

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 5 March, 2025

- 1. The House met at 11.04 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
- 2. The House sang the National Anthem and recited the National Pledge.

3. Votes and Proceedings

Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 4 March, 2025.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. Announcement

(i) Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker announced the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Staff and Students of the British Oasis Academy, Ushafa, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of Hopemed International School, Suleja, Niger State.

(ii) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Ishaya David Lalu (*Bokkos/Mangu Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of a former Member, Hon. Justice Alfred Sagai (*Bokkos/Mangu Federal Constituency*, 1992 - 1993).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

5. Petitions

- (i) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (Oshodi/Isolo II Federal Constituency):
 - (a) Citizen Whistle Blower Coalition (CWC), on alleged delay in delivery of shipments, and other unholy practices by Mediterranean Shipping Company Nigeria Limited and Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A Geneva;

- (b) Aisha Shehu Korau on alleged threat to life by Mohammed Sabiu Garba of the Department of State Security Services;
- (ii) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Mudashiru Lukman Alani (Ayedire/Iwo/Ola-Oluwa Federal Constituency):
 - (a) K.I. Partners (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Tomiwa Oni, demanding for compensation on alleged gun shot by Police Officers from Itele Awori Divisional Police Station, Ogun State;
 - (b) McDoll Communications, on behalf of Justice Ubogo of Aradhe Community, Isoko South Local Government Area, Delta State on alleged conversion of crude oil well, trespass, and economic sabotage by Sterling Energy Exploration Production Company Limited;
- (iii) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Jajere Muhammed Buba (Fika/Fune Federal Constituency):
 - (a) McDoll Communications on behalf of Edwin Idowu Oluka, on the termination of his employment by Pillar Oil Limited;
 - (b) McDoll Communications, on behalf of Stephen Ilom on alleged non-payment of his compensation by Midwestern Oil and Gas Company Limited;
- (iv) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Omoruyi Murphy Osaro (Egor/Ikpoba/Okha Federal Constituency):
 - (a) McDoll Communications, on behalf of Olomu A. Hawkins on alleged non-compliance with Environmental Impact Assessment Act by Midwestern Oil and Gas Company Limited;
 - (b) Raphael Obasogie and one other, on alleged non allocation of subscribed housing units by Federal Housing Authority (FHA);
- (v) A petition from Daniel Etim Akpan, on the termination of his appointment by Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State, was presented and laid by Hon. Imeh Okon Bassey (*Itu/Ibiono Ibom Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition from Polaris Solicitors (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Mubi Concerned Citizens, on alleged corrupt practices by the Chairman of the 11th Governing Council of the Federal Polytechnic, Mubi, Adamawa State, was presented and laid by Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency);
- (vii) A petition from Ameh Isaac Enemona, on the termination of his appointment by the Nigerian Maritime Administration Safety Agency (NIMASA), was presented and laid by Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali (Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency);
- (viii) A petition from Samuel Ajayi & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Leke Joseph Abejide, on alleged contravention of FCT Building Codes by Ellyhome Design and Construction Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Shehu Hassan Hussain (Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

- 6. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Orders Eight, Rule 5)
 - (i) Need to Curb the Escalating Banditry/Kidnapping in Bakori and Danja Local Government Areas, Katsina State:

Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (*Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Need to Curb the Escalating Banditry/Kidnapping in Bakori and Danja Local Government Areas, Katsina State:

The House:

Notes that banditry remains a severe threat to the peace and stability of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency of Katsina State, which has led to the escalation of kidnapping incidents at Tsiga, Yanshuni, Kandarawa, and Lamido villages all in Bakori Local Government Area, where many people were abducted and are still being held in captivity while the abductors demand hundreds of millions from victims' families:

Also notes that the relentless banditry attacks/kidnapping have left residents in a state of fear, displacement, and economic hardship, resulting into families daily mourning their loved ones while survivors deal with severe psychological distress with heightened anxiety among resident making daily life uncertain and unsafe;

Cognizant that the protection of lives and property remain the primary responsibility of government, therefore the safety and security of residents in these communities remain ut most priority;

Concerned that the people of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency are living in constant fear and therefore look forward to a swift and decisive action to address their plights;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to direct security agencies to deploy additional personnel and resources to curb the incessant attacks in Bakori Local Government Area of Katsina Stare;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide urgent humanitarian assistants to the affected communities;
- (iii) further urge security agencies to conduct a comprehensive investigation into these attacks and ensure prosecution of perpetrators (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that banditry remains a severe threat to the peace and stability of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency of Katsina State, which has led to the escalation of kidnapping incidents at Tsiga, Yanshuni, Kandarawa, and Lamido villages all in Bakori Local Government Area, where many people were abducted and are still being held in captivity while the abductors demand hundreds of millions from victims' families;

Also noted that the relentless banditry attacks/kidnapping have left residents in a state of fear, displacement, and economic hardship, resulting into families daily mourning their loved ones while survivors deal with severe psychological distress with heightened anxiety among resident making daily life uncertain and unsafe;

Cognizant that the protection of lives and property remain the primary responsibility of government, therefore the safety and security of residents in these communities remain ut most priority;

Concerned that the people of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency are living in constant fear and therefore look forward to a swift and decisive action to address their plights;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to direct security agencies to deploy additional personnel and resources to curb the incessant attacks in Bakori Local Government Area of Katsina Stare;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide urgent humanitarian assistants to the affected communities;
- (iii) further urge security agencies to conduct a comprehensive investigation into these attacks and ensure prosecution of perpetrators (HR. 63/03/2025).

(ii) Need to Curb the Rate of Incessant Killings in Edo State:

Hon. Onobun Marcus Iziegbeaya (*Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency and Eight others*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Need to Curb the Rate of Incessant Killings in Edo State:

The House:

Aware that section 14 (2) (b) of the 1999 constitution expressly provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government;

Notes that Edo State is the heartbeat of the nation and home to diverse ethnic nationalities from different parts of the country who settle, work, school, and engage in various socio-economic activities within the State;

Disturbed that the heartbeat of the nation is losing its rhythmic pulse as the state has in recent times been clobbered by dire insecurity challenges; and according to a report published in the online Leadership Newspaper on 26 February, 2025, over 32 persons have lost their lives in the state due to the activities of Marauders, popularly referred to as "Killer Herdsmen";

Also notes that the report alleged that two Indigenous individuals in Okpekpe community in Etsako East Local Government Area of Edo State were gruesomely murdered on Monday, 24 February, 2025, by suspected killer Herdsmen. Similarly, the report also alleged that no fewer than 28 persons were left dead after a violent clash between Cocoa Farmers and Ijaw Militants in Ovia Southwest Local Government Area of Edo State, the head of Vigilante in Owan West and a child in Esan Central Local Government Area of Edo State;

Worried that these series of bloodbaths in Edo State has created an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear among the people of the State, affecting the socio-economic lives of the people;

Disturbed that the government of Edo seemed to have been overwhelmed by the spate and frequency of these killings, hence the need for the Executive Arm of Government to lend a helping hand to the State to curb this ugly menace;

Resolves to:

Urge the Inspector-General of Police to deploy additional security personnel and intensify intelligence gathering and surveillance operations in identified flashpoints within Edo State (Hon. Marcus Iziegbeaya Onobun — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that section 14 (2) (b) of the 1999 constitution expressly provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government;

Noted that Edo State is the heartbeat of the nation and home to diverse ethnic nationalities from different parts of the country who settle, work, school, and engage in various socio-economic activities within the State;

Disturbed that the heartbeat of the nation is losing its rhythmic pulse as the state has in recent times been clobbered by dire insecurity challenges; and according to a report published in the online Leadership Newspaper on 26 February, 2025, over 32 persons have lost their lives in the state due to the activities of Marauders, popularly referred to as "Killer Herdsmen";

Also noted that the report alleged that two Indigenous individuals in Okpekpe community in Etsako East Local Government Area of Edo State were gruesomely murdered on Monday, 24 February, 2025, by suspected killer Herdsmen. Similarly, the report also alleged that no fewer than 28 persons were left dead after a violent clash between Cocoa Farmers and Ijaw Militants in Ovia Southwest Local Government Area of Edo State, the head of Vigilante in Owan West and a child in Esan Central Local Government Area of Edo State;

Worried that these series of bloodbaths in Edo State has created an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear among the people of the State, affecting the socio-economic lives of the people;

Disturbed that the government of Edo seemed to have been overwhelmed by the spate and

frequency of these killings, hence the need for the Executive Arm of Government to lend a helping hand to the State to curb this ugly menace;

Resolved to:

Urge the Inspector-General of Police to deploy additional security personnel and intensify intelligence gathering and surveillance operations in identified flashpoints within Edo State (HR. 64/03/2025).

(iii) Invasion, Killing of Citizens, and Destruction of Crops in Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State by Elephants:

Hon. Victor Bisong Abang (*Ikom/Boki 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.

Invasion, Killing of Citizens, and Destruction of Crops in Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State by Elephants:

The House:

Notes that between January 6-15, 2025 and from February 8, 2025, till date, rampaging wild elephants have been invading Bamba, Butatong, and surrounding communities in Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State, killing citizens and destroying farmlands, economic trees, and crops worth millions of Naira;

Also notes that this alarming situation, caused by these wild animals from the forest areas of Okwangwo Division of Cross River National Park and Takamanda National Park in Cameroon, has brought untold hardship and fear to the people; many farmers can no longer access their farmlands due to the constant threat posed by these dangerous creatures;

Further notes that the Cross River National Park, particularly the Okwangwo Division, the affected area under its purview-remains the only surviving rainforest in Nigeria and represents the government's sole deliberate effort to conserve this vital ecosystem;

Aware that these communities, where lives were lost, and crops and livelihoods destroyed are an integral part of Nigeria and have lived in this area since the pre-colonial era, and they deserve the full protection and support of the government;

Worried that the continued killing of citizens and destruction of farmlands by these elephants has severely impacted the local economy and food security;

Concerned that if urgent measures are not taken by relevant authorities to protect the affected communities and their farmlands, frustrated locals may resort to self-help, endangering both human lives and the already threatened elephant population;

Resolves to:

(i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide emergency

relief materials to affected citizens to mitigate the hardship caused by this distressing incident:

- (ii) also urge all relevant authorities, especially the Nigerian Park Management Service (NPMS), to collaborate with their counterparts in Cameroon and deploy wildlife experts to the affected areas to contain these elephants and prevent further invasions of farmlands;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Environment, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (Hon. Victor Bisong Abang Ikom/Boki Federal Constituency)

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that between January 6-15, 2025 and from February 8, 2025, till date, rampaging wild elephants have been invading Bamba, Butatong, and surrounding communities in Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State, killing citizens and destroying farmlands, economic trees, and crops worth millions of Naira;

Also noted that this alarming situation, caused by these wild animals from the forest areas of Okwangwo Division of Cross River National Park and Takamanda National Park in Cameroon, has brought untold hardship and fear to the people; many farmers can no longer access their farmlands due to the constant threat posed by these dangerous creatures;

Further noted that the Cross River National Park, particularly the Okwangwo Division, the affected area under its purview-remains the only surviving rainforest in Nigeria and represents the government's sole deliberate effort to conserve this vital ecosystem;

Aware that these communities, where lives were lost, and crops and livelihoods destroyed are an integral part of Nigeria and have lived in this area since the pre-colonial era, and they deserve the full protection and support of the government;

Worried that the continued killing of citizens and destruction of farmlands by these elephants has severely impacted the local economy and food security;

Concerned that if urgent measures are not taken by relevant authorities to protect the affected communities and their farmlands, frustrated locals may resort to self-help, endangering both human lives and the already threatened elephant population;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide emergency relief materials to affected citizens to mitigate the hardship caused by this distressing incident;
- (ii) also urge all relevant authorities, especially the Nigerian Park Management Service (NPMS), to collaborate with their counterparts in Cameroon and deploy wildlife experts to the affected areas to contain these elephants and prevent further invasions of farmlands;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Environment, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR. 65/03/2025).

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the First Time:

- (1) Chartered Institute of Physical Asset and Infrastructure Management (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 1936).
- (2) Sheriffs and Civil Service Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 1895).
- (3) Prohibition of Open Urination and Defecation Bill, 2025 (HB. 1804).
- (4) University of Aerospace and Aeronautics, Oka–Akoko (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2061).

8. Presentation of Reports

(i) Committee on Health Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ankpa, Kogi State and for Related Matters (HB. 1855)" (Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Health Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish Federal Medical Centre, Wesley Guild, Ilesa, Osun State and for Related Matters (HB.1871)" (Hon. Patrick Umoh — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Yaba College of Technology, Lagos and Establish Federal University of Technology, Yaba to Provide Training and Teaching Instruction in every aspect of Education and such other Fields of Applied Learning Relevant to the Needs of the Development of Education in Nigeria, Matters of Administration and Discipline of Students and for Related Matters (HB.1910) — Second Reading

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 17 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the Standing Orders of the House.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Road Safety Commission Act to restrict the Movement of Oil Tankers and Heavy Goods Vehicles to Night Time Hours and for Related Matters (HB.2067) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ajasse-Ipo, Kwara State and for Related Matters (HB.1506) — Second Reading Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2022 to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Ajasse-Ipo, Kwara State and for Related Matters (HB.1506) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Adedayo Samuel Adesola — Apapa Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Agriculture, Kukawa, Borno State, to Provide Full - Time Courses Leading to the Award of Diploma, Higher Diploma in Agriculture and Allied Fields and be Responsible for the Due Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB.545) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Agriculture, Kukawa, Borno State, to Provide Full - Time Courses Leading to the Award of Diploma, Higher Diploma in Agriculture and Allied Fields and be Responsible for the Due Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB.545) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Mallam Bukar Gana — Kukawa/Mobbar/Abadam/Guzamala Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions.

13. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, 2007 to Replace Maritime Transport with Maritime Blue Economy and for Related Matters (HB.1573) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, 2007 to Replace Maritime Transport with Maritime Blue Economy and for Related Matters (HB.1573) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Kayode Moshood Akiolu — Lagos Island II Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Maritime Safety Education and Administration.

14. Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from Preceding Assembly

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 17 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the Standing Orders, the House may, upon being re-gazetted or circulated, reconsider in the Committee of the Whole, without commencing de-novo, the Bills:

- (a) whose report was presented by the Committee before consideration,
- (b) passed by the House and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negative,
- (c) passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negative, or

(d) passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding therefore was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the preceding Assembly;

Also notes that the under-listed Bills were passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

- (i) University of Aerospace and Aeronautics, Oka-Akoko (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB.2061),
- (ii) Federal University of Medicine and Health Science, Bida, Niger State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.771),

Aware that the Bills were read for the first time as HB. 2061 and HB. 771, respectively;

Resolves to:

Re-commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

15. Rehabilitation and Dualization of Ijebu -Ode - Ibadan Road

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that ljebu Ode-lbadan road is one of the major federal roads in the South-West Geo-Political Zone of Nigeria that connects both Ogun and Oyo States;

Also notes that the road connects several communities and Local Government Areas of both States and was constructed over four decades with low statistics of vehicular movement and population of that time:

Concerned that the 53kilometres road is extremely narrow and in a deplorable state necessitating immediate government intervention due to the present population density and vehicles traversing the road on daily basis; thereby hindering agricultural production and contribution of farmers to the nation food security and the economy;

Also concerned that the dilapidated state of the road has resulted in heavy vehicle traffic, making it a den for criminal activities;

Cognizant that the rehabilitation and dualization of the road will stimulate economic development, eradicate criminal activities on the road and improve the standards of living of the people;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to provide remedial support to the dilapidated parts of the road;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Works in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Works to include the rehabilitation and dualization of the 53 kilometres Ijebu Ode-lbadan road in the 2025 Supplementary budget, if any or the 2026 budget estimates;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Works to ensure strict compliance (Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan Ijebu North/Ijebu East/Ogun Waterside Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 66/03/2025).

Motion referred to the Committees on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Works, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

16. Need to Restore Nyamatsor Constituency of Benue State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 6 March, 2025 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 12.18 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen Speaker