



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 9 July, 2024

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1. The House met at 11.09 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
 2. The House recited the National Anthem and the National Pledge.
 3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 2 July, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
 4. **Announcement**
 - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced the presence of members of Student's Representative Council (The Senate), Students' Union Government, University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State;
 - (b) **Conference Committee on National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act (NDLEA) (Amendment) Bill, 2024:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:

(i)	Hon. Abbas A. Adigun	—	Chairman
(ii)	Hon. Dankawu Idris	—	Member
(iii)	Hon. Kuye Ademorin	—	Member
(iv)	Hon. Muhammed Audu	—	Member
(v)	Hon. Rodney Ambaiowei Ebikebina	—	Member
 5. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Kenneth Beauty Usoroh and 6 others, on the failure to capture and integrate the Non-Academic Staff of the University of Calabar, Cross River State, under the Integrated Personnel and Payroll Information System (IPPIS), was presented and laid by Hon. Emmanuel Effiong Ukpong-Udo (*Ikono/Ini Federal Constituency*);

- (ii) A petition from Isaac Onniye and 2 others, on behalf of Forum of Local Government Chairmen, Bayelsa State Chapter, on alleged non-compliance with the provisions of the Petroleum Industry Act, 2021, on divestment and decommissioning of operations by Shell Petroleum Company of Nigeria (SPDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Mitema Obordor (*Ogbia Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) Petition from Anioma Youth Forum Worldwide, on the alleged murder of David Eloee Nduka by Sgt. Ibrahim Muntari, was presented and laid by Hon. Ngozi Okolie Lawrence (*Aniocha North/Aniocha South Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) *Need to Stop Further Killings, Kidnaping and Shootings in Batsari, Safana and Danmusa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:*

Hon. Aliyu Iliyasu Abubakar (*Batsari/Safana/Danmusa 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.

Need to Stop Further Killings, Kidnaping and Shootings in Batsari, Safana and Danmusa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:

The House:

Notes that the most recent attack by bandits on the people of Batsari, Safana and Banmusa Local Government Areas resulted in the killing of 51 people in Kunamawa, Runka, Zakka, Yarlilo, and other towns in Safana Local Government Area;

Also notes that ten (10) people were killed in Maidabino town of Danmusa Local Government Area, while seventy-two (72) people are in the hands of bandits when a disturbing video was released by the bandits;

Further notes that on Sunday, 7 July, 2024, thirty-three (33) people were again kidnaped in Runka town after five (5) innocent people were shot and are receiving treatment in different health centres;

Cognizant that the Government of Katsina State is doing its best to curtail these killings and kidnaping through the establishment of Katsina State Community Watch Corps by spending a substantial amount of money on security;

Still notes that the activities of these bandits have become a grim business and a disturbing hobby in the Local Government Areas and each day some persons were either killed or kidnaped;

Again notes that over 60% of the farmers could no longer go to farm or trade, which poses danger to food security;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the departed souls;
- (ii) urge the relevant security Agencies to do more in protecting lives and properties in Batsari/Safana/Danmusa Federal Constituency in particular and the State in general;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately provide relief materials to the affected communities to alleviate their suffering;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Aliyu Iliyasu Abubakar — Batsari/Safana/Danmusa Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.**Agreed to.*

The House:

Noted that the most recent attack by bandits on the people of Batsari, Safana and Banmusa Local Government Areas resulted in the killing of 51 people in Kunamawa, Runka, Zakka, Yarlilo, and other towns in Safana Local Government Area;

Also noted that ten (10) people were killed in Maidabino town of Danmusa Local Government Area, while seventy-two (72) people are in the hands of bandits when a disturbing video was released by the bandits;

Further noted that on Sunday, 7 July, 2024, thirty-three (33) people were again kidnaped in Runka town after five (5) innocent people were shot and are receiving treatment in different health centres;

Cognizant that the Government of Katsina State is doing its best to curtail these killings and kidnaping through the establishment of Katsina State Community Watch Corps by spending a substantial amount of money on security;

Still noted that the activities of these bandits have become a grim business and a disturbing hobby in the Local Government Areas and each day some persons were either killed or kidnaped;

Again noted that over 60% of the farmers could no longer go to farm or trade, which poses danger to food security;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the departed souls;
- (ii) urge the relevant security Agencies to do more in protecting lives and properties in Batsari/Safana/Danmusa Federal Constituency in particular and the State in general;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately provide relief materials to the affected communities to alleviate their suffering;

- (iv) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 15/07/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) Forensic Investigation into the Challenges Affecting the Downstream and Midstream Petroleum Sectors in Nigeria:

Hon. Billy Famous Osawaru (*Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode 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.

Forensic Investigation into the Challenges Affecting the Downstream and Midstream Petroleum Sectors in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that the National Assembly is saddled with the task of making laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation or any part thereof as enshrined in Section 4 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Also notes section 88 (1) and (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), empowers the National Assembly to conduct investigations into the activities of any authority executing or administering laws made by the National Assembly;

Aware that in recent times there has been a resurgence of fuel queues in petrol stations, with allegations of high cost of PMS and non-availability of fuel stock for downstream domestic refineries in Nigeria and disruption of distribution of PMS products;

Informed that there is also allegation of unfair subsidization of PMS and other petroleum products which negatively affects competitiveness in the sector. There are also allegations of racketeering and favouritism in the Pro Forma Invoice System (PFI) regime, indiscriminate issuance of licenses and importation of refined petroleum products;

Also informed of the alleged return of PMS price intervention with its impact on domestic market, there is also the allegation of product unavailability to marketers from NNPC Retail. Endless shifting of timelines for refinery rehabilitation, the nefarious activities at petrol depot which have affected product distribution and caused scarcity. There is also the use of middlemen in trading and has negatively affected domestic crude supply;

Disturbed about the indiscriminate issuance of licenses, the unavailability of laboratories to check adulterated products and the influx of adulterated products into the country, allegation of non domestication of profits realized from crude marketing sales in local banks, abuse of the PFI regime, importation of products already being produced in Nigeria like jet fuel, AGO, etc. use of international trading companies to resell fuel stock to local refineries, and all issues surrounding subsidy regime;

Also disturbed about the allegation of the return of subsidy on downstream PMS products,

uncertainty about the exact landing cost of PMS, reduction in retail price and its impact on downstream operations, allegation of importation of substandard products and high-sulphur diesel into Nigeria, sale of petroleum products below fair market value and its impact on downstream and local refineries and as the source of funds for such interventions;

Worried about the failure of the regulators such as NMDPRA, NUPRC, etc. to enforce compliance with standards that will help achieve the growth of downstream sector and the lack of support to local crude refiners, issuance of import license, despite local production;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Midstream) to carryout a legislative forensic investigation into the:

- (i) resurgence of fuel queues in petrol stations, allegations of high cost of PMS, unavailability of fuel stock for downstream domestic refineries, disruption of distribution of PMS products, unfair subsidization of PMS and other petroleum products racketeering and favouritism in the Pro Forma Invoice System (PFI) regime, indiscriminate issuance of licenses and importation of refined petroleum products, alleged return of PMS price intervention, allegation of product unavailability to marketers from NNPC Retail, endless shifting of timelines for refinery rehabilitation, the nefarious activities at petrol depots;
- (ii) presence of middlemen in trading, indiscriminate issuance of licenses, unavailability of laboratories to check adulterated products, influx of adulterated products into the country, allegation of non domestication of profits realized from crude marketing sales in local banks, abuse of the PFI regime, importation of products already being produced in Nigeria, use of international trading companies to resell fuel stock to local refineries, the allegation of return of subsidy on downstream PMS products, uncertainty about the exact landing cost of PMS, reduction in retail price and its impact on downstream operations;
- (iii) allegation of importation of substandard products and high-sulphur diesel into Nigeria, sale of petroleum products below fair market value and its impact on downstream and local refineries and as the source of funds for such interventions, the failure of the regulators such as NMDPRA, NUPRC, etc. to enforce compliance with standards, the lack of support to local crude refiners, issuance of import license, despite local production, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Billy Famous Osawaru — Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), immediately after the words “such as NMDPRA”, *leave out* the word “NUPRC” (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — Doguwa/Tudun Wada Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the National Assembly is saddled with the task of making laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation or any part thereof as enshrined in Section 4 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Also noted section 88 (1) and (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), empowers the National Assembly to conduct investigations into the activities of any authority executing or administering laws made by the National Assembly;

Aware that in recent times there has been a resurgence of fuel queues in petrol stations, with allegations of high cost of PMS and non-availability of fuel stock for downstream domestic refineries in Nigeria and disruption of distribution of PMS products;

Informed that there is also allegation of unfair subsidization of PMS and other petroleum products which negatively affects competitiveness in the sector. There are also allegations of racketeering and favouritism in the Pro Forma Invoice System (PFI) regime, indiscriminate issuance of licenses and importation of refined petroleum products;

Also informed of the alleged return of PMS price intervention with its impact on domestic market, there is also the allegation of product unavailability to marketers from NNPC Retail. Endless shifting of timelines for refinery rehabilitation, the nefarious activities at petrol depot which have affected product distribution and caused scarcity. There is also the use of middlemen in trading and has negatively affected domestic crude supply;

Disturbed about the indiscriminate issuance of licenses, the unavailability of laboratories to check adulterated products and the influx of adulterated products into the country, allegation of non domestication of profits realized from crude marketing sales in local banks, abuse of the PFI regime, importation of products already being produced in Nigeria like jet fuel, AGO, etc. use of international trading companies to resell fuel stock to local refineries, and all issues surrounding subsidy regime;

Also disturbed about the allegation of the return of subsidy on downstream PMS products, unclarity about the exact landing cost of PMS, reduction in retail price and its impact on downstream operations, allegation of importation of substandard products and high-sulphur diesel into Nigeria, sale of petroleum products below fair market value and its impact on downstream and local refineries and as the source of funds for such interventions;

Worried about the failure of the regulators such as NMDPRA, NUPRC, etc. to enforce compliance with standards that will help achieve the growth of downstream sector and the lack of support to local crude refiners, issuance of import license, despite local production;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Midstream) to carryout a legislative forensic investigation into the:

- (i) resurgence of fuel queues in petrol stations, allegations of high cost of PMS, unavailability of fuel stock for downstream domestic refineries, disruption of distribution of PMS products, unfair subsidization of PMS and other petroleum products racketeering and favouritism in the Pro Forma Invoice System (PFI) regime, indiscriminate issuance of licenses and importation of refined petroleum products, alleged return of PMS price intervention, allegation of product unavailability to marketers from NNPC Retail, endless shifting of timelines for refinery rehabilitation, the nefarious activities at petrol depots;
- (ii) presence of middlemen in trading, indiscriminate issuance of licenses, unavailability of laboratories to check adulterated products, influx of adulterated products into the country, allegation of non domestication of profits realized from crude marketing sales in local banks, abuse of the PFI regime, importation of products already being produced in Nigeria, use of international trading companies to resell fuel stock to local refineries, the allegation of return of subsidy on downstream PMS products,

uncertainty about the exact landing cost of PMS, reduction in retail price and its impact on downstream operations;

- (iii) allegation of importation of substandard products and high-sulphur diesel into Nigeria, sale of petroleum products below fair market value and its impact on downstream and local refineries and as the source of funds for such interventions, the failure of the regulators such as NMDPRA, etc. to enforce compliance with standards, the lack of support to local crude refiners, issuance of import license, despite local production, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks (**HR. 16/07/2024**).

(iii) ***Alleged Controversial Samoa Partnership Agreement by the Executive Arm of Government:*** Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency and Eighty-Eight Others*) 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 Controversial Samoa Partnership Agreement by the Executive Arm of Government:

The House:

Notes that on June 28, 2024, the Executive Arm of Government signed what is known as the Samoa Agreement with the European Union (EU) to boost food security and inclusive economic development, among other vital areas;

Concerned that the agreement allegedly has some clauses that compel underdeveloped and developing nations to support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community as condition for getting financial and other supports from advanced societies;

Also concerned that Article 97 of the Agreement, which states that, "no treaty, convention, agreement or arrangement of any kind between one or more member States of European and one or more OACPS Members shall impede the implementation of this Agreement", is supremacy Clause, and thus violates Nigeria's sovereignty;

Worried that some other Articles, especially Articles 2.5, 29.5, 36.2, and 88 in the Samoa Agreement that was signed by the Executive Arm of Government may be inimical to the interest of Nigeria as a country and the values of the people as a whole. More so, it does not contained a Reservation clause;

Aware that Article 2.5 states that parties shall systematically promote a gender perspective and ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed across all countries;

Also worried that the phrase gender equality as reported is Trojan horse for deceptively bringing in all sort of immorality to the country, as gender no longer mean two sexes, male and female as traditionally understood. It now includes homosexuality, lesbianism, transgenderism and animalism;

Further worried that the signing of such an agreement with the aforementioned clauses, if

true, violates the nation's sovereignty and is a clear contravention of section 12 (1) of the 1999 constitution as amended. The Executive Arm of Government may have signed the agreement without exhaustive consultations and consideration for possible long-term consequences;

Resolves to:

- (i) investigation and establish if any part of it is offensive and infringes on the rights, culture and beliefs of Nigerians;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on National Planning and Economic Development, Justice, Treaties, Protocol and Agreements to interface with relevant agencies to resolve all grey areas in the agreement and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki — Dala Federal Constituency and Sixteen Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on June 28, 2024, the Executive Arm of Government signed what is known as the Samoa Agreement with the European Union (EU) to boost food security and inclusive economic development, among other vital areas;

Concerned that the agreement allegedly has some clauses that compel underdeveloped and developing nations to support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community as condition for getting financial and other supports from advanced societies;

Also concerned that Article 97 of the Agreement, which states that, "no treaty, convention, agreement or arrangement of any kind between one or more member States of European and one or more OACPS Members shall impede the implementation of this Agreement", is supremacy Clause, and thus violates Nigeria's sovereignty;

Worried that some other Articles, especially Articles 2.5, 29.5, 36.2, and 88 in the Samoa Agreement that was signed by the Executive Arm of Government may be inimical to the interest of Nigeria as a country and the values of the people as a whole. More so, it does not contained a Reservation clause;

Aware that Article 2.5 states that parties shall systematically promote a gender perspective and ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed across all countries;

Also worried that the phrase gender equality as reported is Trojan horse for deceptively bringing in all sort of immorality to the country, as gender no longer mean two sexes, male and female as traditionally understood. It now includes homosexuality, lesbianism, transgenderism and animalism;

Further worried that the signing of such an agreement with the aforementioned clauses, if true, violates the nation's sovereignty and is a clear contravention of section 12 (1) of the 1999 constitution as amended. The Executive Arm of Government may have signed the agreement without exhaustive consultations and consideration for possible long-term consequences;

Resolved to:

- (i) investigate and establish if any part of the agreement is offensive and infringes on the rights, culture and beliefs of Nigerians;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on National Planning and Economic Development, Justice, Treaties, Protocol and Agreements to interface with relevant agencies to resolve all grey areas in the agreement and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 17/07/2024**).

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. Kuye Ademorin — Shomolu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (iv) ***Refusal of State Governments to Uphold Democratic Principles in the Local Government and the Financial Impropriety in Unelected Local Government Officials:***

Hon. Kuye Ademorin (*Shomolu 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.

Refusal of State Governments to Uphold Democratic Principles in the Local Government and the Financial Impropriety in Unelected Local Government Officials:

The House:

Aware that Section 7 of the Constitution guarantees the system of Local Government run by democratically elected officials and prescribed that State Government should ensure their existence;

Also aware that section 8 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), mandates the State Houses of Assembly to make laws for the establishment, tenure, structure, composition, finance and functions of these Councils stipulated by the Constitution;

Further aware that the Local Government, as envisaged by the Constitution, is the most important tier of government as it is the closest to the people and the obvious foundation of both the sub-national and the Federal Government;

Informed that in December 2023, the Senate adopted a Resolution to stop allocation to some States to halt the erosion of democracy and call for the extension of sanctions to other States that have usurped and upended democratically elected council officials and had installed unelected Caretaker Executives;

Concerned that the dissolution of democratically elected council officials is in direct contravention of section 7 of the Nigerian Constitution, The supreme court pronouncement on such matters and a deliberate affront on democracy;

Worried by the increasing number of states acting with such impunity and constitutional disregard as about 21 State Governors are currently running councils with Caretaker Committees;

Dismayed that this impunity and Constitution disregard is a deliberate effort to upstage democracy, shrink the development potential of Local Councils, enshrine lack of accountability and limit transparency in Local Governments and the state as a whole;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) to create special account into which such monies will be paid until democratically elected representatives are put in place by State Governments;
- (ii) also urge the Attorney-General of the Federation to institute legal action against any State Government that terminates the unexpired tenure of Local Government Administration;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Finance, and States and Local Government to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Finance to ensure that allocation to the 774 Local Government Areas in the country are not released to non-democratically elected Local Government Councils;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Kuye Ademorin — Shomolu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Section 7 of the Constitution guarantees the system of Local Government run by democratically elected officials and prescribed that State Government should ensure their existence;

Also aware that section 8 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), mandates the State Houses of Assembly to make laws for the establishment, tenure, structure, composition, finance and functions of these Councils stipulated by the Constitution;

Further aware that the Local Government, as envisaged by the Constitution, is the most important tier of government as it is the closest to the people and the obvious foundation of both the sub-national and the Federal Government;

Informed that in December 2023, the Senate adopted a Resolution to stop allocation to some States to halt the erosion of democracy and call for the extension of sanctions to other States that have usurped and upended democratically elected council officials and had installed unelected Caretaker Executives;

Concerned that the dissolution of democratically elected council officials is in direct contravention of section 7 of the Nigerian Constitution, The supreme court pronouncement on such matters and a deliberate affront on democracy;

Worried by the increasing number of states acting with such impunity and constitutional disregard as about 21 State Governors are currently running councils with Caretaker Committees;

Dismayed that this impunity and Constitution disregard is a deliberate effort to upstage democracy, shrink the development potential of Local Councils, enshrine lack of accountability and limit transparency in Local Governments and the state as a whole;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) to create special account into which such monies will be paid until democratically elected representatives are put in place by State Governments;
- (ii) also urge the Attorney-General of the Federation to institute legal action against any State Government that terminates the unexpired tenure of Local Government Administration;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Finance, and States and Local Government to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Finance to ensure that allocation to the 774 Local Government Areas in the country are not released to non-democratically elected Local Government Councils;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 18/07/2024**).
- (v) ***Need for the Federal Government to Devise Means to Support Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities with Mini Solar Grids and Other Alternative Power Sources:***
Hon. Bamidele Salam (*Ede North/Ede South/Egbedore/Ejigbo 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.

Need for the Federal Government to Devise Means to Support Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities with Mini Solar Grids and Other Alternative Power Sources:

The House:

Notes that on April 3, 2024, Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) commenced the implementation of new electricity tariff for Band A customers and raised the tariff from ₦68 per kilowatt-hour to ₦225/kWh. The hike represented a 240 per cent increase;

Recalls that this House called on the NERC to suspend forthwith, the implementation of the new electricity tariff nationwide but the commission only made a downward review of the tariff from ₦225/kWh to ₦206.8/kWh.

Also notes that this downward review still represented over 202 % increment in the electricity tariff;

Further notes that on July 3, 2024, some of the DISCOs announced a further increase in the Band A tariff from ₦206.8/kWh to 209.5/kWh which now represents over 207 % increment;

Still notes that Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities are all in Band A due to the peculiar need to constantly power medical equipment, undertake procedure, among others that may be required to keep patients alive and deliver critical services;

Worried that this increment is huge and unaffordable by these tertiary health institutions in Nigeria, hence the need to provide an affordable and sustainable alternative. According to the investigation by the *Leadership Newspaper*, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) pays ₦75 million monthly, which translates to ₦2.5 million per day. Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (operated by Bayero University, Kano) pays ₦119 million per month (approximately ₦4 million daily). ATBUTH pays ₦50 million monthly (₦1.66 million each day), JUTH pays ₦31 million or ₦1.03 million daily, and UNTH parts with ₦50 million monthly, or ₦1.66 million daily;

Also worried that the case of UCH. Ibadan, is more pathetic. Even before the new tariff regime, it was indebted to the Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IBEDC) to the tune of ₦495 million and had its power disconnected;

Further worried that very recently, the Secretary to the committee of Vice Chancellors of the Nigerian Universities, Prof. Yakubu Ochefu, warned that if the Federal Government refuses to act on the challenges posed by the new electricity tariff, the Federal Universities might collapse soon as high overhead cost will cripple their operations;

Also recalls that on Thursday, 4 July. 2024, the University of Benin shut down academic activities indefinitely over a prolonged protest by students occasioned by the school's inability to supply electricity;

Further recalls that on Friday, 5 July, 2024, the medical students of University of Lagos protested and lamented how the new tariff has impacted the supply of water and electricity in their hostels;

Aware that by the virtue of Section 17 (3) (d) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons;

Also aware that by Section 16 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that the material resources of the nation are harnessed and distributed as best as possible to serve the common goods;

Still worried that if urgent measures are not put in place to remove the burden of the new electricity tariff on Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities in Nigeria, the entire health and education sectors may collapse; thus endangering lives of our citizens;

Still aware that a mini-solar grid is a cleaner and affordable trending global alternative to regular hydro electric supply. Mini-solar grids are small-scale electricity generators and energy storage systems interconnected to supply a localized group of customers independently from the national grid;

Again aware that this innovative and sustainable energy solution is not unique, as some hospitals such as Sutter Amador Hospital in Jackson, California, Central State Medical Center in Highland, Florida among others, power their hospitals with mini solar grids;

Aware that in 2023, Rural Electrification Agency deployed 103 mini-grids across Nigeria under performance Based Grant (PBG), a subcomponent of the Nigerian Electrification Project (NEP) funded by World Bank;

Assured that if the Executive Arm of Government introduces mini solar grids across the Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities in Nigeria, it will serve as safety net for these institutions who are currently struggling to survive due to hike in the electricity bills;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to urgently devise means to support teaching hospitals, medical centres and universities with mini solar grids in view of huge and unaffordable electricity bills occasioned by new electricity tariff.
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, Rural Electricity Agency, and Power to ensure compliance (*Hon. Bamidele Salam — Ede North/Ede South/Egbedore/Ejigbo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on April 3, 2024, Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) commenced the implementation of new electricity tariff for Band A customers and raised the tariff from ₦68 per kilowatt-hour to ₦225/kWh. The hike represented a 240 per cent increase;

Recalled that this House called on the NERC to suspend forthwith, the implementation of the new electricity tariff nationwide but the commission only made a downward review of the tariff from ₦225/kWh to ₦206.8/kWh.

Also noted that this downward review still represented over 202 % increment in the electricity tariff;

Further notes that on July 3, 2024, some of the DISCOs announced a further increase in the Band A tariff from ₦206.8/kWh to 209.5/kWh which now represents over 207 % increment;

Still noted that Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities are all in Band A due to the peculiar need to constantly power medical equipment, undertake procedure, among others that may be required to keep patients alive and deliver critical services;

Worried that this increment is huge and unaffordable by these tertiary health institutions in Nigeria, hence the need to provide an affordable and sustainable alternative. According to the investigation by the *Leadership Newspaper*, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) pays ₦75 million monthly, which translates to ₦2.5 million per day. Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (operated by Bayero University, Kano) pays ₦119 million per month (approximately ₦4 million daily). ATBUTH pays ₦50 million monthly (₦1.66 million each day), JUTH pays ₦31 million or ₦1.03 million daily, and UNTH parts with ₦50 million monthly, or ₦1.66 million daily;

Also worried that the case of UCH. Ibadan, is more pathetic. Even before the new tariff regime, it was indebted to the Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IBEDC) to the tune of ₦495 million and had its power disconnected;

Further worried that very recently, the Secretary to the committee of Vice Chancellors of the Nigerian Universities, Prof. Yakubu Ochefu, warned that if the Federal Government refuses to act on the challenges posed by the new electricity tariff, the Federal Universities might collapse soon as high overhead cost will cripple their operations;

Also recalled that on Thursday, 4 July, 2024, the University of Benin shut down academic activities indefinitely over a prolonged protest by students occasioned by the school's inability to supply electricity;

Further recalled that on Friday, 5 July, 2024, the medical students of University of Lagos protested and lamented how the new tariff has impacted the supply of water and electricity in their hostels;

Aware that by the virtue of Section 17 (3) (d) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons;

Also aware that by Section 16 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that the material resources of the nation are harnessed and distributed as best as possible to serve the common goods;

Still worried that if urgent measures are not put in place to remove the burden of the new electricity tariff on Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities in Nigeria, the entire health and education sectors may collapse; thus endangering lives of our citizens;

Still aware that a mini-solar grid is a cleaner and affordable trending global alternative to regular hydro electric supply. Mini-solar grids are small-scale electricity generators and energy storage systems interconnected to supply a localized group of customers independently from the national grid;

Again aware that this innovative and sustainable energy solution is not unique, as some hospitals such as Sutter Amador Hospital in Jackson, California, Central State Medical Center in Highland, Florida among others, power their hospitals with mini solar grids;

Aware that in 2023, Rural Electrification Agency deployed 103 mini-grids across Nigeria under performance Based Grant (PBG), a subcomponent of the Nigerian Electrification Project (NEP) funded by World Bank;

Assured that if the Executive Arm of Government introduces mini solar grids across the Teaching Hospitals, Medical Centres and Universities in Nigeria, it will serve as safety net for these institutions who are currently struggling to survive due to hike in the electricity bills;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to urgently devise means to support teaching hospitals, medical centres and universities with mini solar grids in view of huge and unaffordable electricity bills occasioned by new electricity tariff.
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, Rural Electricity Agency, and Power to ensure compliance **(HR. 19/07/2024)**.

(vi) *Need to Rejig Local Vaccine Production in Nigeria:*

Hon. Adedayo Samuel Adesola (*Apapa 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.

Need to Rejig Local Vaccine Production in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that according to the United Nations - World Population Prospects, between 1950 and 2024, the population of Nigeria has grown from about 37 million to almost 230 million people, which represents one of the highest population growths when compared to that of other nations;

Also notes that one of the major consequences of increasing population is easy spread of diseases as the closer people become, the easier airborne illnesses are spread;

Recalls that Nigeria has a historical background in vaccine production with the Yaba laboratory actively producing vaccines from 1940 to 1999. The laboratory supplied vaccines against smallpox, rabies and yellow fever to not only Nigeria but also neighbouring countries;

Also recalls that in 2017, the Executive Arm of Government initiated a partnership agreement with May and Baker Nigeria Plc to establish Bio Vaccine Limited, which was aimed at local vaccine production;

Concerned that Vaccines are important public health interventions that are critical in preventing the spread of infectious diseases, episodes of deadly disease outbreaks have met the country always ill-prepared, with thousands killed by Lassa fever, Meningitis, Yellow Fever, and Ebola over the years. In view of this unfortunate situation, sustainable and easy access to these products is therefore critical in the health status of any nation;

Also concerned that local production of vaccines still remains a critical challenge in the country, thereby leaving the nation to rely on importation of all vaccines consumed in Nigeria. Meanwhile, in 2017, the then Minister of Health, Mr Isaac Adewole, after a Federal Executive Council Meeting, explained the need for the country to start local production in the country to stop its dependence on international donors, especially Global Vaccine Alliance (GAVI), an international finance mechanism that enables developing countries to procure vaccines at very cheap prices. Further, he said by 2022, Nigeria will no longer be on the GAVI list and would therefore have to pay full costs for vaccines procured;

Worried that in spite of the importance of vaccines, the Yaba Vaccine Production Laboratory was closed in 1991 by the federal government which said it wanted to reactivate and upgrade the facility, but years after the Federal Government announced plans to restart local vaccine production at the facility, nothing significant has changed as it remains under lock and inaccessible;

Also worried further that although Nigeria spends an estimated ₦4 billion annually on vaccine importation aside the huge financial implications of COVID-19 Vaccines importation since 2020 till now, the ₦10 billion allocated by the Ministry of Finance in 2021 to support domestic vaccine production remained intact as at 2022 according to the then Health Minister, Dr Osagie Ehanire. As of today, the evidence that this fund has been applied as allocated remains unknown;

Cognizant that a healthy nation is a wealthy nation and that savings on foreign exchange from local production of vaccines, coupled with the multilevel job opportunities to be generated are some of the strong reasons why it is pertinent for Nigeria to domesticate vaccine production. Also, that we have considered vaccines as a security issue and not only health, we need to guarantee the security of all Nigerians particularly our children;

Also cognizant that Nigeria has a large population which provides ready market for the vaccines, and that Nigeria can also take advantage of becoming the African Vaccine Manufacturing hub if we properly invest in that sector;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to pursue the goal of turning Nigeria into the hub of African Vaccine Manufacturing with every commitment it deserves;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services to invite all relevant agencies to unravel the reasons why the Yaba Vaccine Production Laboratory has remained closed till now, why the Bio Vaccine Limited has not commenced production till today, and the status of all funds hitherto allocated for Vaccine Production in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Adedayo Samuel Adesola — Apapa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that according to the United Nations - World Population Prospects, between 1950 and 2024, the population of Nigeria has grown from about 37 million to almost 230 million people, which represents one of the highest population growths when compared to that of other nations;

Also noted that one of the major consequences of increasing population is easy spread of diseases as the closer people become, the easier airborne illnesses are spread;

Recalled that Nigeria has a historical background in vaccine production with the Yaba laboratory actively producing vaccines from 1940 to 1999. The laboratory supplied vaccines against smallpox, rabies and yellow fever to not only Nigeria but also neighbouring countries;

Also recalled that in 2017, the Executive Arm of Government initiated a partnership agreement with May and Baker Nigeria Plc to establish Bio Vaccine Limited, which was aimed at local vaccine production;

Concerned that Vaccines are important public health interventions that are critical in preventing the spread of infectious diseases, episodes of deadly disease outbreaks have met the country always ill-prepared, with thousands killed by Lassa fever, Meningitis, Yellow Fever, and Ebola over the years. In view of this unfortunate situation, sustainable and easy access to these products is therefore critical in the health status of any nation;

Also concerned that local production of vaccines still remains a critical challenge in the country, thereby leaving the nation to rely on importation of all vaccines consumed in Nigeria. Meanwhile, in 2017, the then Minister of Health, Mr Isaac Adewole, after a Federal Executive Council Meeting, explained the need for the country to start local production in the country to stop its dependence on international donors, especially Global Vaccine

Alliance (GAVI), an international finance mechanism that enables developing countries to procure vaccines at very cheap prices. Further, he said by 2022, Nigeria will no longer be on the GAVI list and would therefore have to pay full costs for vaccines procured;

Worried that in spite of the importance of vaccines, the Yaba Vaccine Production Laboratory was closed in 1991 by the federal government which said it wanted to reactivate and upgrade the facility, but years after the Federal Government announced plans to restart local vaccine production at the facility, nothing significant has changed as it remains under lock and inaccessible;

Also worried further that although Nigeria spends an estimated #4 billion annually on vaccine importation aside the huge financial implications of COVID-19 Vaccines importation since 2020 till now, the ₦10 billion allocated by the Ministry of Finance in 2021 to support domestic vaccine production remained intact as at 2022 according to the then Health Minister, Dr Osagie Ehanire. As of today, the evidence that this fund has been applied as allocated remains unknown;

Cognizant that a healthy nation is a wealthy nation and that savings on foreign exchange from local production of vaccines, coupled with the multilevel job opportunities to be generated are some of the strong reasons why it is pertinent for Nigeria to domesticate vaccine production. Also, that we have considered vaccines as a security issue and not only health, we need to guarantee the security of all Nigerians particularly our children;

Also cognizant that Nigeria has a large population which provides ready market for the vaccines, and that Nigeria can also take advantage of becoming the African Vaccine Manufacturing hub if we properly invest in that sector;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to pursue the goal of turning Nigeria into the hurb of African Vaccine Manufacturing with every commitment it deserves;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services to invite all relevant agencies to unravel the reasons why the Yaba Vaccine Production Laboratory has remained closed till now, why the Bio Vaccine Limited has not commenced production till today, and the status of all funds hitherto allocated for Vaccine Production in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 20/07/2024**).

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1498).
- (2) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery Mashi, Katsina State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1554).
- (3) National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1564).
- (4) Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1565).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1568).
- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1569).
- (7) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1570).

- (8) Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1573).
- (9) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1581).
- (10) Federal University of Health Sciences and Technology, Kankia, Katsina State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1582).
- (11) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1444).
- (12) Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1578).

8. Presentation of Report

Committee on Shipping Services and Related Matters:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Shipping Services and Related Matters on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigeria Shippers' Council Act, Cap. N133, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact Nigeria Shipping and Port Economic Regulatory Agency and for Related Matters (HB.1038)” (*Hon. Abdussamad Dasuki — Kebbe/Tambuwal Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish Nigeria Correctional Service Trust Fund and Provide a Legal Framework for the Management and Control of the Trust Fund and for Related Matters (HB. 686) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Nigeria Correctional Service Trust Fund and Provide a Legal Framework for the Management and Control of the Trust Fund and for Related Matters (HB. 686) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

10. A Bill for an Act to Establish the North Central Development Commission charged with the Responsibility among other things to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Roads, Houses and other Infrastructural Damages Suffered by the region as a result of the effect of the Communal Crises as well as tackle the Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Developmental challenges in the North Central States and for Related Matters (HB.121) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the North Central Development Commission charged with the Responsibility among other things to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Roads, Houses and other Infrastructural Damages Suffered by the region as a result of the effect of the Communal Crises as well as tackle the Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Developmental challenges in the North Central States and for Related Matters (HB.121) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the South West Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility among others to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account, including Donations and Gifts, for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Infrastructural Damages Suffered by the Region and to Tackle Ecological, Environmental and Other Developmental Challenges in the Region and for Related Matters (HB.283) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the South West Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility among others to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account, including Donations and Gifts, for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Infrastructural Damages Suffered by the Region and to Tackle Ecological, Environmental and Other Developmental Challenges in the Region and for Related Matters (HB.283) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish the Federal Medical Centre Sabongida-Ora, Edo State, to Provide Primary to Tertiary Healthcare Services in all their Ramifications; and for Related Matters (HB.478) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish the Federal Medical Centre Sabongida-Ora, Edo State, to Provide Primary to Tertiary Healthcare Services in all their Ramifications; and for Related Matters (HB.478) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Rights of Nigerian Citizens Living Outside Nigeria to Vote in certain Elections Conducted in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 22) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Rights of Nigerian Citizens Living Outside Nigeria to Vote in certain Elections Conducted in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 22) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Sadiq Ango Abdullahi — Sabon Gari 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 Electoral Matters.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Procurement Act, Cap. P44, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for damage against the Contractor on issues Relating to undue delay in Completion of Contract and for Related Matters (HB. 03) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Procurement Act, Cap. P44, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for damage against the Contractor on issues Relating to undue delay in Completion of Contract and for Related Matters (HB. 03) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Marcus Onobun — Esan Central/Esan West/Igubeben Federal Constituency and 1 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 Public Procurement.

15. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1349) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1349) be read a Second Time” (Hon Joshua Gana Audu — Lavun/Mokwa/Edati 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.

16. A Bill for an Act to Establish National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration Ondo City, Ondo State and for Related Matters (SB.40) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration Ondo City, Ondo State and for Related Matters (SB.40) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

17. A Bill for an Act to Establish Gifted and Talented Centres in the Six Geo-Political Zones in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB.931) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Gifted and Talented Centres in the Six Geo-Political Zones in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB.931) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Akintunde Rotimi Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency and Five 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 Basic Education and Services.

18. A Bill for An Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Mallam Madori and for Related Matters (HB.1504) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for An Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Mallam Madori and for Related Matters (HB.1504) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Abubakar Makki Yalleman — Mallam Madori/Kaugama 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.

19. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of the Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Faskari, Kastina State and for Related Matters (HB. 1418) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of the Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Faskari, Kastina State and for Related Matters (HB. 1418) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Dalhatu Shehu — Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education.

20. **Need to Improve Nigerian Roads to Enhance Security, Ease Traffic and Curb Accidents Caused by Wrong Use of Walkways**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that road transportation in Nigeria is among the most affected means of movement in the country and Nigerian roads are becoming increasingly congested with heavy vehicular and human traffic;

Also notes that failure of vehicles along Nigerian roads affects both the road users and the vehicles. Some of the effects identified are increased accident rate, increase in faulty vehicles, high vehicle maintenance cost, and increase in travel time due to traffic congestion and the bad nature of the road;

Aware that due to the congested nature of Nigerian roads, many motorists now use the walkways as transit routes which has caused accidents;

Also aware that this practice has forced pedestrians to commute on highways thereby slowing down traffic and also exposing them to danger and risk of losing their lives;

Worried that despite the loss of lives and properties caused by the reckless attitudes of motorists who misuse the walkways, the trend continues;

Concerned that poor road transportation system slows a nation's economic, cultural, and social development. The nation's GDP and revenue decrease when people, goods, and services cannot move from one location to another on time;

Also concerned that the other effects of bad roads include insecurity posed by criminals at failed sections of road, risk of flooding and erosion, and adverse effects on economic development;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to provide more security on Nigerian roads;

- (ii) also urge the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to enforce parking laws and ensure proper usage of walkways and pedestrian bridges;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to investigate the challenges and provide permanent solutions to these challenges and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Emmanuel Effiong Ukpong-Udo — Ikono/Ini Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that road transportation in Nigeria is among the most affected means of movement in the country and Nigerian roads are becoming increasingly congested with heavy vehicular and human traffic;

Also noted that failure of vehicles along Nigerian roads affects both the road users and the vehicles. Some of the effects identified are increased accident rate, increase in faulty vehicles, high vehicle maintenance cost, and increase in travel time due to traffic congestion and the bad nature of the road;

Aware that due to the congested nature of Nigerian roads, many motorists now use the walkways as transit routes which has caused accidents;

Also aware that this practice has forced pedestrians to commute on highways thereby slowing down traffic and also exposing them to danger and risk of losing their lives;

Worried that despite the loss of lives and properties caused by the reckless attitudes of motorists who misuse the walkways, the trend continues;

Concerned that poor road transportation system slows a nation's economic, cultural, and social development. The nation's GDP and revenue decrease when people, goods, and services cannot move from one location to another on time;

Also concerned that the other effects of bad roads include insecurity posed by criminals at failed sections of road, risk of flooding and erosion, and adverse effects on economic development;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to provide more security on Nigerian roads;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to enforce parking laws and ensure proper usage of walkways and pedestrian bridges;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to investigate the challenges and provide permanent solutions to these challenges and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 21/07/2024**).

21. Order of the Day

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do set down items 13 - 25, on the Order Paper till another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)” (*Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader*).

22. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 10 July, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.22 p.m.

Benjamin Okezie Kalu
Deputy Speaker