



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 12 July, 2023

1. The House met at 11.26 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 11 July, 2023.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Message**
(i) Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

11th July, 2023

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

REQUEST FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE 2022 SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATIONS ACT

I write to request the approval of the House of Representatives for the Amendment of the 2022 Supplementary Appropriations Act in accordance with the attached.

2. *The request has become necessary in order to, among other things, source the funds necessary to provide palliatives to mitigate the effect of the recent removal of fuel subsidy on Nigerians.*

3. *Thus, the sum of Five Hundred Billion Naira (₦500,000,000,000.00) only, has been extracted from the 2022 Supplementary Appropriations Act of Eight Hundred and Nineteen Billion, Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Nine hundred and Thirty-seven thousand, Eight hundred and Fifteen Naira (₦819,536,937,815.00) only, for the provision of palliatives to Nigerians to cushion the effects of fuel subsidy removal.*

4. *Whilst I hope that the House of Representatives will consider this request expeditiously, please accept, Rt. Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

(Signed)

Bola Ahmed Tinubu

(ii) Mr Speaker read a message from the Clerk to the National Assembly:

Clerk to the National Assembly

To: *Speaker, House of Representatives*

From: *Clerk to-the National Assembly*

Ref. No.: *NASS/CNA/31/Vol.I/261*

Date: *11th July, 2023*



Subject: *PROTOCOL SERVICES*

It is my pleasure to present my compliments to Your Excellency and to all Honourable Members.

2. *The National Assembly bureaucracy offers Protocol Services to Honourable Members in support of their arduous Legislative duties. The Protocol Department is vested with the responsibility of providing Protocol services to the National Assembly Community. The Department is staffed with dedicated, highly professional and resulted oriented officers.*

3. *Specifically, the Department is charged with the responsibility of processing International Passports (Diplomatic, Official and Standard) and travel visas for Honourable Members and their immediate family members. Honourable Members are encouraged to channel all requests for procurement of Passports. and visa processing to me for proper documentation to curb exploitation and touting by unauthorized staff members.*

4. *Meanwhile, arrangements have been concluded with the Nigeria immigration Service for a hitch free issuance of Diplomatic Passports to our first-time Honourable Members. They are required to complete a Form issued by the Nigeria Immigration Service which is hereby attached and to submit a copy of National Identification Number (NIN) Slip among other requirements listed in the form.*

5. *While we look forward to serving you, please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.*

(Signed)

SANI MAGAJI TAMBAWAL, fca
Clerk to the National Assembly

5. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Roland Deda and 2 others, on behalf of Ogunlaga Kingdom Youth Council, on the alleged marginalization of the indigenes by Shell Petroleum Development Corporation (SPDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Julius Pondi (*Burutu Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Aseese Community Development Council, on the appeal for the construction of pedestrian bridge at Aseese community in Lagos - Ibadan expressway Mowe, Ogun State, to forestall further casualties from hit and run incidence, was presented and laid Hon. Olumide Osoba (*Abeokuta North Federal Constituency*);

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions (when Constituted).

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)

The Devastating Effect of Flood in Kosofe, Lagos State:

Hon. Ogbara Adetola Kafilat (*Kosofe 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 4 (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 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

The Devastating Effect of Flood in Kosofe, Lagos State:

The House:

Notes that Kosofe Federal Constituency of Lagos State faces increasingly severe annual flooding with the latest flood due to torrential down pour, sea level rise which resulted in destruction of properties worth Billions of Naira and displacing thousands of people their homes;

Also notes that poor drainage system has been the number one cause of flooding in Lagos since water has no other channel than the roads, homes and offices;

Further notes that flooding is largely responsible for extreme damage and destruction of private property, public spaces and the environment with adverse economic consequences and costs on government GDP;

Concerned that the communities of Agboyi Kingdom waterside, Ajegunle, Owode Elede, Oworonshoki, Ogudu Ori-oke and some parts of Ojota and Ifako were badly affected by the recent flood as they currently experiencing severe hardship and hazardous health conditions including waterborne diseases;

Disturbed that the negative effects of flooding has caused an increase in demand for sand in

construction materials which in turn drives illegal sand mining and erosion on the coast of Nigeria thereby further degrading the ecosystem and causes increases flood risk;

Also disturbed that the unscrupulous dealings and get quick rich schemes by Real Estate firms who often sell sand filled properties and canal ways to unassuming individuals exasperates the flooding even more;

Also concerned that in addition to physical destruction of properties, flooding also results in loss of productive hours, reduced work hours, accidents thereby affecting other aspects of our national life;

Regrets that despite the reoccurring decimal of this ugly incident, the government has neglected the need to provide timely and adequate response mechanism;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) to direct the Ecological Fund Office to intervene with a view to checking the erosion menace in the area;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected communities; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Ogbara Adetola Kafilat — Kosofe Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

(HR. 56/07/2023).

Agreed to.

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) North West Development Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.58).
- (2) Nigerian Content (Non-Oil and Gas Sector) Development (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 59).
- (3) National Agency for Artisanal Petroleum Refining (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 60).
- (4) Council for Regulation of Legislative Counsel and Other Legislative Practitioners (Establishment), Bill 2023 (HB.61).
- (5) Defence Industry Corporation of Nigeria Bill, 2023 (HB. 62).
- (6) Road Parking (Payment and Administration) Bill, 2023 (HB.63).
- (7) Federal Capital Territory Area Councils Audit Bill, 2023 (HB. 64).
- (8) Statutory Regulation of Peace Keeping Operations Bill, 2023. (HB.65).
- (9) Public Accounts Tribunal (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.66).
- (10) Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 68).

- (11) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999) Act (Alteration) Bill, 2023 (HB.69).
- (12) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.70).
- (13) Fiscal Responsibility Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.71).
- (14) Federal Mortgage Bank Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 72).
- (15) Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.73).
- (16) Nigerian Defence Academy Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.74).
- (17) Poverty Alleviation and Skill Acquisition Centre (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.75).
- (18) Code of Conduct Bureau and tribunal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.76).
- (19) Companies and Allied Matters Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.77).
- (20) Advance Fee Fraud and Other Fraud Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.78).
- (21) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999) Act (Alteration) Bill, 2023 (HB. 79).
- (22) National Ecological Fund Management Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.80).
- (23) Petroleum Equalization Fund Act (Repeal) Bill, 2023 (HB.81).
- (24) Federal Lands registry Act, (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.82).
- (25) Employee's Compensation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.83).
- (26) Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.84).
- (27) Local Industry (First Option) Patronage Bill, 2023 (HB.85).
- (28) Resolutions of the National Assembly Compliance Bill, 2023 (HB.86).
- (29) Niger Delta Development Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.87).
- (30) National Programme on Immunization Act (Repeal) Bill, 2023 (HB.88).
- (31) National Library of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.89).
- (32) Nigeria Hunters and Forest Security Service (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.90).
- (33) Federal Medical Centers Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.91).
- (34) Federal Polytechnic Rano, Kano State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.92).

8. Need to Investigate Alleged Fictitious Contract Awards, Gross Mismanagement of Billions of Naira and Lopsided Placement of Directors by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the recent developments in the award of questionable and phoney contracts, fraudulent forex transactions, lopsided placement of Directors and other unwholesome and corrupt practices in the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA);

Also notes that there have been several allegations of questionable, inflated and fictitious contract awards particularly for non-operational speed boats, security surveillance contracts and Deep Blue Water Contract, revenue leakages and the award of contracts to cronies of the Director-General and other top management staff of the agency;

Concerned about alleged under-remittance of debts owed the country by Shipping firms, with the consent and connivance of the agency;

Aware that the agency is alleged to have entered into a very dubious contract with a firm known as XPO Marine Limited for the lease of six (6) speed boats, each at the rate of \$173,930.00 monthly, without a Need Assessment for such facility being carried out by the relevant departments of the agency, the said XPO Marine Limited had earlier been indicted for defrauding the agency to the tune of \$80,000 in revenue;

Also aware that the security surveillance contract called 'Deep Blue Water Contract' is suspected to be a conduit by the management of the agency to pilfer funds. A security contract tagged 'National Integrated Surveillance and Waterways Protection' is also said to have been awarded to an Israeli firm, HSLI Systems and Technologies Limited at the cost of \$195,300,000.00, despite an existing facility, which is a simple internet subscription via Lloyds Intelligence Platform for such operations;

Cognizant of the fact that the agency is also said to have an existing surveillance system (called Lloyd's List Intelligence) for tracking the movement of vessels on Nigeria's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ);

Also cognizant of the fact that there is evidence that the agency's legal department counselled against the consummation of the contract on grounds of some fraudulent claims in the agreement, but same was not heeded to. The facilities claimed by HSLI is said to be an existing surveillance infrastructure provided by KMBTS Limited, also an Israeli firm whose contract with the agency at the instance of the agency's former DG had long expired;

Further aware of other allegations such as abuse of office and lopsided appointment and placement of Directors of the Agency in favour of some interests to the detriment of others and in breach of Section 14 (3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), as well as other unwholesome practices within the Agency;

Still aware of allegations of high level corruption against the DG and top management of the agency in the form of withholding of remittable revenue by Gas Shipping Nigeria Limited, Daddo Marine Limited, Blue Seas Marine Services, Transocean Support Services Limited, leading to loss of huge revenue to the Federal government. Others are the award of contracts to the DG's cronies and other top management staff of the agency in clear violation of the Procurement Act and other Financial Regulations. Such companies include COT Engineering Limited, Well Mann Construction Company Limited, Retin Technical and Commercial Service Limited, Messrs De-PK Ventures Limited, amongst others;

Again aware of alleged cases of round-tripping and under declaration of foreign exchange earnings from the agency's foreign Accounts;

Concerned that these allegations are of grave nature to be swept under the carpet or dismissed with a wave of the hand, particularly as it relates to economic losses on the part of the government;

Cognizant of the need to urgently investigate the allegations and unless and until this is done, the Federal Government would continue to lose huge sums of money to an unconscionable and fraudulent cabal who are hell bent on sucking the country dry;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the allegations and report within three (3) months (*Hon. Kingsley Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency and 4 Others*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the word “within”, *leave out* words and figure “three (3) months”, and insert words “four weeks” (*Hon. Kingsley Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the recent developments in the award of questionable and phoney contracts, fraudulent forex transactions, lopsided placement of Directors and other unwholesome and corrupt practices in the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA);

Also noted that there have been several allegations of questionable, inflated and fictitious contract awards particularly for non-operational speed boats, security surveillance contracts and Deep Blue Water Contract, revenue leakages and the award of contracts to cronies of the Director-General and other top management staff of the agency;

Concerned about alleged under-remittance of debts owed the country by Shipping firms, with the consent and connivance of the agency;

Aware that the agency is alleged to have entered into a very dubious contract with a firm known as XPO Marine Limited' for the lease of six (6) speed boats, each at the rate of \$173,930.00 monthly, without a Need Assessment for such facility being carried out by the relevant departments of the agency, the said XPO Marine Limited had earlier been indicted for defrauding the agency to the tune of \$80,000 in revenue;

Also aware that the security surveillance contract called Deep Blue Water Contract' is suspected to be a conduit by the management of the agency to pilfer funds. A security contract tagged National Integrated Surveillance and Waterways Protection' is also said to have been awarded to an Israeli firm, HSLI Systems and Technologies Limited at the cost of \$195,300,000.00, despite an existing facility, which is a simple internet subscription via Lloyds Intelligence Platform for such operations;

Cognizant of the fact that the agency is also said to have an existing surveillance system (called Lloyd's List Intelligence) for tracking the movement of vessels on Nigeria's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ);

Also cognizant of the fact that there is evidence that the agency's legal department counselled against the consummation of the contract on grounds of some fraudulent claims in the agreement, but same was not heeded to. The facilities claimed by HSLI is said to be an existing surveillance infrastructure provided by KMBTS Limited, also an Israeli firm whose contract with the agency at the instance of the agency's former DG had long expired;

Further aware of other allegations such as abuse of office and lopsided appointment and placement of Directors of the Agency in favour of some interests to the detriment of others and in breach of Section 14 (3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), as well as other unwholesome practices within the Agency;

Still aware of allegations of high level corruption against the DG and top management of the agency in the form of withholding of remittable revenue by Gas Shipping Nigeria Limited, Daddo Marine Limited, Blue Seas Marine Services, Transocean Support Services Limited, leading to loss of huge revenue to the Federal government. Others are the award of contracts to the DG's cronies and other top management staff of the agency in clear violation of the Procurement Act and other Financial Regulations. Such companies include COT Engineering Limited, Well Mann Construction Company Limited, Retin Technical and Commercial Service Limited, Messrs De-PK Ventures Limited, amongst others;

Again aware of alleged cases of round-tripping and under declaration of foreign exchange earnings from the agency's foreign Accounts;

Concerned that these allegations are of grave nature to be swept under the carpet or dismissed with a wave of the hand, particularly as it relates to economic losses on the part of the government;

Cognizant of the need to urgently investigate the allegations and unless and until this is done, the Federal government would continue to lose huge sums of money to an unconscionable and fraudulent cabal who are hell bent on sucking the country dry;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the allegations and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 57/07/2023**).

9. Need to Re-Establish and Adequately Fund the Practical and Professional Teaching of Artisanry and Vocational Training in Federal Government Colleges Across the Country
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that section 3 paragraph 38 (2.5) of the National Policy on Education, 2013 outlined the curriculum for Senior Secondary Schools among which is the Trade and Entrepreneurship subject;

Also note that Section 4 (a) of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council Act, 2004 mandate the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to promote the development of curricula at all levels of educational system. In actualizing this mandate, it is saddled with the following objectives:

- (a) Basic and senior secondary education curricula,
- (b) Trade and entrepreneurship curriculum;

Also notes the objective of senior secondary schools in Nigeria is to provide universal and equal access to quality secondary education that will ensure self-reliance, preparedness for further education, good citizenship and effective participation in democratic governance and teacher quality;

Aware that the society in recent times had been plagued with the menace of terrorism, kidnappings, political thuggery, drug abuse and trafficking, stealing, early marriages and numerous immoralities. These are often seen in frustrated unemployed youths and out of school children;

Also aware that in the past years when trade subjects and artisanry were adequately funded and

professionally thought in senior secondary schools, youths hardly indulged in these social vices because they were trained to be self-reliant and handy with trades and vocational studies;

Worried that the non-revival and adequate funding of the practical and professional teaching of artisanship and vocationalism in senior secondary schools will set the aforementioned menaces on the increase;

Further aware that the revival and adequate funding of trade and entrepreneurship subjects in senior secondary schools will reduce the menaces caused by incidences of out of school children;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Education to revise and adequately fund the curriculum for the development and the teaching of artisanship and vocationalism in senior secondary schools as well as other subjects;
- (ii) also urge the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to in conjunction with the Secondary Schools Education Board of the Federal Ministry of Education to monitor the evaluation and implementation of the trade and entrepreneurship curriculum and also employ professionals in the various fields of trade and entrepreneurship in our secondary schools;
- (iii) further urge State Governments to adequately fund the proper teaching of Trade and artisanship in their senior secondary schools;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Awwalu Abdu Gwalabe — Katagum Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iv), immediately after the word “on”, *leave out* the word “Tertiary” and *insert* the word “Basic” (*Hon. Bamidele Salam — Ede North/Ede South/Egbedore/Ejigbo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayer (ii), *leave out* the words “Secondary Schools Education Board” and *insert* the words “National Senior Secondary School Education Commission” (*Hon. Julius Ihomvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that section 3 paragraph 38 (2.5) of the National Policy on Education, 2013 outlined the curriculum for Senior Secondary Schools among which is the Trade and Entrepreneurship subject;

Also noted that Section 4 (a) of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council Act, 2004 mandate the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to promote the development of curricula at all levels of educational system. In actualizing this mandate, it is saddled with the following objectives:

- (a) Basic and senior secondary education curricula,

- (b) Trade and entrepreneurship curriculum;

Also noted the objective of senior secondary schools in Nigeria is to provide universal and equal access to quality secondary education that will ensure self-reliance, preparedness for further education, good citizenship and effective participation in democratic governance and teacher quality;

Aware that the society in recent times had been plagued with the menace of terrorism, kidnappings, political thuggery, drug abuse and trafficking, stealing, early marriages and numerous immoralities. These are often seen in frustrated unemployed youths and out of school children;

Also aware that in the past years when trade subjects and artisanship were adequately funded and professionally taught in senior secondary schools, youths hardly indulged in these social vices because they were trained to be self-reliant and handy with trades and vocational studies;

Worried that the non-revival and adequate funding of the practical and professional teaching of artisanship and vocationalism in senior secondary schools will set the aforementioned menaces on the increase;

Further aware that the revival and adequate funding of trade and entrepreneurship subjects in senior secondary schools will reduce the menaces caused by incidences of out of school children;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Education to revise and adequately fund the curriculum for the development and the teaching of artisanship and vocationalism in senior secondary schools as well as other subjects;
- (ii) also urge the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to in conjunction with the National Senior Secondary School Education Commission of the Federal Ministry of Education to monitor the evaluation and implementation of the trade and entrepreneurship curriculum and also employ professionals in the various fields of trade and entrepreneurship in our secondary schools;
- (iii) further urge State Governments to adequately fund the proper teaching of Trade and artisanship in their senior secondary schools;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 58/07/2023**).

10. Establishment of Urban Mass Transit in Nigeria to Cushion the Effects of Fuel Subsidy Removal on Nigerians

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

11. Need for Emergency Repair Works on Naka-Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo Federal Road Network of Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the role of the State in providing and maintaining adequate and unhindered federal roads, to encourage free movement of people, goods and services, not only for facilitating industrial interaction and linkages across the nation, but essentially for ensuring the security of road users and the entire citizenry. This is why great emphasis is laid on the construction of federal roads to link the states of the Federation;

Aware that the Naka-Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo Federal Road Network constitute the major road axis linking the North East and the North Central regions of the nation to the South-South and the South East through Benue State, the food basket and agricultural belt of the nation;

Also aware that the condition of the federal road network has become an albatross and a huge embarrassment to the farming communities, other strategic users and commuters that transit goods through Benue State;

Concerned that this strategic road axis has become so dilapidated that it is now tagged death-trap and security threat to all contiguous citizens that uses the road for transportation of grains and yams from Benue State to the Southern and Northern States of the Nation, not only reducing these commercial activities as a result of high rate of accidents on the road and loss of man hours, but drastically increasing activities of criminals, armed robbery and kidnapping, which have become more frequent due to the poor condition of the road;

Also concerned that the acute neglect of the road network has been ignored for so long despite the havoc it wrecks on the nation's food security, especially at this moment of increasing economic pressure on the rural population, further fueled by the growing cost of transportation, arising from recent fuel subsidy removal, thus making it imperative to urgently address the menace of the Naka-Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo Federal Road Network;

Convinced that an emergency intervention to restore the Naka-Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo Federal Road Network, has both security and economic implications that should be immediately addressed;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to:
 - (a) immediately commence rehabilitation repairs on the Naka-Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo road,
 - (b) ensure that adequate budgetary provision is made in the 2024 budget to comprehensively address the restoration of the deteriorating Naka -Makurdi-Aliade-Gboko and Aliade-Otukpo road;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Works (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Austin Asema Achado — Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 59/07/2023).

Motion referred to the Committee on Works (when constituted), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

12. Need to Investigate the Electricity Blackout in Irele, Okitipupa, Ese Odo and Ilaje Local Government Areas of Ondo State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the primary responsibility of every government is to create a conducive atmosphere that will enable its citizens to carry out their social and economic activities in their respective fields of endeavours with little or no hindrance;

Aware that since 2014 most communities in Irele Local Government Areas, such as Ode Irele, Ode-Ajaja, Akotogbo, Iyesa, Ujusun, Ormi, Aturase, and Udogun and others in Okitipupa Local Government Area, namely, Igbotako, Ilutitun, Ikoya, Ayeka, Igbodigu, Irinje, Igundan, Idobilayo, and Big road area of Okitipupa, and most communities in EseEdo and Ilaje Local Government Area of Ondo State have been thrown into darkness, by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company. (BEDC);

Concerned that the action by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) has brought untold hardships and misery to the citizens of these local government areas, as all Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in these areas have folded up or collapsed due to lack of electricity supply and the high cost of providing alternative power supply with generator have crippled the businesses of those who tried to brave the odds by using generators to power their activities;

Also concerned that children born fifteen years ago to date in these Communities do not know what public power supply is all about as they have never witnessed any form of electricity supply, thereby creating the erroneous impression and belief that the only means of power supply is either from local lamps, touches, candles and generators;

Disturbed that life in these Local Government Areas is presently economically and socially dead as all major industries situated in the areas have either relocated to other areas that are conducive to their operations, while those who tried to manage the situation such as the Oluwa glass Industry, Okitipupa Oil Palm Mill and NTA Channel 26 to name but a few have all collapsed, thereby making life very difficult, hellish and uninteresting for indigenes of these areas;

Further disturbed that this has led to a massive loss of jobs for the locals, as it has adversely affected foreign exchange earnings by the Okitipupa oil mill, which is a major producer and exporter of Palm oil and its allied products in the area, the Ondo State University of Science and Technology Okitipupa, which is a major hub for most of the private businesses around the town is also caught in this web of protracted darkness as it is costing the institution so much of her scarce resources to provide power for its operations. Suffice it to say that the obvious consequences are that all small businesses and enterprises within the institution have either folded up or are struggling to survive and academic activities are seriously hindered as no meaningful learning and research work can be optimally done in such a depressive environment without light;

Worried that with the above horrible situation prevailing in the area due to lack of public power supply, the people especially youths in the area are left jobless and this has led to many of them migrating to surrounding towns and cities in search of economic prosperity, while some take to crimes and unwholesome activities, as "an idle mind they say is the devil workshop;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power (*when constituted*) to:

- (i) invite the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Benin Electricity Distribution Company to explain the reason for the electricity blackout in the communities of Irele, Okitipupa, Ese-Odo and Ilaje Local Government Areas for the past 14 years;
- (ii) invite the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) to explain why Irele, Okitipupa, Ese Odo and Ilaje Local Government Areas were disconnected from the national grid and direct that they be reconnected back to it;
- (iii) liaise with the National Electricity Regulatory Commission on the quick reconnection of the Local Government Areas to public power supply while resolving any possible dispute that may arise or have arisen between the communities and the service provider; and report within eight (8) weeks (*Hon. Odimayo Okunjimi John — Irele/Okitipupa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iii), immediately after the words “with the”, *leave out* the word “National” and *insert* the word “Nigerian” (*Hon. Okafor Dominic Ifeanyi — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayer (iii) as amended, *leave out* the words and figure “eight (8) weeks” and *insert* the words and figure “four (4) weeks” (*Hon. Osi Kama Nkemkanma — Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the primary responsibility of every government is to create a conducive atmosphere that will enable its citizens to carry out their social and economic activities in their respective fields of endeavours with little or no hindrance;

Aware that since 2014 most communities in Irele Local Government Areas, such as Ode Irele, Ode-Ajaja, Akotogbo, Iyesa, Ujusun, Ormi, Aturase, and Udogun and others in Okitipupa Local Government Area, namely, Igbotako, Ilutitun, Ikoya, Ayeka, Igbodigu, Irinje, Igundan, Idobilayo, and Big road area of Okitipupa, and most communities in EseEdo and Ilaje Local Government Area of Ondo State have been thrown into darkness, by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company. (BEDC);

Concerned that the action by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) has brought untold hardships and misery to the citizens of these local government areas, as all Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in these areas have folded up or collapsed due to lack of electricity supply and the high cost of providing alternative power supply with generator have crippled the businesses of those who tried to brave the odds by using generators to power their activities;

Also concerned that children born fifteen years ago to date in these Communities do not know what public power supply is all about as they have never witnessed any form of electricity supply, thereby creating the erroneous impression and belief that the only means of power supply is either from local lamps, touches, candles and generators;

Disturbed that life in these Local Government Areas is presently economically and socially dead as all major industries situated in the areas have either relocated to other areas that are conducive to their operations, while those who tried to manage the situation such as the Oluwa glass Industry, Okitipupa Oil Palm Mill and NTA Channel 26 to name but a few have all collapsed, thereby making life very difficult, hellish and uninteresting for indigenes of these areas;

Further disturbed that this has led to a massive loss of jobs for the locals, as it has adversely affected foreign exchange earnings by the Okitipupa oil mill, which is a major producer and exporter of Palm oil and its allied products in the area, the Ondo State University of Science and Technology Okitipupa, which is a major hub for most of the private businesses around the town is also caught in this web of protracted darkness as it is costing the institution so much of her scarce resources to provide power for its operations. Suffice it to say that the obvious consequences are that all small businesses and enterprises within the institution have either folded up or are struggling to survive and academic activities are seriously hindered as no meaningful learning and research work can be optimally done in such a depressive environment without light;

Worried that with the above horrible situation prevailing in the area due to lack of public power supply, the people especially youths in the area are left jobless and this has led to many of them migrating to surrounding towns and cities in search of economic prosperity, while some take to crimes and unwholesome activities, as "an idle mind they say is the devil workshop;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Power (*when constituted*) to:

- (i) invite the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Benin Electricity Distribution Company to explain the reason for the electricity blackout in the communities of Irele, Okitipupa, Ese-Odo and Ilaje Local Government Areas for the past 14 years;
- (ii) invite the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) to explain why Irele, Okitipupa, Ese Odo and Ilaje Local Government Areas were disconnected from the national grid and direct that they be reconnected back to it;
- (iii) liaise with the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission on the quick reconnection of the Local Government Areas to public power supply while resolving any possible dispute that may arise or have arisen between the communities and the service provider; and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 60/07/2023**).

13. Call for an End to Killings, Banditry, Kidnappings and Cattle Rustling in Tangaza and Gudu Local Government Areas of Sokoto State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on 1 July, 2023 Bandits attacked three (3) Communities namely Raka, Raka Dutse and Filingawa in Tangaza Local Government killing forty five (45) people while some sustained gunshot injuries and are currently receiving treatments at the General Hospital Gwadabawa, livestock rustled, shops looted, houses and storage facilities burnt down;

Also notes that the attack was not unconnected with the communities' refusal to succumb to bandit's imposition of levies and purported laws announced by the criminals;

Aware that the constituency is surrounded by two (2) forests, the "Tsauna Forest" that stretches over to Gwadabawa, Illela and Niger Republic and "Kuyan Bana Forest" that stretches to Gudu and Niger Republic;

Worried that the two (2) forests houses two (2) terrorist groups, the Lakurawa who claimed to be jihadists from Niger, Mali and Libya and the local Bandits terrorising the area. The two (2) used to be sworn enemies but have now joined forces, making it more difficult for the deployed security operatives to address the insecurity in the general area;

Disturbed that after the deadly act, the terrorist launched another attack to prevent people from giving their loved ones befitting burial;

Cognizant that the people of the area are predominantly farmers and cattle rearers and terrorist have vowed to stop this year's farming activities if the communities refuse to pay tax if this treath is allowed it will seriously affect the national food security if adequate measures are not put in place;

Resolves to:

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

- (ii) urge the military to deploy more personnel and hardware to comb the Forests and flush out the criminals;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the victims of the unfortunate attack;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, Air Force, Police Affairs, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Sani Alhaji Yakubu — Tangaza/Gudu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on 1 July, 2023 Bandits attacked three (3) Communities namely Raka, Raka Dutse and Filingawa in Tangaza Local Government killing forty five (45) people while some sustained gunshot injuries and are currently receiving treatments at the General Hospital Gwadabawa, livestock rustled, shops looted, houses and storage facilities burnt down;

Also noted that the attack was not unconnected with the communities' refusal to succumb to bandit's imposition of levies and purported laws announced by the criminals;

Aware that the constituency is surrounded by two (2) forests, the "Tsauna Forest" that stretches over to Gwadabawa, Illela and Niger Republic and "Kuyan Bana Forest" that stretches to Gudu and Niger Republic;

Worried that the two (2) forests houses two (2) terrorist groups, the Lakurawa who claimed to be Jihadists from Niger, Mali and Libya and the local Bandits terrorising the area. The two (2) used to be sworn enemies but have now joined forces, making it more difficult for the deployed security operatives to address the insecurity in the general area;

Disturbed that after the deadly act, the terrorist launched another attack to prevent people from giving their loved ones befitting burial;

Cognizant that the people of the area are predominantly farmers and cattle rearers and terrorist have vowed to stop this year's farming activities if the communities refuse to pay tax if this treat is allowed it will seriously affect the national food security if adequate measures are not put in place;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims who lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the military to deploy more personnel and hardware to comb the Forests and flush out the criminals;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the victims of the unfortunate attack;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, Air Force, Police Affairs, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 61/07/2023**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

14. Need to Investigate Crude Oil Theft and Loss of Revenue Accrued from the Oil and Gas Sector in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that in recent times, the media has been replete with news on the loss of trillions of Naira as a result of crude oil theft and loss of revenue from Oil and Gas exploration in the country;

Also notes that according to reports, about 40 percent of crude oil loss is due to inaccuracies in measurement, and theft as metering errors continue to occur as a result of poor maintenance of metering facilities, thus resulting to lack of transparency in hydrocarbon accounting;

Concerned about reports which revealed that in 2021 alone, Nigeria lost \$4 billion to oil theft at the rate of 200,000 barrels per day, and the figures have risen since then;

Also concerned that security agencies of the Federal Government are allegedly complicit and largely responsible for facilitating most of the oil theft in the Niger Delta;

Further concerned that the Nigerian military has been accused several times of being behind 99 percent of oil theft and despite promises to conduct proper investigations, no substantial action has been taken by the Federal Government to address the matters raised;

Disturbed about a 2022 report by the Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) that about 619.7 million barrels of crude oil, valued at \$46.16 billion have been stolen in the last 12 years, while stakeholders have often described crude oil theft in the country as an organized crime perpetrated by the Nigerian elite;

Also disturbed that in spite of the huge funds appropriated to adequately equip Nigeria's security and intelligence agencies, their performance in terms of curbing oil theft has been abysmal;

Further disturbed that despite the enormous resources at the disposal of the NNPC Ltd and the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC), they have, in active connivance with national and multinational oil and gas companies, allegedly continued to sabotage every effort to ensure an effective running of metering facilities at the well heads, flow stations, loading platforms;

Worried that if crude oil theft is allowed to go on unhindered, it will result in, not only devastating consequences to the country's economy, but it will also gravely impact the environment, health and social life of the host communities;

Determined to reform the oil and gas sector and ensure that crude oil theft is effectively curbed in order to arrest the attendant huge losses to the economy;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate crude oil theft in Nigeria with a view to curbing economic loss to the country and ensuring that everyone complicity in the theft is brought to book, and report within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Philip Agbese — Ado/Ogbadigbo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer *leave out* the words and figure “six (6) weeks” and *insert* the words and figure “four (4) weeks” (*Hon. Osi Kama Nkemkanma — Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in recent times, the media has been replete with news on the loss of trillions of Naira as a result of crude oil theft and loss of revenue from Oil and Gas exploration in the country;

Also noted that according to reports, about 40 percent of crude oil loss is due to inaccuracies in measurement, and theft as metering errors continue to occur as a result of poor maintenance of metering facilities, thus resulting to lack of transparency in hydrocarbon accounting;

Concerned about reports which revealed that in 2021 alone, Nigeria lost \$4 billion to oil theft at the rate of 200,000 barrels per day, and the figures have risen since then;

Also concerned that security agencies of the Federal Government are allegedly complicit and largely responsible for facilitating most of the oil theft in the Niger Delta;

Further concerned that the Nigerian military has been accused several times of being behind 99 percent of oil theft and despite promises to conduct proper investigations, no substantial action has been taken by the Federal Government to address the matters raised;

Disturbed about a 2022 report by the Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) that about 619.7 million barrels of crude oil, valued at \$46.16 billion have been stolen in the last 12 years, while stakeholders have often described crude oil theft in the country as an organized crime perpetrated by the Nigerian elite;

Also disturbed that in spite of the huge funds appropriated to adequately equip Nigeria's security and intelligence agencies, their performance in terms of curbing oil theft has been abysmal;

Further disturbed that despite the enormous resources at the disposal of the NNPC Ltd and the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC), they have, in active connivance with national and multinational oil and gas companies, allegedly continued to sabotage every effort to ensure an effective running of metering facilities at the well heads, flow stations, loading platforms;

Worried that if crude oil theft is allowed to go on unhindered, it will result in, not only devastating consequences to the country's economy, but it will also gravely impact the environment, health and social life of the host communities;

Determined to reform the oil and gas sector and ensure that crude oil theft is effectively curbed in order to arrest the attendant huge losses to the economy;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate crude oil theft in Nigeria with a view to curbing economic loss to the country and ensuring that everyone complicity in the theft is brought to book, and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 62/07/2023**).

15. Call to Rehabilitate Owo - Ifon - Benin Federal Road, Ondo State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Owo - Ifon - Benin Federal Road serves as the fastest route linking Ondo and Edo States, as well as a gateway to the Eastern part of the country;

Also notes that the road has been in a deplorable condition for 2 decades, thus subjecting Commuters, Farmers and traders to perpetual hardship over the years;

Aware that motorists, commuters and heavy duties vehicles convening agricultural produces, goods and services have been hampered from carrying out their legitimate business due to the worsened condition of the road;

Disturbed that the road is negatively impacting on the social economic activities of the state, thus, causing avoidable losses of valuable lives and properties;

Concerned that the bad state of the road is aiding criminal activities, as bandit now utilizes the road as a trap to kidnap helpless travellers, with loss of life recorded due to this carnage;

Cognizant that continued neglect of the road is having adverse effects on revenue generation efforts of the government, and if urgent steps are not taken to rehabilitate the road, it will ultimately lead to continuous loss of lives, significant loss of revenue to both the state and Federal Government;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to undertake extensive rehabilitation and repairs of the Owo - Ifon - Benin Federal Road;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Special Duties (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Oluwatimehin Adelegbe — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 63/07/2023).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, FERMA, and Special Duties (when constituted), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

16. Need to Increase Maritime Security Personnel in Coastal Areas of Akwa Ibom State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Maritime Security and other related issues are captured in the Exclusive Legislative list and provided for under the Second Schedule of Part 1 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Also notes that coastal Areas in Akwa Ibom State include Eastern Obolo, Mkpat Enin, Ikot Abasi, Ibeno, Mbo, Oron, Okobo, Udung Uko, Urue-Offong/Oruko Local Government Areas, with waterways of Ikot Abasi, Mkpat Enin and Eastern Obolo Local Government Areas among others, and are interconnected with other communities in the Niger Delta including Andoni and Opobo/Nkoro Local Government Areas of Rivers State;

Further notes that the residents of the aforementioned areas are predominantly farmers and engage mainly in fishing along the waterways in their communities;

Aware of the encompassing opportunities in the maritime industry, prompting the need to safeguard the country's waterways from the nefarious activities of pirates;

Also aware that the activities of pirates and their involvements in organized crimes are a threat to national security and economic activities;

Concerned that due to incessant attacks by pirates, residents of the coastal areas in Akwa Ibom State are living in perpetual fear even as economic activities in the affected communities have been hampered and their sources of livelihood severely threatened;

Also concerned that the fishermen in the affected areas who are insistent on exploring the Atlantic ocean are forced to pay royalties to pirates before they are allowed to engage in their activities on the waters as failure to pay the levies puts them at risk of getting killed or having their boats, equipment and other valuables stolen or vandalized;

Worried that as a result of recurring attacks at Ikot Abasi Local Government Area by armed robbers whose escape route is through the waterways, several financial institutions in the area have shut down, forcing the people to go long distances to carry out banking transactions;

Also worried that the insecurity in the coastal areas have deprived the people of investment opportunities that could have brought about development in their communities;

Further worried that maritime security personnel deployed to the affected areas are inadequate and under-equipped to effectively engage in combat against the pirates who are heavily armed with sophisticated ammunition;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge security agencies to deploy more maritime security personnel and adequately equip them to secure the coastal areas in Akwa Ibom State and the Niger Delta in general;
- (ii) also urge the security agencies to provide incentives for the deployed maritime security personnel in order to motivate and encourage them to uphold their agencies' rules of engagement;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Uduak Alphonsu Odudoh — Ikot Abasi/Mkpat Enin/Eastern Obolo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Maritime Security and other related issues are captured in the Exclusive Legislative list and provided for under the Second Schedule of Part I of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Also noted that coastal Areas in Akwa Ibom State include Eastern Obolo, Mkpat Enin, Ikot Abasi, Ibeno, Mbo, Oron, Okobo, Uduang Uko, Urue-Offong/Oruko Local Government Areas, with waterways of Ikot Abasi, Mkpat Enin and Eastern Obolo Local Government Areas among others, and are interconnected with other communities in the Niger Delta including Andoni and Opobo/Nkoro Local Government Areas of Rivers State;

Further noted that the residents of the aforementioned areas are predominantly farmers and engage mainly in fishing along the waterways in their communities;

Aware of the encompassing opportunities in the maritime industry, prompting the need to safeguard the country's waterways from the nefarious activities of pirates;

Also aware that the activities of pirates and their involvements in organized crimes are a threat to national security and economic activities;

Concerned that due to incessant attacks by pirates, residents of the coastal areas in Akwa Ibom State are living in perpetual fear even as economic activities in the affected communities have been hampered and their sources of livelihood severely threatened;

Also concerned that the fishermen in the affected areas who are insistent on exploring the Atlantic ocean are forced to pay royalties to pirates before they are allowed to engage in their activities on the waters as failure to pay the levies puts them at risk of getting killed or having their boats, equipment and other valuables stolen or vandalized;

Worried that as a result of recurring attacks at Ikot Abasi Local Government Area by armed robbers whose escape route is through the waterways, several financial institutions in the area have shut down, forcing the people to go long distances to carry out banking transactions;

Also worried that the insecurity in the coastal areas have deprived the people of investment opportunities that could have brought about development in their communities;

Further worried that maritime security personnel deployed to the affected areas are inadequate and under-equipped to effectively engage in combat against the pirates who are heavily armed with sophisticated ammunition;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge security agencies to deploy more maritime security personnel and adequately equip them to secure the coastal areas in Akwa Ibom State and the Niger Delta in general;
- (ii) also urge the security agencies to provide incentives for the deployed maritime security personnel in order to motivate and encourage them to uphold their agencies' rules of engagement;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 64/07/2023**).

17. Need to Construct Etomi - Agbokim waterfalls Road, Cross River State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Agbokim Waterfalls also known as Emi Agbokim Water Falls is situated in Etung Local Government Area of Cross River State, and very close to the border with Cameroon.

Also notes that Agbokim Waterfalls is a tourist site, is as old as the communities and has always been a beauty to behold by tourism;

Further notes that the waterfalls had attracted tourists in the past, but unfortunately, today, it is now living in its past glory;

Aware that the importance of tourist sites of a nation cannot be overemphasized being the heritage of the people, the pride and beauty of the nation;

Also aware that in 2022, the Indian tourism industry's potential contributed over \$15.9 trillion to the country's economic development in addition to the millions of jobs the sector created;

Further aware that Agbokim Waterfalls if properly harnessed will create many jobs, impact positively on the local economy, lead to infrastructural development, conserve the natural environment, contribute to foreign currency generation, and above all, help in poverty reduction;

Worried that despite the economic potential of the waterfall, the access road to it which is Etomi Agbokim Waterfall road is nothing but a death trap;

Also worried that the site is losing so much money and job opportunities for the youths because of low patronage occasioned by a very poor access road;

Disturbed that poor road network has always been the bane of development in the tourism sector and has rendered many tourism sites moribund;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Culture and Tourism to:
 - (a) urgently construct the access road to Agbokim Waterfalls to realize its potentials,
 - (b) include the construction of the road to Etomi Agbokim Waterfalls Road in the 2024 budget estimates;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Irom Michael Etaba — Obubra/Etung Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 65/07/2023).

Motion referred to the Committee on Legislative Compliance (when constituted), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

18. Need to Investigate the Gruesome Murder of Some Nigerians by Soldiers in Enugu

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on 29 June, 2023, licensed local vigilantes operating under the Enugu State Neighbourhood Security Guards while responding to a distress call on banditry and kidnapping, were shot dead at close range with passers-by, by soldiers of the Nigerian Army 82 Division, Enugu at Eke in Udi Local Government of Enugu State, with the soldiers claiming that the victims were the actual kidnappers even when the vigilantes were on their traditional security uniforms and also showed their identification Cards;

Also notes that apart from those who died on the spot, a lot of vigilantes and some defenseless civilians are still lying critically ill at the hospitals as a result of the attacks;

Worried that the existence of the Local Security outfits established primarily to complement the military and paramilitary and checkmate the activities of bandits and kidnappers in the State and also the constant interactions between two security outfits for maximum cooperation, the Nigerian soldiers without any provocation decided to waste the lives of innocent Nigerians even when due and proper identifications has taken place;

Concerned that a series of banditry, killings and kidnappings have been going on in the State, especially along the highways where conventional security outfits like the police and the military are always stationed and most of the kidnapped victims are always freed after heavy sums of money has been paid while some end up with fatal injuries or dies after being beaten and shot for not paying the ransoms;

Also concerned that a lot of indigenes of Enugu State are now under the belief that the Nigerian regular security outfits especially the military are allegedly aiding and abetting kidnapping in the State for pecuniary gains thereby going against the oath they took to protect lives and properties of Nigerians in Nigeria;

Aware that the Enugu State government although the military and paramilitary outfits in the State are not under its control and therefore not bound to take care of them, always provide adequate support in cash and in-kind to compliment the efforts of the federal government in combatting criminality and ensuring the protection of lives and properties;

Resolves to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the Gruesome Murder of some Nigerians by Soldiers in Enugu and punish those found culpable and prevent such barbaric acts;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm to:
 - (a) overhaul the security architecture of the entire State in line with the new federal government posture and determination to ensure adequate protection of lives and properties as guaranteed by Law,
 - (b) compensate the families of those who lost their lives in the unfortunate incident and take care of those that have been injured as well as their hospital expenditures;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency to provide relief materials to the victims of the gunshots (*Hon. Sunday Cyriacus Umeha — Ezeagu/Udi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on 29 June, 2023, licensed local vigilantes operating under the Enugu State Neighbourhood Security Guards while responding to a distress call on banditry and kidnapping, were shot dead at close range with passers-by, by soldiers of the Nigerian Army 82 Division, Enugu at Eke in Udi Local Government of Enugu State, with the soldiers claiming that the victims were the actual kidnappers even when the vigilantes were on their traditional security uniforms and also showed their identification Cards;

Also noted that apart from those who died on the spot, a lot of vigilantes and some defenseless civilians are still lying critically ill at the hospitals as a result of the attacks;

Worried that the existence of the Local Security outfits established primarily to complement the military and paramilitary and checkmate the activities of bandits and kidnappers in the State and also the constant interactions between two security outfits for maximum cooperation, the Nigerian soldiers without any provocation decided to waste the lives of innocent Nigerians even when due and proper identifications has taken place;

Concerned that a series of banditry, killings and kidnappings have been going on in the State,

especially along the highways where conventional security outfits like the police and the military are always stationed and most of the kidnapped victims are always freed after heavy sums of money has been paid while some end up with fatal injuries or dies after being beaten and shot for not paying the ransoms;

Also concerned that a lot of indigenes of Enugu State are now under the belief that the Nigerian regular security outfits especially the military are allegedly aiding and abetting kidnapping in the State for pecuniary gains thereby going against the oath they took to protect lives and properties of Nigerians in Nigeria;

Aware that the Enugu State government although the military and paramilitary outfits in the State are not under its control and therefore not bound to take care of them, always provide adequate support in cash and in-kind to compliment the efforts of the federal government in combatting criminality and ensuring the protection of lives and properties;

Resolved to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the Gruesome Murder of some Nigerians by Soldiers in Enugu and punish those found culpable and prevent such barbaric acts;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm to:
 - (a) overhaul the security architecture of the entire State in line with the new federal government posture and determination to ensure adequate protection of lives and properties as guaranteed by Law,
 - (b) compensate the families of those who lost their lives in the unfortunate incident and take care of those that have been injured as well as their hospital expenditures;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency to provide relief materials to the victims of the gunshots (**HR. 66/07/2023**).

19. Need to Address Maternal Mortality in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that health care services encompass assisting pregnant women with all it requires to have a safe delivery;

Also notes that to avoid cases of maternal mortality, facilities are put in place to achieve safe health delivery;

Aware that on 5 July 2023 a pregnant woman at the Nasarawa State-owned Hospital, Dalhatu Araf Specialist Hospital, Lafia lost her life in the process of delivery;

Also aware that the woman was booked for a caesarean operation, but it could not hold due to a five-day warning strike embarked upon by Resident Doctors in the State;

Disturbed that it has become a common reoccurrence in Nigeria where pregnant women die due to negligence of Doctors or some extraneous circumstances;

Recalls the phenomenon of brain drain where medical Doctors leave Nigeria in search of greener pastures which are attributed to a few factors, among which are:

- (a) poor remuneration,

- (b) Medical Residency Training Fund, and
- (c) Relaxing the process of filling the gap of Doctors that left Nigeria for greener pastures;

Also recalls that CONMESS and CONHESS salary structure for Doctors and other health workers was introduced in 2009 and agreed to be reviewed every 5 years. The first review which ought to have taken place in 2014 was not done and to date;

Cognizant that the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) gave the Federal Government 2 weeks ultimatum to increase their salaries and pay the Medical Residency Training Fund, failure of which it will embark on an indefinite strike nationwide;

Also cognizant that the Medical Residency fund is yet to be accessed despite government promise to release the fund and more worrisome is the absence of a Minister in the Federal Ministry of Health, which calls for intervention of the President;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad- hoc* Committee to:

- (i) interface with the leadership of the Resident Doctors and the practitioners in the Medical field to ascertain the reason(s) for the death of a pregnant woman in Dalhatu Specialist Hospital, Lafia;
- (ii) visit Nasarawa State and interface with the leadership of the Resident Doctors to avert any intended strike by Resident Doctors in the State;
- (iii) engage the National leadership of the Resident Doctors to ascertain the cause(s) of the incessant strikes of the medical practitioners as well as broker peace to avert the planned strike action by medical practitioners;
- (iv) provide short and long-term solutions to prevent future occurrence, and report back within three (3) weeks;
- (v) seek a Presidential Order for the release of the 2023 Medical Residency Training Fund (MRTF);
- (vi) want the Executive Arm of Government to implement the resolutions of the conciliatory meeting held during their last industrial action;
- (vii) review the report of the last administration's presidential health sector reforms and set the machinery in motion to implement it;
- (viii) interface with the leadership of the National Association of Resident Doctors to avert the planned strike billed for 17 July, 2023 (*Hon. Adedayo Adesola Samuel — Apapa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayers (ii) and (iv), and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:

“engage the National Leadership of Resident Doctors to ascertain the causes of the strike and broker peace with a view to averting future occurrence” (*Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata/Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that health care services encompass assisting pregnant women with all it requires to have a safe delivery;

Also noted that to avoid cases of maternal mortality, facilities are put in place to achieve safe health delivery;

Aware that on 5 July, 2023 a pregnant woman at the Nasarawa State-owned Hospital, Dalhatu Araf Specialist Hospital, Lafia lost her life in the process of delivery;

Also aware that the woman was booked for a caesarean operation, but it could not hold due to a five-day warning strike embarked upon by Resident Doctors in the State;

Disturbed that it has become a common reoccurrence in Nigeria where pregnant women die due to negligence of Doctors or some extraneous circumstances;

Recalled the phenomenon of brain drain where medical Doctors leave Nigeria in search of greener pastures which are attributed to a few factors, among which are:

- (a) poor remuneration,
- (b) Medical Residency Training Fund, and
- (c) relaxing the process of filling the gap of Doctors that left Nigeria for greener pastures;

Also recalled that CONMESS and CONHESS salary structure for Doctors and other health workers was introduced in 2009 and agreed to be reviewed every 5 years. The first review which ought to have taken place in 2014 was not done and to date;

Cognizant that the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) gave the Federal Government 2 weeks ultimatum to increase their salaries and pay the Medical Residency Training Fund, failure of which it will embark on an indefinite strike nationwide;

Also cognizant that the Medical Residency fund is yet to be accessed despite government promise to release the fund and more worrisome is the absence of a Minister in the Federal Ministry of Health, which calls for intervention of the President;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* committee to:

- (i) interface with the leadership of the Resident Doctors and the practitioners in the Medical field to ascertain the reason(s) for the death of a pregnant woman in Dalhatu Specialist Hospital, Lafia;
- (ii) engage the National Leadership of Resident Doctors to ascertain the causes of the strike and broker peace with a view to averting future occurrence;
- (iii) engage the National leadership of the Resident Doctors to ascertain the cause(s) of the incessant strikes of the medical practitioners as well as broker peace to avert the planned strike action by medical practitioners;

- (iv) seek a Presidential Order for the release of the 2023 Medical Residency Training Fund (MRTF);
- (v) want the executive to implement the resolutions of the conciliatory meeting held during their last industrial action;
- (vi) review the report of the last administration's presidential health sector reforms and set the machinery in motion to implement it;
- (vii) interface with the leadership of the National Association of Resident Doctors to avert the planned strike billed for 17 July, 2023 (**HR. 67/07/2023**).

20. Need for the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board Examination Result to be valid for three years

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) is a Nigerian tertiary education admissions test body. The board administers the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination, which is required for admission into Nigerian higher institutions of learning;

Also notes that on February 13, 1978, the Federal Military Government published Decree No. 2 of 1978, which established the Board, the Federal Executive Council Revised Decree No. 2 of 1978 by August 1988, the revisions was later formalised in Decree No. 33 of 1989, which came into force on December 1, 1989. The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board was authorised by Decree No.2 of 1978 (as amended by Decree No. 33 of 1989) to:

- (a) hold a matriculation test for admission to all Nigerian Universities, Polytechnics, and Colleges of Education,
- (b) appoint Examiners, Moderators, Invigilators, members of Subject Panels and committees, and other individuals in connection with matriculation examinations and any other things ancillary thereto,
- (c) put adequately competent applicants in tertiary institutions after considering the vacancies available in each tertiary institution; among other things;

Aware that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board conducts an examination every year for intending undergraduates at a fee paid by the parent or by the candidates themselves;

Also aware that the West African Examination Council (WAEC), and National Examination Council (NECO) examinations results which are a precursor to the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board tests are valid Indefinitely;

Concerned that the JAMB examination result is valid for only one year and if candidates cannot secure admission into any tertiary institution of their choice in the academic year the exam was taken, the result no matter how good becomes useless;

Also concerned that despite the incessant strikes embarked upon by ASUU which led to the loss of a complete academic calendar, JAMB still went ahead to administer its examination without recourse to the vailing industrial action by ASUU;

Worried by the backlog of candidates waiting for admission into the limited vacancies in Nigeria's tertiary institutions and its attendant pressure on the education system and parents;

Also worried about the double jeopardy suffered by parents who are forced to enroll their wards yearly for the examination;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board to extend the validity of its Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) result to be valid for at least three (3) years and conduct the exams twice annually;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Minister of Education to put mechanisms in place to ensure that this resolutions executed (*Hon. Akintunde Rotimi Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the words in Prayer (ii) and *insert* as follows:

“Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to liaise with the Ministry of Education to put mechanisms in place to ensure that the resolution is executed” (*Hon. Olumide Osoba — Abeokuta North/Obafemi Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) is a Nigerian tertiary education admissions test body. The board administers the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination, which is required for admission into Nigerian higher institutions of learning;

Also noted that on February 13, 1978, the Federal Military Government published Decree No. 2 of 1978, which established the Board, the Federal Executive Council Revised Decree No. 2 of 1978 by August 1988, the revisions was later formalised in Decree No. 33 of 1989, which came into force on December 1, 1989. The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board was authorised by Decree No.2 of 1978 (as amended by Decree No. 33 of 1989) to:

- (a) hold a matriculation test for admission to all Nigerian Universities, Polytechnics, and Colleges of Education,
- (b) appoint Examiners, Moderators, Invigilators, members of Subject Panels and committees, and other individuals in connection with matriculation examinations and any other things ancillary thereto,
- (c) put adequately competent applicants in tertiary institutions after considering the vacancies available in each tertiary institution; among other things;

Aware that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board conducts an examination every year for intending undergraduates at a fee paid by the parent or by the candidates themselves;

Also aware that the West African Examination Council (WAEC), and National Examination Council (NECO) examinations results which are a precursor to the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board tests are valid Indefinitely;

Concerned that the JAMB examination result is valid for only one year and if candidates cannot secure admission into any tertiary institution of their choice in the academic year the exam was taken, the result no matter how good becomes useless;

Also concerned that despite the incessant strikes embarked upon by ASUU which led to the loss of a complete academic calendar, JAMB still went ahead to administer its examination without recourse to the vailing industrial action by ASUU;

Worried by the backlog of candidates waiting for admission into the limited vacancies in Nigeria's tertiary institutions and its attendant pressure on the education system and parents;

Also worried about the double jeopardy suffered by parents who are forced to enroll their wards yearly for the examination;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board to extend the validity of its Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) result to be valid for at least three (3) years and conduct the exams twice annually;
- (ii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to liaise with the Ministry of Education to put mechanisms in place to ensure that the resolution is executed (**HR. 68/07/2023**).

21. Need to Intervene in the Protest of the Nigeria Female Football Team and the Plan to Boycott the 2023 Women's World Cup

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria Female Football team, also known currently facing significant challenges and unrest within the team, which threatens to disrupt their participation in the upcoming Women's World Cup;

Concerned about the potential embarrassment and negative impact on Nigeria's reputation if the planned protest and boycott process without intervention, as witnessed in previous incidents involving the Nigerian women's basketball team;

Also notes the historical instances of non-payment of salaries, allowances, and bonuses, as well as the arbitrary dismissal of players within the Nigerian women's sports teams, e.g. the revelations surrounding the Nigerian female basketball team, D'Tigress, as depicted in a video that had gained widespread attention, the video highlighted several alarming issues, including unpaid wages, dismissals, and interference in team selection by the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF), this situation was not only embarrassing but also raises serious questions about the treatment of athletes and the overall management of sports in our country;

Acknowledges the recent reports regarding the ongoing dispute between the Super Falcons and the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) over unpaid match bonuses and inadequate support for the team's preparation for the 2023 Women's World Cup;

Aware that the Super Falcons have threatened to boycott their opening game on July 21, 2023, resulting in potential embarrassment for the government and jeopardizing Nigeria's participation in the tournament;

Further acknowledges the commitment and dedication of our athletes who have represented Nigeria with honour and achieved remarkable success in international competitions. However, it is disheartening to witness the neglect and mistreatment they have endured, which undermines their morale and tarnishes our nation's reputation;

Resolves to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the dispute between the Super Falcons and the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) and propose necessary reforms to prevent the planned protest and boycott of the Nigeria Female Football team at the Women's World Cup also to prevent future occurrences;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) to pay match bonuses and allowances to the Super Falcons;
- (iii) invite the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) and relevant stakeholders to appear before the *Ad-hoc* Committee to provide a detailed report on the steps taken to resolve the dispute and ensure the smooth participation of the Super Falcons in the 2023 Women's World Cup (*Hon. Olumide Osoba Babatunde — Abeokuta North/Obafemi Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), immediately after the word “Committee”, insert the words “on Thursday, 13 July, 2023” (*Hon. Osi Kama Nkemkanma — Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Female Football team, also known currently facing significant challenges and unrest within the team, which threatens to disrupt their participation in the upcoming Women's World Cup;

Concerned about the potential embarrassment and negative impact on Nigeria's reputation if the planned protest and boycott process without intervention, as witnessed in previous incidents involving the Nigerian women's basketball team;

Also noted the historical instances of non-payment of salaries, allowances, and bonuses, as well as the arbitrary dismissal of players within the Nigerian women's sports teams, e.g. the revelations surrounding the Nigerian female basketball team, D'Tigress, as depicted in a video that had gained widespread attention, the video highlighted several alarming issues, including unpaid wages, dismissals, and interference in team selection by the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF), this situation was not only embarrassing but also raises serious questions about the treatment of athletes and the overall management of sports in our country;

Acknowledged the recent reports regarding the ongoing dispute between the Super Falcons and the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) over unpaid match bonuses and inadequate support for the team's preparation for the 2023 Women's World Cup;

Aware that the Super Falcons have threatened to boycott their opening game on July 21, 2023, resulting in potential embarrassment for the government and jeopardizing Nigeria's participation in the tournament;

Further acknowledged the commitment and dedication of our athletes who have represented Nigeria with honour and achieved remarkable success in international competitions. However, it is disheartening to witness the neglect and mistreatment they have endured, which undermines their morale and tarnishes our nation's reputation;

Resolved to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the dispute between the Super Falcons and the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) and propose necessary reforms to prevent the planned protest and boycott of the Nigeria Female Football team at the Women's World Cup also to prevent future occurrences;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) to pay match bonuses and allowances to the Super Falcons;
- (iii) invite the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) and relevant stakeholders to appear before the *Ad-hoc* Committee, on Thursday, 13 July, 2023 to provide a detailed report on the steps taken to resolve the dispute and ensure the smooth participation of the Super Falcons in the 2023 Women's World Cup (**HR. 69/07/2023**).

22. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 13 July, 2023 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.25 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker