nigerian Army without prior invitation;

*Concerned* that all efforts made by the immediate family of Alh Bello Badejo and his counsel to meet the Commanding Officer of the Battalion for discussion and to have access to their breadwinner proved abortive;

*Disturbed* that the continued detention of Alh Bello Badejo by officers of the Nigerian Army without formal charges is a violation of his fundamental human rights as provided in sections 34, 35 and 36 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Resolved to:*

- (i) call on the Chief of Army Staff to order the immediate release of Alh Bello Badejo from unlawful detention;
  - (ii) also call on the Commanding Officer of 177 battalion to cause an appearance before the House Committee on Army on Tuesday, 18 December, 2024, to explain the rationale behind the action of his officers violating the provisions of the Nigerian Constitution (**HR. 233/12/2024**).
- (ii) ***Fire Outbreak at Temidire Sawmill Market in Iwo Local Government, Osun State:***  
Hon. Mudashiru Lukman Alani (*Ayedire/Iwo/Olaoluwa 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.*

**Fire Outbreak at Temidire Sawmill Market in Iwo Local Government, Osun State:**

The House:

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

*Also notes* that at the early hours of Saturday, 14 December, 2024, fire razed down the popular Temidire Sawmill Market in Iwo Local Government in Osun State, thereby destroying goods and properties worth millions of Naira;

*Aware* that the cause of the fire incident at Temidire Sawmill Market is yet to be determined and the absence of a fire service contributed to the extent of damage wrecked by the fire outbreak in the market;

*Informed* that shops and other valuables were completely destroyed in the inferno which resulted in loss of the means of livelihood of the traders;

*Also informed* that several of the traders affected by the inferno took loans from commercial banks in order to stock their shops and are now worried that the inability to continue their business would greatly affect the interest accruing on their respective loans;

*Cognizant* that there is an urgent need for the Federal Government to take necessary actions to proffer solution to avert future fire outbreak and provide succor to affected traders;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to victims of the fire outbreak at Temidire Sawmill Market in Iwo Local Government, Osun State;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Management to investigate the immediate and remote causes of the fire outbreak and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Mudashiru Lukman Alani — Ayedire/Iwo/Olaoluwa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 234/12/2024).**

*Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Management, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).*

(iii) ***Devastating Fire Outbreak at the Lafia Modern Market in Nasarawa State:***  
Hon. Abubakar Sarki Dahiru (*Lafia/Obi 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.*

**Devastating Fire Outbreak at the Lafia Modern Market in Nasarawa State:**

The House:

*Notes* that Lafia Modern Market serves as a critical hub for Commerce in Nasarawa State and adjoining States including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT);

*Aware* of the fire outbreak at New Modern Market in Lafia, Nasarawa State which destroyed shops and goods worth billions of naira. The fire started on Thursday, 5 December, 2024, around 9.30 pm and lasted until early hours of Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024. The intense heat drove back firefighters, causing delays in controlling the situation;

*Also aware* that the fire outbreak has caused economic hardship for traders and families, thus necessitating the need for improved infrastructure and emergency preparedness in the market to support the State's economic development;

*Worried* that the market was built with substandard building materials, shops owners whose shops were destroyed by the fire, stated that the cause of the fire is unknown, and that the wood used in the construction of the shops contributed to the inferno;

*Cognizant* of the need to introduce fire safety measures, such as regular fire risk assessments, installation and maintenance of fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, use of fire resistant materials in construction, and regular maintenance of electrical equipment are essential steps to mitigate potential fire hazards and ensure safe evacuation during emergencies;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the State Government through the relevant authorities to provide an alternative area for traders to dump refuse;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction to provide immediate relief materials for victims of the Fire outbreak;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Fire Service, in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), to cite, assess and address gaps in fire safety infrastructure in markets nationwide;
- (iv) still urge the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to reconstruct the Lafia Modern Market using burnt bricks to ensure fireproof;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Commerce to investigate the cause of the Inferno and report within four ( 4) weeks (*Hon. Abubakar Sarki Dahiru — Lafia/Obi Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 235/12/2024).**

*Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Management, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).*

## **7. Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1452).
- (2) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1924).
- (3) Niger Delta Development Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1943).
- (4) National Commission for Decommissioning of Oil and Gas Installations (NC-DOGI) Bill, 2024 (HB.1968).
- (5) Civil Education Bill, 2024(HB.1969).
- (6) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1976).

- (7) National Community Policing Bill 2024 (HB.1988).
- (8) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1998).
- (9) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1999).
- (10) Federal Teaching Hospital, Jalingo, Taraba State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1993).
- (11) Public Health Practitioners Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill 2024(HB.2013).
- (12) Federal University of Technology, Ipokia, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2024(HB.1244).
- (13) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1993).
- (14) Nigeria Police Force Training Institutions (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB.470).
- (15) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1999).
- (16) National Hajj Commission of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2000)).
- (17) Violence Against Persons Act (Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2001).
- (18) Companies and Allied Matters Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2002).
- (19) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2003).
- (20) Federal Medical Centre Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2004).
- (21) Federal College of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Science, Chibok, Borno State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2005).
- (22) Federal School of Nursing and Midwifery, Uturu, Abia State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2006).
- (23) Federal University of Agriculture, Damboa, Borno State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 2007).

## 8. Presentation of Reports

### (i) *Committee on Science and Technology:*

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Technology Business Incubation Foundation (Takeover) Act, to Provide for the Establishment of the National Agency for Technology Incubation and for Related Matters (HB.1055)” (*Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah — Machina/Nguru/Yusufari/Karusuwa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

### (ii) *Committee on Science and Technology:*

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) Act to Change the Use of the Word National Interest to Public Benefit and to Increase the Period Provided for a term of Contract

as Prerequisite to Registration of the Document under this Act from 10 years to 20 years and strengthen the capacity of the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion to Monitor, on a continual basis, the transfer of Foreign Technology to Nigeria, encourage, regulate, and Commercialize Inventions, Innovations and Research and Development Results more effectively and enhanced diversified Representation in its governance for broader sectorial coverage and for Related Matters (HB. 1788 and HB. 1846)” (Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah — Machina/Nguru/Yusufari/Karusuwa Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(iii) Committee on Science and Technology:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal Institute of Technology, Ikpoba-Okha, Edo State charged with the Responsibility, amongst other things, for the Conduct of Research into any branch of Technological and Management Sciences Courses and for Related Matters (HB. 636)” (Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah — Machina/Nguru/Yusufari/Karusuwa Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(iv) Committee on Science and Technology:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on a Bill for an Act to Establish National Commission for Technology Transfer, Acquisition and Promotion to monitor, on a continuous basis, the inflow of Foreign Products/Technology to Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 591)” (Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah — Machina/Nguru/Yusufari/Karusuwa Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(v) Committee on Science and Technology:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on a Bill for an Act to Establish National Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Council to Set National Priorities on Research, Innovation and Development, to Improve Economic Growth and Competitiveness that can Lead to the Development of New Products, Processes, and Services, to Address Social and Environmental Challenges, to Improve the Quality of Life of People, to Create New Jobs and Opportunities and to Advance Knowledge and Understanding of Innovations; and for Related Matters (HB. 727)” (Hon. Zakariya Tijjani Zannah — Machina/Nguru/Yusufari/Karusuwa Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(vi) Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Road Safety Commission (Establishment) Act, 2007 to Empower the Federal Road Safety Commission with the Responsibility for Road Traffic Administration and Safety Management, Preventing and Minimizing Road Traffic Crashes on Public Roads, the

Supervision of users of such Public Roads, the Regulation of Traffic thereon and clearing of Obstruction on any part of the Public Roads and for Educating Drivers, Motorists and other Members of the Public generally on the proper use of Public Roads and Matters Related to Safety on the Public Roads and for Related Matters (HB. 1604 and HB. 1401)” (*Hon. Abiodun Aderin Adesida — Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(vii) Committee on Commerce:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Chartered Institute of Business Educators of Nigeria (CIBEN) charges with responsibility of Advancing the study, Training and Practice of Business Educators of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1112)” (*Hon. Ahmed Munir Mohammed — Lere Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(viii) Committee on Commerce:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Corporate Governance and for Related Matters (HB.1681)” (*Hon. Ahmed Munir Mohammed — Lere Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(ix) Committee on Commerce:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to provide for Establishment of Chartered Institute of Cooperatives and Social Enterprise Management to Regulate, Control and determine the Standards of knowledge to be attained by Persons seeking to become Chartered Cooperators and Social Entrepreneurs and for Related Matters (HB. 09)” (*Hon. Ahmed Munir Mohammed — Lere Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**(x) Committee on Health Institutions:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birni-Kebbi, Kebbi State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy and for Related Matters (HB.1624)” (*Hon. Adesola Adedayo Samuel — Apapa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the North West Development Commission Act and for Related**



**Matters (SB. 567) — Third Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the North West Development Commission Act and for Related Matters (SB. 567) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

**10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the South East Development Commission Act and for Related Matters (SB. 568) — Third Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the South East Development Commission Act and for Related Matters (SB. 568) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

**11. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Capital Market Registrars to Ensure Professionalism in the System; and for Related Matters (HB.1460) — Third Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Capital Market Registrars to Ensure Professionalism in the System; and for Related Matters (HB.1460) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do suspend Order Twelve, Rule 4 (1) to enable it take the Second Reading on a Bill for an Act to Establish Nigeria Police Force Training Institutions, to serve as High Level Centres for the Provision of Professional Training and for Related Matters (SB.470)” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

**12. A Bill for an Act to Establish Nigeria Police Force Training Institutions, to serve as High Level Centres for the Provision of Professional Training and for Related Matters (SB.470) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Nigeria Police Force Training Institutions, to serve as High Level Centres for the Provision of Professional Training and for Related Matters (SB.470) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.*

**13. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Technical and Vocational Training Centre, Aba to Promote Training, Certification and Registration of Trained Artisans to Ensure Effective Provision of Technical Services in the Execution of both Public and Private Capital Projects in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1328) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Technical and

Vocational Training Centre, Aba to Promote Training, Certification and Registration of Trained Artisans to Ensure Effective Provision of Technical Services in the Execution of both Public and Private Capital Projects in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1328) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Alexander Mascot Ikwechegh — Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency and Seven others*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Alternative Education.*

- 14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to make Provision for Establishment of the Federal College of Agriculture, Uhinigbe, Edo State to Provide full time Courses, Teaching and Training in Agriculture, Agricultural Technology and Carry out its Due Administration and Management and for Related Matters (HB.1864) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) to make Provision for Establishment of the Federal College of Agriculture, Uhinigbe, Edo State to Provide full time Courses, Teaching and Training in Agriculture, Agricultural Technology and Carry out its Due Administration and Management and for Related Matters (HB.1864) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Billy Famous Osawaru — Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions.*

- 15. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skills Acquisition Maiduguri, Borno State to Provide Full Time Courses, Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Sciences, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management and for Related Matters (HB.1821) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skills Acquisition Maiduguri, Borno State to Provide Full Time Courses, Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Sciences, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management and for Related Matters (HB.1821) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Rahis Abdulkadir — Maiduguri Metropolitan 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 Alternative Education.*

- 16. A Bill for an Act to Amend Section 3(2) (b) Second schedule and 31 of the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB.1413) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend Section 3 (2) (b) Second schedule and 31 of the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and

for Related Matters (HB.1413) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Dominic Okafor Ifeanyi — Aguata 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 Federal Polytechnic and Higher Technical Education.*

17. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Education, Ehamcefu, Isi-Uzo Local Government Area, Enugu and for Related Matters (HB.1966) — Second Reading**  
*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Education, Ehamcefu, Isi-Uzo Local Government Area, Enugu and for Related Matters (HB.1966) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Paul Sunday. Nnamchi — Enugu East/Isi-Uzo 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 University Education.*

18. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture and for Related Matters (HB.1798) — Second Reading**  
*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Fisheries and Apiculture and for Related Matters (HB.1798) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Usman Midala Balami — Askira-Uba/Kala-Balge Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions.*

19. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Quarterly Report to the National Assembly on Accountability and Performance in Relation to Appropriation of Funds to all Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies to Monitor Compliance and for Related Matters (HB.1906) — Second Reading**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

20. **Need to Re-award and Complete the Construction of Jada Multi-Purpose Dam in Adamawa State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes that the Jada Multi-Purpose Dam in Jada Local Government Area of Adamawa State is known as a major source of Water Supply Scheme, Irrigation and Its Hydro-Power Component;*

*Also notes* that irrigation farming is majorly the occupation of residents living around the dam area which is meant to create means of self-sustenance for the unemployed youths and improve food security in Jada LGA and Adamawa State as a whole. But for over a decade now, the construction process was not completed after awarding the Contract in November 2010 by Federal Ministry Water Resources and Sanitation to Messr Ambeez Services Nigeria Limited with a completion period of 36 Months and additional 12 months for defect liability of the Dam Construction project;

*Concerned* that the inability of the project to be completed was majorly caused by inadequate or non-provision of budgetary allocation, design reviews and lack of consultancy service leading to the termination of the project in 2019;

*Also concerned* that after the termination of the contract in 2019, no major step was taken to ensure inclusion and completion of the dam project due to non-appropriation of funds to the project;

*Worried* that the non-completion of the project has deprived the people of Jada Local Government Area a source of clean water for domestic use and irrigation purposes;

*Also worried* that the absence of clean water is an issue as the dam construction project in Jada Local Government Area, Adamawa State is being considered for inclusion in the annual Appropriation Act;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation to make provision for the re-award and completion of the Jada Multi-Purpose Dam in Adamawa State in the 2025 budget estimates;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Water Resources, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mohammed Inuwa Bassi — Ganye/Jada/Mayo Belwa/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 236/12/2024).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Water Resources, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).*

**21. Need to Appoint Additional Mandate Secretaries in the Federal Capital Territory for Adequate Representation of Area Councils in the Territory**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**22. Non Delivery of the 2000 Units of Tractors and 100 Units Combined Harvesters under the Presidential Food Security Initiative and Renew Hope Agricultural Mechanization Drive**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that shortly after his inauguration into office, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, on Thursday, July 13, 2023, declared a state of emergency on food security, and a major component put forward to boost food production was massive agricultural mechanization across the country;

*Also notes* that this emergency declaration stemmed from the continuous food inflation in the country resulting in hunger and starvation of Nigerians. This ugly trend was frowned at by Mr President, and as part of the Renewed Hope agenda of his administration, he showed great determination to revolutionize food production in Nigeria;

*Aware* that the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security has signed an agreement with John Deere Tractors to supply 2000 tractors implements and 100 combined harvesters annually, in line with the Renewed Hope target for increased food production and food security, the contract for a tractor assembly plant in Nigeria was agreed to cost \$70,041,733.80 and ₦2,981,739,134.30, respectively, with actual equipment and delivery costs, the contract includes sales, after-sales services, spare parts, and training for mechanized service providers.

*Also aware* that the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, pursuant to the Presidential Food Security Initiative (PFSI), entered into another five (5) years agreement with AFTRADE DMCC for establishment of a tractor assembly plant to produce 9,022 agricultural implements and 2,000 Belarus tractors annually, this Agreement was estimated to cost Nigeria about \$684,190,433.00 (Six hundred and eighty-four million, one hundred and ninety thousand, four hundred and thirty-three dollars and ₦138,613,486,965.00 (one hundred and thirty-eight billion, six hundred and thirteen million, four hundred and eighty-six thousand, nine hundred and sixty-five Naira) only as actual equipment cost and delivery/assembly cost, respectively;

*Cognizant* that both agreements were laden with benefits to accrue to Nigeria if implemented, which include increased agricultural production, technology transfer, and reduction of the foreign currency expenditure on the purchase of ready-made equipment due to the growth of local production;

*Worried* that a year after the agreements were signed by the National Agricultural Development Fund and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, no single tractor or implement has been received in Nigeria despite the huge public funds involved in these transactions;

*Concerned* that the non-delivery of these tractors and implements is a setback to the Renewed Hope Agenda in Agricultural mechanization and this poses challenge to Nigeria's food sufficiency ambition, as two farming seasons have been lost since the signing of the agreements;

*Cognizant* of the need to investigate the non-delivery of the tractors, implements, and combined harvesters for over one year after the agreements were signed and the status of the tractor assembly plants contemplated by the agreements;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to investigate:

- (i) the non-delivery of the 2,000 tractors, implements, and 100 combined harvesters within the stipulated period; inquire on the status of the tractor assembly plants contemplated in the agreements; and
- (ii) the procurement and distribution of farm implements within the purview of the Federal Department of Agriculture (FDA) in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and report within four (4) (*Hon. Saba Ahmed Adam — Edu/Patigi/Moro Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that shortly after his inauguration into office, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, on Thursday, July 13, 2023, declared a state of emergency on food security, and a major component put forward to boost food production was massive agricultural mechanization across the country;

*Also noted* that this emergency declaration stemmed from the continuous food inflation in the country resulting in hunger and starvation of Nigerians. This ugly trend was frowned at by Mr President, and as part of the Renewed Hope agenda of his administration, he showed great determination to revolutionize food production in Nigeria;

*Aware* that the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security has signed an agreement with John Deere Tractors to supply 2000 tractors implements and 100 combined harvesters annually, in line with the Renewed Hope target for increased food production and food security, the contract for a tractor assembly plant in Nigeria was agreed to cost \$70,041,733.80 and ₦2,981,739,134.30, respectively, with actual equipment and delivery costs, the contract includes sales, after-sales services, spare parts, and training for mechanized service providers.

*Also aware* that the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, pursuant to the Presidential Food Security Initiative (PFSI), entered into another five (5) years agreement with AFTRADE DMCC for establishment of a tractor assembly plant to produce 9,022 agricultural implements and 2,000 Belarus tractors annually, this Agreement was estimated to cost Nigeria about \$684,190,433.00 (Six hundred and eighty-four million, one hundred and ninety thousand, four hundred and thirty-three dollars and ₦138,613,486,965.00 (one hundred and thirty-eight billion, six hundred and thirteen million, four hundred and eighty-six thousand, nine hundred and sixty-five Naira) only as actual equipment cost and delivery/assembly cost, respectively;

*Cognizant* that both agreements were laden with benefits to accrue to Nigeria if implemented, which include increased agricultural production, technology transfer, and reduction of the foreign currency expenditure on the purchase of ready-made equipment due to the growth of local production;

*Worried* that a year after the agreements were signed by the National Agricultural Development Fund and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, no single tractor or implement has been received in Nigeria despite the huge public funds involved in these transactions;

*Concerned* that the non-delivery of these tractors and implements is a setback to the Renewed Hope Agenda in Agricultural mechanization and this poses challenge to Nigeria's food sufficiency ambition, as two farming seasons have been lost since the signing of the agreements;

*Cognizant* of the need to investigate the non-delivery of the tractors, implements, and combined harvesters for over one year after the agreements were signed and the status of the tractor assembly plants contemplated by the agreements;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to investigate:

- (i) the non-delivery of the 2,000 tractors, implements, and 100 combined harvesters within the stipulated period; inquire on the status of the tractor assembly plants contemplated in the agreements; and
- (ii) the procurement and distribution of farm implements within the purview of the Federal Department of Agriculture (FDA) in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 237/12/2024**).

**23. Need to Activate the Special Economic Zone (SEZ), Markudi, Benue State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that Special Economic Zones or Free Trade Zones are designated areas within a country that operate under specific economic and regulatory frameworks to attract investments, promote exports

and drive economic growth;

*Also notes* that these SEZ OR FTZ are a deliberate establishment of government to boost trade, attract investments and operate as a catalyst to industrialization;

*Aware* that in 2017, the Federal Government under His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari recognised the potentials of SEZs and embarked on a plan to establish the zones across the six geopolitical zones of the country;

*Also aware* that the Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority, NEPZA, tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the project, selected Makurdi, Benue State amongst the beneficiary States for the Project, other's selected were Lekki, Lagos State, Funtua, Katsina State and Ilorin, Kwara State;

*Further aware* that in 2018, NEPZA approached the Benue State Government for land measuring 276 hectare parcel behind NASME on the bank of River Benue, Makurdi Local Government was designated for the SEZ, the government promised to resolve title issues and relocate inhabitants;

*Cognizant* that NEPZA awarded contracts for the first phase of development based on this understanding for preliminary feasibility studies, master plan, engineering design and environmental impact assessments;

*Also cognizant* that President Mohammadu Buhari was committed to releasing ₦250 billion for infrastructure development over a period of 5yrs, that is ₦50 Billion Naira in each budget cycle;

*Worried* that seven years after the approval, Makurdi SEZ has not been implemented, leaving youths jobless and causing crime, despite its potential to create millions of jobs;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Government through NEPZA to reopen negotiations with the Benue State Government to reactivate agreement with contractors for the Makurdi Special Economic Zone. to attract Investments and create employment;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Industry and Commerce to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Sekau Dzua Iyortyom — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that Special Economic Zones or Free Trade Zones are designated areas within a country that operate under specific economic and regulatory frameworks to attract investments, promote exports and drive economic growth;

*Also noted* that these SEZ OR FTZ are a deliberate establishment of government to boost trade, attract investments and operate as a catalyst to industrialization;

*Aware* that in 2017, the Federal Government under His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari recognised the potentials of SEZs and embarked on a plan to establish the zones across the six geopolitical zones of the country;

*Also aware* that the Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority, NEPZA, tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the project, selected Makurdi, Benue State amongst the beneficiary

States for the Project, other's selected were Lekki, Lagos State, Funtua, Katsina State and Ilorin, Kwara State;

*Further aware* that in 2018, NEPZA approached the Benue State Government for land measuring 276 hectare parcel behind NASME on the bank of River Benue, Makurdi Local Government was designated for the SEZ, the government promised to resolve title issues and relocate inhabitants;

*Cognizant* that NEPZA awarded contracts for the first phase of development based on this understanding for preliminary feasibility studies, master plan, engineering design and environmental impact assessments;

*Also cognizant* that President Muhammadu Buhari was committed to releasing ₦250 billion for infrastructure development over a period of 5yrs, that is ₦50 Billion Naira in each budget cycle;

*Worried* that seven years after the approval, Makurdi SEZ has not been implemented, leaving youths jobless and causing crime, despite its potential to create millions of jobs;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Government through NEPZA to reopen negotiations with the Benue State Government to reactivate agreement with contractors for the Makurdi Special Economic Zone. to attract Investments and create employment;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Industry and Commerce to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks **(HR. 238/12/2024)**.

**24. Order of the Day**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do set down items 16 - 19 on the Order Paper till another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)” (*Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**25. Executive Session**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do resolve into a Closed Session” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*) — *Agreed to.*

*Closed Session* — 12.48 p.m

*Open Session* — 1.01 p.m.

**26. Adjournment of First Sitting**

*That the House do adjourn the First Sitting till 1.20 p.m.* (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

*The House adjourned accordingly at 1.02 p.m.*

**Abbas Tajudeen**  
*Speaker*