Fourth Republic 10th National Assembly First Session No. 86



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 16 May, 2024

- 1. The House met at 11.01 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
- **2.** The House recited the National Pledge.

### **3.** Votes and Proceedings

Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 15 May, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

### 4. Message

Mr Deputy Speaker read the following messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

(*i*)



# **PRESIDENT,** FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

19th April, 2024

*Rt. Hon. Tajudeen Abbas, CON* Speaker of the House of Representatives, National Assembly Complex, Three Arms Zone, Abuja. 2807

Rt Hon. Speaker,

# REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROMISSORY NOTE PROGRAMME FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO KEBBI STATE AND NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE TAKEOVER OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED AIRPORTS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

I write to request the concurrence of the House of Representatives for the establishment of Promissory Note Programmes in favour of Kebbi and Nasarawa State Governments for the reimbursement of the respective costs of construction of newly built airports in those states which have been taken over by the Federal Government.

2. The House of Representatives is invited to note that, at the EC 2nd (2023) 16 Extraordinary Meeting of the Federal "Executive Council (FEC), held on Tuesday, 23rd May, 2023, it was approved as follows:

- (i) that a Promissory Note in the sum of Nine Billion, Five Hundred and Forty-two Million, Six Hundred and Fifty-one Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty-six Naira, Eleven Kobo (₦9,542,651,786.11) only be issued to Nasarawa State Government as refund for the takeover of the newly constructed Nasarawa Airport; and
- (ii) that a Promissory Note in the sum of Fifteen Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-seven Million, Three Hundred and Thirty-six Thousand, Ninety-five naira and Eighty-eight Kobo (₩15,137,336,095.88) only be issued to Kebbi State Government as refund for the takeover of Birnin Kebbi International Airport.

3. The House of Representatives may wish to note that by the provisions of item (3) of the Second Schedule of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), aviation, including airports, safety of aircraft and carriage of passengers and goods by air-fall under the Exclusive Legislative List. The import of this is that, ownership, regulation and control of airports in Nigeria are exclusive to the Federal Government.

4. In light of the above, I urge the House of Representatives to consider and grant concurrent approval for the establishment of the Promissory Note Programmes in favour of Kebbi and Nasarawa States Governments respectively, as presented in paragraph 2 above.

5. Meanwhile, attached herewith is a copy of the Extract from conclusions of the 2 Extra-ordinary meeting EC 2nd (2023) 16 as Annex I and the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) Due Process Report in favour of Nasarawa and Kebbi States as Annexes II & III respectively for your consideration.

6. While looking forward to the kind consideration and expeditious action of the House of Representatives, please accept, Rt. Hon. Speaker, the assurances of my highest esteem. Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Bola Ahmed Tinubu

*(ii)* 



**PRESIDENT,** FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

13th May, 2024

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

Rt Hon. Speaker,

### SUBMISSION OF SUPPLEMENTARY STATUTORY APPROPRIATION TO THE 2024 STATUTORY APPROPRIATION ACT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION

Following a review of the 2024 Statutory Appropriation of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory Administration has indicated that some critical projects were inadvertently omitted in the 2024 Appropriation.

The capital projects are a vital component of the performance of the FCT, and shall significantly impact manpower and infrastructural development within the FCT.

In this regard, a 2024 Supplementary Appropriation to the 2024 Statutory Appropriation Act of the Federal Capital Territory Administration passed in March 2024, is hereby proposed.

I therefore forward the proposed Supplementary Appropriation to the 2024 Statutory Appropriation Act of the FCTA and trust that it shall receive the expeditious consideration of, and passage by, the House of Representatives. Please accept, Rt. Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

### Bola Ahmed Tinubu

(iii)



**PRESIDENT,** FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

14th May, 2024

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

Rt Hon. Speaker,

# TRANSMISSION OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING BILL, 2024

In accordance with the provisions of Section 58 (2) of the Constitution of the Federat Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I forward, herewith, the National Anti-Doping Bill, 2024 for the kind consideration of the House of Representatives.

2. The National Anti-Doping Bill, 2024 seeks to create an administratively independent National Anti-Doping Organization which is a cardinal requirement for Nigeria to achieve compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories. The enactment of this vital legislation will also help Nigeria avoid the imposition of Signatory Consequences inclusive of loss of hosting and participating rights at Regional, Continental, and World Championships or major Athletic Events.

3. It is my hope that this submission will receive the usual kind expeditious consideration of the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for passage of same into law before the Olympic Games coming up in Paris in July 2024.

4. Please accept, Rt Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration and regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

# Bola Ahmed Tinubu

# 5. Announcement

Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Deputy Speaker announced the following visitors in the Gallery:

- (1) Staff and Students of Regina Pacis College, Garki, Abuja;
- (2) Members of the Federation of Igbo Students Association (FISA), University of Jos Chapter.

# 6. Petitions

- (i) A petition from D. A. Idu (Advocates & Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Benysta Hotel Limited on over billing and threat of disconnection by Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Peter Aniekwe (*Anambra East/Anambra West Federal Constituency*);
- (*ii*) The following petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Jajere Muhammed Buba (*Fika/Fune Federal Constituency*);
  - (a) Emem Joseph, on his premature retirement from the service of the Nigeria Police Force;
  - (*b*) U. B. Eyo & Co. (Legal Practitioners and Consultants), on behalf of Sunday Oboyi (AP No. 278555), on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police Force;
- (*iii*) A petition from Ngozi Ijioma on the recovery of her stolen vehicle with Registration No: KRD 402 YF, from the Nigeria Police Force, Anambra Command, was presented and laid by Hon. Lilian Orogbu Obiagelli (*Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency*);
- (*iv*) A petition from Adamu Deco Suleman, on behalf of Ughiole and Ubane Communities, and the residents of Iyekoba, Utagban and Etete, on alleged failure to restore power and provision of electricity meter, was presented and laid by Hon. Esosa Iyawe (*Oredo Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from Tijjani Mohammed, on behalf of the beneficiaries of owner-occupier of Kaduna Polytechnic, on alleged trespass by the officials of Presidential Implementation Committee (PIC) on Federal Government of Nigeria Landed Property and Kaduna Polytechnic Officials, was presented and laid by Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (*Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) Escalating Insecurity in Communities within Makarfi and Kudan Local Government Areas of Kaduna State:

Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo (*Makarfi/Kudan 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.

# Escalating Insecurity in Communities within Makarfi and Kudan Local Government Areas of Kaduna State:

The House:

*Notes* that Sections 33 and 41 of the 1999 Constitution as amended, provide that every person has the right to life and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his or her life;

*Also notes* that Section 41 of the Constitution also states that every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria, and to reside in any part therein;

*Concerned* that the escalating insecurities bedeviling the good people of Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency of Kaduna State has almost deprived them of the enjoyment of these inalienable rights guaranteed by the Constitution;

*Worried* that on Thursday, 2 May, 2024, the most recent incident consumed the life of the village head of Marke; **Malam Kabiru Muhammadu**, who was slaughtered and set ablaze by his killers resulting in his instant incremation, injuries to some of his households and loss of properties worth millions of Naira;

Also concerned that if this menace is not timely checked, it might spread to other neighboring communities in Zaria, Katsina and some parts of Kano State;

*Aware* that our primary duty and obligation as government is to ensure the protection of the lives and properties of Nigerians;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police in conjunction with the Military and others security agencies such as the DSS, to investigate the recent incident and develop strategic security operations to address this escalating menace in the affected communities;
- (*iii*) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Police Affairs, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency*).

#### Debate.

#### Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that Sections 33 and 41 of the 1999 Constitution as amended, provide that every person has the right to life and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his or her life;

*Also noted* that Section 41 of the Constitution also states that every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria, and to reside in any part therein;

*Concerned* that the escalating insecurities bedeviling the good people of Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency of Kaduna State has almost deprived them of the enjoyment of these inalienable rights guaranteed by the Constitution;

*Worried* that on Thursday, 2 May, 2024, the most recent incident consumed the life of the village head of Marke; **Malam Kabiru Muhammadu**, who was slaughtered and set ablaze by his killers resulting in his instant incremation, injuries to some of his households and loss of properties worth millions of Naira;

Also concerned that if this menace is not timely checked, it might spread to other neighboring communities in Zaria, Katsina and some parts of Kano State;

*Aware* that our primary duty and obligation as government is to ensure the protection of the lives and properties of Nigerians;

Resolved to:

- (*i*) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police in conjunction with the Military and others security agencies such as the DSS, to investigate the recent incident and develop strategic security operations to address this escalating menace in the affected communities;
- (*iii*) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Police Affairs, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 200/05/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (ii) Killings of 27 Innocent Citizens of Bilbis Town in Tsafe Local Government of Zamfara State: Hon. Kabiru Amadu Mai-Palace (*Gusau/Tsafe 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.

# Killings of 27 Innocent Citizens of Bilbis Town in Tsafe Local Government of Zamfara State:

The House:

*Notes* that on 10 May, 2024, in a broad day light heavily armed bandit stormed BILBIS town of Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara state and killed over 27 innocent people, over 50 sustained various degrees of injuries by gun shot while many were abducted;

Also notes that similar event happened weeks ago inside Tsafe town where these bandits attacked PDP Secretary of Tsafe Local Governments Alh. Musa Ille in his residence and gruesomely murdered him, also same applied to the newly appointed commandant of community protection guard (CGP) of Tsafe Local Government, Mal. Aminu Sarkin Baura Tsafe, he was also murdered gruesomely by these criminals;

*Further notes* that a number of communities within Tsafe Local Government including Magazu, Wanzamai, Keta, Danjibga, Kwaren Ganuwa, Yan Doton Daji, Kucheri, Unguwar Chida, Kunchin Kalgo, and many more face these incessant attacks in recent times by this bandits;

*Concerned* that the continuous killings and abduction in Tsafe Local Government demands Immediate attention and action, lives and properties are under constant threat and the situation is deteriorating rapidly day by day; *Regrets* that the innocent casualties of these attacks are harmless civilians, Farmers, Children and Women who have lost their peace, farming, livelihood and business;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the victims who tragically lost lives in these heinous attacks, convey sympathy to all those affected and observe a minute silence for the departed souls;
- (*ii*) urge the Chief of Army Staff to constitute military barracks in Tsafe Local Government to strengthen border defence of the areas;
- *(iii)* also urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy additional security personnel equipped with adequate logistics support;
- *(iv)* further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently supply relief material to the affected villages;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Kabiru Amadu Mai-Palace Gusau/Tsafe Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

#### Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that on 10 May, 2024, in a broad day light heavily armed bandit stormed BILBIS town of Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara state and killed over 27 innocent people, over 50 sustained various degrees of injuries by gun shot while many were abducted;

*Also noted* that similar event happened weeks ago inside Tsafe town where these bandits attacked PDP Secretary of Tsafe Local Governments **Alh. Musa Ille** in his residence and gruesomely murdered him, also same applied to the newly appointed commandant of community protection guard (CGP) of Tsafe Local Government, **Mal. Aminu Sarkin Baura Tsafe**, he was also murdered gruesomely by these criminals;

*Further noted* that a number of communities within Tsafe Local Government including Magazu, Wanzamai, Keta, Danjibga, Kwaren Ganuwa, Yan Doton Daji, Kucheri, Unguwar Chida, Kunchin Kalgo, and many more face these incessant attacks in recent times by this bandits;

*Concerned* that the continuous killings and abduction in Tsafe Local Government demands Immediate attention and action, lives and properties are under constant threat and the situation is deteriorating rapidly day by day;

*Regretted* that the innocent casualties of these attacks are harmless civilians, Farmers, Children and Women who have lost their peace, farming, livelihood and business;

#### Resolved to:

(*i*) extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the victims who tragically lost lives in these heinous attacks, convey sympathy to all those affected and observe a minute silence for the departed souls;

- (*ii*) urge the Chief of Army Staff to constitute military barracks in Tsafe Local Government to strengthen border defence of the areas;
- *(iii)* also urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy additional security personnel equipped with adequate logistics support;
- *(iv)* further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently supply relief material to the affected villages;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR. 201/05/2024).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (iii) Incessant Banditry Attacks in Faskari, Kankara and Sabuwa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:
  Hon. Shehu Dalhatu (Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa 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.

# Incessant Banditry Attacks in Faskari, Kankara and Sabuwa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:

The House:

*Notes* that on 7 may, 2024, an unspecified number of people mostly women and children were kidnapped at Unguwar Goje of Sayau Ward, Sabuwa Local Government and the bandits are demanding more than one hundred million naira as ransom for their release;

*Also notes* that on 12 May, 2024, five people were killed and so many people mostly women and children were kidnapped at Unguwar Hussain of Gamji Ward, Sabuwa Local Government;

*Further notes* that on 13 and 14 May, 2024, the community of Yarmalamai Ward in Faskari Local Government Area was ransacked by bandits, 9 people were killed, over 5,000 people were displaced, 500 bags of grains were carted away, over 200 herds of cattle were rustled, as well as about 50 shops were robbed and many burnt down;

*Concerned* by the frequency of bandits attacks that seems to have turned into the order of the day proving a disturbing scenario which resulted to killings and kiddinapping of innocent members of constituency;

*Alarmed* that the recent banditry attacks resulted in the tragic loss of 5 Soldiers while many sustained injuries living the communities they were meant to protect deserted making them vulnerable to more attacks from these criminals;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims;
- (*ii*) urge the Nigeria Police Force and the Department of State Services to deploy security personnel to Yarmalamai Community in Faskari Local Government of Katsina State;
- (*iii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and non-food items to save thousands of victims from dying of hunger and severe hardship;
- *(iv)* further urge the Chief of Defence Staff to redirect the redeployment of personnel to the affected areas; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police, Army, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Shehu Dalhatu Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa Federal Constituency*).

#### Debate.

#### Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that on 7 may, 2024, an unspecified number of people mostly women and children were kidnapped at Unguwar Goje of Sayau Ward, Sabuwa Local Government and the bandits are demanding more than one hundred million naira as ransom for their release;

*Also noted* that on 12 May, 2024, five people were killed and so many people mostly women and children were kidnapped at Unguwar Hussain of Gamji Ward, Sabuwa Local Government;

*Further noted* that on 13 and 14 May, 2024, the community of Yarmalamai Ward in Faskari Local Government Area was ransacked by bandits, 9 people were killed, over 5,000 people were displaced, 500 bags of grains were carted away, over 200 herds of cattle were rustled, as well as about 50 shops were robbed and many burnt down;

*Concerned* by the frequency of bandits attacks that seems to have turned into the order of the day proving a disturbing scenario which resulted to killings and kiddinapping of innocent members of constituency;

*Alarmed* that the recent banditry attacks resulted in the tragic loss of 5 Soldiers while many sustained injuries living the communities they were meant to protect deserted making them vulnerable to more attacks from these criminals;

### Resolved to:

- (*i*) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims;
- (*ii*) urge the Nigeria Police Force and the Department of State Services to deploy security personnel to Yarmalamai Community in Faskari Local Government of Katsina State;

- (*iii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and non-food items to save thousands of victims from dying of hunger and severe hardship;
- *(iv)* further urge the Chief of Defence Staff to redirect the redeployment of personnel to the affected areas; and
- (*v*) mandate the Committees on Police, Army, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 202/05/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

8. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to Provide for the Creation of Oke-Ogun State with Saki as the Proposed Capital City and for Related Matters (HB.1258) — *Second Reading* 

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to Provide for the Creation of Oke-Ogun State with Saki as the Proposed Capital City and for Related Matters (HB.1258) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Kareem Tajudeen Abisodun — Saki East/Saki West/Atigbo 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 Constitution Review.

9. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Conservation and Management of Nigeria's Wildlife under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Funa and Flora (CITIES), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and Associated Agreements and Protocols and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and for Related Matters (HB.1085) — Second Reading

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Conservation and Management of Nigeria's Wildlife under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Funa and Flora (CITIES), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and Associated Agreements and Protocols and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and for Related Matters (HB.1085) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Terseer Ugbor — Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Treaties, Protocol and Agreement, and Environment.

 A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation, 2004, to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Fiditi - Oyo, Oyo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1269) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of

Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation, 2004, to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Fiditi - Oyo, Oyo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1269) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba 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.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal Medical Centre Kafanchan, Kaduna State and for Related Matters (HB. 507) — Second Reading

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal Medical Centre Kafanchan, Kaduna State and for Related Matters (HB. 507) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Amos Magaji Gwamna Abel — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency and three 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 Health Institutions.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make provision for Establishment of National Institute for Oil Palm Research, Ijebu Igbo, Ogun State and for Related Matters (HB.655) — Second ReadingMotion 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 to make provision for Establishment of National Institute for Oil Palm Research, Ijebu Igbo, Ogun State and for Related Matters (HB.655) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan — Ijebu North/Ijebu East/Ogun Waterside 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.

13. A Bill for an Act to Establish Petroleum Training Institute Ibeno, Akwa Ibom State to Provide courses of Instruction, Training and Research in petroleum technology and Produce Technicians and other Skilled Personnel required to run the Petroleum Industry and for Related Matters (HB.362) — Second Reading

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Petroleum Training Institute Ibeno, Akwa Ibom State to Provide courses of Instruction, Training and Research in petroleum technology and Produce Technicians and other Skilled Personnel required to run the Petroleum Industry and for Related Matters (HB.362) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Okpolupm Etteh* — *Eket/East Eket/Ibeno/Onna 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 Petroleum Resources (Training Fund).

# **14.** Need to Reconstruct the Ose River Bridge in Owan Local Government Area, Edo State *Motion made and Question proposed*:

The House:

*Notes* that the urgent need to reconstruct the old and narrow Ose Bridge linking Edo and Ondo States to prevent vehicles from plunging into the river;

*Also notes* that the bridge was constructed during the colonial era being the only link from Kogi State to Afemai, Owan East and West Local Government Areas to the Western part of the country;

*Concerned* that the bridge is narrow, situated at a slope and whenever it rains, the bridge is flooded, prompting drivers to wade through the flood at their own risks as its badly dislocated railings on either side of the bridge can no longer provide the needed protection;

Aware that the bridge has become a death trap for motorists as well as other road users and a hub for criminal activities like armed robbery, kidnapping, abduction and banditry due to the poor condition of the road and the bridge;

*Also aware* of the fatal attack on the bridge as criminals mounted an illegal road block and motorists were trapped, as they could not make a U-turn due to the narrow nature of the bridge;

*Worried* that the deplorable condition of the bridge has become difficult to carry out economic activities in the axis stretching between Uzebba, and its neighboring environs in Owan West and Ifon in Ondo State;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to reconstruct the Ose River bridge and upgrade the road;
- (*ii*) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Julius O. Ihonvbere Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 203/05/2024).

*Motion referred to the* **Committee on Works, and Legislative Compliance**, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

15. Need to Investigate the Reconstruction of the 13.5km Oyigbo-Izuma-Miriwayi-Okoloma-Afam Road, Oyigbo Local Government Area of Rivers State under the Road Infrastructure Development and Refurbishment Investment Tax Credit Scheme 16. Devastating Erosion Menace on the 2.8km Orie Ngodo Road, Obinulo Ngodo Isuochi, Umunneochi and Umuokogbuo Ahonta/Uporoto Road in Isuikwuato Local Government Areas of Abia State *Motion made and Question proposed*:

The House:

*Notes* that erosion, a natural geological process in which earthen materials are washed away and transported by running water, poses great threat to roads, farmlands, vegetations and human settlements in Abia State;

Also notes that erosion not only disrupts road accessibility and communication, but also affects soil topography, obstructing vegetation and farming, causing negative technical and socio-economic effects activities;

*Aware* that the 2.8Km Orie Ngodo to Evangel Secondary School Road in Obinulo Ngodo Isuochi and Umuokogbuo Ahonta/Uporoto Road in Isuikwuato Local Government Areas of Abia State is in poor condition, causing motorists to park their vehicles in a distant from the settlements;

*Concerned* over the plight of sick individuals, particularly pregnant women, who often face worsening conditions due to the deteriorating roads leading to hospitalization or even death;

Also concerned about potential worsening transportation and communication issues in communities during the raining season, which could worsen erosion and suffering of inhabitants, particularly in farming and trading;

### Resolves to:

- urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to intervene and control the devastating erosion menace on the 2.8Km Orie Ngodo to Evangel Secondary School Road, Obinulo Ngodo Isuochi Umunneochi Local Government Area and Umuokogbuo Ahonta/Uporoto Road in Isuikwuato Local Government Area in Abia State;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Ecological Fund to utilize the Ecological funds to effect control of erosion in 2.8km Orie Ngodo to Evangel Secondary School Road, Obinulo Ngodo Isuochi Umunneochi and Umuokogbuo Ahonta/Uporoto Road in Isuikwuato Local Government Areas in Abia State; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Amobi* Godwin Ogah Isuikwato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency).

# Agreed to.

# (HR. 204/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committee on Ecological Fund, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

**17. Introduction of Genetically Modified Crops in Nigeria** *Motion made and Question proposed:*  *Notes* that genetically modified crops, commonly referred to as GM Crops, are plants used for agricultural purposes whose DNA has been altered using genetic engineering methods;

*Also notes* that the recent introduction of genetically modified crops in Nigeria has raised serious questions mostly about safety, regulatory oversight and the potential impact on the country's biosafety and ecosystem;

Aware that genetically modified foods can be created to contain almost anything, including genes which have higher level of toxicity and negative long-term effects on human health;

Also aware that introducing these crops has led to public outcries, with serious concerns expressed about the potential risks these GM crops may pose to human health, environmental degradation, and food security;

*Further aware* that the National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA) has been accused of approving the introduction of GM crops into Nigeria without following due process and scientific protocols;

*Concerned* that these GM crops are being introduced into Nigeria at a time when the said crops have been banned in several countries like France, Russia, Germany, China, India, and a host of other countries in Europe due to safety concerns;

Also concerned that GMO crops' long-term impact on human health remains uncertain, prompting precautionary measures due to potential health risks including cancer, antibiotic resistance, allergic reactions, and reproductive issues;

*Disturbed* that the introduction of genetically modified crops could have far-reaching implications for Nigeria's food security, potentially transferring control to foreign biotechnology companies which are primarily driven by profit and cost reduction;

*Cognizant* that of the need to prioritize public health, biodiversity, and traditional farming practices due to uncertainties surrounding the long-term impact of GMOs on health, environment, and food security;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Government to suspend the introduction of new genetically modified crops;
- (*ii*) also urge the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) to cause the already introduced GM foods and crops in Nigeria to be properly labeled to safeguard consumers;
- (*iii*) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to:
  - (*a*) conduct a comprehensive investigation into the introduction of genetically modified crops in Nigeria by the National' Biosafety Management Agency,
  - (b) assess the potential health and environmental risks associated with genetically modified crops and report back within four (4) weeks; and

(*iv*) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Muktar Tolani* Shagaya — Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency).

#### Agreed to.

#### (HR. 205/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Science Engineering pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

# 18. Award of Contract for the Construction of Bagel - Zungur/Liman Katagum Dam in Dass Local Government Area of Bauchi State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that in March 2017, the Federal Government initiated feasibility studies for the construction of a multi-purpose Dam at Bagel village in Dass Local Government Area of Bauchi State;

*Also notes* that the Construction of Bagel-Zungur/Liman Katagum Dam has been a recurring item in the Appropriation Act for years and domiciled in the Ministry of Water Resources;

*Further notes* that despite the allocation of funds in the Appropriation Act over the years, there is no visible construction work on the Bagel-Zungur/Liman Katagum dam;

*Aware* that the construction of the Bagel-Zungur/Liman Katagum Dam is critical for the management of the natural water resources for the benefit of the region and the country at large, as it facilitates electricity generation, water supply, flood control, food security and dry season farming;

*Worried* that delay in the construction of the Bagel-Zungur/Liman Katagum dam may pose ecological threat of flooding to neighbouring communities, consequently destroying lives and properties.

*Cognizant* that it is imperative to ensure transparency and accountability in the use of public funds allocated for infrastructure projects.

#### Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Ministry of Water Resources to avail the Committee on Water Resources with a detailed report on reasons for the delay in the construction of the Bagel-Zungur/Liman Katagum dam; and
- (*ii*) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to investigate the award of contract and report within four weeks;
- (*iii*) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Jafaru Gambo Leko Bogoro/Dass/Tafawa Balewa Federal Constituency*).

#### (HR. 206/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committee on Water Resources, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

# **19.** Need to Fund Medical Research Institutions to Combat Future Unforeseen Novel Medical Challenges

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that due to the global increase in viral outbreaks like Lassa fever, Ebola and coronavirus, it is crucial to increase financial support for medical research to combat health challenges;

*Aware* that the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) in Nigeria conducts research on public health diseases, develops dissemination structures, and collaborates with national and international institutions;

Also aware that there exist other research institutes in the country with similar objectives of collecting, analyzing and providing scientific data and information for the development of scientific products for sustainable development and benefit for the country;

*Concerned* that these institutions are not operating optimally, as they are currently underfunded, inadequately equipped with modern technology and lack requisite library resources to effectively perform their duties;

*Cognizant* that Nigeria Medical Research Institutes have potential to contribute to the nation's medical advancement given the required attention and funding;

#### Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, and Health Institutions to investigate the state of Medical Research institutes in the country, and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Adewale Hammed Waheed — Agege Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that due to the global increase in viral outbreaks like Lassa fever, Ebola and coronavirus, it is crucial to increase financial support for medical research to combat health challenges;

*Aware* that the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) in Nigeria conducts research on public health diseases, develops dissemination structures, and collaborates with national and international institutions;

Also aware that there exist other research institutes in the country with similar objectives of collecting, analyzing and providing scientific data and information for the development of scientific products for sustainable development and benefit for the country;

*Concerned* that these institutions are not operating optimally, as they are currently underfunded, inadequately equipped with modern technology and lack requisite library resources to effectively perform their duties;

*Cognizant* that Nigeria Medical Research Institutes have potential to contribute to the nation's medical advancement given the required attention and funding;

#### Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, and Health Institutions to investigate the state of Medical Research institutes in the country, and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 207/05/2024).

**20.** Construction of Access Roads in Aleiro, Gwandu and Jega Local Government Areas, Kebbi State *Motion made and Question proposed*:

The House:

*Notes* that several communities and villages in Aleiro, Gwandu, and Jega Federal Constituency are not linked to other parts of the State, thereby disconnecting them from appropriate governance;

*Also notes* that some of the communities and villages include Nufawa, Guyawa, Unguwar Fulani, Gulmare, Kochi and Mammawa in Gwandu Local Government Area, as well as Gomozo, Dorawai, Dumbegu in Aleiro and Jega Local Government Areas;

*Worried* that lack of access to roads in rural communities prevents economic development, limits access to healthcare and education, impedes emergency services, and isolates communities from essential amenities and opportunities;

Aware that in order to address the importance of rural connectivity, agricultural promotion, and sustaining the maintenance of rural infrastructure, the government has formulated and implemented various policies and programmes aimed at improving access roads in rural areas, including the National Rural Access and Mobility Project, the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project, and the National Rural Infrastructure Maintenance Framework;

*Desirous* of the need to construct rural roads in Aleiro, Gwandu, and Jega Federal Constituency to improve transportation networks, enhance access to schools, markets, and stimulate economic activities, foster development and social inclusion;

#### Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Works, and the Programme Directors of the National Rural Access and Mobility Project as well as the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project, to include the underlisted rural roads in the 2025 budget estimates;
- (*ii*) also urge the urge the Federal Ministries of Works to construct:
  - (a) 18km access road from Illela Madadi Junction through Gulmare, Nufawa, Guyawa, Unguwar Fulani Baka and up to Mammawa,
  - (b) 23km road from Aleiro town to Rafin Mudi, Dorawai, Gomozo, Gomozon Jegawa, Gomozon yari and Dumbegu Village linking to Jega Local Government Area,

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- (c) 17km road from Aleiro town through Unguwar Galadima, Rafin Bauna Mai Fanfo, and Rafin Bauna to Dorawai Village,
- (d) 11.8km road including an adjoining bridge and seven culverts from Gwandu town to Kambaza through Cheberu district, and
- (e) 13km road from Barkeji town through Sabon Birnin, Ruggardawa, and Maruda, all in Gwandu Local Government Area of Kebbi State;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Appropriations, National Planning and Economic Development, Works, Agriculture Production and Services, and Rural Development to ensure the inclusion of the aforementioned access roads in the 2025 budget estimates and
- *(iv)* also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mansur Musa Aleiro/Gwandu/Jega Federal Constituency*).

#### Agreed to.

#### (HR. 208/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Appropriations, National Planning and Economic Development, Works, Agriculture Production and Services, and Rural Development, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

# 21. Need to Resolve the Boardroom Crisis in Eko Distribution Company to Enhance Service Delivery and Optimize Revenue Generation for the Federal Government *Motion made and Ouestion proposed*:

The House:

*Notes* that Eko Electricity Distribution Company is one of the 11 DISCOs which controls one-sixth of power distributed from the national grid and covers several major commercial centers within Lagos - Ogun axis;

*Also notes* that with the control of 40% Equity Shares in the Company by the federal government, the deepening board room crisis which is not only snowballing into increasing poor performance by the DISCO but is also injurious to government, business requires an urgent need for government to intervene in order to protect its stake and improve performance;

*Further concerned* that last year, whistle blowers alleged that the Company was entrenched in grave misconduct by a top official relating to hiring of ghost workers, misappropriation and diversions;

*Concerned* that the lingering managerial crisis between the Chairman and few Directors on one side and a majority of other Directors on the other side in the Eko Distribution Company is capable of impacting negatively on service delivery or optimum electricity distribution within the zone;

Also concerned that the crisis is a result of what has been described as undue personalization of board authority, abuse of due process and vested interest including accusations of underhand dealings and impropriety;

*Again concerned* that in reaction to the allegations, a thorough investigation was instituted by the Managing Director but was interrupted and stalled by further allegations by some directors of plans by certain vested interest to cover up the misdeeds;

#### Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the lingering board room crisis in Eko Distribution Company that is snowballing into poor performance to resolve the crisis, protect Federal Government's stake in the Company and ensure optimal electricity distribution to the business axis of Lagos - Ogun States (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

#### Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that Eko Electricity Distribution Company is one of the 11 DISCOs which controls one-sixth of power distributed from the national grid and covers several major commercial centers within Lagos - Ogun axis;

*Also noted* that with the control of 40% Equity Shares in the Company by the federal government, the deepening board room crisis which is not only snowballing into increasing poor performance by the DISCO but is also injurious to government, business requires an urgent need for government to intervene in order to protect its stake and improve performance;

*Further concerned* that last year, whistle blowers alleged that the Company was entrenched in grave misconduct by a top official relating to hiring of ghost workers, misappropriation and diversions;

*Concerned* that the lingering managerial crisis between the Chairman and few Directors on one side and a majority of other Directors on the other side in the Eko Distribution Company is capable of impacting negatively on service delivery or optimum electricity distribution within the zone;

Also concerned that the crisis is a result of what has been described as undue personalization of board authority, abuse of due process and vested interest including accusations of underhand dealings and impropriety;

*Again concerned* that in reaction to the allegations, a thorough investigation was instituted by the Managing Director but was interrupted and stalled by further allegations by some directors of plans by certain vested interest to cover up the misdeeds;

#### Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the lingering board room crisis in Eko Distribution Company that is snowballing into poor performance to resolve the crisis, protect Federal Government's stake in the Company and ensure optimal electricity distribution to the business axis of Lagos - Ogun States (HR. 209/05/2024).

# **22.** Need to Awaken the Price Control Board of Nigeria to its Constitutional Responsibilities *Motion made and Question proposed*:

*Notes* that the Price Control Board of Nigeria has left its responsibilities to the marketers, now responsible for increasing the prices of commodities with impunity and to the detriment of consumers;

*Also notes* that the take home pay of Nigerian civil servants has not increased, yet workers are witnessing an increase in the prices of commodities daily in our markets;

*Recalls* that the Act establishing a governing body known as the Price Control Board is responsible for overseeing and enforcing price control regulations. The Act also establishes for each state a committee to be the Price Control Committee to advise and assist the Board on the implementation of this Act, but without an outcome as the Board is inactive;

*Aware* that the responsibilities of the Price Control Board of Nigeria are to regulate the prices of all commodities in Nigeria and ensure that the marketers comply for the prices to be comparable with the income of the Nigerian civil servants;

*Concerned* that this trend of leaving the prices of commodities at the marketer's discretion is affecting mostly low-income earners and also increasing crime, as individuals unable to afford to purchase at an exorbitant price will resort to other means or steal;

*Disturbed* that the Price Control Board of Nigeria takes no action to checkmate this menace of daily price increases;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Commerce to investigate the daily increase in prices of commodities in the country at random and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi — Oshodi/Isolo* II *Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that the Price Control Board of Nigeria has left its responsibilities to the marketers, now responsible for increasing the prices of commodities with impunity and to the detriment of consumers;

*Also noted* that the take home pay of Nigerian civil servants has not increased, yet workers are witnessing an increase in the prices of commodities daily in our markets;

*Recalled* that the Act establishing a governing body known as the Price Control Board is responsible for overseeing and enforcing price control regulations. The Act also establishes for each state a committee to be the Price Control Committee to advise and assist the Board on the implementation of this Act, but without an outcome as the Board is inactive;

*Aware* that the responsibilities of the Price Control Board of Nigeria are to regulate the prices of all commodities in Nigeria and ensure that the marketers comply for the prices to be comparable with the income of the Nigerian civil servants;

*Concerned* that this trend of leaving the prices of commodities at the marketer's discretion is affecting mostly low-income earners and also increasing crime, as individuals unable to afford to purchase at an exorbitant price will resort to other means or steal;

*Disturbed* that the Price Control Board of Nigeria takes no action to checkmate this menace of daily price increases;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Commerce to investigate the daily increase in prices of commodities in the country at random and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 210/05/2024**).

### 23. Citizens Participation: A Panacea to National Development

Order deferred by leave of the House.

24. Dualization of 6km Akungba-Ikare Federal Road and the Downgrading of Akungba Hill to Avert further Carnage on the Road in Akoko South/East and South/West Federal Constituency, Ondo State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that Akungba-Akoko, a vibrant community in Ondo State, Nigeria, is known for its educational institutions and lively atmosphere, including Adekunle Ajasin University, its strategic location along major transportation routes facilitate economic activities and provides essential amenities for residents;

*Also notes* that Akungba Hill, near Ikare-Akoko, is a dangerous hill with sharp slopes which makes navigation difficult and causing brake failures for the vehicles plying the road, thereby, leading to thousands of carnages and destruction of properties worth billions of naira;

*Further notes* that inadequate road infrastructure in Akungba's university area is causing fatalities, emphasizing the need for immediate intervention to improve road safety for students, traders, and community settlers;

*Cognizant* of the need for government to prioritize dualization of Akungba-Ikare Road to accommodate more commuters and downgrade Akungba Hill to prevent future carnage, as these measures are essential for safety and well-being of road users;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) empathize with Akungba community on the reoccurring accidents on the road;
- (*ii*) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to dualize the Akungba-Ikare Road and downgrade Akungba Hill as a priority project and make provision for it in the 2025 budget estimates;
- *(iii)* engage relevant stakeholders, including Federal Ministry of Works to expedite action on the road; and
- (*iv*) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance (*Hon. Adegboyega Adeyemi Adefarati* — *Akoko South East/Akoko South West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

#### (HR. 211/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

# 25. Rehabilitation of Bad Portions of the Akunu/Ayere/Kabba Road and Rejig Security Architecture in the Area

Order deferred by leave of the House.

26. Need to Convert Old Federal Government Press Building, Ajegunle to a Vocational and Skills Acquisition Centre for Youth Empowerment Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that in 1975, the Federal Government established the Federal Government Press in Ajegunle with responsibility to managing the federal government publications such as gazette, bulletins, and periodic magazines;

*Aware* that the establishment provided employment opportunities for the local community and encouraged business activities through the procurement of printing materials;

*Worried* that the relocation of Federal Ministries and Agencies to Abuja in December 1991 resulted in the neglect of the Federal Government Press in Ajegunle, which was converted into an Event Centre;

*Recognizes* that the best solution is to repurpose the abandoned building into a Vocational and Skills Acquisition Centre to accommodate and empower Nigerian youths with relevant skills and preparing graduates for employment;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation to relinquish the property to Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) for the purpose of the conversion;
- (*ii*) also urge the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) to take over and fund the establishment of same; and
- (*iii*) mandate the Committee on Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Kalejaiye Adeboye Paul Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

#### Debate.

#### **Amendment Proposed:**

Insert a new Prayer (iv), as follows:

"mandate the Committees on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, Commerce, Sustainable Development Goals, and Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises to come up with a utilization plan for the building " (*Hon. Adebayo Balogun — Ibeju Lekki Federal Constituency*).

Question on the Motion as amended – Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that in 1975, the Federal Government established the Federal Government Press in Ajegunle with responsibility to managing the federal government publications such as gazette, bulletins, and periodic magazines;

*Aware* that the establishment provided employment opportunities for the local community and encouraged business activities through the procurement of printing materials;

*Worried* that the relocation of Federal Ministries and Agencies to Abuja in December 1991 resulted in the neglect of the Federal Government Press in Ajegunle, which was converted into an Event Centre;

*Recognized* that the best solution is to repurpose the abandoned building into a Vocational and Skills Acquisition Centre to accommodate and empower Nigerian youths with relevant skills and preparing graduates for employment;

#### Resolved to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation to relinquish the property to Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) for the purpose of the conversion;
- (*ii*) also urge the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) to take over and fund the establishment of same; and
- (*iii*) mandate the Committee on Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) to ensure compliance;
- (*iv*) also mandate the Committees on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, Commerce, Sustainable Development Goals, and Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises to come up with a utilization plan for the building (**HR. 212/05/2024**).

# 27. Need to Construct Feeder Roads and Rural Electrification in Igabi Federal Constituency, Kaduna State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that Igabi Federal Constituency in Kaduna State whose resident are predominantly farmer are faced with infrastructural challenges like inadequate feeder roads and rural electrification, causing insecurity and hindering economic growth and commercial activities;

*Also notes* that the absence of feeder roads and rural electrification has led to a significant loss of farm produce, discouraged large- and small-scale production, and negatively impacted poor farmers, resulting in higher food costs and worsening socio-economic conditions, affecting the region's socio-security and economic situation, and also affecting the educational pursuit of the children especially at the primary school level, whereby the children find it difficult to go to school.

*Aware* that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Rural Electricity Agency are tasked with constructing feeder roads in rural areas in the country, of which Igabi Federal Constituency is among, and also the Rural Electricity Agency to provide rural electricity in rural areas.

*Worried* that the lack of feeder roads in the local government could lead to increased food prices, poverty, hunger, and criminal activities. Also, a lack of adequate rural electricity could hinder economic electrification development, potentially causing devastating consequences that affect the educational standard of children and the commercial activities of the villagers and also cause rural urban migration.

### Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to construct feeder roads in some selected villages/wards in Igabi Local Government;
- (*ii*) also urge the Rural Electricity Agency to connect some selected villages/wards in Igabi Local Government with rural electricity by making provisions in the 2025 budget estimates;
- *(iii)* mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services and Rural Development and National Rural Electrification Agency to ensure compliance; and
- (*iv*) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Hussaini Mohammed Jallo Igabi Federal Constituency*).

### Agreed to.

### (HR. 213/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services and Rural Development and National Rural Electrification Agency, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

# 28. Value Chain Training of Youths and Women on Agribusiness Development to Reduce Unemployment in the Country

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

*Notes* that applying an agri-business value chain training approach that focuses on youths and women will no doubt reduce unemployment rates in the country;

Also notes that creating better jobs through intensive youth and women's value chain training in agribusiness will reduce unemployment rates and maintain political and social stability;

*Observes* that investments in the development of sustainable agricultural value chains offer immense opportunities for youths in rural and urban areas;

*Aware* that this type of massive training is an indirect way of engaging the youth and women, which will invariably reduce unemployment and enhance political and socioeconomic activities in Nigeria;

Also aware that reducing crimes and criminalities, which are social menaces, will reduce youths and women's idleness in society, as an idle brain is the devil's workshop;

Disturbed that the number of unemployed youths and women is on the rise, especially in rural areas;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Government to embark on massive value chain training of youths and women on agribusiness development to enhance the socio-economic activities of the country through the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the National Agricultural Development Fund (NADFUND);
- (*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, in collaboration with the National Productivity Centre (NPC) and National Directorate of Employment (NDE), to device the means of embarking on this value chain training of youths and women on agribusiness development; and
- (*iii*) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, Rural Development, Youth Development, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Canice Moore Chukwugozie Nwachukwu Oru East/Orsu/Orlu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

#### Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that applying an agri-business value chain training approach that focuses on youths and women will no doubt reduce unemployment rates in the country;

Also noted that creating better jobs through intensive youth and women's value chain training in agribusiness will reduce unemployment rates and maintain political and social stability;

*Observed* that investments in the development of sustainable agricultural value chains offer immense opportunities for youths in rural and urban areas;

*Aware* that this type of massive training is an indirect way of engaging the youth and women, which will invariably reduce unemployment and enhance political and socioeconomic activities in Nigeria;

Also aware that reducing crimes and criminalities, which are social menaces, will reduce youths and women's idleness in society, as an idle brain is the devil's workshop;

Disturbed that the number of unemployed youths and women is on the rise, especially in rural areas;

#### Resolved to:

- (*i*) urge the Federal Government to embark on massive value chain training of youths and women on agribusiness development to enhance the socio-economic activities of the country through the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the National Agricultural Development Fund (NADFUND);
- (*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, in collaboration with the National Productivity Centre (NPC) and National Directorate of Employment (NDE), to device the means of embarking on this value chain training of youths and women on agribusiness development; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, Rural Development, Youth Development, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 214/05/2024**).

# 29. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 21 May, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.15 p.m.

Benjamin Okezie Kalu Deputy Speaker