



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 15 May, 2024

1. The House met at 10.54 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 14 May, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**
Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Assembly Library Trust Fund Act. No. 11 of 2022, to Change the Name of the National Assembly Library Trust Fund to National Assembly Library and Resource Centre, eliminate the Ambiguity in the Chairmanship Position of the Governing Council, Streamline the Functions and Duties of the Governing Council and the Office of the Director-General and to Provide for Application of the Funds of the National Assembly Library Resource Centre to Set Up the Assembly Museum; and for Related Matter (HB. 1259):

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Committee as follows:

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|-----|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Usman Zannah | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Etteh Okpolupm | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Shehu Dalhatu | — | <i>Member</i> |

5. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Ifeanyi Ezenwaba Chili, on alleged unreceipted payment of charges by Terminal Operators on behalf of the Nigerian Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Hussaini Mohammed Jallo (*Igabi Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) A petition from Egwaba Reuben & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Shahru Haruna Bala and 2 others, on alleged fraudulent sale of houses by Omoruyi Evbuoma, and Abdulazeez Jimoh, was presented and laid by Hon. Mark Chidi Obetta (*Nsukka/Igbo-Eze South Federal Constituency*);

- (iii) A petition from Sunday Uko Afikpo, Esq, on behalf of the Chiefs and Leaders of Efujah Royal family and Unyenko family of Okeroete town, Obolo Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State, on alleged disobedience to court order with Suit N0: HIT/FHR.6/2024 by AIG Kwazhi Bzigu Dali, Assistant Inspector-General of Police of Force Criminal Investigation and Intelligent Department, Enugu Annex, and 5 others, was presented and laid by Hon. Okey - Joe Jesse (*Oshodi/Isolo Federal Constituency*);
- (iv) A petition from Tangaltong Community Development Association, on behalf of Victor Danjin Kalai and 2 others on their alleged premature retirement by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), was presented and laid by Hon. Ali Isa J. C. (*Balanga/Billiri Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from Emem Joseph, on his wrongful retirement from the service of the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Afuape Afolabi Moruf (*Abeokuta South Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition from Ndubuisi Nwese Nwosu, on the termination of his appointment from the service of First Bank of Nigeria Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Obinna Aguocha (*Ikwano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South South Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Hemorrhage of the Nigerian Economy Sustained by the Continued Export of Unprocessed Natural Resources and Raw Materials and Import of Finished Goods into Nigeria:***
Hon. Ojuawo Rufus Adeniyio (*Ekiti South Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
 - (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
 - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Hemorrhage of the Nigerian Economy Sustained by the Continued Export of Unprocessed Natural Resources and Raw Materials and Import of Finished Goods into Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria is blessed with vast natural resources and raw materials in large commercial quantities but most of them end up being exported in their raw form, which reduces their export values;

Aware that the norm of exporting these natural resources and raw materials deprives the nation of the true value and potential economic benefits;

Also aware that the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials deprives the country of potential revenue and job opportunities that could arise from value addition within Nigeria. This is because when value is added to primary products before export, the benefits to the nation increase geometrically;

Recognizes the importance of adding value to natural resources before exportation as a means

of enhancing the country's economy and promoting sustainable development;

Also notes the indisputable fact that the Nigerian economy, like that of most African countries, is characterized by the export of raw materials and the import of finished goods;

Also recognizes the impact of this over-dependence on imports on the Nigerian economy, leading to a lack of control over growth factors and vulnerability to external economic conditions;

Concerned that this economic model encourages subsistence living, discourages growth and development, fosters hardship, poverty, disease, crime, and undermines nationalism and loyalty to the State;

Disturbed that this economic model interferes with the government's purpose of creating infrastructure for growth and prosperity;

Resolves to:

Call on the Executive Arm of Government to:

- (a) immediately ban the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials from Nigeria;
- (b) implement policies and incentives that would make value addition to raw materials and mineral resources attractive to investors and businesses;
- (c) collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including state governments, private sector entities, and development partners, to develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting value addition to raw materials and mineral resources;
- (d) provide support and incentives to local industries and entrepreneurs engaged in the processing and value addition to natural resources and raw materials;
- (e) direct the relevant Ministries, in collaboration with relevant agencies, to monitor and enforce compliance with the ban on the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials;
- (f) engage all relevant stakeholders for the formulation of the appropriate policies and programmes to put an end to export of raw materials and, instead, transform to export of finished goods, and set a timeline for the implementation of all such policies and programmes (*Hon. Ojuawo Rufus Adeniyi — Ekiti South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria is blessed with vast natural resources and raw materials in large commercial quantities but most of them end up being exported in their raw form, which reduces their export values;

Aware that the norm of exporting these natural resources and raw materials deprives the nation of the true value and potential economic benefits;

Also aware that the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials deprives the country of potential revenue and job opportunities that could arise from value addition within Nigeria. This is because when value is added to primary products before export, the benefits to the nation increase geometrically;

Recognized the importance of adding value to natural resources before exportation as a means of enhancing the country's economy and promoting sustainable development;

Also notes the indisputable fact that the Nigerian economy, like that of most African countries, is characterized by the export of raw materials and the import of finished goods;

Also recognized the impact of this over-dependence on imports on the Nigerian economy, leading to a lack of control over growth factors and vulnerability to external economic conditions;

Concerned that this economic model encourages subsistence living, discourages growth and development, fosters hardship, poverty, disease, crime, and undermines nationalism and loyalty to the State;

Disturbed that this economic model interferes with the government's purpose of creating infrastructure for growth and prosperity;

Resolved to:

Call on the Executive Arm of Government to:

- (a) immediately ban the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials from Nigeria;
- (b) implement policies and incentives that would make value addition to raw materials and mineral resources attractive to investors and businesses;
- (c) collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including state governments, private sector entities, and development partners, to develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting value addition to raw materials and mineral resources;
- (d) provide support and incentives to local industries and entrepreneurs engaged in the processing and value addition to natural resources and raw materials;
- (e) direct the relevant Ministries, in collaboration with relevant agencies, to monitor and enforce compliance with the ban on the exportation of unprocessed natural resources and raw materials;
- (f) engage all relevant stakeholders for the formulation of the appropriate policies and programmes to put an end to export of raw materials and, instead, transform to export of finished goods, and set a timeline for the implementation of all such policies and programmes (**HR. 190/05/2024**).

(ii) ***Devastating Windstorm in Communities of Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State:***

Hon. James Shuaibu Barka (*Gombi/Hong 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.

Devastating Windstorm in Communities of Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State:

The House:

Notes that on Sunday, 10 May, 2024, there was a devastating windstorm in Communities of Hong Local Government Area, Adamawa State;

Also notes that this windstorm destroyed many schools, houses, farms lands; places of religious worship, businesses and markets;

Concerned that the windstorm affected the communities of Pella, Mijili, Garari, Wuro Garba, Barkari, Jabba, Lugga and Mobol;

Also concerned that as a result of the disaster, many of the inhabitants of these communities' have been displaced with homes, businesses and properties worth millions of Naira destroyed;

Worried that this unfortunate incidence has caused undue hardship, emotional and psychological trauma to the people of these communities who are predominantly peasant farmers and petty traders;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to assess the level of damage and urgently provide relief materials to the affected communities.
- (ii) also urge the North East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide aid to the people of these affected communities by providing building materials, food items and business startups;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and North East Development Commission (NEDC) to ensure compliance (*Hon. James Shuaibu Barka — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), immediately after the words “Development Commission (NEDC)”, *insert* the words “Poverty Alleviation” (*Hon. Billy Osawaru Famous — Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Sunday, 10 May, 2024, there was a devastating windstorm in Communities of Hong Local Government Area, Adamawa State;

Also noted that this windstorm destroyed many schools, houses, farms lands; places of religious worship, businesses and markets;

Concerned that the windstorm affected the communities of Pella, Mijili, Garari, Wuro Garba, Barkari, Jabba, Lugga and Mobol;

Also concerned that as a result of the disaster, many of the inhabitants of these communities' have been displaced with homes, businesses and properties worth millions of Naira destroyed;

Worried that this unfortunate incidence has caused undue hardship, emotional and psychological trauma to the people of these communities who are predominantly peasant farmers and petty traders;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to assess the level of damage and urgently provide relief materials to the affected communities.
 - (ii) also urge the North East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide aid to the people of these affected communities by providing building materials, food items and business startups;
 - (iii) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, North East Development Commission (NEDC), and Poverty Alleviation to ensure compliance **(HR. 191/05/2024)**.
- (iii) ***Prolonged Conflicts Over Ownership and Royalty Rights of Oil Palm Plantation in Erei North Wards, Biase Local Government Area of Cross River State:***
Hon. Emil Lemke Inyang (*Akampa/Biase 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.

Prolonged Conflicts Over Ownership and Royalty Rights of Oil Palm Plantation in Erei North Wards, Biase Local Government Area of Cross River State:

The House:

Notes that the people of Erei North and South wards comprising of more than 30 villages, have endured unimaginable hardship due to incessant communal conflicts and violence, forcing them to flee their homes and seek refuge elsewhere for the past 6 years;

Also notes that more than 150 persons have lost their lives;

Aware that the communities of Abanwan, Ipene, Egbor, Edu, Afono, Ibini, and Urugban in Erie North and South wards, Biase Local Government Area of Cross River State have been engaged in Prolonged Conflicts and renewed skirmishes since 2018 over ownership and royalty rights related to an oil palm plantation in the area for decades;

Also aware that families have been torn apart, schools, hospitals, houses, property, farm lands, livelihoods destroyed, and the once vibrant communities now lies in ruins, the plight of these displaced individuals especially children and women demand our immediate attention and action;

Conscious of the need for the safety and security of the displaced population to be ensured with adequate security personnel to the area to prevent further violence and provide a sense of safety for those who have been uprooted from their ancestral homes;

Also conscious of the need for additional efforts to facilitate the return of those who wish to go back to their respective communities by creating a conducive environment for resettlement;

Worried that the humanitarian needs of these displaced communities are vast and varied, such as access to clean water, food, shelter, schools, and healthcare services is paramount for their survival;

Also worried that many families are currently living in makeshift shelters without access to basic necessities, exacerbating their already precarious situation;

Concerned that it is imperative that we provide immediate relief materials in the form of food aid, shelters, and medical assistance to alleviate their suffering;

Also concerned that education is also a critical component of humanitarian assistance, especially for children who have been deprived of their right to learn due to displacement for the past six (6) year, hence efforts should be made to ensure that educational facilities are restored to the area and accessible to all displaced children, by enabling them to continue their studies and pursue a brighter future despite the challenges they face;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to move in materials to alleviate their conditions;
- (ii) also urge the National Primary Healthcare Agency to see to the health needs of the people to avoid a near epidemic situation;
- (iii) further urge the National Universal Education Board (NUEB) to Assist in the Reconstruction and Construction of destroyed schools;
- (iv) still urge the Nigerian Army in the Area to ensure adequate security for the returning citizens (*Hon. Emil Lemke Inyang — Akamkpa/Biase Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the people of Erie North and South wards comprising of more than 30 villages,

have endured unimaginable hardship due to incessant communal conflicts and violence, forcing them to flee their homes and seek refuge elsewhere for the past 6 years;

Also noted that more than 150 persons have lost their lives;

Aware that the communities of Abanwan, Ipene, Egbor, Edu, Afono, Ibini, and Urugban in Erie North and South wards, Biase Local Government Area of Cross River State have been engaged in Prolonged Conflicts and renewed skirmishes since 2018 over ownership and royalty rights related to an oil palm plantation in the area for decades;

Also aware that families have been torn apart, schools, hospitals, houses, property, farm lands, livelihoods destroyed, and the once vibrant communities now lies in ruins, the plight of these displaced individuals especially children and women demand our immediate attention and action;

Conscious of the need for the safety and security of the displaced population to be ensured with adequate security personnel to the area to prevent further violence and provide a sense of safety for those who have been uprooted from their ancestral homes;

Also conscious of the need for additional efforts to facilitate the return of those who wish to go back to their respective communities by creating a conducive environment for resettlement;

Worried that the humanitarian needs of these displaced communities are vast and varied, such as access to clean water, food, shelter, schools, and healthcare services is paramount for their survival;

Also worried that many families are currently living in makeshift shelters without access to basic necessities, exacerbating their already precarious situation;

Concerned that it is imperative that we provide immediate relief materials in the form of food aid, shelters, and medical assistance to alleviate their suffering;

Also concerned that education is also a critical component of humanitarian assistance, especially for children who have been deprived of their right to learn due to displacement for the past six (6) year, hence efforts should be made to ensure that educational facilities are restored to the area and accessible to all displaced children, by enabling them to continue their studies and pursue a brighter future despite the challenges they face;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency {NEMA} to move in materials to alleviate their conditions;
- (ii) also urge the National Primary Healthcare Agency to see to the health needs of the people to avoid a near epidemic situation;
- (iii) further urge the National Universal Education Board (NUEB) to Assist in the Reconstruction and Construction of destroyed schools;
- (iv) still urge the Nigerian Army in the Area to ensure adequate security for the returning citizens **(HR. 192/05/2024)**.

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. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(iv) *Airworthiness of Aircrafts in the Presidential Airfleet:*

Hon. Satomi Ahmed (*Jere 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.

Airworthiness of Aircrafts in the Presidential Airfleet:

The House:

Notes that the presidential Air Fleet was formed to primarily provide rapid, safe and comfortable airlift for the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Vice President and other very Important Person(s) as may be directed by the President through the Office of the Chief of Staff to the President;

Also notes the Fleet are mainly at the behest of the Presidency, National Assembly (Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives), the Judiciary (Chief Justice of the Federation) or in some instances to pursue the foreign policy goals via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Further notes that the Budget of the Presidential Air Fleet is under the Office of the National Security Adviser as appropriated yearly by the National Assembly

Alarmed by the report on various media platforms particularly Sahara Reporters of 28 April, 2024, that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu was forced to travel to Saudi Arabia on a Chattered flight for the World Economic Forum in Riyadh from the Netherlands where he had gone for a series of economic and diplomatic engagements because the presidential Jet developed fault in the Netherlands;

Also alarmed by screaming news reports of May 6, 2024, by Business Day, Punch Newspapers, ThisDay Newspapers, etc. that a faulty Presidential jet which occurred on Monday, 6 May, 2024, has aborted Vice President Kashim Shetima's trip to the United States of America for the 2024 US-Africa Business Summit in Dallas Texas;

Aware that this report was corroborated in the press release by Stanley Nwokocha senior special Assistant to the President on . Media . and Communications, Office of the Vice President, stating that the " Vice President Kashim Shetima who was originally scheduled to represent the president was unable to make the trip following technical fault with the aircraft, forcing him to make a detour on the advice of the Presidential Air Fleet";

Disturbed that these occurrences poses a clear present and imminent threat to the life of the president, the Vice President and other Very Important Personalities who use the Fleet from time to time;

Also disturbed that any calamity which may arise if these aircrafts are not immediately put into premium operational status has the potential not only to cause major upheaval to the stability of democracy in Nigeria but may also significantly affect the security and peace of

the country;

Worried by the seeming laxity of the technical management of the Fleet to keep the aircrafts in optimum condition for the safety of the president, the vice president and other VIPs despite the appropriations for the maintenance of the fleet by the National Assembly;

Determined to arrest this ugly situation in order to forestall any fearful tragedy that might pose an existential threat to the peace and unity of this country;

Resolves to:

- (i) carry out a comprehensive investigation on the airworthiness and technical status of all the aircrafts in the presidential Air Fleet including the professional competence of the engineers/technicians of the Fleet;
- (ii) invite the National Security Adviser, the Commandant of the Presidential Air Fleet and any other relevant officer(s) of government to give detailed explanations on why the Fleet is not operating at optimum capacity needed to guarantee presidential safety;
- (iii) proffer recommendations that will ensure lasting and sustainable solution to these incidences which has brought shame and embarrassment to the country;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Satomi Alhaji Ahmed — Jere Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

(v) ***Wrong Perception of the House of Representatives Position on Implementation of the Cybercrimes Act:***

Hon. Chinda Kingsley (*Akpor/Obio Federal Constituency and 7 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.

Wrong Perception of the House of Representatives Position on Implementation of the Cybercrimes Act:

The House:

Notes that on Thursday, 9 May, 2024, the House considered a joint motion on the implementation of the Cybercrimes (Prohibition and Prevention) Act, 2015 as amended in 2024 and resolved to direct the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to withdraw the ambiguous circular of 6 May, 2024, and in its place issue an unambiguous and unequivocal circular in line with the letters and spirit of the law and directed the House Committees on Banking Regulations and Ancillary Institutions to guide the CBN properly;

Also notes that the media space was awash with the wrong impression that the House of Representatives was against a Law passed by Her, which impression painted the House in bad light;

Cognizant that the world is a global village and with the internet-of-things, crime is moving from meat space (real or physical world) to cyber space without the physical limitations of boundaries;

Also cognizant that cybercrime is more devastating and can cripple a nation easier than the conventional crime in the physical space;

Aware of the humongous cost expended on security and the very likely limitations of funding cyber space security by government;

Also aware that some establishments carry out their businesses within the cyber space and make profits therefrom;

Further aware that the Cybercrimes Act imposes a levy of 0.05% (0.005) on some establishments enumerated in the second schedule to the Act, that occupy the cyberspace; do business therein and make profit therefrom;

Further notes that the letter and spirit of the Law as crafted by the Parliament is not only commendable but in tune with contemporary trend and supportive of the global fight against Cyber Crime;

Still notes that the levy does not apply to ordinary Nigerians but only to the establishments listed in the second schedule to the Act, viz:

- (a) GSM Service providers and all telecommunication companies,
- (b) Internet Service Providers,
- (c) Banks and other Financial Institutions,
- (d) Insurance Companies, and
- (e) Nigerian Stock Exchange;

Again notes that Order 20, Rule 93 (2) (b) of the House Rules provides that in the event of joint oversight on issues relating to cybersecurity, the Committee on National Security and Intelligence shall work with the Committee on Digital and Information Technology. In such cases, the Committee on National Security and Intelligence shall be the lead Committee;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the CBN and Office of National Security Adviser to cause further enlightenment on the Cyber Crimes Act and implementation of the 0.5% (0.005) levy;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, and Digital and Information Technology to be part of the Committees to superintend over the implementation of the House Resolution of 9 May, 2024, on the Cybersecurity Levy, with the Committee on National Security and Intelligence as the lead the committee (*Hon. Kingsley O. Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency and Seven Others*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the words “Information and Technology”, *insert* the words “and Justice” (*Hon. Kuye Ademorin Aliu — Somolu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayers (ii), immediately after the words “Justice”, *insert* the words “Digital and Electronic Banking” (*Hon. Aliyu Bappa Musan — Misau/Damban Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Thursday, 9 May, 2024, the House considered a joint motion on the implementation of the Cybercrimes (Prohibition and Prevention) Act, 2015 as amended in 2024 and resolved to direct the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to withdraw the ambiguous circular of 6 May, 2024, and in its place issue an unambiguous and unequivocal circular in line with the letters and spirit of the law and directed the House Committees on Banking Regulations and Ancillary Institutions to guide the CBN properly;

Also noted that the media space was awash with the wrong impression that the House of Representatives was against a Law passed by Her, which impression painted the House in bad light;

Cognizant that the world is a global village and with the internet-of-things, crime is moving from meat space (real or physical world) to cyber space without the physical limitations of boundaries;

Also cognizant that cybercrime is more devastating and can cripple a nation easier than the conventional crime in the physical space;

Aware of the humongous cost expended on security and the very likely limitations of funding cyber space security by government;

Also aware that some establishments carry out their businesses within the cyber space and make profits therefrom;

Further aware that the Cybercrimes Act imposes a levy of 0.05% (0.005) on some establishments enumerated in the second schedule to the Act, that occupy the cyberspace; do business therein and make profit therefrom;

Further noted that the letter and spirit of the Law as crafted by the Parliament is not only commendable but in tune with contemporary trend and supportive of the global fight against Cyber Crime;

Still noted that the levy does not apply to ordinary Nigerians but only to the establishments listed in the second schedule to the Act, viz:

- (a) GSM Service providers and all telecommunication companies,
- (b) Internet Service Providers,

- (c) Banks and other Financial Institutions,
- (d) Insurance Companies, and
- (e) Nigerian Stock Exchange;

Again notes that Order 20, Rule 93 (2) (b) of the House Rules provides that in the event of joint oversight on issues relating to cybersecurity, the Committee on National Security and Intelligence shall work with the Committee on Digital and Information Technology. In such cases, the Committee on National Security and Intelligence shall be the lead Committee;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the CBN and Office of National Security Adviser to cause further enlightenment on the Cyber Crimes Act and implementation of the 0.5% (0.005) levy;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Digital and Information Technology, Justice, and Digital and Electronic Banking to be part of the Committees to superintend over the implementation of the House Resolution of 9 May, 2024, on the Cybersecurity Levy, with the Committee on National Security and Intelligence as the lead the committee (**HR. 193/05/2024**).

7. Presentation of Reports

(i) **Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management:**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management Report (No.2) on the Proposed 2022-2024 External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan for the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE)” (*Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) **Committee on Communications:**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission the Total Sum of (₦549,674,311,000.00) five hundred and forty-nine billion, six hundred and seventy-four million, three hundred and eleven thousand Naira only, out of which (₦115,059,947.00) one hundred and fifteen billion, fifty-nine million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand Naira only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, (₦18,023,435.00) eighteen billion, twenty-three million, four hundred and thirty-five thousand Naira only, is for Capital Expenditure, (₦66,781,032) sixty - six billion, seven hundred and eighty-one million, thirty-two thousand Naira, only is for Special Projects while the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, is for Transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), (₦332,807,853) three hundred and thirty - two billion, eight hundred and seven million, eight hundred and fifty - three thousand Naira only, is for Transfer to Federal Government and (₦2,044) two thousand and forty - four Naira only, is surplus/deficit transfers for the financial year ending 31 December, 2024” (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko Edo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. A Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Chartered Corporate and Business Affairs Management of Nigeria to Provide for the Control of its Membership, Promote and Foster the

Practice of Corporate and Business Affairs Management in Nigeria and for Related matters (HB.480) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Chartered Corporate and Business Affairs Management of Nigeria to Provide for the Control of its Membership, Promote and Foster the Practice of Corporate and Business Affairs Management in Nigeria and for Related matters (HB.480) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West 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 Commerce.

9. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Oba Obafemi Vocational Skills and Entrepreneurship University, Owode and for Related Matters (HB. 726) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Oba Obafemi Vocational Skills and Entrepreneurship University, Owode and for Related Matters (HB. 726) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Olumide Osoba — Abeokuta North/Obafemi Owode/Odeda 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 University Education.

10. A Bill for an Act to Establish Elites Sheriffs Corps to Facilitate Tax Collection by Relevant Authorities in the Federation to Enhance Budget Implementation through Internal Revenue Generation and for Related Matters (HB.976) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 999) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 999) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Judiciary.

12. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to make provision for the Presentation of the Audited Report of the Previous year's expenditures by the President, alongside the laying of the Budget (estimates of the revenues and expenditure) of the Federation for the next financial year and for Related Matters (HB. 780) — Second Reading
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal

Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to make provision for the Presentation of the Audited Report of the Previous year's expenditures by the President, alongside the laying of the Budget (estimates of the revenues and expenditure) of the Federation for the next financial year and for Related Matters (HB. 780) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Whingan Sesi Oluseun — Badagry Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned for further consideration

13. Need to Commence the Construction of Rail Service from Itakpe in Kogi State to Abuja
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Ujevwu - Itakpe rail line is expected to transport food stuff passengers from the South and passengers/goods - steel from Itakpe and to other parts of the country;

Also notes that the rail service from Ujevuwu to Itakpe is very strategic as it spans through Delta, Edo and Kogi states;

Aware that until recently the 327km Ujevuwu-Itakpe rail line as a means of transportation was abandoned long before the previous administration took giant steps to complete the long-abandoned project and commissioned same;

Also aware that an extension of the Ujevuwu - Itakpe rail line Northwards by 200km taking it through Lokoja, Abaji, Gwagwalada, Kuje up to Idu (Abuja, city centre) linking it with the existing Abuja - Kaduna line and the planned Kaduna - Kano line has been planned and contract awarded;

Concerned that more than three years after the reported contract was awarded nothing has been done by the contractor to executed this all-important project;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Transport to ensure immediate execution of the Contract;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to investigate the reasons for the non-execution of the contract and ensure immediate execution of the contract for the construction of Itakpe to Abuja and report back within the four (4) weeks; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 194/05/2024).

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

14. Implementation of Monthly Rent to Encourage Inclusive Rental System and Curb Arbitrary Increase in House Rent in the Federal Capital Territory
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that within the Federal Capital Territory, monthly rent payments are uncommon, with landlords

usually demanding a minimum of at least one year's rent, while others require two years upfront;

Also notes that Nigeria is ripe for an inclusive rental system that reduces housing burden on working class families which will offer affordable monthly rentals for low- and middle-income earners;

Aware that majority of FCT residents are civil servants and artisans, live in affordable Abuja satellite towns due to their meagre salaries;

Also aware that a similar system operate in Lagos State where the Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Housing, Barakat Odunuga-Bakare, disclosed that the State's monthly rental scheme will be enforced before the end of 2024 or early 2025;

Alarmed at the arbitrary increase of rent in Federal Capital Territory, one-bedroom self goes for 1 to 1.5 million, while two bedrooms is between 2 - 3 million Naira and three bedroom 3.5 which is quite burdensome due to the current economic hardship for civil servants, who are already grappling with fuel subsidy removal, rising foreign exchange rates, electricity tariffs increase, and tax or levies;

Worried at the exorbitant charges on house rents ranging from 5-10%, legal fees of 20%, and agency fees, while the service and maintenance fee is ₦150,000 and the caution fee is ₦150,000 to ₦400,000, depending on the landlord;

Convinced that monthly rent provides tenants with flexibility, better cash flow management, reasonable move-out options, and ensures a stable income stream;

Cognizant of the need for government to come to the rescue of the resident and formulate policies that will to regulate house rents and the activities of landlords in Abuja;

Recognizes the need to build affordable house for civil servants in Abuja to reduce the burden of paying exorbitant rent in Abuja;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Housing and Habitat, and Works to build affordable low-cost Houses and Estate to accommodate Civil Servant; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Housing and Habitat, and Works to invite relevant stakeholders to discuss viable solutions to the issue of arbitrary increase of house rent in the Federal Capital Territory and recommend effective policies to regulate the activities of landlords and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Emmanuel Ukpong-Udo — Ikono/Ini Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* Prayer (i) (*Hon. Kuye Ademorin Aliu — Shomolu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the words “mandate the”, *leave out* the words “Committees on Housing and Habitat, and Works” and *insert* the words “Committee on Federal Capital Territory” (*Hon. Kuye Ademorin Aliu — Shomolu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that within the Federal Capital Territory, monthly rent payments are uncommon, with landlords usually demanding a minimum of at least one year's rent, while others require two years upfront;

Also noted that Nigeria is ripe for an inclusive rental system that reduces housing burden on working class families which will offer affordable monthly rentals for low- and middle-income earners;

Aware that majority of FCT residents are civil servants and artisans, live in affordable Abuja satellite towns due to their meagre salaries;

Also aware that a similar system operate in Lagos State where the Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Housing, Barakat Odunuga-Bakare, disclosed that the State's monthly rental scheme will be enforced before the end of 2024 or early 2025;

Alarmed at the arbitrary increase of rent in Federal Capital Territory, one-bedroom self goes for 1 to 1.5 million, while two bedrooms is between 2 - 3 million Naira and three bedroom 3.5 which is quite burdensome due to the current economic hardship for civil servants, who are already grappling with fuel subsidy removal, rising foreign exchange rates, electricity tariffs increase, and tax or levies;

Worried at the exorbitant charges on house rents ranging from 5-10%, legal fees of 20%, and agency fees, while the service and maintenance fee is ₦150,000 and the caution fee is ₦150,000 to ₦400,000, depending on the landlord;

Convinced that monthly rent provides tenants with flexibility, better cash flow management, reasonable move-out options, and ensures a stable income stream;

Cognizant of the need for government to come to the rescue of the resident and formulate policies that will to regulate house rents and the activities of landlords in Abuja;

Recognized the need to build affordable house for civil servants in Abuja to reduce the burden of paying exorbitant rent in Abuja;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory to invite relevant stakeholders to discuss viable solutions to the issue of arbitrary increase of house rent in the Federal Capital Territory and recommend effective policies to regulate the activities of landlords and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 195/05/2024).

15. Rehabilitation of Yola-Girei-Song-Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal Roads in Adamawa State

Order read; Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

16. Need for a Special Admission Quota for Graduates of Nigeria Military Schools into the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that Nigeria Military School, Zaria, Kaduna State, popularly known as NMS, was first established as the Boys Company of Nigeria on May 20, 1954, modeled after the Boys Wing of the British Army;

Also recalls that the objective behind the NMS was the production of Middle Commissioned Officers, necessitating that overriding emphasis be placed on military and academic training;

Aware that subsequently, the Air Force Military School, Jos, the Air Force Girls Military School, Jos, and the Nigerian Navy Military School, Ikot Ntuen, were respectively established on August 18, 1980, October 1986, and April 15, 2018 respectively;

Also aware that these military schools admit boys and girls from the age of 12, mould them into disciplined and loyal elements of the Armed Forces of Nigeria through several techniques, including physical training, training on field crafts, weapon handling, tactics, map reading, signals, and other military subjects;

Cognizant that the ambition of most graduates of military schools is to join the Nigeria Defense Academy and make a career as commissioned officers in the Nigerian Armed Forces;

Concerned that many of these diligent and well-prepared graduates, called Ex Boys, Ex Jam, Ex Jaw, and Ex Seal, face substantial challenges in gaining admission into the Nigeria Defence Academy, a critical next step in their career paths, hence the need for a more inclusive and equitable admission process;

Worried that despite their exposure to regimental training at the Military Schools, statistics show that in the last decade, only about 4.1 % of the total annual admissions into the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA) have gone to the Military Schools' applicants in their first or second attempts;

Disturbed that with the increased insecurity across Nigeria, such well-trained young men/women left frustrated could be a handy tool at the disposal of criminal gangs;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Minister of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, and Board of the Nigeria Defence Academy to urgently review the admission requirements by allocating at least fifty percent (50%) slots to each State to applicants from Nigerian Military Schools pending the presentation and passage of the Nigeria Defence Academy Act (Amendment) Bill aimed at making the allocation permanent and statutory; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence and Legislative Compliance, to liaise with the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, and all other relevant military bodies towards the realization of the above and report within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Emeka Idu Godwin — Onitsha North/Onitsha South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “admission requirements”, *leave out* the words “by allocating at least fifty percent (50%) slots to each State to applicants from” and insert the words “to allow all Students from Nigerian Military Schools to have the rights of first refusal in admission into the Nigerian Defence Academy for effective progression into the Nigerian Military” (*Hon. Terseer Ugbor — Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that Nigeria Military School, Zaria, Kaduna State, popularly known as NMS, was first established as the Boys Company of Nigeria on May 20, 1954, modeled after the Boys Wing of the British Army;

Also recalled that the objective behind the NMS was the production of Middle Commissioned Officers, necessitating that overriding emphasis be placed on military and academic training;

Aware that subsequently, the Air Force Military School, Jos, the Air Force Girls Military School, Jos, and the Nigerian Navy Military School, Ikot Ntuen, were respectively established on August 18, 1980, October 1986, and April 15, 2018 respectively;

Also aware that these military schools admit boys and girls from the age of 12, mould them into disciplined and loyal elements of the Armed Forces of Nigeria through several techniques, including physical training, training on field crafts, weapon handling, tactics, map reading, signals, and other military subjects;

Cognizant that the ambition of most graduates of military schools is to join the Nigeria Defence Academy and make a career as commissioned officers in the Nigerian Armed Forces;

Concerned that many of these diligent and well-prepared graduates, called Ex Boys, Ex Jam, Ex Jaw, and Ex Seal, face substantial challenges in gaining admission into the Nigeria Defence Academy, a critical next step in their career paths, hence the need for a more inclusive and equitable admission process;

Worried that despite their exposure to regimental training at the Military Schools, statistics show that in the last decade, only about 4.1 % of the total annual admissions into the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA) have gone to the Military Schools' applicants in their first or second attempts;

Disturbed that with the increased insecurity across Nigeria, such well-trained young men/women left frustrated could be a handy tool at the disposal of criminal gangs;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Minister of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, and Board of the Nigeria Defence Academy to urgently review the admission requirements to allow all Students from Nigerian Military Schools to have the rights of first refusal in admission into the Nigerian Defence Academy for effective progression into the Nigerian Military Schools pending the presentation and passage of the Nigeria Defence Academy Act (Amendment) Bill aimed at making the allocation permanent and statutory; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence and Legislative Compliance, to liaise with the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, and all other relevant military bodies towards the realization of the above and report within two (2) weeks (**HR. 196/05/2024**).

17. Need to Rehabilitate Rice Mill Gboko - Ameladu Road in Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Rice Mill Gboko - Ameladu road in Benue State is a Federal road;

Also notes that the Rice Mill Gboko - Ameladu road, which measures about 11.9 km, is one of the major roads linking Benue to the states of Cross River, Enugu and other parts of the east, as well as Western and Southern Nigeria;

Aware that along that stretch of road is a private University, two major hospitals, one of which is a regular hospital and the other an Orthopaedic and Referral Hospital that service Benue indigenes as well as patients from all over Nigeria, a School of Nursing and Midwifery, Laboratory Technology, College of Health Technology and a Polytechnic;

Also aware that the road is used to convey people to different facilities located along the road, Agricultural products such as yams, oranges, groundnuts, cassava, etc, transported from the farms and markets to the eastern and other neighbouring states;

Cognizant that if the Rice Mill Gboko - Ameladu road is not urgently rehabilitated, it will pose hazards to commuters, access to the University and Hospitals as well as other facilities on the road, will become impossible and the transportation of farm produce to other parts of the country will be affected, thereby undermining the social, economic and overall wellbeing of the people;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power to install and maintain solar power lights along the road to illuminate and prevent criminal activities;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure the rehabilitation of the road from Rice Mill-Gboko-Ameladu to avoid loss of lives and properties;
- (iii) further urge the Ecological Fund office to provide funds to rehabilitate the portions with ecological challenges along the road for the construction of concrete and durable side drains to avoid incursions of erosion;
- (iv) again urge the Federal Ministry of Works to make provision for the general maintenance of the Rice Mill Gboko Ameladu road in the 2025 budget estimates; and
- (v) mandate the Committee on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to ensure compliance (*Hon. Sekav Dzua Iyortyom — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 197/05/2024).

Motion referred to the Committee on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

18. Need to Curb the Use of Casualized Labour by Employers of Labour in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the oppressive and exploitative act of casualization of employment in Nigeria is rapidly spreading in unprecedented proportions of intensity and scale;

Also notes that Section 7 (1) of the Labour Act, provides that "not later than three months after the beginning of a worker's period of employment with an employer, the employer shall give to the worker a written statement specifying the:

- (a) name of the employer or group of employers and, where appropriate, the undertaking by which the worker is employed, and
- (b) name and address of the worker and the place and date of his engagement;

Observes that despite the law limiting worker casualization to three months, the practice of casualization remains prevalent in Nigeria, where casual workers occupy a precarious position in the working place and society, and are effectively a new set of slaves' and 'underclass' in the modern-day economy;

Also concerned that casualization, a form of slavery, can gradually destroy a nation's economy, leading to overworked individuals with inadequate income and retirement savings, this will result in an overworked population who relies on government for survival thus overbearing the social assistance capacity of the government;

Worried that the attributes attached to casualization, among others, include: abysmal low wages, absence of medical care allowances, no job security or promotion at work, no gratuity and other severance benefits, no leave or leave allowance, freedom of association is often jeopardized; no death benefits or accident insurance at work, no negotiation or collective bargaining agreement;

Aware that this unwholesome practice, though prevalent in the banking sector, has gradually become the norm among employers of labour in Nigeria, thereby breaching, the Labour Act and Workmen Compensation Act are not exempt from these provisions;

Alarmed that despite the inflationary trend in Nigeria, contract or casual staff are still paid between 40,000 and 150,000 Naira, depending on the bank or financial institution and are often laid off at any time without notice or compensation since the banks are not under any legal contractual obligation or agreement with the employees;

Further notes that since the boom recorded in the banking sector in the early 2000s, banks and other financial institutions in Nigeria have heavily relied on the services of contract staff, often outsourced through recruiting firms and agents;

Also aware of recent findings shows that out of the 95,588 staff employed by Nigerian banks, 40,328 represent more than 42 percent of the total bank employees in Nigeria, as at third quota in 2023, 2 out of every five bank workers are contract workers;

Further aware that contract workers are for a specific period of time and carry out professional service like tellering, marketing, admin, ICT under an unfavourable condition without promotions or job security enjoyed by their colleagues in full-time employment considering their significantly contribute to the growth of the banking industry through their services, leading to profits declared by these banks;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity and Human Rights to investigate the extent of these infractions against the rights of Nigerian workers and also relate with the relevant government agencies to curb the unwholesome practices;
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment, and Productivity, Banking Regulations, and Banking Institutions to liaise with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to halt the practice of contract staffing by banks and other financial institutions in Nigeria; and
- (iii) further mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation of these resolutions (*Hon. Fuad Kayode Laguda — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word “financial institutions”, *insert* the words “and all other companies and organizations” (*Hon. Chris Nkwonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* Prayers (i) and (ii) (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) In Prayer (iii), immediately after the word “to”, *insert* the words “look into all relevant extant regulations” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the oppressive and exploitative act of casualization of employment in Nigeria is rapidly spreading in unprecedented proportions of intensity and scale;

Also noted that Section 7 (1) of the Labour Act, provides that "not later than three months after the beginning of a worker's period of employment with an employer, the employer shall give to the worker a written statement specifying the:

- (a) name of the employer or group of employers and, where appropriate, the undertaking by which the worker is employed, and
- (b) name and address of the worker and the place and date of his engagement;

Observed that despite the law limiting worker casualization to three months, the practice of casualization remains prevalent in Nigeria, where casual workers occupy a precarious position in the working place and society, and are effectively a new set of slaves' and 'underclass' in the modern-day economy;

Also concerned that casualization, a form of slavery, can gradually destroy a nation's economy, leading to overworked individuals with inadequate income and retirement savings, this will result in an overworked population who relies on government for survival thus overbearing the social assistance capacity of the government;

Worried that the attributes attached to casualization, among others, include: abysmal low wages, absence of medical care allowances, no job security or promotion at work, no gratuity and other severance benefits, no leave or leave allowance, freedom of association is often jeopardized; no death benefits or accident insurance at work, no negotiation or collective bargaining agreement;

Aware that this unwholesome practice, though prevalent in the banking sector, has gradually become the norm among employers of labour in Nigeria, thereby breaching, the Labour Act and Workmen Compensation Act are not exempt from these provisions;

Alarmed that despite the inflationary trend in Nigeria, contract or casual staff are still paid between 40,000 and 150,000 Naira, depending on the bank or financial institution and are often laid off at any time without notice or compensation since the banks are not under any legal contractual obligation or agreement with the employees;

Further noted that since the boom recorded in the banking sector in the early 2000s, banks and other financial institutions in Nigeria have heavily relied on the services of contract staff, often outsourced through recruiting firms and agents;

Also aware of recent findings shows that out of the 95,588 staff employed by Nigerian banks, 40,328 represent more than 42 percent of the total bank employees in Nigeria, as at third quota in 2023, 2 out of every five bank workers are contract workers;

Further aware that contract workers are for a specific period of time and carry out professional

service like tellering, marketing, admin, ICT under an unfavourable condition without promotions or job security enjoyed by their colleagues in full-time employment considering their significantly contribute to the growth of the banking industry through their services, leading to profits declared by these banks;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation of these resolutions **(HR. 198/05/2024)**.

19. Challenges of Irregular Migration

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the universal lawful procedures for migration to other countries for legitimate purposes are recognized by all countries in the world, therefore, not following these procedures amounts to illegal entry;

Also notes that many Nigerians do not follow the legitimate procedures as recognized by the migration laws of Nigeria and countries of destination but instead follow illegitimate routes, which expose them to unnecessary hardship, thus constituting an embarrassment to the image of Nigeria and its rating before the community of nations;

Aware that Nigerians traveling out of the country through illegal routes have denied the Nigerian Immigration Service the opportunity to have reliable data on Nigerians traveling out of the country as well as the Nigerian Missions information about the presence of such Nigerians in their host countries, thereby unable to monitor their activities or provide consular services to such migrants when the need arises;

Also aware of the reports that between 2015 and 2023, a total of 277,833 Nigerians left the country through the desert and Mediterranean routes, out of this number, 2000 ended up in Libyan private prisons and 12,000 seeking asylum in Germany in 2017, in deplorable living conditions. Whereas a total of 5,145 people died in the desert and on the Mediterranean in 2016 and 186,000 were missing in 2023;

Worried that irregular migration and its consequences have created an image problem for Nigeria and present her as a country without rules and regard for the welfare of its citizens;

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to stop this dangerous trend, the situation may worsen to a point that many countries would deal with Nigeria not on the basis of enlightened reciprocity but on the discretion of defective perceptions created by this ugly trend, this has the potential to affect our diplomatic relations with friendly countries whose security and social stability have been affected by it;

Cognizant that Nigerians in the diaspora, particularly those with legitimate migration status, have contributed significantly to the nation's economic growth, development, and social stability and therefore deserve protection from being tainted by the activities of illegal migrants from Nigeria;

Conscious of the need to make appropriate resolutions that would help the President effectively deliver on the expectations of Nigerians, particularly in protecting the image and lives of the citizens;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Interior to investigate the factors that have given vent to the challenges of irregular migration and matters associated therewith and report within four

(4) weeks (*Hon. Tochukwu Okere Chinedu — Owerri North/Owerri West/Owerri Municipal Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the words “mandate the”, *leave out* the words “Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Interior” and *insert* the words “Committee on Diaspora” (*Hon. Billy Osawaru — Orhionmwon/Uhunnmwode Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the universal lawful procedures for migration to other countries for legitimate purposes are recognized by all countries in the world, therefore, not following these procedures amounts to illegal entry;

Also noted that many Nigerians do not follow the legitimate procedures as recognized by the migration laws of Nigeria and countries of destination but instead follow illegitimate routes, which expose them to unnecessary hardship, thus constituting an embarrassment to the image of Nigeria and its rating before the community of nations;

Aware that Nigerians traveling out of the country through illegal routes have denied the Nigerian Immigration Service the opportunity to have reliable data on Nigerians traveling out of the country as well as the Nigerian Missions information about the presence of such Nigerians in their host countries, thereby unable to monitor their activities or provide consular services to such migrants when the need arises;

Also aware of the reports that between 2015 and 2023, a total of 277,833 Nigerians left the country through the desert and Mediterranean routes, out of this number, 2000 ended up in Libyan private prisons and 12,000 seeking asylum in Germany in 2017, in deplorable living conditions. Whereas a total of 5,145 people died in the desert and on the Mediterranean in 2016 and 186,000 were missing in 2023;

Worried that irregular migration and its consequences have created an image problem for Nigeria and present her as a country without rules and regard for the welfare of its citizens;

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to stop this dangerous trend, the situation may worsen to a point that many countries would deal with Nigeria not on the basis of enlightened reciprocity but on the discretion of defective perceptions created by this ugly trend, this has the potential to affect our diplomatic relations with friendly countries whose security and social stability have been affected by it;

Cognizant that Nigerians in the diaspora, particularly those with legitimate migration status, have contributed significantly to the nation's economic growth, development, and social stability and therefore deserve protection from being tainted by the activities of illegal migrants from Nigeria;

Conscious of the need to make appropriate resolutions that would help the President effectively deliver on the expectations of Nigerians, particularly in protecting the image and lives of the citizens;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Diaspora to investigate the factors that have given vent to the challenges

of irregular migration and matters associated therewith and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 199/05/2024**).

20. Consideration of Reports

(i) *Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to investigate the alleged Manipulation of UTME Result by Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the *Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to Investigate the alleged Manipulation of UTME Result by Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma*” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

“That Miss Mmesoma Joy Ejikeme should cooperate with JAMB to ensure that all those who conspired with her are identified” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

“Members of the public should always verify results through the issuing authorities when in doubt of what is presented to them by candidates seeking for patronage of any kind” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

“That JAMB should be commended for its watertight examination processes and procedures, transparency, innovations and record-keeping system, which makes it possible to retrieve unmutilated transactions with candidates at short notice” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

“The system adopted by JAMB, whereby candidates do not present their results directly to their chosen institutions but relies only on the results JAMB had earlier sent to the institutions, is commendable and should be emulated by employers of labour to reduce falsification of results” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

“The *Ad-hoc Committee* further urged JAMB to continue to interact with Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma to unearth those behind the manipulation, especially those who connived with her to distort people's perception of reality” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the Recommendation (v) (Hon. Akintunde Rotimi Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye Federal

Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

“That JAMB should reconsider the three-year ban placed on Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma considering the possible negative impact the ban may have on her career and life so as not to destroy her future prospects given the fact that she is a first offender and appeared remorseful” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):

“That JAMB should engage in more public awareness, enlightenment, sensitization and educate members of the public on its procedures and activities, which the Committee finds very assuring and of high ethical standard, to clear any perceived negative perception about the institution” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (viii):

“That the House of Representatives should support and strengthen such Institutions like JAMB through appropriation in order to improve their capacity to continue to provide quality services to Nigerians” (*Hon. Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Need to Investigate the alleged Manipulation of UTME Result by Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma and approved Recommendations (i) - (iv), rejected Recommendation (v), and approved Recommendations (vi) - (viii) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(ii) *Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management Report (No.2) on the Proposed 2022-2024 External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan for Bureau of the Public Enterprise (BPE)” (*Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Supply to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

“Approve the under listed ongoing negotiation of External Borrowing for BPE in the sum of Five Hundred million USD (\$500,000,000):

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Credit Amount USD</i>	<i>Development Partner</i>
Nigeria Distributing Sector Recovery Program (DISREP)	500,000,000	World Bank

(Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

“Approved the sum of (\$500,000,000) five hundred Million US Dollars” *(Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

“That the terms and conditions of the loan from the funding Agencies be forward to the National Assembly prior to the execution of same for concurrence and proper documentation” *(Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Supply considered the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management Report (No.2) on the Proposed 2022-2024 External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan for Bureau of the Public Enterprise (BPE) and approved Recommendations (i) - (iii) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Supply — Agreed to.

(iii) Committee on Communications:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission the Total Sum of (₦549,674,311,000.00) five hundred and forty-nine billion, six hundred and seventy-four million, three hundred and eleven thousand Naira only, out of which (₦115,059,947.00) one hundred and fifteen billion, fifty-nine million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand Naira only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, (₦18,023,435.00) eighteen billion, twenty-three million, four hundred and thirty-five thousand Naira only, is for Capital Expenditure, (₦66,781,032) sixty - six billion, seven hundred and eighty-one million, thirty-two thousand Naira only, is for Special Projects while the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, is for Transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), (₦332,807,853) three hundred and thirty - two billion, eight hundred and seven million, eight hundred and fifty - three thousand Naira only, is for Transfer to Federal Government and (₦2,044) two thousand and forty - four Naira, only is surplus/deficit transfers for the financial year ending 31 December, 2024 ” *(Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko Edo Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Supply to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

ISSUE FROM THE STATUTORY REVENUE FUND OF THE NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION THE TOTAL SUM OF (₦549,674,311,000.00) FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE BILLION, SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR MILLION, THREE HUNDRED AND ELEVEN THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, OUT OF WHICH (₦115,059,947.00) ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN BILLION, FIFTY-NINE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR RECURRENT EXPENDITURE, (₦18,023,435.00) EIGHTEEN BILLION, TWENTY-THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, (₦66,781,032) SIXTY - SIX BILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE MILLION, THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS WHILE THE SUM OF (₦17,000,000,000) SEVENTEEN BILLION NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR TRANSFER TO UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROVISION FUND (USPF), (₦332,807,853) THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTY - TWO BILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY - THREE THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR TRANSFER TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND (₦2,044) TWO THOUSAND AND FORTY - FOUR NAIRA, ONLY IS SURPLUS/DEFICIT TRANSFERS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER, 2024

Consideration deferred.

Chairman to report Progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Supply deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission the Total Sum of (₦549,674,311,000.00) five hundred and forty-nine billion, six hundred and seventy-four million, three hundred and eleven thousand Naira only, out of which (₦115,059,947.00) one hundred and fifteen billion, fifty-nine million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand Naira only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, (₦18,023,435.00) eighteen billion, twenty-three million, four hundred and thirty-five thousand Naira only, is for Capital Expenditure, (₦66,781,032) sixty - six billion, seven hundred and eighty-one million, thirty-two thousand Naira only, is for Special Projects while the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, is for Transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), (₦332,807,853) three hundred and thirty - two billion, eight hundred and seven million, eight hundred and fifty - three thousand Naira only, is for Transfer to Federal Government and (₦2,044) two thousand and forty - four Naira only, is surplus/deficit transfers for the financial year ending 31 December, 2024.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Supply — Agreed to.

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 16 May, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.50 p.m.

Benjamin Okezie Kalu
Deputy Speaker