

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 18 July, 2024

- 1. The House met at 11.22 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 Wednesday, 17 July, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. Announcement

Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker announced the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Members of National Union of Yobe State University Students, Damaturu, Yobe State;
- (ii) Corps Members from Aguata Local Government Area, Anambra State.

5. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Snr. Comrade A. C. Ogbueri and 30 others on behalf of Niger Delta Intelligentsia Team (NDIT) seeking the intervention of the House to immediately cancel plans to sell Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) by Shell British Petroleum, was presented and laid by Hon. Aliyu Bappa Misau (*Misau/Dambam Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A Petition from Dr Sylva Ashimole, on behalf of Real and Gold Limited on alleged wrongful termination of contract by Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited Joint Venture Partners, and Messrs Sterling Global Oil Resources Limited (STOIL), was presented and laid by Hon. Jallo Hussaini Mohammed (*Igabi Federal Constituency*);

- (iii) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Abdullahi Al-Rasheed (Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency):
 - (a) Engr Abubakar Abdullahi, on behalf of Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP), Kaduna Chapter for refusal by the Management of the Kaduna State Polytechnic to regularize the appointment of Engineering Technologists employed from 2019 to date;
 - (b) His Highness Eteidung (Obong) Raymond Udia and 1 other, on behalf of St Gabriel Coconut Plantation & Oil Refinery Company Land Owners (Host Communities) Forum Ikot Enin Council Hall, Mkpat Enin Local Government Area on alleged noncompliance of Court Order in Suit No: HE/19/2020 by Akwa Ibom State Government;
- (iv) A petition from Sir Ukpong Ekam, on behalf of 74 Staff of Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State, on non-payment of their minimum wage arrears by the Management of the University, was presented and laid by Hon. Patrick Umoh (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from Umar Isa Bununu on his dismissal from service by the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), was presented and laid by Hon. Jafaru Gambo Leko (*Bogoro/Dass/Tafawa Balewa Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition from U. L. Osa-Uwagie (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Orogho community in Orhionmwon Local Government Area, Edo State, on the alleged marginalization of the community by Seplat West Limited/Seplat Energy Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Billy Osawaru Famous (*Orhinmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*);
- (vii) A petition from Denja Abdullahi Fana on his alleged premature retirement from the service of National Council for Arts and Culture by the Head of Civil Service of the Federation, was presented and laid by Hon. Kwamoti Bitrus Laori (*Demsa/Numan/Larmode Federal Constituency*);
- (viii) A petition from M. C. Chambers (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Pastor Samuel Egba on alleged violation of his fundamental rights by Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Awassam Irom, a Staff of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was presented and laid by Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (Oshodi/Isolo II Federal Constituency);
- (ix) A petition from Dr. Murtala Isa Umar and 1 other, on behalf of Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria, Kano State Branch, on non-compliance with the National Drugs Distribution guidelines of the Federal Ministry of Health Act Cap C34 LFN, 2004, by M. N Ataj Construction Limited and Nigeria Association of Patent and Proprietary Medicine Dealers (NAPPMED), was presented and laid by Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba (*Doguwa/Tudun Wada Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

- 6. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 5)
 - (i) Alleged Conspiracy by International Oil Companies (IOCs) to Frustrate the Operations and Survival of Dangote Refinery and the Actual Percentage Holding of the Federal Government:
 - Hon. Kingsley Chinda (*Obio/Akpor 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.

Alleged Conspiracy by International Oil Companies (IOCs) to Frustrate the Operations and Survival of Dangote Refinery and the Actual Percentage Holding of the Federal Government:

The House:

Notes with interest the successful completion and coming into full operations of Dangote Oil Refinery and Petrochemicals;

Also notes that whereas Nigeria is a major oil producing and exporting country, she has for several years continued to import refined petroleum products from other countries, to the detriment of the economic well-being of the country;

Further notes that Dangote Refinery, with a capacity of 650,000 barrels per day (bpd) is said to be Africa's largest refinery, and the World's 7th largest by capacity, and its construction was meant to alleviate the petroleum products needs and accompanying pains faced by Nigerians;

Aware that recently, the management of Dangote Refinery accused International Oil Companies (IOCs) operating in the country of conspiracy, in an attempt to frustrate the smooth operations of the refinery;

Also aware that the alleged conspiracy against Dangote Refinery relates to efforts by the IOCs to deliberately frustrate the refinery from buying crude oil locally by manipulating and jerking up the premium price above the market price, thus forcing the refinery to reduce output, as well as import crude oil at very exorbitant cost from other countries, such as the United States, thereby increasing the cost of production locally and increased product price;

Further aware that according to the management of Dangote Refinery, while the Nigeria Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) was trying its best to allocate crude to Dangote Refinery, the IOCs were deliberately frustrating Dangote Refinery's effort to buy the local crude;

Concerned that the management of Dangote Refinery alleged that the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) was still granting import licenses, indiscriminately, to marketers to import sub-standard refined petroleum products into the country;

Also concerned that while the IOCs are keen on exporting raw materials to their home countries and thus create wealth and employment for their countries, thereby adding to their GDP, Nigeria continues to be a dumping ground for the refined products, thus making us dependent on imported petroleum products;

Further concerned about the IOCs strategy/plan which is capable of making Nigeria face higher rate of unemployment and poverty;

Disturbed that there is an urgent need for the Federal government, relevant MDAs, including the NUPRC and the NMDPRA, key stakeholders and well-meaning Nigerians to support Dangote Refinery to succeed;

Worried that while the Federal Government of Nigeria subscribed 20% shares in Dangote Refinery, the Chairman (Aliko Dangote) claimed that Nigeria was unable to redeem its obligation and now owns 7.2% through NNPC Ltd;

Also worried that there is an urgent need to look into these allegations by Dangote Refinery and end/break all forms of dominance and monopoly of the petroleum sector by the IOCs and confirm the quantum of Federal Government interest in the refinery;

Further worried that unless urgent steps are taken by the Federal Government, as well as investigate this matter and call the IOCs to order, Dangote Refinery and its operations would be prematurely pushed/forced out of business and this would not be good for the image of the country;

Still concerned that NNPC Ltd is said to be unable to subscribe for the 20% shares:

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government, the NUPRC, the NMDPRA, key stakeholders and well-meaning Nigerians to support Dangote Refinery to succeed;
- (ii) also urge the Minister of Petroleum Resources, and all relevant MDAs to immediately take urgent steps and intervene in the matter of crude oil supply to Dangote Refinery;
- (iii) set up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the inability of NNPC Ltd to subscribe for the 20% shares in Dangote Refinery and the lack of supply of crude oil to Dangote Refinery and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Kingsley Ogundu Chinda Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with interest the successful completion and coming into full operations of Dangote Oil Refinery and Petrochemicals;

Also noted that whereas Nigeria is a major oil producing and exporting country, she has for several years continued to import refined petroleum products from other countries, to the detriment of the economic well-being of the country;

Further noted that Dangote Refinery, with a capacity of 650,000 barrels per day (bpd) is said to be Africa's largest refinery, and the World's 7th largest by capacity, and its construction was meant to alleviate the petroleum products needs and accompanying pains faced by Nigerians;

Aware that recently, the management of Dangote Refinery accused International Oil Companies (IOCs) operating in the country of conspiracy, in an attempt to frustrate the smooth operations of the refinery;

Also aware that the alleged conspiracy against Dangote Refinery relates to efforts by the IOCs to deliberately frustrate the refinery from buying crude oil locally by manipulating and jerking up the premium price above the market price, thus forcing the refinery to reduce output, as well as import crude oil at very exorbitant cost from other countries, such as the United States, thereby increasing the cost of production locally and increased product price;

Further aware that according to the management of Dangote Refinery, while the Nigeria Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) was trying its best to allocate crude to Dangote Refinery, the IOCs were deliberately frustrating Dangote Refinery's effort to buy the local crude;

Concerned that the management of Dangote Refinery alleged that the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) was still granting import licenses, indiscriminately, to marketers to import sub-standard refined petroleum products into the country;

Also concerned that while the IOCs are keen on exporting raw materials to their home countries and thus create wealth and employment for their countries, thereby adding to their GDP, Nigeria continues to be a dumping ground for the refined products, thus making us dependent on imported petroleum products;

Further concerned about the IOCs strategy/plan which is capable of making Nigeria face higher rate of unemployment and poverty;

Disturbed that there is an urgent need for the Federal government, relevant MDAs, including the NUPRC and the NMDPRA, key stakeholders and well-meaning Nigerians to support Dangote Refinery to succeed;

Worried that while the Federal Government of Nigeria subscribed 20% shares in Dangote Refinery, the Chairman (Aliko Dangote) claimed that Nigeria was unable to redeem its obligation and now owns 7.2% through NNPC Ltd;

Also worried that there is an urgent need to look into these allegations by Dangote Refinery and end/break all forms of dominance and monopoly of the petroleum sector by the IOCs and confirm the quantum of Federal Government interest in the refinery;

Further worried that unless urgent steps are taken by the Federal Government, as well as investigate this matter and call the IOCs to order, Dangote Refinery and its operations would be prematurely pushed/forced out of business and this would not be good for the image of the country;

Still concerned that NNPC Ltd is said to be unable to subscribe for the 20% shares;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government, the NUPRC, the NMDPRA, key stakeholders and well-meaning Nigerians to support Dangote Refinery to succeed;
- (ii) also urge the Minister of Petroleum Resources, and all relevant MDAs to immediately take urgent steps and intervene in the matter of crude oil supply to Dangote Refinery;
- (iii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the inability of NNPC Ltd to subscribe for the 20% shares in Dangote Refinery and the lack of supply of crude oil to Dangote Refinery and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 36/07/2024**).

Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate Alleged Conspiracy by International Oil Companies (IOCs) to Frustrate the Operations and Survival of Dangote Refinery and the Actual Percentage Holding of the Federal Government (HR. 36/07/2024):

Mr Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:

(i) Hon. Nnolim Nnaji

– Chairman

| (ii) | Hon. Babajimi Benson Adegoke | _ | Member |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| (iii) | Hon. Adepoju Ojo | | Member |
| (iv) | Hon. Kabiru Ahmadu Mai Palace | _ | Member |
| (<i>v</i>) | Hon. Aminu Balele | _ | Member |
| (<i>v</i>) | Hon. Paschal Agbodike | _ | Member |
| (vii) | Hon. Abdulmaleek Abdulraheem Danga | _ | Member |
| (viii) | Hon. Paul Nnamchi | _ | Member |
| (ix) | Hon. Ibrahim Almustapha Aliyu | _ | Member |
| (<i>x</i>) | Hon. Gimba Zainab | _ | Member |
| (xi) | Hon. Chris Nkwonta | | Member |

(ii) Quit Notice Issued to Hausa Community at Abavo Town of Ika South Local Government of Delta 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.

Quit Notice Issued to Hausa Community at Abavo Town of Ika South Local Government of Delta State:

The House:

Notes that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), Sections 43 and 44 guaranteed the rights of every Nigerian to acquire and own immovable properties and reside anywhere in Nigeria;

Observes that the BBC Hausa Service reported very scary, disturbing, and urgent news on Wednesday, 17 July, 2024, about an order given to the Hausa community living in Abavo town of lka South Local Government Area of Delta State to leave the town within 4 days, expiring on Thursday, 18 July, 2024;

Worried that the Hausa community has lived in the town for over 30 years. BBC contacted a Member of the community who confirmed the order and said it was because of the rise in kidnaping incidence in the area and claimed that the Hausa community was responsible, while the Hausa community denied the claim as none of their members was ever caught in the crime;

Concerned that, this is a very dangerous and unconstitutional act capable of causing national crises and further deteriorating the dicey security situation in the country, as anything can happen at the expiration of the ultimatum;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Police Affairs to ensure all security agencies work together to avert breakdown of law and order in the country (*Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo — Markafi/Kudan Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), Sections 43 and 44 guaranteed the rights of every Nigerian to acquire and own immovable properties and reside anywhere in Nigeria;

Observed that the BBC Hausa Service reported very scary, disturbing, and urgent news on Wednesday, 17 July, 2024, about an order given to the Hausa community living in Abavo town of lka South Local Government Area of Delta State to leave the town within 4 days, expiring on Thursday, 18 July, 2024;

Worried that the Hausa community has lived in the town for over 30 years. BBC contacted a Member of the community who confirmed the order and said it was because of the rise in kidnaping incidence in the area and claimed that the Hausa community was responsible, while the Hausa community denied the claim as none of their members was ever caught in the crime;

Concerned that, this is a very dangerous and unconstitutional act capable of causing national crises and further deteriorating the dicey security situation in the country, as anything can happen at the expiration of the ultimatum;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Police Affairs to ensure all security agencies work together to avert breakdown of law and order in the country (HR. 37/07/2024).

(iii) Enforcement of Electronic Central Motor Registration Certificate by the Nigerian Police Force:

Hon. Kwamoti Bitrus Laori (*Demsa/Nurman/Lamurde 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.

Enforcement of Electronic Central Motor Registration Certificate by the Nigerian Police Force:

The House:

Notes that Part II, Sections 3-6 of the Nigeria Police Force Act, 2020 deals with the establishment, composition and duties of the Nigeria Police Force and such duties did not include revenue generation, whether expressly or impliedly;

Also notes that while the National Identity Management Commission, National Information and Technology Development Agency and Nigeria Immigration Service collect bio-data of Nigerians for various purposes including national planning and national security, the Federal Road Safety Corps, and the Vehicle Inspection Offices across the states including the FCT are the agencies whose functions include vehicle registration, licensing and driver's licensing;

Aware that the Federal Capital Territory Road Transport Regulations of 2005 explicitly provide for registration, identification marks of Vehicles, licenses for vehicles, special trade license, operational license, Driver's license and FCT driving permit, etcetera; similar to the Lagos State Transportation Sector Reforms Law of 2018, none of the regulations mandate the Nigerian Police Force to issue any central motor registration certificate either manually or electronically on its behalf to vehicle owners;

Also aware that though section 14 (i) of the Federal Highways Act, 1971 permits the Nigeria Police to obtain the name, address of vehicle owners upon suspicion of offence committal, it is only for the purpose of investigation and that doesn't confer on the Nigerian Police the authority to issue any central motor registry information system certificate;

Concerned that the development and hosting of a website (https://cmris.npf.gov.ng) and directing vehicle owners to fill a form and pay the sum of Five thousand, three Hundred and Seventy-Five Naira (\formu5,375.00) to obtain an Electronic Central Motor Registration Certificate (e-CMR) accompanied with the threat to commence enforcement by 29 July, 2024, amounts to gross abuse of power capable of inflicting more pain and burden on Nigerians;

Worried that with the mounting opposition from Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Civil Society Organizations and Sections of the Nigerian Media and current level of hardship that many Nigerians are exposed to due to scarcity and increase in the pump price of petroleum products, increase in electricity tariff and general commodity price inflation that has made lives unbearable, introducing any form of fee however well-intentioned may further worsen the current frustration and is capable of fueling civil disobedience and unrest throughout the country;

Also worried that following the ultimatum issued by the Nigeria Police Force for the enforcement of the e-CMR many Nigerians, have been agitated, describing the Scheme as insensitive and outright illegality that must be stopped forthwith and the Nigerian People's parliament cannot afford to be indifferent;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to suspend the Scheme forthwith, and shut down the website used for the registration to deescalate the negative public reaction generated;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to investigate the expediency of such ill-timed Scheme given its tendency to threaten the fragile peace, law and order in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Kwamoti Bitrus Laori Demsa/Numan/Lamurde Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (4) to enable it take more than 3 matters of urgent public importance" (*Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

(iv) Incessant Armed Banditry, Kidnap for Ransom and Killings of Innocent Nigerians in Delta Central Senatorial District of Delta State:

Hon. Benedict Etanabene (*Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie 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 Armed Banditry, Kidnap for Ransom and Killings of Innocent Nigerians in Delta Central Senatorial District of Delta State:

The House:

Notes that the incessant armed banditry, killings and kidnap for ransom of innocent Nigerians pervading the landscape of Delta Central District of Delta State;

Also notes that these dare devil herdsmen, with heavy fire arms, usually open fire on moving vehicles, particularly after Amukpe, in Sapele Local Government Area, Oviore, along Eku - Warri road, between Ayamughe and Ekreravwen junction and Uwheru axis along the East/West road, all in Delta State;

Aware that over ten (10) persons have been killed and many have suffered severe gunshot injuries in the last two weeks from the activities of these dare devil bandits in the above mentioned areas;

Observes that on 12 July, 2024, a commercial Bus was attacked between Ughelli and Agbaro communities by these bandits leaving one dead and other occupants of the Bus with severe degrees of gunshot injuries, and other forced into the bush;

Also observes that on 9 June, 2024, I narrowly escape from these assailants in Sapele when I visited my constituency, four party members were kidnaped for ransom, one shot dead and another with serious gunshot wound;

Concerned that these assailants are having field days in these areas with little or no resistance from the security agents, despite heavy police check points in some of these areas; and the bushes/forest in the mentioned areas has been overtaken and now safe havens for the bandits, commuters are afraid to ply these roads, while farmers can no longer go to their farms for fear of being kidnaped for ransom, maimed or killed, all these issues have given credence to the call for the decentralization of the Police Force and creation of State Police for a more effective and efficient policing of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of those brutally murdered;
- (ii) call on the Inspector-General of Police, to direct the Commissioner of Police Delta State to increase the police surveillance and patrol in the mentioned areas;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance (Hon. Benedict O. Etanabene Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie Federal Constituency).

Debate.

The House:

Noted that the incessant armed banditry, killings and kidnap for ransom of innocent Nigerians pervading the landscape of Delta Central District of Delta State;

Also noted that these dare devil herdsmen, with heavy fire arms, usually open fire on moving vehicles, particularly after Amukpe, in Sapele Local Government Area, Oviore, along Eku - Warri road, between Ayamughe and Ekreravwen junction and Uwheru axis along the East/West road, all in Delta State;

Aware that over ten (10) persons have been killed and many have suffered severe gunshot injuries in the last two weeks from the activities of these dare devil bandits in the above mentioned areas;

Observed that on 12 July, 2024, a commercial Bus was attacked between Ughelli and Agbaro communities by these bandits leaving one dead and other occupants of the Bus with severe degrees of gunshot injuries, and other forced into the bush;

Also observed that on 9 June, 2024, I narrowly escape from these assailants in Sapele when I visited my constituency, four party members were kidnaped for ransom, one shot dead and another with serious gunshot wound;

Concerned that these assailants are having field days in these areas with little or no resistance from the security agents, despite heavy police check points in some of these areas; and the bushes/forest in the mentioned areas has been overtaken and now safe havens for the bandits, commuters are afraid to ply these roads, while farmers can no longer go to their farms for fear of being kidnaped for ransom, maimed or killed, all these issues have given credence to the call for the decentralization of the Police Force and creation of State Police for a more effective and efficient policing of the country;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of those brutally murdered;
- (ii) call on the Inspector-General of Police, to direct the Commissioner of Police Delta State to increase the police surveillance and patrol in the mentioned areas;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance (HR. 38/07/2024).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (v) Establishment of the Armed Forces Reserve to Enhance National Security:

 Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (Oshodi/Isolo II 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.

Establishment of the Armed Forces Reserve to Enhance National Security:

The House:

Notes that the Armed Forces Act provides for the establishment and maintenance of an Armed Forces Reserve, referred to in the Act as "the Reserve," which shall consist of officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, ratings, and aircraft men who are transferred to it on completion of their period of service in the Armed Forces and in such other services as the President may prescribe;

Also notes that the Armed Forces Act mandates the establishment and maintenance of an Armed Forces Reserve to support National Security and Defense;

Further notes that the Reserve is critical in augmenting the regular Armed Forces in times of crisis, as the current insecurity plaguing our nation;

Informed that Army reserves are established in many countries around the world and these reserve forces are composed of part-time and retired soldiers who can be called upon to supplement the regular armed forces in times of need;

Also informed that there are some countries with established army reserves and general guidelines for their deployment;

Aware that the activation of the Reserve will provide a pool of trained and experienced personnel to bolster our defense capabilities;

Also aware that the current security challenges in our country necessitate the urgent activation of the Armed Forces Reserve to support the security forces;

Further aware that the activation of the Armed Forces Reserve will tap into the expertise and experience of seasoned personnel leading to the enhancement of the country's defense and security capabilities;

Convinced that the Reserve, once activated, will significantly strengthen our national security apparatus, providing a ready pool of trained and experienced personnel to support ongoing and emergent security operations;

Believes that the activation of the Armed Forces Reserve is a critical and timely measure to strengthen national security, by leveraging the skills and experience of veterans, which would enhance the ability to respond to the multifaceted security threats facing the nation;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Defence to liaise with the leadership of the Armed Forces to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the training, integration, and utilization of the Reserve as provided in the Armed Forces Act and report in 30 days;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Monitoring and Evaluation to assess the performance and impact of the Armed Forces Reserve on national security and regularly and report to the House every quarter;
- (iii) further mandate the Committee on Appropriation to make necessary budgetary allocations to cover training, equipment, welfare of Reserve members, and Infrastructure development to support the operations and logistics of the Reserve (Hon. Okey-Joe Onuakalusi Oshodi/Isolo II Federal Constituency and Seventeen Others).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Armed Forces Act provides for the establishment and maintenance of an Armed Forces Reserve, referred to in the Act as "the Reserve," which shall consist of officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, ratings, and aircraft men who are transferred to it on completion of their period of service in the Armed Forces and in such other services as the President may prescribe;

Also noted that the Armed Forces Act mandates the establishment and maintenance of an Armed Forces Reserve to support National Security and Defense;

Further noted that the Reserve is critical in augmenting the regular Armed Forces in times of crisis, as the current insecurity plaguing our nation;

Informed that Army reserves are established in many countries around the world and these reserve forces are composed of part-time and retired soldiers who can be called upon to supplement the regular armed forces in times of need;

Also informed that there are some countries with established army reserves and general guidelines for their deployment;

Aware that the activation of the Reserve will provide a pool of trained and experienced personnel to bolster our defense capabilities;

Also aware that the current security challenges in our country necessitate the urgent activation of the Armed Forces Reserve to support the security forces;

Further aware that the activation of the Armed Forces Reserve will tap into the expertise and experience of seasoned personnel leading to the enhancement of the country's defense and security capabilities;

Convinced that the Reserve, once activated, will significantly strengthen our national security apparatus, providing a ready pool of trained and experienced personnel to support ongoing and emergent security operations;

Believed that the activation of the Armed Forces Reserve is a critical and timely measure to strengthen national security, by leveraging the skills and experience of veterans, which would enhance the ability to respond to the multifaceted security threats facing the nation;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Defence to liaise with the leadership of the Armed Forces to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the training, integration, and utilization of the Reserve as provided in the Armed Forces Act and report in 30 days;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Monitoring and Evaluation to assess the performance and impact of the Armed Forces Reserve on national security and regularly and report to the House every quarter;
- (iii) further mandate the Committee on Appropriation to make necessary budgetary allocations to cover training, equipment, welfare of Reserve members, and Infrastructure development to support the operations and logistics of the Reserve (HR. 39/07/2024).

(vi) Appeal to the Proponents of the Proposed Nationwide Protest:

Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka (*Ifo/Ewekoro 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.

Appeal to the Proponents of the Proposed Nationwide Protest:

The House:

Notes that the citizens of Nigeria have the constitutional right to peaceful assembly and protest to address their grievances and hence the advocacy for reason, understanding, and unity in the face of adversity;

Observes that maintaining peace and engaging in constructive dialogue with the government is crucial for the resolution of issues facing the nation;

Appeals that the proponents of the proposed nationwide protest in Nigeria consider a path of patience, dialogue and collaboration, peace and open channels far meaningful engagements with the government at all levels:

Advises that all stakeholders should uphold the principles of democracy, respect human rights, and the rule of law in their actions and engagements with a view to collectively work towards building a better and brighter future for Nigeria;

Aware that Nigerians are facing significant challenges of insecurity. unemployment and poverty which has weighed heavily on the citizens who have yearned for a positive change, progress and a better Nigeria;

Also aware that the challenges facing Nigerians are not unique as incremental steps are being taken by the government through reforms and other interventions towards addressing those challenges;

Acknowledges that, change in any nation requires patience, perseverance, constructive dialogue and time to consolidate and incubate enhanced progress that can build a future the citizens can be proud of;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Information and National Orientation to sensitize the general public on the need to explore peaceful and constructive dialogue in addressing national issues:
- (ii) also urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to educate the general public on the need to explore peaceful and constructive dialogue towards addressing these national issues (Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency).

Amendments Proposed:

(i) Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

"urge Hon. Members to sacrifice 50% of their $\Re 600,000.00$ salaries for six months to assist in the national food security programme in order to reduce the hardship currently faced by the citizens" (Hon. Benjamin Kalu — Bende Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

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

"urge the Ministries of Information and National Orientation and Budget and National Planning to engage Nigerians and educate the citizenry of some of the reforms carried out to address the 12 demands made by the people calling for a protest" (*Hon. Akintunde Rotimi Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the citizens of Nigeria have the constitutional right to peaceful assembly and protest to address their grievances and hence the advocacy for reason, understanding, and unity in the face of adversity;

Observed that maintaining peace and engaging in constructive dialogue with the government is crucial for the resolution of issues facing the nation;

Appealed that the proponents of the proposed nationwide protest in Nigeria consider a path of patience, dialogue and collaboration, peace and open channels far meaningful engagements with the government at all levels:

Advised that all stakeholders should uphold the principles of democracy, respect human rights, and the rule of law in their actions and engagements with a view to collectively work towards building a better and brighter future for Nigeria;

Aware that Nigerians are facing significant challenges of insecurity. unemployment and poverty which has weighed heavily on the citizens who have yearned for a positive change, progress and a better Nigeria;

Also aware that the challenges facing Nigerians are not unique as incremental steps are being taken by the government through reforms and other interventions towards addressing those challenges;

Acknowledged that, change in any nation requires patience, perseverance, constructive dialogue and time to consolidate and incubate enhanced progress that can build a future the citizens can be proud of;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Information and National Orientation to sensitize the general public on the need to explore peaceful and constructive dialogue in addressing national issues;
- (ii) also urge the Ministries of Information and National Orientation and Budget and National Planning to engage Nigerians and educate the citizenry of some of the reforms carried out to address the 12 demands made by the people calling for a protest;

- (iii) further urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to educate the general public on the need to explore peaceful and constructive dialogue towards addressing these national issues;
- (iv) still urge Hon. Members to sacrifice 50% of their ₹600,000.00 salaries for six months to assist in the national food security programme in order to reduce the hardship currently faced by the citizens (**HR. 40/07/2024**)

(vii) Disturbing House -to- House Kidnaping in Anka Town of Zamfara State:

Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka (*Anka/Talata Mafara 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.

Disturbing House -to- House Kidnaping in Anka Town of Zamfara State:

The House:

Notes that Anka town has recently been bedeviled by a terrible experience of ceaseless house-to-house kidnaping, whereby bandits walk into people's houses and kidnap them unhindered; this horrifying experience persisted for ten (10) days after the Eid-el-Kabir celebration and lasted till the third week of June 2024;

Also notes that unlike the current nightmare of its happening right inside the city of Anka, the previous rampaging kidnaping was taking place more in the surrounding villages of the Local Government Area and remote communities;

Aware that as of the time of presenting this motion, the accurate number of the people kidnaped is unknown, but it is horrendous and an alarming figure;

Worried that the boldness of the bandits to kidnap innocent people using house-to-house style is very distressing and the need to stem the tide of such new pattern of kidnaping cannot be overemphasized;

Concerned that absence of continuous security intelligence, which is a veritable tool in the holistic management of security matters, may be one of the reasons open kidnaping thrives unchecked;

Cognizant of the importance of intelligence and/or information gathering and sharing among relevant security agencies and indeed the full utilization of such intelligent information in tackling security issues such as kidnaping, the security agencies should up their games and upgrade their intelligence gathering and sharing among themselves with a view to monitoring the alarming banditry, kidnaping and killings not only in Zamfara State but in the country at large;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the military and other relevant security agencies manning Anka LGA to have increased operations with a view to rescue the persons kidnaped;
- (ii) call on the relevant military operational teams stationed in Anka LGA to introduce

unexpected and continued surveillance through patrols of nooks and crannies of streets, including remote neighborhoods of the town;

(iii) mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to look at the issue of intelligence Information gathering and sharing among security agencies (Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata/Mafara Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Anka town has recently been bedeviled by a terrible experience of ceaseless house-to-house kidnaping, whereby bandits walk into people's houses and kidnap them unhindered; this horrifying experience persisted for ten (10) days after the Eid-el-Kabir celebration and lasted till the third week of June 2024:

Also noted that unlike the current nightmare of its happening right inside the city of Anka, the previous rampaging kidnaping was taking place more in the surrounding villages of the Local Government Area and remote communities;

Aware that as of the time of presenting this motion, the accurate number of the people kidnaped is unknown, but it is horrendous and an alarming figure;

Worried that the boldness of the bandits to kidnap innocent people using house-to-house style is very distressing and the need to stem the tide of such new pattern of kidnaping cannot be overemphasized;

Concerned that absence of continuous security intelligence, which is a veritable tool in the holistic management of security matters, may be one of the reasons open kidnaping thrives unchecked:

Cognizant of the importance of intelligence and/or information gathering and sharing among relevant security agencies and indeed the full utilization of such intelligent information in tackling security issues such as kidnaping, the security agencies should up their games and upgrade their intelligence gathering and sharing among themselves with a view to monitoring the alarming banditry, kidnaping and killings not only in Zamfara State but in the country at large;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the military and other relevant security agencies manning Anka LGA to have increased operations with a view to rescue the persons kidnaped;
- (ii) call on the relevant military operational teams stationed in Anka LGA to introduce unexpected and continued surveillance through patrols of nooks and crannies of streets, including remote neighborhoods of the town;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to look at the issue of intelligence Information gathering and sharing among security agencies (HR. 41/07/2024).

(viii) Incessant Insecurity Challenges in Bakura and Maradun Local Government Areas, Zamfara State:

Hon. Ahmed Sani Muhammed (*Bakura/Maradun 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 Insecurity Challenges in Bakura and Maradun Local Government Areas, Zamfara State:

The House:

Notes that the towns of Bakura, Dambo, Rini, Dakko, and Damri in Bakura Local Government, along with Maradun Town in Maradun Local Government) have been experiencing significant security threats;

Also notes that in Maradun Local Government, 32 individuals have been kidnaped in Janbako, 38 in Danbaza, 40 in Faru, Tsibiri, Gora and 35 in Gidangoga;

Aware that the increasing frequency of kidnaping and other security breaches have instilled fear and unrest among the residents;

Also aware that the lack of adequate security measures has left these communities vulnerable to criminal activities;

Cognizant that the crisis is causing famine in the land because people cannot go to their farms out of fear for their safety, leading to severe disruptions in agricultural activities and food production;

Saddened by the plight of the constituents of Bakura/ Maradun Federal Constituency who have been subjected to these traumatic events;

Also saddened that many families have lost their primary breadwinners to kidnaping and violence, which further exacerbate poverty and suffering in the region;

Observes that local businesses are struggling to operate under the constant threat of violence, leading to economic downturns and loss of livelihoods;

Worried that the psychological impact on the residents, especially the children, is profound, with many showing signs of trauma and stress-related disorders;

Also worried that the community's trust in government and security agencies is eroding due to the perceived inability to provide adequate protection;

Resolves to:

(i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy additional security personnel to Bakura and Maradun Local Governments to curb the rising insecurity;

- (ii) also urge the State Government to collaborate with local security agencies to strengthen community policing and intelligence gathering by focusing on establishing a robust network of informants and community watch groups to provide timely information on potential security threats;
- (iii) further urge the Executive Arm and State Governments to collaborate and establish a special task force to address the specific security challenges in these areas, which should be equipped with advanced technology and resources to conduct surveillance, track criminal activities, and apprehend offenders;
- (iv) still urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to provide adequate support and resources to the affected families and communities, including psychological counseling, financial assistance, relief materials and rehabilitation programs to help victims recover from their traumatic experiences;
- (v) again urge non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international partners to assist in providing humanitarian aid, including food, medical supplies, and psychological support to the affected communities (Hon. Ahmad Sani Muhammad Bakura/Maradun Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the towns of Bakura, Dambo, Rini, Dakko, and Damri in Bakura Local Government, along with Maradun Town in Maradun Local Government) have been experiencing significant security threats;

Also noted that in Maradun Local Government, 32 individuals have been kidnaped in Janbako, 38 in Danbaza, 40 in Faru, Tsibiri, Gora and 35 in Gidangoga;

Aware that the increasing frequency of kidnaping and other security breaches have instilled fear and unrest among the residents;

Also aware that the lack of adequate security measures has left these communities vulnerable to criminal activities:

Cognizant that the crisis is causing famine in the land because people cannot go to their farms out of fear for their safety, leading to severe disruptions in agricultural activities and food production;

Saddened by the plight of the constituents of Bakura/ Maradun Federal Constituency who have been subjected to these traumatic events;

Also saddened that many families have lost their primary breadwinners to kidnaping and violence, which further exacerbate poverty and suffering in the region;

Observed that local businesses are struggling to operate under the constant threat of violence, leading to economic downturns and loss of livelihoods;

Worried that the psychological impact on the residents, especially the children, is profound, with many showing signs of trauma and stress-related disorders;

Also worried that the community's trust in government and security agencies is eroding due to the perceived inability to provide adequate protection;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy additional security personnel to Bakura and Maradun Local Governments to curb the rising insecurity;
- (ii) also urge the State Government to collaborate with local security agencies to strengthen community policing and intelligence gathering by focusing on establishing a robust network of informants and community watch groups to provide timely information on potential security threats;
- (iii) further urge the Executive Arm and State Governments to collaborate and establish a special task force to address the specific security challenges in these areas, which should be equipped with advanced technology and resources to conduct surveillance, track criminal activities, and apprehend offenders;
- (iv) still urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to provide adequate support and resources to the affected families and communities, including psychological counseling, financial assistance, relief materials and rehabilitation programs to help victims recover from their traumatic experiences;
- (v) again urge non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international partners to assist in providing humanitarian aid, including food, medical supplies, and psychological support to the affected communities (HR. 42/07/2024).

(ix) Building Collapse in Jos, Plateau State:

Hon. Daniel Asama Ago (*Bassa/Jos North 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.

Building Collapse in Jos, Plateau State:

The House:

Notes that on Friday, 12 July, 2024, a devastating incident occurred at Saint Academy School, located in Busa Buji, Jos, Plateau State, where a 2-storey classroom block collapsed, trapped and killed over 22 pupils and left over 100 injured;

Aware that the injured are in three different hospitals across the State capital receiving treatment;

Worried that the incident has sent shockwaves across the nation, and immediate action must be taken to prevent such tragedy in the future;

Resolves to:

(i) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims who lost their lives;

- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Education and relevant stakeholders to develop and implement a comprehensive policy on infrastructural development and maintenance in schools to ensure the Safety and wellbeing of school children;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide necessary support and assistance to the affected families;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Education, and Housing and Habitat to conduct an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the building collapse and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Daniel Asama Ago Bassa/Jos North Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Friday, 12 July, 2024, a devastating incident occurred at Saint Academy School, located in Busa Buji, Jos, Plateau State, where a 2-storey classroom block collapsed, trapped and killed over 22 pupils and left over 100 injured;

Aware that the injured are in three different hospitals across the State capital receiving treatment;

Worried that the incident has sent shockwaves across the nation, and immediate action must be taken to prevent such tragedy in the future;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims who lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Education and relevant stakeholders to develop and implement a comprehensive policy on infrastructural development and maintenance in schools to ensure the Safety and wellbeing of school children;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide necessary support and assistance to the affected families;
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on Education, and Housing and Habitat to conduct an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the building collapse and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 43/07/2024**).
- (x) Import Duty by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Despite the Economic Challenges Facing the Nation:

Hon. Ngozi Okolie (*Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South 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.

Import Duty by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Despite the Economic Challenges Facing the Nation:

The House:

Aware that recently there has been increasing fluctuation in import duties causing uncertainty in the entire business community, exacerbated by the increasing exchange rate;

Notes that the fluctuation of import duty has had devastating effect on the cost of production for businesses reliant on the importation of raw materials, which impact negatively on small and medium scale enterprises;

Observes that the financial burden is borne by the ordinary citizens as consumers or the companies are forced to cut down production which definitely leads to increased unemployment, poverty level and criminality in the country;

Worried that these vagaries in import duty and exchange rate do not favour for a stable economic growth, as it negatively affects business competitiveness, and discourages the inflow of foreign investment;

Resolves to:

- (i) set up an Ad-hoc Committee to:
 - (a) engage with the CBN and all other relevant stakeholders with a view to developing a more balanced and sustainable import duty regime,
 - (b) conduct a comprehensive assessment to evaluate the impact of the fluctuation of import duty on all sectors of the economy and report back within eight (8) weeks;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (Hon. Ngozi Lawrence Okolie Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency).

Dehate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that recently there has been increasing fluctuation in import duties causing uncertainty in the entire business community, exacerbated by the increasing exchange rate;

Noted that the fluctuation of import duty has had devastating effect on the cost of production for businesses reliant on the importation of raw materials, which impact negatively on small and medium scale enterprises;

Observed that the financial burden is borne by the ordinary citizens as consumers or the companies are forced to cut down production which definitely leads to increased unemployment, poverty level and criminality in the country;

Worried that these vagaries in import duty and exchange rate do not favour for a stable economic growth, as it negatively affects business competitiveness, and discourages the inflow of foreign investment;

Resolved to:

(i) set up an Ad-hoc Committee to:

- (a) engage with the CBN and all other relevant stakeholders with a view to developing a more balanced and sustainable import duty regime,
- (b) conduct a comprehensive assessment to evaluate the impact of the fluctuation of import duty on all sectors of the economy and report back within eight (8) weeks:
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR. 44/07/2024).

(xi) Trafficking of Jamilu Yahaya and Six Others to Vietnam:

Hon. Inuwa Garba (Yalmaltu/Deba 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.

Trafficking of Jamilu Yahaya and Six Others to Vietnam:

The House:

Notes that Jamilu Yahaya and six other persons from Gombe State were taken to Vietnam by one Alhaji Bashiru on the pretext of offering them employment;

Worried that this Alhaji Bashiru in concert with others took advantage of these persons, trafficked them to Vietnam and have abandoned them there;

Disturbed about this level of crime perpetrated against humanity;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Diaspora to urgently investigate this matter and ensure the repatriation of the victims back to Nigeria;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (Hon. Inuwa Garba Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Jamilu Yahaya and six other persons from Gombe State were taken to Vietnam by one Alhaji Bashiru on the pretext of offering them employment;

Worried that this Alhaji Bashiru in concert with others took advantage of these persons, trafficked them to Vietnam and have abandoned them there;

Disturbed about this level of crime perpetrated against humanity;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Diaspora to urgently investigate this matter and ensure the repatriation of the victims back to Nigeria;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR.** 45/07/2024).

(xii) Incessant Banditry, Cattle Rustling and Kidnaping Activities in Wurno and Rabah Local Government Areas of Sokoto State:

Hon. Ibrahim Almustapha Aliyu (*Wurno/Rabah 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, Cattle Rustling and Kidnaping Activities in Wurno and Rabah Local Government Areas of Sokoto State:

The House:

Notes that security of lives and properties in Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency, Sokoto State seems to have hit an all-time low as undesirable elements now enjoy free reign in killing, kidnaping, and maiming innocent members of the communities thereby crippling education and business activities and reducing enormous potentials of the State;

Also notes that in January 2024, a well-orchestrated operation of armed bandits resulted in the killing of citizens in Rakakar Fulani, Tumbulla, Gawon Fulani, Koliel, Arba, Kurya and Gandhi in Rabah and Wurno Local Government Areas claiming they were innocent citizens;

Alarmed that on 10 March 2024, another bandit operation was unbridled at Kurya Village leaving over 200 persons displaced, one person killed and another kidnapped with several properties destroyed and numerous cattle rustled thereby creating huge distress to families;

Also alarmed that in a follow-up of attack on March 10, 2024, further assault was unleashed by these elements on 18 June, 2024, at Sabaru village where properties were destroyed, several auto cycles stolen and police officers battered;

Cognizant that in an effort to curb these dastardly attacks in Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency, a motion was raised on the floor of the House in the 9th National Assembly on the rehabilitation of Rabah-Bakura Road to curtail the frequency of these incidents, unfortunately, the road was not rehabilitated as these elements continued to wreck havoc on communities in the constituency;

Regrets that on September 8, 2023, a massive attack hit many parts of Sokoto East including Rabah Local Government Area in an escalated level of criminality and violence which affected security agents, farmers, locals, and visitors as they became targets for the terrorists, bandits, kidnappers, and armed robbers resulting to an upsurge of displaced persons in the capital city where uncompleted structure and buildings are now converted into camps;

Also regrets the most unprecedented scale-up attacks by bandits within the last 2 weeks which has resulted to killings and abductions of inhabitants of Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency where 33 people were kidnapped in Gwaddodi, 11 in Maikujera Riji, 8 in Tsamiya and over 1,200 persons are currently displaced;

Concerned that if nothing concrete and strategic is done to curb this menace, the security situation in the constituency would worsen as more lives and properties would be destroyed with possibility of the attacks spreading to the entire State and beyond;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Chief of Army Staff and the Inspector-General of Police to mobilize security personnel to the affected areas and establish Forward on Base (FoB) in Rara and Hutchi towns, Rabah and Wurno Local Government Area respectively;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the over 5,000 displaced victims in Gwaddodi, Maikujera Riji, Tsamiya ,Rara, Wurno, Gandi, Lugu, Dimniso communities in the two Local Government areas:
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (Hon. Ibrahim Almustapha Aliyu Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that security of lives and properties in Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency, Sokoto State seems to have hit an all-time low as undesirable elements now enjoy free reign in killing, kidnaping, and maiming innocent members of the communities thereby crippling education and business activities and reducing enormous potentials of the State;

Also noted that in January 2024, a well-orchestrated operation of armed bandits resulted in the killing of citizens in Rakakar Fulani, Tumbulla, Gawon Fulani, Koliel, Arba, Kurya and Gandhi in Rabah and Wurno Local Government Areas claiming they were innocent citizens;

Alarmed that on 10 March 2024, another bandit operation was unbridled at Kurya Village leaving over 200 persons displaced, one person killed and another kidnapped with several properties destroyed and numerous cattle rustled thereby creating huge distress to families;

Also alarmed that in a follow-up of attack on March 10, 2024, further assault was unleashed by these elements on 18 June, 2024, at Sabaru village where properties were destroyed, several auto cycles stolen and police officers battered;

Cognizant that in an effort to curb these dastardly attacks in Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency, a motion was raised on the floor of the House in the 9th National Assembly on the rehabilitation of Rabah-Bakura Road to curtail the frequency of these incidents, unfortunately, the road was not rehabilitated as these elements continued to wreck havoc on communities in the constituency;

Regretted that on September 8, 2023, a massive attack hit many parts of Sokoto East

including Rabah Local Government Area in an escalated level of criminality and violence which affected security agents, farmers, locals, and visitors as they became targets for the terrorists, bandits, kidnappers, and armed robbers resulting to an upsurge of displaced persons in the capital city where uncompleted structure and buildings are now converted into camps;

Also regretted the most unprecedented scale-up attacks by bandits within the last 2 weeks which has resulted to killings and abductions of inhabitants of Wurno/Rabah Federal Constituency where 33 people were kidnapped in Gwaddodi, 11 in Maikujera Riji, 8 in Tsamiya and over 1,200 persons are currently displaced;

Concerned that if nothing concrete and strategic is done to curb this menace, the security situation in the constituency would worsen as more lives and properties would be destroyed with possibility of the attacks spreading to the entire State and beyond;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Chief of Army Staff and the Inspector-General of Police to mobilize security personnel to the affected areas and establish Forward on Base (FoB) in Rara and Hutchi towns, Rabah and Wurno Local Government Area respectively;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the over 5,000 displaced victims in Gwaddodi, Maikujera Riji, Tsamiya ,Rara, Wurno, Gandi, Lugu, Dimniso communities in the two Local Government areas:
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR.** 46/07/2024).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(xiii) Relief Interventions for Endangered Communities in Illela and Gwadabawa Local Government Areas of Sokoto State:

Hon. Bello Isa Ambarura (*Illela/Gwabadawa 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.

Relief Interventions for Endangered Communities in Illela and Gwadabawa Local Government Areas of Sokoto State:

The House:

Notes that for many years, the communities of Damba, Dikko, Damba Kwannawa, Buwade, Garu, Tozai, Gigane Asara, Tungar Tudu, T/Doki and other towns within lllela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency of Sokoto State have been bedeviled by incessant attacks;

Worried that most of the residents of the aforementioned communities have lost their sources of livelihood due to frequent banditary attacks that last four years without any respite, and often result in mass destruction of properties, kidnappings and loss of lives;

Also worried that attacks and destruction of farmlands of the people of Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency, who are predominantly peasant farmers, have caused them so much anguish as they can barely access basic necessities for decent living;

Disturbed that if urgent steps are not taken to mitigate the effects of the attacks, the untold calamities may befall the affected communities and the country at large;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, as a matter of urgency, provide relief materials to the people of Damba, Dikko, Damba Kwannawa, Buwade, Garu, Tozai, Gigane Asara, Tungar Tudu. T/Doki in Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency of Sokoto State;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to provide humanitarian interventions and improve the living conditions of the affected communities;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (Hon. Bello Isah Ambarura Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that for many years, the communities of Damba, Dikko, Damba Kwannawa, Buwade, Garu, Tozai, Gigane Asara, Tungar Tudu, T/Doki and other towns within lllela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency of Sokoto State have been bedeviled by incessant attacks;

Worried that most of the residents of the aforementioned communities have lost their sources of livelihood due to frequent banditary attacks that last four years without any respite, and often result in mass destruction of properties, kidnaping and loss of lives;

Also worried that attacks and destruction of farmlands of the people of Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency, who are predominantly peasant farmers, have caused them so much anguish as they can barely access basic necessities for decent living;

Disturbed that if urgent steps are not taken to mitigate the effects of the attacks, the untold calamities may befall the affected communities and the country at large;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, as a matter of urgency, provide relief materials to the people of Damba, Dikko, Damba Kwannawa, Buwade, Garu, Tozai, Gigane Asara, Tungar Tudu. T/Doki in lllela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency of Sokoto State;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to provide humanitarian interventions and improve the living conditions of the affected communities;

(iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (HR. 47/07/2024).

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the First Time:

- (1) National Productivity Centre Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1096).
- (2) Advertising Regulatory Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1099).
- (3) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1597).
- (4) Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment in Tertiary Institutions Bill, 2024 (HB.1598).
- (5) Federal Road Safety Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1604).
- (6) National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1301).
- (7) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1383).
- (8) National Hospital for Women, Ideato, Imo State (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2024 (HB.1426).
- (9) National Children's Hospital, Ideato, Imo State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1427).
- (10) Chartered Institute of Management Analysts and Administrators (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1559).
- (11) River Basin Development Authorities Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1497).
- (12) Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1526).
- (13) Medical and Dental Practitioners Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1527).
- (14) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1528).
- (15) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1529).
- (16) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Sixth Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1530).
- (17) National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1531).
- (18) Industrial Inspectorate Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1532).
- (19) Nigeria Police Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1533).
- (20) Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skill Acquisition, Nsit Ibom, Akwa Ibom State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1534).

- (21) National Institute for Technical and Vocational Education, Kalgo, Kebbi State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1622).
- (22) Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skill Acquisition, Bunza, Kebbi State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1623).
- (23) Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1624).
- (24) Risk Management Unit (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1625).

8. Presentation of Report

Committees on Public Service Matters and Interior:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Public Service Matters and Interior on the Need to Investigate the Career Stagnation caused by Discrimination between Higher National Diploma (HND) and Bachelor Degree Holders in the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (HR.362/11/2023)" (Hon. Kabiru Ahmadu Maipalace — Gusau/Tsafe Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999(as amended) to Provide for Creation of Okura State with Egume as the Proposed State Capital and for Related Matters (HB.1568) — 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 Creation of Okura State with Egume as the Proposed State Capital and for Related Matters (HB.1568) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency and Eight 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 Constitution Review.

10. A Bill for an Act to Alter Section 33 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Insert a new subsection which Provides that if a Pregnant Woman is Convicted of an Offence Punishable by Death, the Court Shall Sentence her to Life Imprisonment Instead of Death Sentence (HB. 1409) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter Section 33 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Insert a new subsection which Provides that if a Pregnant Woman is Convicted of an Offence Punishable by Death, the Court Shall Sentence her to Life Imprisonment Instead of Death Sentence (HB. 1409) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Babajimi Benson Adegoke — Ikorodu 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.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to cure certain defects in the Act, ensure its effective Implementation in Nigeria and address the Lacuna that may be easily exploited by the Tobacco Industry in Nigeria and impose stiffer Penalties for Smoking of Tobacco in Public Places and for Related Matters (HB.47 and HB.1151) — Second Reading Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to cure certain defects in the Act, ensure its effective Implementation in Nigeria and address the Lacuna that may be easily exploited by the Tobacco Industry in Nigeria and impose stiffer Penalties for Smoking of Tobacco in Public Places and for Related Matters (HB.47 and HB.1151) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Pascal Agbodike — Ihiala 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 Healthcare and Services.

12. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of National Institute of Vocational and Technical Education, Okurikang Okoyong, Odukpani, Cross River State and for Related Matters (HB.269) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnic Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal College of Science and Health Technology, Askira-Uba, Borno State to Provide Qualitative Education in Science and Health and for Related Matters (HB.279) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnic Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal College of Science and Health Technology, Askira-Uba, Borno State to Provide Qualitative Education in Science and Health and for Related Matters (HB.279) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Midala Usman 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 Polytechnics and Higher Technical Education.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Achi, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.1220) — Second Reading Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Achi, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.1220) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Anayo Befford Onwuegbu — Aninri/Awgu/Oji River Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

15. Rescission of the Resolution of the House on the Activities of Private Sectors (Foreign and Local Companies) to Hemorrhage Nigerian Economy through Trade Malpractice pursuant to Order Nine, Rule1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that an *Ad-hoc* Committee was constituted to investigate the Activities of Private Sectors (Foreign and Local Companies) to Haemorrhage Nigerian Economy through Trade Malpractice on Thursday, 9 May, 2024;

Aware that the Ad- hoc Committee was mandated to:

- (a) recover, harness or prevent further loss of such magnitude in a bid to enhance the overall country's GDP restore on economic health,
- (b) track activities in the private sector, several foreign and local companies from hemorrhaging the Nigeria economy through trade malpractices, the investigative scope will be elastic to cover private sector activities, on land, sea and air, and
- (c) carry out its statutory oversight functions in an increasingly sophisticated private sector;

Also aware of the emerging facts that were not available to the House as at the time the resolution was passed;

Cognizant of the need to rescind its decision to examine the emerging facts with a view to arriving at an informed decision;

Resolves to:

Rescind its resolution that set up a Special Committee to investigate the Activities of Private Sectors (Foreign and Local Companies) to Haemorrhage Nigerian Economy through Trade Malpractice (*Hon. Bello Isah Ambarura — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

16. Activities of Private Sectors (Foreign and Local Companies) to Haemorrhage Nigerian Economy through Trade Malpractices

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that despite joint efforts of Government Agencies to track activities in the private sector, several foreign and local companies continue to device new and sophisticated schemes to hemorrhage the Nigerian Economy through trade malpractices;

Also notes that in the last eight years, Nigerian lost an estimated sum of 28 trillion, Naira to trade malpractices perpetrated by rogue foreign companies;

Further notes that on daily basis, hundreds of trade malpractices are carried out by foreign and local companies operating in the different sectors of Nigerian economy as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), and other Government Agencies can definitely not be at all places at the same time;

Observes that the volume of revenue diverted by foreign companies from the country is about 40 times the revenue target of Nigeria Customs Service and other sub-sectors of the Nigerian economy;

Concerned that the loss due to trade malpractices does not include the 6 trillion, Naira lost annually to sophisticated tax avoidance scheme perpetrated by some foreign companies;

Also concerned that if this continues, Nigeria's economy will worsen whilst some people sit in their private space to enjoy the dividends of these malpractices hereby destroying the economy and its hope of development in those sectors;

Disturbed that if this issue is not addressed, Nigeria will keep losing to trade malpractices as a result of the loose ends in the foreign companies;

Further concerned that there is a similar motive why the said act is being carried out despite different efforts by government agencies to track activities in the private sectors and foreign companies;

Informed that some people are beneficiaries of the trade malpractices with the connivance of some kingpin in the society;

Cognizant of the need to investigate and ascertain the illegal trade malpractices being carried out in the private sector, foreign and local companies in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

Set up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the:

- (i) alleged trade malpractices by foreign and local companies in the private sectors; and
- (ii) loss of over 28 trillion naira to trade malpractices by foreign and local companies from 2015 to date, recommend techniques and mechanisms to prevent further loss to enhance overall country's Gross Domestic Production (GDP) and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Bello Isah Ambarura Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that despite joint efforts of Government Agencies to track activities in the private sector, several foreign and local companies continue to device new and sophisticated schemes to hemorrhage the Nigerian Economy through trade malpractices;

Also noted that in the last eight years, Nigerian lost an estimated sum of 28 trillion, Naira to trade malpractices perpetrated by rogue foreign companies;

Further noted that on daily basis, hundreds of trade malpractices are carried out by foreign and local companies operating in the different sectors of Nigerian economy as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), and other Government Agencies can definitely not be at all places at the same time;

Observed that the volume of revenue diverted by foreign companies from the country is about 40 times the revenue target of Nigeria Customs Service and other sub-sectors of the Nigerian economy;

Concerned that the loss due to trade malpractices does not include the 6 trillion, Naira lost annually to sophisticated tax avoidance scheme perpetrated by some foreign companies;

Also concerned that if this continues, Nigeria's economy will worsen whilst some people sit in their private space to enjoy the dividends of these malpractices hereby destroying the economy and its hope of development in those sectors;

Disturbed that if this issue is not addressed, Nigeria will keep losing to trade malpractices as a result of the loose ends in the foreign companies;

Further concerned that there is a similar motive why the said act is being carried out despite different efforts by government agencies to track activities in the private sectors and foreign companies;

Informed that some people are beneficiaries of the trade malpractices with the connivance of some kingpin in the society;

Cognizant of the need to investigate and ascertain the illegal trade malpractices being carried out in the private sector, foreign and local companies in Nigeria;

Resolved to:

Set up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the:

- (a) alleged trade malpractices by foreign and local companies in the private sectors; and
- (b) loss of over 28 trillion naira to trade malpractices by foreign and local companies from 2015 to date, recommend techniques and mechanisms to prevent further loss to enhance overall country's Gross Domestic Production (GDP) and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 48/07/2024).

17. Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from Preceding Assembly

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 17 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the Standing Orders, the House may, upon being re-gazetted or circulated, reconsider in the Committee of the Whole, without commencing de-novo, the Bill(s):

- (a) whose report was presented by the Committee before consideration,
- (b) passed by the House and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negative,
- (c) passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negative, or
- (d) passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding therefore was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the preceding Assembly;

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

- (*i*) Federal College of Medical Laboratory Science and Technology, Eka-Midim, Akwa Ibom State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1157),
- (ii) Nigerian Military Academy, Umuoma (Okpo), Enugu State (Establishment) Bill 2024 (HB.1166),

- (iii) Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1520),
- (iv) Chartered Institute of Capital Market Registrars (HB.1460),
- (v) National Board for Arabic and Islamic Studies (NBAIS) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1469),
- (vi) Chartered Institute of Training and Development of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1550),
- (vii) Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1579),
- (viii) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1612), and
- (ix) Certified Pension Institute of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.666);

Aware that the Bills were read for the first time as HB. 1157, HB. 1166, HB. 1520, HB. 1460, HB. 1469, HB. 1550, HB. 1579, HB. 1612 and HB. 666 respectively;

Resolves to:

Re-commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Bello Isah Ambarura — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

18. Rehabilitation of Jere-Kurmin Jibri and Kwoi Kafanchan Road, Kaduna State *Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

Notes that the Jere-Kurmin Jibri and Kwoi-Kafanchan roads were constructed during the administration of Late President Shehu Shagari in 1983, and since then no maintenance has been carried out on the roads, thus leaving it in a deplorable state;

Also notes that the Jere-Kurmin Jibrin and Kwoi-Kafanchan Roads in Kaduna State play a vital role in the economic development of these cities as they are the major link between the State and other neighbouring States including Gombe, Adamawa, Borno, Taraba, Plateau, and Kano States, but the roads have remained dilapidated for years;

Further notes that the deplorable condition of the roads is causing economic hardship, posing a threat to village inhabitants, motorists, and farmers, who need to transport their produce to the market, thus resulting in daily loss of millions of naira due to delayed transportation of harvested goods;

Worried that the poor condition of the roads has aggravated the sufferings of the people and limited economic activities as the movement of people, goods and services becomes challenging with a resultant loss of earnings and resources;

Aware that the rise in the price of foodstuff in Kaduna State, attributed to the high cost of transporting goods to markets;

Also concerned that farmers in the community face challenges in accessing markets due to the deplorable state of the roads which is causing continued suffering and fatalities in most of the communities;

Cognizant that Kaduna State is a major contributor to Nigeria's food security, hence the farming communities in the state deserve support and recognition for their vital role by creating an enabling environment that enhance productivity and reduce the costs associated wit;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to rehabilitate the roads to prevent accidents, robbery incidences and ensure safe movement of agricultural produce and services; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (Hon. Saleh Gabriel Zock Kachia/Kagarko Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 49/07/2024).

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

19. Call for Completion of Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos Road Construction Under the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Limited (NNPCL) Tax Credit Scheme and Ensuring Efficiency in Project Execution

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the importance of the 253km Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road as a vital transportation artery linking communities and facilitating economic activities in Kaduna State and beyond;

Concerned that despite assurances of timely completion by the Federal Government, the construction of the road under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme has stalled, causing significant disruptions to local transportation, commerce, and overall socio-economic development in the affected areas;

Cognizant of the need to ensure the completion of all projects under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the execution of infrastructure projects aimed at benefiting communities and fostering economic growth;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the contractor responsible for the Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road to immediately return to site, adhering strictly to agreed timelines and quality standards, as stipulated in the contract;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works in collaboration with NNPCL and Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) to expedite the resolution of all outstanding issues causing the delay in the construction of the Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road, ensuring swift action to address any bureaucratic hurdles or funding challenges;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to conduct a thorough review and assessment of all projects under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme, focussing on identifying bottlenecks, enhancing project management practices, and recommending measures to improve efficiency and timely deliver; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), Finance and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Ahmed Mohammed Munir Lere Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the words "Jos road" insert the words "and Udi-Ozalla - Agbani - Akpugo - Amagunze (Enugu State), - Ezza road (Ebonyi State)" (Hon. Nnolim Nnaji — Nkanu East/Nkanu West Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the importance of the 253km Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road as a vital transportation artery linking communities and facilitating economic activities in Kaduna State and beyond;

Concerned that despite assurances of timely completion by the Federal Government, the construction of the road under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme has stalled, causing significant disruptions to local transportation, commerce, and overall socio-economic development in the affected areas;

Cognizant of the need to ensure the completion of all projects under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the execution of infrastructure projects aimed at benefiting communities and fostering economic growth;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the contractor responsible for the Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road and Udi-Ozalla - Agbani - Akpugo - Amagunze (Enugu State), - Ezza road (Ebonyi State) to immediately return to site, adhering strictly to agreed timelines and quality standards, as stipulated in the contract;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works in collaboration with NNPCL and FIRS to expedite the resolution of all outstanding issues causing the delay in the construction of the Maraban Jos-Pambegua-Saminaka-Jos road and Udi-Ozalla Agbani Akpugo Amagunze (Enugu State), Ezza road (Ebonyi State), and ensuring swift action to address any bureaucratic hurdles or funding challenges;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to conduct a thorough review and assessment of all projects under the NNPCL Tax Credit Scheme, focussing on identifying bottlenecks, enhancing project management practices, and recommending measures to improve efficiency and timely deliver; and
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), Finance and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR. 50/07/2024).

20. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 23 July, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 4.05 p.m.