



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 5 July, 2023

1. The House met at 11.35 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, 4 July, 2023.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**
Bereavement:
Mr Deputy Speaker read a communication from Hon. Muktar Tolani Shagaya (*Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency*), informing the House of the demise of a former Member, Hon. Ogundairo S. Ajibade (*Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency, 2003 - 2007*).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

5. **Petition**
A petition from Hilary Ibe, on his dismissal from service by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria, was presented and laid by Hon. Jonas Okeke (*Ehime Mbano/Ihitte-Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency*).

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

6. **Presentation of Bills**
The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Universities Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 01).
- (2) Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.02).
- (3) Public Procurement Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 03).

- (4) National Youths Welfare Scheme Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.04).
- (5) Nigerian National Honours and Merit Award Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 05).
- (6) Acts Authentication Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 06).
- (7) Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 07).
- (8) Bio-Fuels Energy Regulatory Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.08).
- (9) Chartered Institute of Co-operatives and Social Enterprise Management (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 09).
- (10) Federal Capital Territory Education Resource Centre (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.10).
- (11) Federal College of Agriculture, Agila, Benue State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 11).
- (12) None Oil Mineral Resources Producing Communities Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 12).
- (13) Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.13).
- (14) Police Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 14).
- (15) National War College Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.15).
- (16) Central Bank Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 16).

7. Need to Address the Incessant Banditry Attacks on Villages in Dutsin-Ma and Kurfi Local Government Areas of Katsina State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on June 12, 2023, the Communities of Tashar Yaro, Koza, Kudewa Villages, Geza, Sauyawa, Tamawa, and Maileda within Kurfi and Dutsinma Local Government Areas of Katsina State were attacked by bandits, and resulted in the injury and death of scores of innocent villagers;

Also notes that the incessant banditry activities in Kurfi, Dutsinma and other neighbouring Communities in Safana and Batsari Local Government areas have led to regular imposition of taxes on farmers before allowing them to access their farmlands, the failure of which puts them at a risk of losing their livestock to rustlers as well as having their shops burgled by daredevil kidnappers in search of foodstuff;

Concerned that the incessant attacks by the bandits have led to low farming productivity, thus aggravating the existing food insecurity in the affected communities;

Also concerned that majority of the youth in the affected areas could end up with little or no income, thus worsening youth restiveness;

Worried that as another farming season has started, bandits are threatening farmers in the area to pay imposed taxes or risk being kidnapped for huge ransoms;

Aware that the 9th National Assembly passed several resolutions on similar motions and

communicated same to all security agencies, however, little or no positive results were achieved from the decisions taken then;

Cognizant that stringent security measures need to be taken to safeguard the lives and properties of the people as provided in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), particularly Section 14 (2) (b) which clearly states, "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government";

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to initiate a coordinated Joint Security Operation by providing aerial surveillance and other combat mission plans to flush out bandits, destroy their camps, and allow farmers to return to their farmlands to ensure continuous food production and sustain community peace and prosperity;
- (ii) set-up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to invite the Service Chiefs, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Director-General, the Department of State Services, to investigate the complacency of Security Agencies in addressing the cases of banditry in Katsina State with a view to putting an end to the menace and report within six weeks (*Hon. Aminu Babale — Dutsin-Ma/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the words "Katsina State", *insert* the words "and all other States of the Federation where there are similar issues" (*Hon. Abiodun Akinlade — Egbado South/Ipokia Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* Prayer (ii) (*Hon. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi — Kanke/Pankshin/Kanam Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
"Urge the Leadership of the House to engage the Service Chiefs on the security challenges in various parts of the country" (*Hon. Oluwole Busayo Oke — Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on June 12, 2023, the Communities of Tashar Yaro, Koza, Kudewa Villages, Geza, Sauyawa, Tamawa, and Maileda within Kurfi and Dutsinma Local Government Areas of Katsina State were attacked by bandits, and resulted in the injury and death of scores of innocent villagers;

Also noted that the incessant banditry activities in Kurfi, Dutsinma and other neighbouring Communities in Safana and Batsari Local Government areas have led to regular imposition of taxes on farmers before allowing them to access their farmlands, the failure of which puts them at a risk of losing their livestock to rustlers as well as having their shops burgled by daredevil kidnappers in search of foodstuff;

Concerned that the incessant attacks by the bandits have led to low farming productivity, thus aggravating the existing food insecurity in the affected communities;

Also concerned that majority of the youth in the affected areas could end up with little or no income, thus worsening youth restiveness;

Worried that as another farming season has started, bandits are threatening farmers in the area to pay imposed taxes or risk being kidnapped for huge ransoms;

Aware that the 9th National Assembly passed several resolutions on similar motions and communicated same to all security agencies, however, little or no positive results were achieved from the decisions taken then;

Cognizant that stringent security measures need to be taken to safeguard the lives and properties of the people as provided in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), particularly Section 14 (2) (b) which clearly states, "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government";

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to initiate a coordinated Joint Security Operation by providing aerial surveillance and other combat mission plans to flush out bandits, destroy their camps, and allow farmers to return to their farmlands to ensure continuous food production and sustain community peace and prosperity;
- (ii) urge the Leadership of the House to engage the Service Chiefs on the security challenges in various parts of the country (**HR. 15/07/2023**).

8. Call for Intervention in the Recurring Annual Clashes between Farmers and Herders in the Yamaltu-Deba Local Government Area of Gombe State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the previous efforts of the Government of Gombe State in intervening in the annual clashes between farmers and herders which have consistently resulted in losses of lives and properties during harvest periods in Yamaltu-Deba Local Government Area;

Also notes that these efforts are yet to yield significant results since the annual clashes have continued to reoccur regrettably;

Worried that such a development has threatened the peace and security in the area and neighbouring States of Adamawa, Taraba and Benue and has negatively impacted food sufficiency because farming and other economic activities have been affected negatively;

Concerned that the cattle routes have been encroached upon by the newly constructed Mohammed Buhari Industrial Park on the same routes;

Also worried that with the upcoming harvest season, a reoccurrence will continue if nothing tangible is done in terms of urgent intervention;

Also concerned that social economic development, security and the general wellbeing of the populace are so dear and paramount;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Gombe State Government and relevant stakeholders with a view to finding a lasting solution to the reoccurring clashes between farmers and herders in Yamaltu-Deba and neighbouring Local Government Areas (*Hon. Inuwa Garba — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In the Prayer, immediately after the words “Gombe State Government”, *insert* the words “the youths, Local Government Chairmen” (*Hon. Chinedu Ogah — Ikwo/Ezza South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In line 4, immediately after the words “Local Government Areas”, *insert* the words “including other regions of the country with similar incidents” (*Hon. Okafor Dominic Ifeanyi — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the previous efforts of the government of Gombe State in intervening in the annual clashes between farmers and herders which have consistently resulted in losses of lives and properties during harvest periods in Yamaltu-Deba Local Government Area;

Also noted that these efforts are yet to yield significant results since the annual clashes have continued to reoccur regrettably;

Worried that such a development has threatened the peace and security in the area and neighbouring States of Adamawa, Taraba and Benue and has negatively impacted food sufficiency because farming and other economic activities have been affected negatively;

Concerned that the cattle routes have been encroached upon by the newly constructed Mohammed Buhari Industrial Park on the same routes;

Also worried that with the upcoming harvest season, a reoccurrence will continue if nothing tangible is done in terms of urgent intervention;

Also concerned that social economic development, security and the general wellbeing of the populace are so dear and paramount;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Gombe State Government, the youths, Local Government Chairmen and relevant stakeholders with a view to finding a lasting solution to the reoccurring clashes between farmers and herders in Yamaltu-Deba and neighbouring Local Government Areas, including other regions of the country with similar incidents (**HR. 16/07/2023**).

9. Need to Address the Erosion in Abobiri, Anyam, Otuobhi, Ologi and Okiki Communities in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that over 60 per cent of communities in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State are situated along the Coastal Belt which make them prone to threats, the worst affected are Abobiri, Anyama, Otuobhi, Ologi and Okiki communities all of Ogbia Local Government Area;

Also notes that the Coastal Erosion is gradually washing away private and public buildings resulting in the loss of Properties worth millions of Naira;

Worried that due to the menace, the inhabitants of the communities are in grave danger as many have been rendered homeless, economic and commercial activities grounded, many displaced and ancestral homes and graves wiped away;

Also worried that the entire existence of the residents of the communities are greatly threatened;

Concerned that victims are forcefully migrating to seek refuge in strange lands thus exposing them to untold hardship, poverty and avoidable conflicts;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment Ecological Funds Office, Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and other relevant agencies to take steps at mitigating the erosion by Dredging, Piling and Shoreline Protection;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide immediate relief materials to ameliorate the sufferings of the People;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Environment, Ecological Funds, Niger Delta Ministry, Niger Delta Development Commission and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mitema Obodor — Ogbia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:

“Urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to carry out a comprehensive review of erosion encroachments in various parts of the country” (*Hon. Chris Nkwonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that over 60 per cent of Communities in Ogbia Federal Constituency of Bayelsa State are situated along the Coastal Belt which make them prone to erosion threats, the worst affected are Abobiri, Anyama, Otuobhi, Ologi and Okiki Communities all of Ogbia Federal Constituency;

Also noted that the Coastal Erosion is gradually washing away private and public buildings resulting in the loss of Properties worth millions of naira;

Worried that due to the menace, the inhabitants of the Communities are in grave danger as many have been rendered homeless, economic and commercial activities grounded, many displaced and ancestral homes and graves wiped away;

Also worried that the entire existence of the residents of the Communities are greatly threatened;

Concerned that victims are forcefully migrating to seek refuge in strange lands thus exposing them to untold hardship, poverty and avoidable conflicts;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment Ecological Funds Office, Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and other relevant agencies to take steps at mitigating the erosion by Dredging, Piling and Shoreline Protection;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide immediate relief materials to ameliorate the sufferings of the People;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to carry out a comprehensive review of erosion encroachments in various parts of the country;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Environment, Ecological Funds, Niger Delta Ministry, Niger Delta Development Commission and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 17/07/2023**).

10. Need to Address the Incessant Killings and Kidnappings by Herdsmen and Bandits in Ose Local Government Area of Ondo State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the persistent killings and kidnappings of innocent citizens of Ijagba, Imoru, Molete, Arimogija, Ute and Okeluse axis in Ose Local Government Area by herdsmen and bandits who had kept the communities in the perpetual siege and bondage leading to wanton loss of lives, properties and farmland;

Also notes that in the last two years over fifty innocent lives had been lost, with several kidnapped and unaccounted for, including the recent kidnap of Mr Saac Ohimeren and his son Solomon Ohimeren, while his father was murdered the son was released after the payment of N400,000 Ransom;

Recalls that in the same Local Government one of the foremost traditional ruler of the State, the late Oba Israel Adeusi, the Olufon of Ifon was shot dead while returning from a function in the State Capital on 26 November, 2020;

Also recalls that Mr Bola Adelegbe, a former Chairman of Ose Local Government Area was kidnapped on 23 April, 2023, on the same route has not been released despite payment of substantial amount for his ransom;

Aware that the bandits and herdsmen are still operating unhindered in the forest reserved spanning about 10km behind Okeluse where they have converted to their permanent base to perpetuate their heinous crime against those innocent communities;

Observes that members of the communities who are mostly farmers have been denied access to farms and means of livelihood due to persistent attacks by herdsmen;

Conscious that ensuring security and welfare of the people is the primary purpose of the government under Section 14 (2) (b) of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to set up a well-equipped and properly motivated joints Security task force to address the Okeluse Forest reserve menace squarely;
- (ii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police to urgently dispatch enough personnel to the troubled communities to keep the herdsmen at bay and to thoroughly investigate the whereabouts of Mr Bola Adelegbe, the kidnapped former Chairman of Ose Local Government Area;
- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency send relief materials to the affected communities that were not able to access their farmland;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and National Security and Intelligence (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Adelegbe Oluwatimehin Emmanuel — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the persistent killings and kidnappings of innocent citizens of Ijagba, Imoru, Molete, Arimogija, Ute and Okeluse axis in Ose Local Government Area by herdsmen and bandits who had kept the communities in the perpetual siege and bondage leading to wanton loss of lives, properties and farmland;

Also noted that in the last two years over fifty innocent lives had been lost, with several kidnapped and unaccounted for, including the recent kidnap of Mr Saac Ohimeren and his son Solomon Ohimeren, while his father was murdered the son was released after the payment of N400,000 Ransom;

Recalled that in the same Local Government one of the foremost traditional ruler of the State, the late Oba Israel Adeusi, the Olufon of Ifon was shot dead while returning from a function in the State Capital on 26 November, 2020;

Also recalled that Mr Bola Adelegbe, a former Chairman of Ose Local Government kidnapped on 23 April 2023, on the same route has not been released despite payment of substantial amount for his ransom;

Aware that the bandit and herdsmen are still operating unhindered in the forest reserved spanning about 10km behind Okeluse where they have converted to their permanent base to perpetuate their heinous crime against these innocent communities;

Observed that members of the communities who are mostly farmers have been denied access to farms and means of livelihood due to persistent attacks by herdsmen;

Conscious that ensuring security and welfare of the people is the primary purpose of the government under Section 14 (2) (b) of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to set up a well-equipped and properly motivated joint Security task force to address the Okeluse Forest reserve menace squarely;
- (ii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police to urgently dispatch enough personnel to the troubled communities to keep the herdsmen at bay and to thoroughly investigate the whereabouts of Mr Bola Adelegbe, the kidnapped former Chairman of Ose Local Government Area;
- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency send relief materials to the affected communities that were not able to access their farmland;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and National Security and Intelligence (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 18/07/2023**).

11. Need to Investigate Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Parastatals and Tertiary Institutions on Mismanagement of Personnel Recruitment, Employment Racketeering and Gross Mismanagement of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS)
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government of Nigeria has numerous Ministries, Departments, Agencies, Parastatals, Institutions, etc and currently these public bodies represent the biggest employers of labour in Nigeria;

Also notes that the overhead of these public institutions constitutes a major component in the Budget of the Federal Government of Nigeria. Hence, employment in the Federal Public Service has historically been a channel through which the Federal Government makes social interventions, stabilizes society, reduces poverty and increases its access to all parts of Nigeria. This, therefore, underscores the essence and the importance of managing the process of recruitment and payment of civil servants and public officers;

Recalls that, notwithstanding this near-sacred role being played by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the process of recruiting and employment into the civil service has become one that is fraught with endemic corruption. Public Institutions have since stopped the process of advertising for jobs and vacancies. Even in the few instances where adverts are published, the slots are already commoditized and available for the highest bidders. In other words, most public institutions now sell employment positions, notwithstanding the qualification of the applicant and the ability of the applicant to perform optimally on the job;

Further notes that this poses a major risk and has indeed constituted itself into a channel for the underperformance of the Nigerian public service. Historically and specifically, since 1960 - the 1990s, Nigeria boasted of one of the best crops of public servants in the world and service delivery was at the highest level of professionalism. However, this situation has since changed, largely because of the method of recruitment and the quality of recruitment into these public institutions, which is driven by fraud, abuse, corruption and pecuniary considerations;

Observes that despite the decay occasioned by the above, the Federal Government had tried to address other abuses within the system particularly, the menace of Ghost workers, which necessitated the introduction of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) to help fish out the large number of ghost workers;

Also observes that the introduction of these reforms, most Ministries, Departments and Agencies, in collusion with the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation and the Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning have devised methods to insert ghost workers and get payments through back-door channels. They have also crafted methods that are being used to circumvent the BVN technology. This state of affairs is costing the Federal Government of Nigeria, billions of Naira monthly in salary payments to Ghost workers and in illegal payments to several civil servants across cadres;

Worried that as things stand now, the Federal Government is not getting value for money, rather it is losing both in quality, quantity and substance across recruitment and payment of personnel. Even more worrisome is that some staff members that have been legitimately employed, have not received salaries for months and years, despite the fact that they were recruited legally into the Federal Civil Service;

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to investigate these challenges, the morale of most civil servants will be completely dampened, the Federal Government will continue to lose billions in monthly payments to Ghost workers and illegal payments and the nation will continue to be serviced by unqualified workers trooping into various sectors within the Federal Civil Service;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the various MDAs, Parastatals, and Tertiary Institutions concerning the enumerated issues and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Oluwole Busayo Oke — Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Government of Nigeria has numerous Ministries, Departments, Agencies, Parastatals, Institutions, etc and currently these public bodies represent the biggest employers of labour in Nigeria;

Also noted that the overhead of these public institutions constitutes a major component in the Budget of the Federal Government of Nigeria. Hence, employment in the Federal Public Service has historically been a channel through which the Federal Government makes social interventions, stabilizes society, reduces poverty and increases its access to all parts of Nigeria. This, therefore, underscores the essence and the importance of managing the process of recruitment and payment of civil servants and public officers;

Recalled that, notwithstanding this near-sacred role being played by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the process of recruiting and employment into the civil service has become one that is fraught with endemic corruption. Public Institutions have since stopped the process of advertising for jobs and vacancies. Even in the few instances where adverts are published, the slots are already commoditized and available for the highest bidders. In other words, most public institutions now sell employment positions, notwithstanding the qualification of the applicant and the ability of the applicant to perform optimally on the job;

Further noted that this poses a major risk and has indeed constituted itself into a channel for the underperformance of the Nigerian public service. Historically and specifically, since 1960 - the 1990s, Nigeria boasted of one of the best crops of public servants in the world and service delivery was at the highest level of professionalism. However, this situation has since changed, largely because of the method of recruitment and the quality of recruitment into these public institutions, which is driven by fraud, abuse, corruption and pecuniary considerations;

Observed that despite the decay occasioned by the above, the Federal Government had tried to address other abuses within the system particularly, the menace of Ghost workers, which necessitated the introduction of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) to help fish out the large number of ghost workers;

Also observed that the introduction of these reforms, most Ministries, Departments and Agencies, in collusion with the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation and the Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning have devised methods to insert ghost workers and get payments through back-door channels. They have also crafted methods that are being used to circumvent the BVN technology. This state of affairs is costing the Federal Government of Nigeria, billions of Naira monthly in salary payments to Ghost workers and in illegal payments to several civil servants across cadres;

Worried that as things stand now, the Federal Government is not getting value for money, rather it is losing both in quality, quantity and substance across recruitment and payment of personnel. Even more worrisome is that some staff members that have been legitimately employed, have not received salaries for months and years, despite the fact that they were recruited legally into the Federal Civil Service;

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to investigate these challenges, the morale of most civil servants will be completely dampened, the Federal Government will continue to lose billions in monthly payments to Ghost workers and illegal payments and the nation will continue to be serviced by unqualified workers trooping into various sectors within the Federal Civil Service;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the various MDAs, Parastatals, and Tertiary Institutions concerning the enumerated issues and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 19/07/2023**).

Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Parastatals and Tertiary Institutions on Mismanagement of Personnel Recruitment, Employment Racketeering and Gross Mismanagement of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) (HR. 19/07/2023):

(1)	Hon. Amobi Ogah	—	<i>Member</i>
(2)	Hon. Odi Okojie	—	<i>Member</i>
(3)	Hon. Abiodun Akinlade	—	<i>Member</i>
(4)	Hon. Clement Jimbo	—	<i>Member</i>
(5)	Hon. Alex Egbona	—	<i>Member</i>
(6)	Hon. Zakaria David	—	<i>Member</i>
(7)	Hon. Ikenga Ugo Chinyere	—	<i>Member</i>
(8)	Hon. Sanni Ibrahim Tanko	—	<i>Member</i>
(9)	Hon. Mark Bako Useni	—	<i>Member</i>
(10)	Hon. Ibori-Suenu Erhiatake	—	<i>Member</i>
(11)	Hon. Ibrahim Bukar	—	<i>Member</i>
(12)	Hon. Paul Shehu Obed	—	<i>Member</i>
(13)	Hon. Peter Ibrahim Syendeng	—	<i>Member</i>
(14)	Hon. Jajere Muhammed Buba	—	<i>Member</i>
(15)	Hon. Olaide Lateef Mohammed	—	<i>Member</i>
(16)	Hon. Odimayo Okunjimi John	—	<i>Member</i>
(17)	Hon. Taofeek Ajilesoro	—	<i>Member</i>
(18)	Hon. Paul Kalejaiye Adeboye	—	<i>Member</i>
(19)	Hon. Kobis Thimnu	—	<i>Member</i>
(20)	Hon. Josua Obika Chinedu	—	<i>Member</i>
(21)	Hon. Jallo Hussaini	—	<i>Member</i>
(22)	Hon. Chiroma Mohammed Garba	—	<i>Member</i>
(23)	Hon. Okafor Dominic	—	<i>Member</i>

(24)	Hon. Chinedu Ogah	—	<i>Member</i>
(25)	Hon. Paul Nnamchi Sunday	—	<i>Member</i>
(26)	Hon. Garba Koko Salisu	—	<i>Member</i>
(27)	Hon. Yerima Bakura	—	<i>Member</i>
(28)	Hon. Makki Yalleman	—	<i>Member</i>
(29)	Hon. Victor Obuzor	—	<i>Member</i>
(30)	Hon. Aminu Jamo	—	<i>Member</i>
(31)	Hon. Tunji Olanrewaju	—	<i>Member</i>
(32)	Hon. Mahmud Abdullahi	—	<i>Member</i>
(33)	Hon. Jeremiah Umaru	—	<i>Member</i>
(34)	Hon. Blessing Onuh Onyeche	—	<i>Member</i>
(35)	Hon. Kalambaina Abdullahi Ahmad	—	<i>Member</i>
(36)	Hon. Frederick Agbedi	—	<i>Member</i>
(37)	Hon. Fatoba Steve Olusola	—	<i>Member</i>

12. Need to Roll out Measures to cushion the effect of Fuel Subsidy Removal on the Citizens

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

13. Need to Locate Pillar 113A in the Demarcation and Ceding of Danare and Biajua Communities in Boki Local Government Area of Cross Rivers State of Nigeria to the Republic of Cameroon

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on October 10, 2002, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled that the proprietorship of the Bakassi peninsula belongs to Cameroon, due to an agreement between the governments of Nigeria and Cameroon during the civil war;

Also notes that in July 2012, the Supreme Court ruled that Cross River State had no right of ownership of over 76 oil wells due to the loss of its littoral status when portions of the peninsula were ceded to Cameroon by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the apex court stated that Cross River State no longer had maritime territory and consequently could not claim offshore oil wells;

Further notes that the ICJ ruling decides the retracing of the Cameroon-Nigeria International Boundary line from the Lake Chad region (Yola) to the Atlantic Ocean (Bakassi), subsequently United Nations (UN) set up two Committees to implement the judgment which led to the establishment of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC), made up of representatives from Nigeria, Cameroon and officials of the United Nations;

Aware that the Nigeria delegation was led by the Attorney-General of the Federation while Cameroon was represented by the Deputy Prime Minister;

Also aware that the fieldwork which involves the location of the boundary points and placement of boundary pillars by the judgment was undertaken by a Joint Technical Team (JTT), a sub-body of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, with both countries;

Representatives on the JTT while technical expertise is supplied by a foreign contractor and paid by the CNMC;

Cognizant that the field exercise or demarcation conducted by the JTT must be an adopted demarcation in any sector considered valid and conclusive by the CNMC;

Also cognizant that according to the Anglo-German Agreement of the Cameroon-Nigeria boundary of 12 April, 1913, a total of 114 boundary pillars from the Lake Chad region (Yola Adamawa State) to Agbokim in Etung Local Government of Area of Cross River State, planted by the Anglo-German

had serial numbers written on the pillars, six of the boundary pillars fall within the Danare community in Boki Local Government Area of Cross Rivers State, the international boundary its include; 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, and 113A respectively;

Further aware that the Anglo-German Agreement clearly states that the contextual pillar 113A is 9.6 Km from pillar 113 into the forest leading to pillar 114 that fall in Agbokim in Etung Local Government Area;

Worried that the JTT has not located pillar 113A and not tracing pillar 113A they are planning to adopt a straight-line method and which would lead to losing Danare and Biajua communities and about 7,000-10,000 hectares of land in the Boki Area of Cross Rivers State to the Republic of Cameroon;

Also notes that the ICJ judgment adopted the Anglo-German boundary of 1913 as the boundary between the two countries, the job of the CNMC through the JTT, therefore, was to locate this boundary and reinforce it for certainty. under the principles of federalism, natural justice, and equity, the Federal Government has the responsibility to protect the territorial integrity of all federating units, and not unilaterally cede, sell, mortgage, or allocate any part of a federating unit to another country without the consent of the House;

Worried that the lack of concerted effort by the JTT to trace a critical pillar point that will determine the correct boundary line has generated controversy. It is a worrisome situation, that even when the team understands that they are lacking in their assignment because a critical pillar is yet to be retraced, instead of the team going back and doing the needful, they decided to propose a straight-line projection to close the gap between pillar 113 to 114;

Also worried that if urgent actions are not taken by the Federal Government the entire country will lose the good people of Danare, Biajua in Boki LGA, and some parts of Obanliku LGA of Cross River State to the Republic of Cameroon;

Concerned that Cross River State may lose the good people of Danare and Biajua Communities in Boki LGA, and their ancestral heritage of the land that they have protected all their lives to the Republic of Cameroon against their wishes and desires;

Also concerned that, the missing pillar 113A may have been deliberately removed by the Cameroonian government in their plot to take over the land and the people of Danare and Biajua communities, that if a country like Nigeria keeps losing her people, lands, and natural and mineral resources to her neighbouring countries, one day we may not have a place called Nigeria

Resolves to:

- (i) urge Cameroon - Nigeria Mixed Commission to report the Anglo-German Agreement of 1913 as adopted by the ICJ by tracing and maintaining the original location of the pillar 113A in the forest;
- (ii) invite the Director-General of the National Boundary Commission and Surveyor-General of the Federation to explain why pillar 113A has not been found;
- (iii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate and assess the case of potential land encroachment by the Cameroonian Government and consult with legal experts, land surveyors, and other relevant professionals to ensure a thorough understanding of the technical aspect involved in resolving the encroachment (*Hon. Victor Bisong Abang — Ikom/Boki Federal Constituency and 7 Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on October 10, 2002, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled that the proprietorship of the Bakassi peninsula belongs to Cameroon, due to an agreement between the governments of Nigeria and Cameroon during the civil war;

Also noted that in July 2012, the Supreme Court ruled that Cross River State had no right of ownership of over 76 oil wells due to the loss of its littoral status when portions of the peninsula were ceded to Cameroon by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the apex court stated that Cross River State no longer had maritime territory and consequently could not claim offshore oil wells;

Further noted that the ICJ ruling decides the retracing of the Cameroon-Nigeria International Boundary Line from the Lake Chad region (Yola) to the Atlantic Ocean (Bakassi), subsequently United Nations (UN) set up two Committees to implement the judgment which led to the establishment of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC), made up of representatives from Nigeria, Cameroon and officials of the United Nations;

Aware that the Nigeria delegation was led by the Attorney-General of the Federation while Cameroon was represented by the Deputy Prime Minister;

Also aware that the fieldwork which involves the location of the boundary points and placement of boundary pillars by the judgment was undertaken by a Joint Technical Team (JTT), a sub-body of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, with both countries;

Representatives on the JTT while technical expertise is supplied by a foreign contractor and paid by the CNMC;

Cognizant that the field exercise or demarcation conducted by the JTT must be an adopted demarcation in any sector considered valid and conclusive by the CNMC;

Also cognizant that according to the Anglo-German Agreement of the Cameroon-Nigeria boundary of 12 April, 1913, a total of 114 boundary pillars from the Lake Chad region (Yola Adamawa State) to Agbokim in Etung Local Government of Area of Cross River State, planted by the Anglo-German had serial numbers written on the pillars, six of the boundary pillars fall within the Danare community in Boki Local Government Area of Cross Rivers State, the international boundary its include; 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, and 113A respectively;

Further aware that the Anglo-German Agreement clearly states that the contextual pillar 113A is 9.6 Km from pillar 113 into the forest leading to pillar 114 that fall in Agbokim in Etung Local Government Area;

Worried that the JTT has not located pillar 113A and not tracing pillar 113A they are planning to adopt a straight-line method and which would lead to losing Danare and Biajua communities and about 7,000-10,000 hectares of land in the Boki Area of Cross Rivers State to the Republic of Cameroon;

Also noted that the ICJ judgment adopted the Anglo-German boundary of 1913 as the boundary between the two countries, the job of the CNMC through the JTT, therefore, was to locate this boundary and reinforce it for certainty. under the principles of federalism, natural justice, and equity, the Federal Government has the responsibility to protect the territorial integrity of all federating units, and not unilaterally cede, sell, mortgage, or allocate any part of a federating unit to another country without the consent of the House;

Worried that the lack of concerted effort by the JTT to trace a critical pillar point that will determine

the correct boundary line has generated controversy. It is a worrisome situation, that even when the team understands that they are lacking in their assignment because a critical pillar is yet to be retraced, instead of the team going back and doing the needful, they decided to propose a straight-line projection to close the gap between pillar 113 to 114;

Also worried that if urgent actions are not taken by the federal government the entire country will lose the good people of Danare, Biajua in Boki LGA, and some parts of Obanliku LGA of Cross River State to the Republic of Cameroon;

Concerned that Cross River State may lose the good people of Danare and Biajua Communities in Boki LGA, and their ancestral heritage of the land that they have protected all their lives to the Republic of Cameroon against their wishes and desires;

Also concerned that, the missing pillar 113A may have been deliberately removed by the Cameroonian government in their plot to take over the land and the people of Danare and Biajua communities, that if a country like Nigeria keeps losing her people, lands, and natural and mineral resources to her neighbouring countries, one day we may not have a place called Nigeria

Resolved to:

- (i) urge Cameroon - Nigeria Mixed Commission to report the Anglo-German Agreement of 1913 as adopted by the ICJ by tracing and maintaining the original location of the pillar 113A in the forest;
- (ii) invite the Director-General of the National Boundary Commission and Surveyor-General of the Federation to explain why pillar 113A has not been found;
- (iii) set up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate and assess the case of potential land encroachment by the Cameroonian Government and consult with legal experts, land surveyors, and other relevant professionals to ensure a thorough understanding of the technical aspect involved in resolving the encroachment (HR. 20/07/2023).

Ad-hoc Committee to investigate and assess the case of potential land encroachment by the Cameroonian Government and consult with legal experts, land surveyors, and other relevant professionals to ensure a thorough understanding of the technical aspect involved in resolving the encroachment (HR. 20/07/2023):

(1)	Hon. Beni Lar	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Ahmed Jaha	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Victor Abang	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Bassey Akeba	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Joseph Bassey	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Patrick Umoh	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Kuye Ademorin	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Sada Soli	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Chris Nkwonta	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Abubakar Suleiman Gummi	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Billy Osawary	—	Member
(12)	Hon. Oluwatimehin Adelegbe	—	Member
(13)	Hon. Akin Alabi	—	Member
(14)	Hon. Ibe Nwasonwa	—	Member
(15)	Hon. M. D. Hassan	—	Member
(16)	Hon. Jonas Okeke	—	Member
(17)	Hon. Matthew Nwogu	—	Member
(18)	Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante	—	Member
(19)	Hon. Aliyu Ibrahim Almustapha	—	Member
(20)	Hon. Abdulmaleek Adbulraheem Danga	—	Member

(21)	Hon. Aliyu Boya	—	<i>Member</i>
(22)	Hon. Sunday Umeha	—	<i>Member</i>
(23)	Hon. Agbodike Pascal	—	<i>Member</i>
(24)	Hon. Sani Bala	—	<i>Member</i>
(25)	Hon. Mohammed Salihu Gire	—	<i>Member</i>

14. Need to Establish Internally Displaced Person Camps in Anka, Bukkuyum, Birnin-Magaji, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Tsafe and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the persistent banditry, kidnappings for ransom, killings and displacement of indigenes and residents of Anka, Bukkuyum, Birnin-Magaji, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Tsafe and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State has negatively affected the people;

Also notes that resulting from the attacks, the people have been forced to abandon their homes, farms and convert some primary or secondary schools into IDP camps where families are currently living, albeit in continuous fear;

Aware that the occupation of the schools as IDP Camps was as a result of a lack of transit or IDP camps in the affected areas;

Concerned that the continuous occupation and conversion of the schools into IDP camps have prevented children from using their classrooms for learning, thus they have remained at home for a long time without access to education;

Worried that the continuous deprivation of the children of their right to education may lead to undesirable consequences of them becoming liabilities to society in the future;

Cognizant of the fact that part of the "renewed hope" theme of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu Administration covers access to quality and timely education, among others;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to urgently build Internally Displaced Persons camps and relocate the internally displaced persons and vacate the schools so that the children can resume learning immediately;
- (ii) also urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally displaced persons to ensure building of appropriate IDPs Camps and equipping them with basic facilities to accommodate the displaced persons in Anka, Bukkuyum, Birnin-Magaji, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Tsafe and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State;
- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide basic relief materials for the victims after their relocation to their permanent IDP camps;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Refugees (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the persistent banditry, kidnappings for ransom, killings and displacement of indigenes and residents of Anka, Bukkuyum, Birnin-Magaji, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Tsafe and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State has negatively affected the people;

Also noted that resulting from the attacks, the people have been forced to abandon their homes, farms and convert some primary or secondary schools into IDP camps where families are currently living, albeit in continuous fear;

Aware that the occupation of the schools as IDP Camps was as a result of a lack of transit or IDP camps in the affected areas;

Concerned that the continuous occupation and conversion of the schools into IDP camps have prevented children from using their classrooms for learning, thus they have remained at home for a long time without access to education;

Worried that the continuous deprivation of the children of their right to education may lead to undesirable consequences of them becoming liabilities to society in the future;

Cognizant of the fact that part of the "renewed hope" theme of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu Administration covers access to quality and timely education, among others;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to urgently build Internally Displaced Persons camps and relocate the internally displaced persons and vacate the schools so that the children can resume learning immediately;
- (ii) also urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally displaced persons to ensure building of appropriate IDPS Camps and equipping them with basic facilities to accommodate the displaced persons in Anka, Bukkuyum, Birnin-Magaji, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Tsafe and Zurmi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State;
- (iii) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide basic relief materials for the victims after their relocation to their permanent IDP camps;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Refugees (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (**HR. 21/07/2023**).

15. Call to Investigate the Alleged Manipulation of Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) by the Joint Admission And Matriculation Board (JAMB) by Miss Ejikeme

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) is primarily charged with the general control of the conduct of Matriculation Examinations for admissions into Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education in Nigeria;

Also notes that graduating Secondary School leavers and others with prerequisite WAEC, NECO and other qualifying results apply to sit for the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) through the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) every year to gain admission into Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education;

Further notes that students who sat for the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) are expected to log into the JAMB portal to check their results once released by the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board;

Aware that Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma of Anglican Girls Secondary School, Nnewi, Anambra State sat for the 2023 Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations and scored 362;

Also aware that on 2 July, 2023 JAMB, Head of Public Affairs and Protocol, Dr Fabian Benjamin made a public pronouncement accusing Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma of manipulating her UTME results that she actually scored 249 instead of the 362 as claimed;

Further aware that Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma came out to defend herself, that she actually printed the result from the JAMB portal and had been a brilliant child all through her Nursery and Tertiary education, coming first in all the Examinations she has been taken before the UTME, hence she posited that she is not capable of manipulating her UTME result;

Cognizant of the fact that uploading or downloading result of examinations or polls electronically, in Nigeria, glitches can occur at any time, hence the need to establish the facts before any blames;

Worried that Dr. Fabian Benjamin, JAMB Head of Public Affairs and Protocol alleged that some of the 2023 UTME Candidates are parading fake scores in order to get undue advantage from the public, hence the need to investigate the allegation;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the alleged manipulation of UTME results by Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma and report within one (1) week (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante — Andoni/Opobo Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

(i) *Insert* a Prayer (ii) as follows:

“Urge the JAMB and its Management to desist from taking further steps on the matter pending the outcome of the investigation” (*Hon. Ali Isa J.C. — Balanga/Billiri Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ii) In the Prayer, *leave out* the words and figure “one (1) week”, and *insert* the words and figure “three (3) weeks” (*Hon. Ugonna Ozurigbo — Nkwere/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(iii) *Insert* a Prayer (iii) as follows:

“Mandate the *Ad-hoc* Committee to examine JAMB’s UTME and result issuance processes in order to identify potential loopholes or vulnerabilities that may have allowed for such incident” (*Hon. Chijioke Okereke — Aninri/Awgu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(iv) *Insert* a Prayer (iv) as follows:

“Mandate the *Ad-hoc* Committee to recommend appropriate actions to address identified shortcomings, enhance the security and credibility of examination and result issuance process of JAMB, and prevent similar occurrence in the future” (*Hon. Chijioke Okereke — Aninri/Awgu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(v) *Insert a Prayer (v) as follows:*

“Urge JAMB to soften on the 3 years ban imposed on Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma until the investigation is concluded” (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(vi) *Insert a Prayer (vi) as follows:*

“Mandate the Committee on Human Rights (when constituted) to investigate the matter by interfacing with the Federal Ministry of Education and the Nigeria Police to to engage External Examiners to ascertain her true score” (*Hon. Uchenna Eleodimmuo — Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) is primarily charged with the general control of the conduct of Matriculation Examinations for admissions into Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education in Nigeria;

Also noted that graduating Secondary School leavers and others with prerequisite WAEC, NECO and other qualifying results apply to sit for the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) through the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) every year to gain admission into Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education;

Further noted that students who sat for the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) are expected to log into the JAMB portal to check their results once released by the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board;

Aware that Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma of Anglican Girls Secondary School, Nnewi, Anambra State sat for the 2023 Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations and scored 362;

Also aware that on 2 July, 2023 JAMB, Head of Public Affairs and Protocol, Dr. Fabian Benjamin made a public pronouncement accusing Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma of manipulating her UTME results that she actually scored 249 instead of the 362 as claimed;

Further aware that Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma came out to defend herself, that she actually printed the result from the JAMB portal and had been a brilliant child all through her Nursery and Tertiary education, coming first in all the Examinations she has been taken before the UTME, hence she posited that she is not capable of manipulating her UTME result;

Cognizant of the fact that uploading or downloading result of examinations or polls electronically, in Nigeria, glitches can occur at any time, hence the need to establish the facts before any blames;

Worried that Dr. Fabian Benjamin, JAMB Head of Public Affairs and Protocol alleged that some of the 2023 UTME Candidates are parading fake scores in order to get undue advantage from the public, hence the need to investigate the allegation;

Resolved to:

- (i) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to:
 - (a) investigate the alleged manipulation of UTME results by Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma,
 - (b) examine JAMB's UTME and result issuance processes in order to identify potential loopholes or vulnerabilities that may have allowed for such incident,
 - (c) recommend appropriate actions to address identified shortcomings, enhance the security and credibility of examination and result issuance process of JAMB, prevent similar occurrence in the future and report within three (3) weeks;
- (ii) urge the JAMB and its Management to desist from taking further steps on the matter pending the outcome of the investigation;
- (v) also urge JAMB to soften on the 3 years ban imposed on Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma until the investigation is concluded;
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Human Rights (*when constituted*) to investigate the matter by interfacing with the Federal Ministry of Education and the Nigeria Police to engage External Examiners to ascertain her true score (**HR. 22/07/2023**).

Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Alleged Manipulation of Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) by the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) by Miss Ejikeme (HR. 22/07/2023):

(1)	Hon. Sada Soli	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Obiageli Orugbo	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Nnamchi Paul Sunday	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Remi Oseni	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Dennis Idahosa	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Abubakar Fulata Hassan	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Kuye Ademorin	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Anderson Allison	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Aguocha Obinna	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Paul Gowon	—	Member
(12)	Hon. Dennis Agbo	—	Member
(13)	Hon. Ambiowei Rodney Ebikebina	—	Member

16. Need to Rehabilitate the Failed Portions of the Ovia River Bridge along the Benin-Lagos

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Ovia River Bridge is very strategic on the Lagos-Benin Expressway and a gateway to major parts of the country;

Aware that presently there are failed portions on the road which has become notorious for multiple accidents resulting in severe injuries, loss of lives of innocent hardworking Nigerians and properties running into millions of Naira on a weekly basis;

Also aware that on 29 June, 2023 all passengers of an eighteen seater vehicle including a little baby died in an accident on Ovia bridge killing over two hundred persons;

Worried about the untold hardships faced by commuters due to the unending gridlock on the failed portion of the road spanning kilometres;

Concerned that the bridge serves as a major route for the transportation of goods and services to various parts of the country, but the failed portions on the bridge have affected the delivery services, thus affecting economic development y of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of those who died in the accidents on Ovia River Bridge and the families who lost their loved ones in road accidents;
- (ii) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to immediately commence rehabilitation of the failed portions of Ovia River Bridge on the Lagos Benin Ore expressway to avert accidents and unending gridlock to save the lives;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Road Safety Commission to immediately remove all damaged and accidented vehicles from the bridge and around the failed portion;
- (iv) mandate the **Committees on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Legislative Compliance** (when constituted) to ensure compliance (Hon. Dennis Idahosa — Ovia North East/Ovia South West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 23/07/2023).

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

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

17. Need to Intervene on the Rampaging Herdsmen Attacks on Apa and Agatu Local Government Areas of Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Apa and Agatu Local Government Areas of Benue State is an agrarian Community that gives credence to the Benue Slogan of "Food Basket of the Nation", a rich agricultural region where varieties of food crops are grown for the consumption of Benue people and Nigerians at large;

Worried that Apa/Agatu communities have been under serious siege by suspected herdsmen, killing scores of indigenes in the most vicious and heartless way leaving survivors to abandon their farmlands and displaced from their ancestral homes for fear of being killed;

Also notes that in the renewed attacks from 12 March 2023 and the recent destruction of farmlands, food crops and several means of livelihood worth millions of Naira leaving most communities displaced from over six wards namely, Okokolo ward, Odugbeho, Egba, Ogbaulu, Ikobi and Odugbo wards in the Constituency, thus loitering about in Obagaji Agatu Local Government and Ugbokpo, Apa Local Government Headquarters respectively;

Cognizant of the existence of a multi-dimensional relationship between human security, national security and food security, and attacks on farmers and farming communities like Apa and Agatu Local Government Areas will lead to a serious food crisis, higher rate of illiteracy and unemployment; resulting in continued economic, political, and environmental problems in Nigeria, which the current administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu is out to tackle;

Also worried that no perpetrator of the heinous attacks has been apprehended;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe one minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives in the recent attacks in mgbinyi, Abugbe, Ocholonya, okokolo, Ugboju, Odugbo, Ikobi and Atakpa communities of Apa/Agatu Federal Constituency;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police and other relevant security agencies to immediately move in to prevent further attacks and carry out a full-scale investigation of those dastard attacks with a view to arresting the perpetrators;
- (iii) also urge the Nigeria Navy to, as a matter of urgency mount a comprehensive surveillance at the Oweto bridge and all other waterways around the Federal Constituency to proactively forestall future attacks;
- (iv) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency, and the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management to quickly mobilize relief and rehabilitation materials to those many persons displaced by these recent attacks to ameliorate their sufferings;
- (v) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Navy (*when constituted*) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Ojotu Ojema — Apa/Agatu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

(HR. 24/07/2023).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

18. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 6 July, 2023 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.08 p.m.

Benjamin Okezie Kalu
Deputy Speaker