

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 4 March, 2025

- 1. The House met at 11.09 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 *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 20 February, 2025.

The Second Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. Announcement

Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker announced the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Staff and Students of J-Zikap Premier Academy, Apo, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of Glorious Zeal Academy Old Karu, Abuja;
- (iii) Staff and Students of Prosperity International Academy, Dakwa, Tafa Local Government Area, Niger State;
- (iv) Staff and Students of New Ideas Montessori Academy, Bwari, Abuja.

5. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Arinze Nzeli, on behalf of Atani Town Union (ATU), on alleged marginalization of their community by the Management of Federal Polytechnic Oko, Anambra State, was presented and laid by Hon. Victor Afam Ogene (*Ogbaru Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Obasi Pherson's Help Foundation, on the alleged failure to inaugurate the Board of the National Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) by the Minister of Labour and Productivity, was presented and laid by Hon. Billy Famous Osawaru (Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) Need to Avert Further Loss of Lives, Humanitarian and Food Security Crisis as a Result of Invasion of Farmlands by Armed Herdsmen in Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State:

Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe (*Oluyole Federal Constituency and One Other*) 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.

Need to Avert Further Loss of Lives, Humanitarian and Food Security Crisis as a Result of Invasion of Farmlands by Armed Herdsmen in Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State:

The House:

Notes with grave concern the escalating security and agricultural crisis in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and surrounding communities within the Oluyole Federal Constituency, Oyo State, due to the invasion of farmlands by armed herdsmen;

Also notes that these herdsmen have been destroying farm produce, intimidating local farmers, and using weapons such as guns and cutlasses to instil fear, thereby jeopardizing the livelihoods of farmers, exacerbating the economic crises and food insecurity of the region;

Further notes that despite multiple reports to law enforcement agencies, no decisive action has been taken to address the situation, leaving farmers vulnerable and unprotected;

Aware that the failure to act swiftly has emboldened the perpetrators, leading to increased attacks, destruction of crops, and threats to lives and property, with the risk of further escalation if immediate action is not taken;

Recalls the resolution of the Igangan crisis in 2021, where decisive steps were taken to address similar issues, including the enforcement of anti-open grazing laws and the deployment of security forces to restore peace and protect farmers;

Concerned that the continued inaction by security agencies and relevant authorities could lead to a breakdown of law and order, further displacement of farmers, and a severe impact on agricultural productivity, which is critical to the economic stability of the region and the nation at large;

Cognizant of the constitutional duty of the government to protect the lives and property of citizens, as enshrined in Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), which states that "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government";

Also cognizant of the provisions of the Oyo State Anti-Open Grazing Law, 2021, which prohibits open grazing and mandates the regulation of livestock movement to prevent conflicts between herders and farmers:

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to take immediate and decisive steps to address the security and agricultural crisis in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and environs;
- (ii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police and the Director-General of the Department of State Services (DSS) to investigate the reported cases of intimidation, destruction of farmlands, and use of weapons by herdsmen in the area and ensure the arrest and prosecution of perpetrators to serve as a deterrent to others;
- (iii) call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to provide immediate relief materials and support to affected farmers and communities to mitigate the impact of the crisis on their livelihoods, enable them to recover from losses incurred, and resume agricultural activities;
- (iv) mandate the relevant Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, Humanitarian Services, National Security and Intelligence, and Interior to conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and environs; Engage with relevant stakeholders, including the Oyo State Government, security agencies, and community leaders, to develop a sustainable solution to the crisis (Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe Oluyole Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with grave concern the escalating security and agricultural crisis in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and surrounding communities within the Oluyole Federal Constituency, Oyo State, due to the invasion of farmlands by armed herdsmen;

Also noted that these herdsmen have been destroying farm produce, intimidating local farmers, and using weapons such as guns and cutlasses to instil fear, thereby jeopardizing the livelihoods of farmers, exacerbating the economic crises and food insecurity of the region;

Further noted that despite multiple reports to law enforcement agencies, no decisive action has been taken to address the situation, leaving farmers vulnerable and unprotected;

Aware that the failure to act swiftly has emboldened the perpetrators, leading to increased attacks, destruction of crops, and threats to lives and property, with the risk of further escalation if immediate action is not taken;

Recalled the resolution of the Igangan crisis in 2021, where decisive steps were taken to address similar issues, including the enforcement of anti-open grazing laws and the deployment of security forces to restore peace and protect farmers;

Concerned that the continued inaction by security agencies and relevant authorities could lead

to a breakdown of law and order, further displacement of farmers, and a severe impact on agricultural productivity, which is critical to the economic stability of the region and the nation at large;

Cognizant of the constitutional duty of the government to protect the lives and property of citizens, as enshrined in Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), which states that "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government";

Also cognizant of the provisions of the Oyo State Anti-Open Grazing Law, 2021, which prohibits open grazing and mandates the regulation of livestock movement to prevent conflicts between herders and farmers;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to take immediate and decisive steps to address the security and agricultural crisis in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and environs;
- (ii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police and the Director-General of the Department of State Services (DSS) to investigate the reported cases of intimidation, destruction of farmlands, and use of weapons by herdsmen in the area and ensure the arrest and prosecution of perpetrators to serve as a deterrent to others;
- (iii) call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to provide immediate relief materials and support to affected farmers and communities to mitigate the impact of the crisis on their livelihoods, enable them to recover from losses incurred, and resume agricultural activities;
- (iv) mandate the relevant Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, Humanitarian Services, National Security and Intelligence, and Interior to conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in Ogumakin, Gambari Reserve, and environs; Engage with relevant stakeholders, including the Oyo State Government, security agencies, and community leaders, to develop a sustainable solution to the crisis (HR. 57/03/2025).
- (ii) Killing of a Vigilante Member, Mr Ogonegbu Chukwunomnazu by Alleged Herders in Obiaruku, Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State, and the Escalating Herder-Farmer Clashes in Southern Nigeria:

Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (*Ndowa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani 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.

Killing of a Vigilante Member, Mr Ogonegbu Chukwunomnazu by Alleged Herders in Obiaruku, Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State, and the Escalating Herder-Farmer Clashes in Southern Nigeria:

The House:

Notes the recent tragic killing of a vigilante member, Mr Ogonegbu Chukwunomnazu in Obiaruku, Ukwuani Local Government Area (LGA), Delta State, allegedly by suspected herders, an incident that has sparked outrage and heightened insecurity concerns in the community;

Also notes that herder-farmer clashes, which were previously more prevalent in the North-Central region, have now escalated and spread into Southern Nigeria, leading to loss of lives, destruction of farmlands, and displacement of residents;

Further notes that these clashes have continued to negatively impact food security, economic activities, and social cohesion, with affected communities living in fear due to the persistent attacks:

Concerned that the rising tension and violent clashes in Ukwuani LGA and other parts of Delta State pose a significant threat to peace, stability, and the security of lives and property in the region;

Worried that despite the passage of the Delta State Livestock, Breeding, Rearing and Marketing Regulation Law of 2021, enforcement remains weak, allowing unchecked movement and activities of herders, which has contributed to continued conflicts;

Cognizant of the constitutional duty of the government to protect the lives and property of its citizens, as well as the urgent need for proactive measures to curb the rising violence and prevent further loss of lives;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute of silence in honour of the deceased vigilante member and all victims of herder-farmer clashes across the country;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm of Government, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Commissioner of Police, Delta State, to conduct a thorough investigation into the killing in Obiaruku, Ukwuani LGA, Delta State, apprehend the perpetrators, and ensure justice is served;
- (iii) call on security agencies, in collaboration with the Delta State Government to strengthen enforcement of the Delta State Livestock, Breeding, Rearing and Marketing Regulation Bill of 2021 to prevent further clashes and ensure compliance with regulations governing livestock movement and settlement;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, National Security and Intelligence, and Agricultural Production and Services to engage with relevant stakeholders, including security agencies, local authorities, and community leaders, to find long-term solutions to the persistent herder-farmer conflicts and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi Ndokwa/Ukwuani Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the recent tragic killing of a vigilante member, Mr Ogonegbu Chukwunomnazu in

Obiaruku, Ukwuani Local Government Area (LGA), Delta State, allegedly by suspected herders, an incident that has sparked outrage and heightened insecurity concerns in the community;

Also noted that herder-farmer clashes, which were previously more prevalent in the North-Central region, have now escalated and spread into Southern Nigeria, leading to loss of lives, destruction of farmlands, and displacement of residents;

Further noted that these clashes have continued to negatively impact food security, economic activities, and social cohesion, with affected communities living in fear due to the persistent attacks:

Concerned that the rising tension and violent clashes in Ukwuani LGA and other parts of Delta State pose a significant threat to peace, stability, and the security of lives and property in the region;

Worried that despite the passage of the Delta State Livestock, Breeding, Rearing and Marketing Regulation Law of 2021, enforcement remains weak, allowing unchecked movement and activities of herders, which has contributed to continued conflicts;

Cognizant of the constitutional duty of the government to protect the lives and property of its citizens, as well as the urgent need for proactive measures to curb the rising violence and prevent further loss of lives;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute of silence in honour of the deceased vigilante member and all victims of herder-farmer clashes across the country;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm of Government, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Commissioner of Police, Delta State, to conduct a thorough investigation into the killing in Obiaruku, Ukwuani LGA, Delta State, apprehend the perpetrators, and ensure justice is served;
- (iii) call on security agencies, in collaboration with the Delta State Government to strengthen enforcement of the Delta State Livestock, Breeding, Rearing and Marketing Regulation Bill of 2021 to prevent further clashes and ensure compliance with regulations governing livestock movement and settlement;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, National Security and Intelligence, and Agricultural Production and Services to engage with relevant stakeholders, including security agencies, local authorities, and community leaders, to find long-term solutions to the persistent herder-farmer conflicts and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 58/03/2025).

A minute in silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(iii) Call to Suspend and Investigate the Proposed Increase in Subscription Prices by Multichoice:

Hon. Esosa Iyawe (*Oredo 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.

Call to Suspend and Investigate the Proposed Increase in Subscription Prices by Multichoice:

The House:

Notes that Multichoice, the owner of PayTV options DStv and GOtv, recently announced an increase in the prices of all its packages in Nigeria, citing prevalent economic factors leading to increased operational costs as their reason for the proposed increase;

Also notes that the 20%-25% hike in subscription prices would be the second time in less than a year, as the last hike was in May 2024;

Concerned that the increase in May 2024 sparked a public outrage and many Nigerians who were already dealing with rising costs of living were forced to ditch their decoders even as they lamented the lack of competition in the pay-TV sector;

Also concerned that due to the dominant position of Multichoice in pay-TV, price increases always have a widespread impact and put consumers under undue pressure;

Worried that the most recent hike in subscription prices announcement has triggered widespread criticism from subscribers, many of whom have taken to social media to express their frustration over frequent price hikes without a corresponding improvement in service quality and the seeming aloof stance of the government towards the situation;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on Multichoice to suspend its proposed increase in subscription prices in Nigeria pending exhaustive investigations;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Commerce to investigate the arbitrary increase in subscription prices by Multichoice with a view to ensuring implementation of cost-effective policies in the pay-TV sector for consumers in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Esosa Iyawe Oredo Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (ii), leave out the word "Commerce", insert the words "Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values" (Hon. Nwaeke Felix Uche — Eleme/Tai/Oyigbo Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Multichoice, the owner of PayTV options DStv and GOtv, recently announced an increase in the prices of all its packages in Nigeria, citing prevalent economic factors leading to increased operational costs as their reason for the proposed increase;

Also noted that the 20%-25% hike in subscription prices would be the second time in less than a year, as the last hike was in May 2024;

Concerned that the increase in May 2024 sparked a public outrage and many Nigerians who were already dealing with rising costs of living were forced to ditch their decoders even as they lamented the lack of competition in the pay-TV sector;

Also concerned that due to the dominant position of Multichoice in pay-TV, price increases always have a widespread impact and put consumers under undue pressure;

Worried that the most recent hike in subscription prices announcement has triggered widespread criticism from subscribers, many of whom have taken to social media to express their frustration over frequent price hikes without a corresponding improvement in service quality and the seeming aloof stance of the government towards the situation;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on Multichoice to suspend its proposed increase in subscription prices in Nigeria pending exhaustive investigations;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to investigate the arbitrary increase in subscription prices by Multichoice with a view to ensuring implementation of cost-effective policies in the pay-TV sector for consumers in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 59/03/2025).

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. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

(iv) Call for the Empowerment of Victims of Insurgency in Marte Local Government Area, Borno State:

Hon. Bukar Talba (*Monguno/Nganzai/Marte 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.

Call for the Empowerment of Victims of Insurgency in Marte Local Government Area, Borno State:

The House:

Notes that insurgency, and kidnapping are major problems people in the North East have been facing for a very long time;

Recalls that Borno State have had its own share of the unpleasant activities of these insurgency/kidnappers;

Aware that Marte Local Government Area in Borno State, located on the Western Coast of

Lake Chad with its headquarters in Marte have been in the eye of the storm due to the activities of insurgency and kidnappers in the Local Government Area;

Also aware that due to several attacks on Marte Local Government Area by insurgency, many inhabitants of the Local Government relocated to neighbouring communities such as Monguno and Maidugri, while some found themselves in Niger Republic;

Concerned that National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in its 2012 reports stated that violence linked to Boko Haram insurgency in Marte Local Government caused about 70% of farmers to abandon their farms and relocate to camps in neighbouring communities;

Observes that as the security situation improves in Borno State, coupled with the State Government's efforts to close all IDPs camps in Maiduguri and environs, many of the displaced people from Marte Local Government Area are now returning home;

Cognizant of the need to empower the internally displaced persons (farmers, women and youths) who recently returned to Marte with agricultural inputs/kits such as fertilizers, water pumps, pesticides and seedlings for farming; technical skills such as hairdressing, barbing, carpentry, phone repair, etc. for the youths and women, and provision of start-up support after the training, with a view to enabling them to be self-reliant and productive;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to victims of insurgency attack in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Labour and Employment to empower women and youths in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State with vocational skills such as hairdressing, barbing, carpentry, phone repair etc, and start-up support after training;
- (iii) further urge the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to provide agricultural inputs/kits, such as fertilizers, water pumps, pesticides and seedlings to farmers in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Labour, Employment and Productivity, Agricultural Production and Services, and Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees to ensure compliance (Hon. Bukar Talba Marte/Monguno/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that insurgency, and kidnapping are major problems people in the North East have been facing for a very long time;

Recalled that Borno State have had its own share of the unpleasant activities of these insurgency/kidnappers;

Aware that Marte Local Government Area in Borno State, located on the Western Coast of Lake Chad with its headquarters in Marte have been in the eye of the storm due to the activities of insurgency and kidnappers in the Local Government Area;

Also aware that due to several attacks on Marte Local Government Area by insurgency,

many inhabitants of the Local Government relocated to neighbouring communities such as Monguno and Maidugri, while some found themselves in Niger Republic;

Concerned that National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in its 2012 reports stated that violence linked to Boko Haram insurgency in Marte Local Government caused about 70% of farmers to abandon their farms and relocate to camps in neighbouring communities;

Observed that as the security situation improves in Borno State, coupled with the State Government's efforts to close all IDPs camps in Maiduguri and environs, many of the displaced people from Marte Local Government Area are now returning home;

Cognizant of the need to empower the internally displaced persons (farmers, women and youths) who recently returned to Marte with agricultural inputs/kits such as fertilizers, water pumps, pesticides and seedlings for farming; technical skills such as hairdressing, barbing, carpentry, phone repair, etc. for the youths and women, and provision of start-up support after the training, with a view to enabling them to be self-reliant and productive;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to victims of insurgency attack in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Labour and Employment to empower women and youths in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State with vocational skills such as hairdressing, barbing, carpentry, phone repair etc, and start-up support after training;
- (iii) further urge the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to provide agricultural inputs/kits, such as fertilizers, water pumps, pesticides and seedlings to farmers in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State;
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Labour, Employment and Productivity, Agricultural Production and Services, and Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees to ensure compliance (HR. 60/03/2025).

7. Admittance into the Chamber

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, a Delegation from the United Kingdom (UK) Parliament of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Branch, to observe the proceedings of the House, pursuant to Order Six, Rule 4 (1)of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives" (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The Delegation comprises the following Parliamentarians from the United Kingdom Parliament:

(i)	Kate Ofunne Osamor	_	House of Commons (Leader of the Delegation)
(ii)	Jonathan Oates	_	House of Lords
(iii)	Rebecca Claire Cooper	_	House of Commons
(iv)	David Gordan Mundell	_	House of Commons
(<i>v</i>)	Frederick Thomas	_	House of Commons
(vi)	Karen Anne Bradley	_	House of Commons
(vii)	Jacob Teltscher Loose	_	CPA UK, Africa Regional Programme Manager
(viii)	Magdalene El Beleidi	_	CPA UK, Project Officer
(ix)	Helen Xanthaki	_	Dean, Postgraduate Law Programmes, University
			of London
(x)	Bethan Beatrice Thomas	_	CPA, UK, Project Officer

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the First Time:

- (1) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2114).
- (2) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Zaria (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2115).
- (3) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2116).
- (4) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2117).
- (5) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2118).
- (6) Federal College of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2107).
- (7) Federal College of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Ugbogun, Uhunmwode, Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2113).
- (8) Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2108).
- (9) Nigerian Meteorological Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2109).
- (10) Orthopaedic Hospitals Management Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB.364).
- (11) Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB.720).
- (12) Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB.675).
- (13) Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2106).
- (14) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery (Special), Ora Igbimina, Osun State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2112).
- (15) Nigeria Centre for Animal Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2034).
- (16) Federal University of Agriculture and Development Studies, Ishiagu, Ebonyi State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2052).
- (17) Chartered Institute of Public Diplomacy and Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2079).
- (18) Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organisations Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 2119).

9. Presentation of Reports

(i) Committee on Review of Standing Orders:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Rules and Business on the Further Review of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives" (Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(ii) Committee on Pensions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Pensions to investigate the Administration of Nigeria's Pension Fund Assets (HR. 195/10/2023)" (Hon. Hussaini Mohammed Jallo — Igabi Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Pensions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Pensions on the Plight of Retirees under the Contributory Pension Scheme (HR. 66/02/2024)" (Hon. Hussaini Mohammed Jallo — Igabi Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to, among other things, review the Functions of the Polytechnics and for Related Matters — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to, among other things, review the Functions of the Polytechnics and for Related Matters be read a Second Time" (Hon. Fuad Kayode Laguda — Surulere I Federal Constituency and One other).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Polytechnics and Higher Technical Education.

11. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment and the Functions of Legislative Security Directorate in the National Assembly, Provide for the Qualification and Condition of Service of the Sergeant-at-Arms and Other Personnel of the Directorate and for Related Matters (HB.1632) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment and the Functions of Legislative Security Directorate in the National assembly, Provide for the Qualification and Condition of Service of the Sergeant-at-Arms and Other Personnel of the Directorate and for Related Matters (HB.1632) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Rotimi Akintunde Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye 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 Internal Security of the National Assembly.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Financial and Investment Analysts of Nigeria, to Regulate and Control the Practice of Financial and Investment Analysts in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.336) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of

Financial and Investment Analysts of Nigeria, to Regulate and Control the Practice of Financial and Investment Analysts in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.336) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Whingan Sesi Oluwaseun — Badagry Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Debate adjourned to enable the sponsor circulate a compendium background information of the Bill to Members.

13. A Bill for an Act to Entrench a Level Playing Field between Holders of Bachelor's Degree and Graduates of Higher National Diplomas by Providing Equal Opportunities between the two Categories of Graduates and Prohibit the Discrimination against the Higher National Diploma Qualification in the Consideration for Employment or Promotion in Public and Private Sector in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1443) — Second Reading

Bill withdrawn by the leave of the House.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ikwuano, Abia State and for Related Matters (HB.1605) — Second Reading Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ikwuano, Abia State and for Related Matters (HB.1605) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Obinna Aguocha — Ikwuano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

15. Waste Pollution and the Management of its Impacts on Health and Environment: *Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

Notes the difficulties faced by citizens in controlling and managing waste disposals and utilizing production effluents in the manufacturing industries, as well as the oil and gas sectors;

Observes the recurring negative impacts that ineffective waste disposal practices have had on the health of citizens in communities and locations where oil and gas activities are conducted;

Also observes that the major components of environmental pollution are hazardous waste discharges in manufacturing industries, unending gas flaring, crude and refined oil spills, as often happens in the Niger Delta region, in addition to domestic waste disposals;

Also notes that in spite of the numerous laws and regulations on waste management across the country, there are still numerous gaps and lapses in the control and management of industrial and domestic waste across the country;

Worried that the consequences of continued neglect of our environment could result in, as it had often been the case, serious health challenges for our people, all in addition to a degeneration of the nation's ecosystem, loss of agricultural productivity, and environmental degradation, especially in the coastal regions of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), the National Oil Spill Detection, the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC), and the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), to reinforce the enforcement of all environment-related laws and regulations and strengthen the effectiveness of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), and the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) to implore States and Local Governments to closely collaborate with the Federal Government to ensure that Oil Companies and Manufacturing Industries, as well as Small and Medium-Scale Businesses, adopt cleaner and safer waste disposal methods to contain the outbreaks of infections and spread of communicable diseases, and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Environment to conduct a wholesome survey on the extent of environmental pollution across and around major industries and their level of compliance with laws and regulations on pollutions and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Julius Gbabojor Pondi Burutu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 61/03/2025).

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

16. Need to Set Up Permanent Military Outpost in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local Government Areas, Zamfara State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

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

Also notes that the persistent and escalating security challenges in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State have led to increase in attacks, killings, maiming, kidnappings posing grievous threat to lives, properties and development of the areas;

Aware that the Governor of Zamfara State has taken series of pragmatic steps in safeguarding the State, including establishing Security Trust Fund, Community Protection Guards, intelligence sharing and provision of logistical support to security agencies, regular security council meetings and blocking logistics supply to bandits;

Also aware that the military personnel has made remarkable efforts in curbing the devastating situation;

Disturbed that the pathetic situation has inflicted untold hardship on the people living in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local government Areas, preventing their access to farmlands, markets, and schools for the general population;

Worried that over 40 villages were affected by bandit invasion, leading to villagers fleeing and leaving the areas deserted;

Informed that the Military men were seen in Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency for about two weeks, but later withdrew causing bandit Kingpin to resurface and launch attacks on constituents;

Cognizant that establishing a security base will address emerging security threats, provide a secured environment for citizens and residents of Shinkafi and Zurmi, and ensure the return of fled villagers;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to direct the military to as a matter of necessity and urgency construct and station a befitting and well equipped permanent military outpost in Magarya, Kurya, Kware, Dutsi, Mashema, Gurbin Bore, Boko and Dole in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local Government Areas respectively to further enhance security of the areas and reinforce the military personnel to effectively checkmate and confront the nefarious activities of bandits;
- (ii) also urge other security, law enforcement agencies and other relevant stakeholders to synergize with the Zamfara State Government to further stem the unfortunate insecurity trend;
- (iii) further urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction to immediately provide relief materials to the affected victims across Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, National Security and Intelligence, Humanitarian Services and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Hassan Bello Shinkafi Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 14(2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) states that the welfare and security of the citizens shall be the primary purpose of government;

Also noted that the persistent and escalating security challenges in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State have led to increase in attacks, killings, maiming, kidnappings posing grievous threat to lives, properties and development of the areas;

Aware that the Governor of Zamfara State has taken series of pragmatic steps in safeguarding the State, including establishing Security Trust Fund, Community Protection Guards, intelligence sharing and provision of logistical support to security agencies, regular security council meetings and blocking logistics supply to bandits;

Also aware that the military personnel has made remarkable efforts in curbing the devastating situation;

Disturbed that the pathetic situation has inflicted untold hardship on the people living in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local government Areas, preventing their access to farmlands, markets, and schools for the general population;

Worried that over 40 villages were affected by bandit invasion, leading to villagers fleeing and leaving the areas deserted;

Informed that the Military men were seen in Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency for about two weeks, but later withdrew causing bandit Kingpin to resurface and launch attacks on constituents;

Cognizant that establishing a security base will address emerging security threats, provide a secured environment for citizens and residents of Shinkafi and Zurmi, and ensure the return of fled villagers;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to direct the military to as a matter of necessity and urgency construct and station a befitting and well equipped permanent military outpost in Magarya, Kurya, Kware, Dutsi, Mashema, Gurbin Bore, Boko and Dole in Shinkafi and Zurmi Local Government Areas respectively to further enhance security of the areas and reinforce the military personnel to effectively checkmate and confront the nefarious activities of bandits;
- (ii) also urge other security, law enforcement agencies and other relevant stakeholders to synergize with the Zamfara State Government to further stem the unfortunate insecurity trend;
- (iii) further urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction to immediately provide relief materials to the affected victims across Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency;
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, National Security and Intelligence, Humanitarian Services and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 62/03/2025).

17. Order of the Day

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do set down items 8 - 14 on the Order Paper till the next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)" (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

18. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 5 March, 2025 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 12.39 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen Speaker