



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 11 October, 2018

1. The House met at 11.17 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 10 October, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**
Visitors in the Gallery:
Mr Speaker recognised the presence of Staff and Students of *Unique Blossom Schools*, Maitama, Abuja.
4. **Petitions**
 - (i) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Rita Orji (Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency):
 - (a) Aggrieved Drivers on contract employment with Addax Petroleum Limited, on the termination of their employment by the company;
 - (b) U. C. Oparaugo & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Sam Okoye, on the alleged inhuman treatment meted out to his son, Ifeanyi Stanley George by Rev. Father Emmanuel Edeh (Founder, Madonna University) and four others;
 - (c) A. G. Atimosusani Esq. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Joseph Court and one other, on environmental pollution caused at Dodo North Egbemo community of Bayelsa State by Specialty Drilling Fluids Limited;
 - (d) Civil Liberties Organisation, on the alleged gross abuse of the provisions of the Nigerian Content Act by Topaz Dubai and Team Offshore Nigeria Limited;

- (ii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Oluwarotimi Agunsoye Ojo (*Kosofe Federal Constituency*):
- (a) Peter O. Obi and 16 others, on behalf of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) Residual Staff, over the non-payment of their outstanding five (5) months salary by the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing;
 - (b) Adiudu M. Ohanwe and 121 others, on behalf of subscribers to Micheno Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society, on the mismanagement of their deposit by the Cooperative Society;
- (iii) A petition from Find Law Chambers (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Concerned Families and Community Members of Rumuokwarusi/Obiakpor Local Government Area of Rivers State, on the alleged forceful acquisition of their land by the Nigerian Liquified Natural Gas (NLNG) Cooperative Society, was presented and laid by Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie (*Andoni/Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**

- (i) ***Need for Professional Investigation of the Crisis in the Northern Parts of Plateau State, and Call for and end to indiscriminate arrests of Civilians by the Army:***
Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok (*Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency, and 1 other*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need for Professional Investigation of the Crises in the Northern Parts of Plateau State and Call for an End to Indiscriminate Arrests of Civilians by the Army:

The House:

Notes the reports of the escalation of the crises in Plateau State in recent weeks particularly in Bassa, Jos North, Jos South, Barkin Ladi, Riyom and Jos East Local Government areas;

Also notes that the above Local Government Areas make up the northern zone of Plateau State;

Disturbed that the crises have assumed violence dimension leading to targeted attacks in the same communities resulting to loss of lives, properties, forceful acquisition of ancestral land and displacement of thousands of citizens, many of whom are presently in IDP camps in the State;

Worried that even security personnel, including those from the Police and Army, are also casualties of these attacks;

Also disturbed that groups of citizens in some cases numbering 13, 19, etc. have been killed gruesomely for no apparent reason than terrorism;

Further disturbed that the immediate past Chief of Administration of the Nigeria Army, Retired Major General Idris Alkali has not been traced since 3 September, 2018 on his way to Bauchi from Abuja thus necessitating a rigorous unprecedented search by the Army;

Further notes that the army acting on intelligence, narrowed the search to a pond in Dura - Du in Jos South where on 29 September, 2018, the army reportedly found his black Toyota Corolla car among other properties of the General;

Also worried about the reports of the mass arrest of residents of Du area extending up to Ray field, the breaking into houses of citizens without search warrant, stoppage and mishandling of motorists on the road by the Army;

Further worried by reports that many of the people, including pregnant women and the aged were and are being arrested and taken to Rukuba Barracks of the 3rd Armored Division of the Nigeria Army for interrogation with some of them spending many days there, including a journalist, Mr Friday Olorok, a correspondent of the Punch newspapers in Jos leading to the Nigerian Union of Journalists on Monday, 8 October, 2018 to issue a statement condemning the indiscriminate arrest by the Army;

Still disturbed that two years ago, the Red Cross Society reported that over 17,000 Nigerians were missing with over 7,000 of them being children;

Aware that the National Human Rights Commission has established a data base for missing persons in Nigeria to enable the Federal Government trace the whereabouts of missing persons;

Concerned that even the military had cases of missing persons including Captain Davou Mwankon Gyang, who last served in Lagos, without the military responding to inquiries by the family and his community about his whereabouts;

Also concerned by the fear and tension pervading some communities in Jos South Local Government area leading to citizens fleeing from their houses because of the reported threats and brutalization by the army;

Concerned on the need for cooperation by citizens in order to generate credible intelligence to trace all the missing persons including but not limited to the retired General;

Apprised of the need for the cooperation of citizens to expose criminals irrespective of religious or ethnic identity;

Perturbed that the ethnic profiling, criminalizing and labeling some ethnic groups as terrorist defeats the intent and purpose of crime fighting;

Also apprised of the need for security forces and the Government to always act within the law and to respect the constitutionally - guaranteed Fundamental Human Rights of citizens, more so that there is no state of Emergency in the State;

Informed that by the provisions of relevant laws, particularly sections 214 and 217 of the Constitution, section 1 of the Armed Forces Act, Cap. 20, LFN, 2004 and section 4 of the Police Act among others, the Army has no power to investigate alleged crimes committed by civilians as that is reserved for the police and other civil authorities.

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn in the strongest terms the attacks by criminals in Plateau State, particularly in the Northern zone which has led to the killing and disappearance of many citizens;

- (ii) sympathize and condole with the families of all those who died in the crisis and pray for the speedy recovery of all those who are injured;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to:
 - (a) mandate the relevant security agencies to do everything within the law to trace the whereabouts of all missing persons in Nigeria, including but not limited to Major General Idris Alkali (*rti*) and Captain Davou Mwankon Gyang.
 - (b) use the security forces saddled by the Constitution with the powers of investigation of missing persons in communities, specifically the Police and the DSS to investigate professionally and respect the rule of law and human rights of citizens.
 - (c) release all those in detention, particularly civilians detained in military barracks, and hand them over to the police for proper investigation in line with due process of law.
 - (d) put a stop to the killings, attacks and kidnaping in Plateau State,
 - (e) call on the security forces to professionally investigate all crimes and in doing so, respect the Fundamental Rights of citizens by acting within the law and complying with due process.
 - (f) use civil authorities like the police that are legally vested with the power to investigate and prosecute crimes by citizens.
 - (g) also call on Community leaders, Religious leaders, and other citizens to be genuinely committed to the reconciliation and peace process;
- (iv) urge the Army to desist from indiscriminate arrest of law abiding citizens whose offence is merely residing in certain areas and stop entering into houses without search warrants; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Army, Defence, Police, and Human Rights to ensure compliance and report back within two weeks (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South Jos East Federal Constituency, and 1 other*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (vi) as follows:

“Urge the relevant security agencies to collaborate with the Nigerian Army to investigate the murder of Gen. Alkali, and other.” (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the reports of the escalation of the crises in Plateau State in recent weeks particularly in Bassa, Jos North, Jos South, Barkin Ladi, Riyom and Jos East Local Government areas.

Also noted that the above Local Government Areas make up the northern zone of Plateau State;

Disturbed that the crises have assumed violence dimension leading to repeated attacks in the same communities resulting to loss of lives, properties, forceful occupation of ancestral lands and displacement of thousands of citizens, many of whom are presently in IDP camps in the State;

Worried that even security personnel, including those from the Police and Army are also casualties of these attacks;

Also disturbed that groups of citizens in some cases numbering 13, 19, etc. have been killed gruesomely for no apparent reason than terrorism;

Further disturbed that the immediate past Chief of Administration of the Nigeria Army, Retired Major General Idris Alkali has not been traced since 3 September, 2018 on his way to Bauchi from Abuja thus necessitating a rigorous unprecedented search by the Army;

Further noted that the army acting on intelligence, narrowed the search to a pond in Dura - Du in Jos South where on 29 September, 2018, the army reportedly found his black Toyota Corolla car among other properties of the General;

Also worried about the reports of the mass arrest of residents of Du area extending up to Ray field, the breaking into houses of citizens without search warrant, stoppage and mishandling of motorists on the road by the Army;

Further worried by reports that many of the people, including pregnant women and the aged were and are being arrested and taken to Rukuba Barracks of the 3rd Armored Division of the Nigeria Army for interrogation with some of them spending many days there, including a journalist, Mr Friday Olorok, a correspondent of the Punch newspapers in Jos leading to the Nigerian Union of Journalists on Monday, 8 October, 2018 to issue a statement condemning the indiscriminate arrest by the Army;

Still disturbed that two years ago, the Red Cross Society reported that over 17,000 Nigerians were missing with over 7,000 of them being children;

Aware that the National Human Rights Commission has established a data base for missing persons in Nigeria to enable the Federal Government trace the whereabouts of missing persons;

Concerned that even the military had cases of missing persons including Captain Davou Mwankon Gyang, who last served in Lagos, without the military responding to inquiries by the family and his community about his whereabouts;

Also concerned by the fear and tension pervading some communities in Jos South Local Government area leading to citizens fleeing from their houses because of the reported threats and brutalization by the army;

Concerned on the need for cooperation by citizens in order to generate credible intelligence to trace all the missing persons including but not limited to the retired General;

Apprised of the need for the cooperation of citizens to expose criminals irrespective of religious or ethnic identity;

Perturbed that the ethnic profiling, criminalizing and labeling some ethnic groups as terrorist defeats the intent and purpose of crime fighting;

Also apprised of the need for security forces and the Government to always act within the law and to respect the constitutionally - guaranteed Fundamental Human Rights of citizens, more so that there is no state of Emergency in the State;

Informed that by the provisions of relevant laws, particularly sections 214 and 217 of the Constitution, section 1 of the Armed Forces Act, Cap. 20, LFN, 2004 and section 4 of the Police Act among others, the Army has no power to investigate alleged crimes committed by civilians as that is reserved for the police and other civil authorities.

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn in the strongest terms the attacks by criminals in Plateau State, particularly in the Northern zone which has led to the killing and disappearance of many citizens;
 - (ii) sympathize and condole with the families of all those who died in the crisis and pray for the speedy recovery of all those who are injured;
 - (iii) urge the Federal Government to:
 - (a) mandate the relevant security agencies to do everything within the law to trace the whereabouts of all missing persons in Nigeria, including but not limited to Major General Idris Alkali (*rt/d*) and Captain Davou Mwankon Gyang;
 - (b) use the security forces saddled by the Constitution with the powers of investigation of missing persons in communities, specifically the Police and the DSS to investigate professionally and respect the rule of law and human rights of citizens;
 - (c) release all those in detention, particularly civilians detained in military barracks, and hand them over to the police for proper investigation in line with due process of law;
 - (d) put a stop to the killings, attacks and kidnaping in Plateau State;
 - (e) call on the security forces to professionally investigate all crimes and in doing so, respect the Fundamental Rights of citizens by acting within the law and complying with due process;
 - (f) use civil authorities like the police that are legally vested with the power to investigate and prosecute crimes by citizens;
 - (g) also call on Community leaders, Religious leaders, and other citizens to be genuinely committed to the reconciliation and peace process;
 - (iv) urge the Army to desist from indiscriminate arrest of law abiding citizens whose offence is merely residing in certain areas and stop entering into houses without search warrants;
 - (v) also urge the relevant security agencies to collaborate with the Nigerian Army to investigate the murder of Gen. Alkali, and others; and
 - (vi) mandate the Committees on Army, Defence, Police, and Human Rights to ensure compliance and report back within two weeks (**HR. 45/10/2018**).
- (ii) ***Need to Address the Desecration and Security Challenges of National Assembly:***
 Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwunni Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Address the Desecration and Security Challenges of National Assembly:

The House:

Notes the invasion of the National Assembly on August 7, 2018 by masked and hooded armed security operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS), the Nigerian Police and other security agencies;

Also notes that these security operatives laid siege on the entire National Assembly Complex for more than six (6) hours, barricaded all its entrances and deprived Distinguished Senators, Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, National Assembly Staff, including the Clerk, Journalists and other Stakeholders from entering the complex;

Aware of a reported incident on April 18, 2018, when unknown persons in broad day light invaded the Senate Chamber and carried away the Mace of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Also aware of a reported early morning invasion of the residence of the Leadership of the Senate on July 24, 2018 by security operatives that led to massive defection of law makers of the Senate and the House of Representatives from one political party to another;

Disturbed that these brazen operations on Legislative Institutions constitute a gross violation of Constitutional Order, the Rule of Law, the Doctrine of Separation of Powers and a breach of national security;

Also disturbed that key institutions of national security in Nigeria, have over the years been partisan and acted disgracefully;

Observes that these unfolding incidents have put Nigeria in a global spot, for bad democratic governance;

Worried that the resultant effect of these actions is a desecration of the altar of law making and the hallowed precincts of the National Assembly that is gradually eroding legislative independence in Nigeria;

Also worried that the constant Executive intimidation, interference and abuse of Legislative Institutions across the country is creeping towards dictatorship and anarchy. Consequently, all these have regrettably put the Legislative Institutions in a retreat to address the security challenges posed by the incessant abuses of Executive Powers;

Recalls that Section 12 (2) of the National Assembly Service Act, 2014, vests the Sergeant-at-Arms of the National Assembly with all the Powers of law enforcement in the performance of their legislative duties;

Concerned that, there is an urgent need to train the Sergeant -at - Arms of the National Assembly for the use of firearms and other mobile electronic devices;

Acknowledges the fact that, a well-trained Sergeant-at-Arms on the use, bearing, procurement and storage of firearms will give the law makers and the entire National Assembly premises the needed safety and a better security protection it deserves;

Resolves to:

- (i) develop a short, medium and long term measure for the training of officers of the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly on the use, procurement and storage of firearms;
- (ii) amend the National Assembly Service Act, 2014 to establish a full fledged Training Academy as a unit of the office of the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly;
- (iii) urge Mr President to grant approval for the issuance of licence for the use of firearms by the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly;
- (iv) also amend the Standing Orders of the House to authorised the Sergeant - at - Arms to bear firearms within the premises and precincts to protect Members and Staff as well as other citizens who come to National Assembly; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and Legislative Compliance to liaise with the Presidency on the matter and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai - Ndokwa East/Ndowa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

*Debate**Agreed to.*

The House:

Noted the invasion of the National Assembly on August 7, 2018 by masked and hooded armed security operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS), the Nigerian Police and other security agencies;

Also noted that these security operatives laid siege on the entire National Assembly Complex for more than six (6) hours, barricaded all its entrances and deprived Distinguished Senators, Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, National Assembly Staff, including the Clerk, Journalists and other Stakeholders from entering the complex;

Aware of a reported incident on April 18, 2018, when unknown persons in broad day light invaded the Senate Chamber and carried away the Mace of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Also aware of a reported early morning invasion of the residence of the Leadership of the Senate on July 24, 2018 by security operatives that led to massive defection of law makers of the Senate and the House of Representatives from one political party to another;

Disturbed that these brazen operations on Legislative Institutions constitute a gross violation of Constitutional Order, the Rule of Law, the Doctrine of Separation of Powers and a breach of national security;

Also disturbed that key institutions of national security in Nigeria, have over the years been partisan and acted disgracefully;

Observed that these unfolding incidents have put Nigeria in a global spot, for bad democratic governance;

Worried that the resultant effect of these actions is a desecration of the altar of law making and the hallowed precincts of the National Assembly that is gradually eroding legislative independence in Nigeria;

Also worried that the constant Executive intimidation, interference and abuse of Legislative Institutions across the country is creeping towards dictatorship and anarchy. Consequently, all these have regrettably put the Legislative Institutions in a retreat to address the security challenges posed by the incessant abuses of Executive Powers;

Recalled that Section 12 (2) of the National Assembly Service Act, 2014, vests the Sergeant-at-Arms of the National Assembly with all the Powers of law enforcement in the performance of their legislative duties;

Concerned that, there is an urgent need to train the Sergeant -at - Arms of the National Assembly for the use of firearms and other mobile electronic devices;

Acknowledged the fact that, a well-trained Sergeant-at-Arms on the use, bearing, procurement and storage of firearms will give the law makers and the entire National Assembly premises the needed safety and a better security protection it deserves;

Resolved to:

- (i) develop a short, medium and long term measure for the training of officers of the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly on the use, procurement and storage of firearms;
- (ii) amend the National Assembly Service Act, 2014 to establish a full fledged Training Academy as a unit of the office of the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly;
- (iii) urge Mr President to grant approval for the issuance of licence for the use of firearms by the Sergeant - at - Arms of the National Assembly;
- (iv) also amend the Standing Orders of the House to authorised the Sergeant - at - Arms to bear firearms within the premises and precincts to protect Members and Staff as well as other citizens who come to National Assembly; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and Legislative Compliance to liaise with the Presidency on the matter and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 46/10/2018**).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Call for Supply of Relief Materials to Flood Victims in Anambra East/West Federal Constituency, An umbra State:***

Hon. Tony Nwoye (*Anambra East/West Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Call for Supply of Relief Materials to Flood Victims in Anambra East/West Federal Constituency, Anambra State:

The House:

Notes that weather experts (Nigeria Meteorological Agency) in their forecast opined that Nine (9) out of 21 Local Government Areas in Anambra State located close to the River Niger would be hit by flood disaster. True to this forecast, these Communities in Anambra East LGA, namely Eziaguluotu, Enugu Otu, Umuoba Anam, Udabor-Umuleri, parts of Nsugbe, Igbariam and all Communities in Anambra West LGA namely Umueze Anam, Mmiata Anam, Oromaetiti, Iyiora, Abegbu, Odekpe, Innoma, Ezianani, Nzam and Olumbanasa were ravaged by the flood;

Informed that the flood led to loss of lives, including that of a Revered Father and destroyed properties running into hundreds of millions of Naira. Many people in the Constituency have been displaced and now managing their lives in the Internally Displaced Camps in the area;

Also informed that National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has donated relief materials to some victims of the flood disaster in the Constituency, but the relief materials donated were grossly inadequate and unable to give succor to the victims as desired;

Concerned that the flood victims might start starving to death and become victims of avoidable death occasioned by poor hygienic environment;

Cognizant that the primary purpose of government is the welfare and security of the people;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to donate more relief materials including food and non-food items to victims of flood disaster in Anambra East/West Federal Constituency;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to ensure proper hygienic environment in the IDP Camps to avoid outbreak of diseases; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Healthcare Services to ensure compliance and report back within three (3) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Tony Nwoye — Anambra East/Anambra West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 47/10/2018).

Motion referred to the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Healthcare Services, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5)

- (iv) ***The Illegal Seizure of Rice and the Brazen abuse of law by the Men and Officers of the Nigeria Customs Service at Kano Markets:***

Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

The Illegal Seizure of Rice and the Brazen Abuse of Law by the Men and Officers of the Nigeria Customs Service at Kano Markets:

The House:

Notes that Kano being the nerve centre of commercial activities in the North, has a good number of markets;

Aware that numerous commercial activities are being undertaken in the markets ranging from wholesale to retail sales;

Worried that recently, men and Officers of the Nigeria Customs Services entered Kofar Ruwa and Singha Markets in Kano and illegally carted away a large quantity of rice from the markets;

Also aware that Kofar Ruwa market is mainly composed of small scale traders who mostly engage in retail trading;

Also worried that the Customs carted away thousands of bags of rice from the Kofar Ruwa market and in the open, shared to themselves and other security operatives in the operation;

Further aware that the Customs also invaded the Singha market in the dead of the night and carted away over 10 trailer load of rice and other essential food commodities;

Disturbed that the operations of the men and Officers of the Customs Service has the effect of affecting the growth of business in Kano and by implication Nigeria's economy;

Desirous of restoring the affected market men and women back to their status before the illegal invasion and carting away the rice loaded in trailers;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the actions of the men and officers of the Nigeria Customs Service of invading and carting away goods, i.e. rice of the law abiding traders at Kofar Ruwa and Singha markets;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Customs Service to return the carted rice to their lawful owners without delay; and
- (iii) constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the circumstances leading to the invasion and reasons behind the carting away of that magnitude of rice from Kofar Ruwa and Singha markets in Kano (*Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki — Dala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (i), and insert a new Prayer (i) as follows:

"Frown at carting away the goods of the law abiding traders of Kofar Ruwa and Singha markets" (*Hon. Baballe Bashir — Minjibir/Ungogo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Kano being the nerve centre of commercial activities in the North, has a good number of markets;

Aware that numerous commercial activities are being undertaken in the markets ranging from wholesale to retail sales;

Worried that recently, men and Officers of the Nigeria Customs Services entered Kofar Ruwa and Singha Markets in Kano and illegally carted away a large quantity of rice from the markets;

Also aware that Kofar Ruwa market is mainly composed of small scale traders who mostly engage in retail trading;

Also worried that the Customs carted away thousands of bags of rice from the Kofar Ruwa market and in the open, shared to themselves and other security operatives in the operation;

Further aware that the Customs also invaded the Singha market in the dead of the night and carted away over 10 trailer load of rice and other essential food commodities;

Disturbed that the operations of the men and Officers of the Customs Service has the effect of affecting the growth of business in Kano and by implication Nigeria's economy;

Desiroused of restoring the affected market men and women back to their status before the illegal invasion and carting away the rice loaded in trailers;

Resolved to

- (i) condemn the actions of the men and officers of the Nigeria Customs Service of invading and carting away goods, i.e. rice of the law abiding traders at Kofar Ruwa and Singha markets;
 - (ii) urge the Nigeria Customs Service to return the carted rice to their lawful owners without delay; and
 - (iii) constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the circumstances leading to the invasion and reasons behind the carting away of that magnitude of rice from Kofar Ruwa and Singha markets in Kano (**HR. 48/10/2018**).
- (v) ***Need to provide Relief Materials to Flooded Communities in Abua Odual Local Government Area of Rivers State:***
 Hon. Betty Apiafi (*Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
 - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Provide Relief Materials to Flooded Communities in Abua Odual Local Government Area of Rivers State:

The House:

Notes that the recent flood disaster along coastal communities in the country has left many citizens displaced and devastated. Farm land, houses, properties destroyed and lives lost as the flooding of the communities has continued unabated;

Aware that in Rivers State, several Local Government Areas have been submerged including Abua/Odual Local Government while the following communities have also been submerged: Adada, Odau, Okolomade, Amuruto, Emesu, Arukwo Ogbema, Obranny, Okoboh Amimigboko and Owerewere;

Also aware that the flood has displaced many families in these communities as their homes have been destroyed;

Worried that the displaced residents of these communities now face serious danger of an epidemic outbreak which could lead to more loss of lives;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently mobilize to the locations affected by the flood disaster with a view to extending humanitarian and medical assistance;
- (ii) also urge Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHEDC) to work with the flooded communities to prevent electrocution;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Government through the respective agencies to find a lasting solution to this perennial flooding of coastal areas of Nigeria; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Betty Apiafi – Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 49/10/2018).

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5)

6. Urgent Release of Hon. Abubakar Abdullahi Lado (Suleja Federal Constituency) Detained by the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) (HR.44/10/2018)

By leave of the House, the Leader of the House, Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, reported that pursuant to the Resolutions of the House on the above subject matter vide the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 10 October, 2018, he led a delegation to the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) Headquarters, Abuja to request the immediate release of Hon. Abubakar Abdullahi Lado. He further noted that following the intervention of the House, Hon. Abubakar Abdullahi Lado was released unconditionally at about 8.00 p.m on Wednesday, 10 October, 2018, and that the Hon. Member was presently sited in the Chamber.

He lauded the persistence of the House and commended the cooperation of the Police hierarchy in complying with the Resolution.

On the invitation of Mr Speaker, Hon. Abubakar Abdullahi Lado recounted his experience at the SARS detention facility, and stated that his arrest was politically motivated, he expressed gratitude to the House for its intervention in securing his freedom.

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Nigeria Police Academy (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1543).
- (2) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1544).
- (3) National Blood Service Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1547).

8. Presentation of Report

Committee on Federal Capital Territory:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Capital Territory on Need to Conduct a Comprehensive Audit of all Revenue Accruable to the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) through the Abuja Investment Company Limited, its Subsidiaries and Affiliates and also the Alleged Abuse of Due Process in the last ten years (2007-2017) (H.R. 103/03/2018)" (Hon. Sergius Ogun Oseasochie — Esan Northeast/Esan Southeast Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Broadcasting Commission Act, Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Commission and make it more effective for the Commission to Regulate Broadcasting in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1484), and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Third Schedule of the National Broadcasting Commission (Establishment) Act, Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to ensure that all Television and Cable Services run Education Programmes in line with School Syllabi and Curricula and for Related Matters (HB. 1514) be now consolidated (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

10. A Bill for an Act to Provide For the Smooth and Orderly Transfer of Power from One Government to another; and for Related Matters (HB. 102 and HB. 109) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide For the Smooth and Orderly Transfer of Power from One Government to another; and for Related Matters (HB. 102 and HB. 109) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and Passed.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Review the Retirement Age of Staff of Federal Polytechnics, Harmonize the Tenure of Office of the Rector and other Principal Officers of Federal Polytechnics in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1488) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Polytechnics Act, Cap. F17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Review the Retirement Age of Staff of Federal Polytechnics, Harmonize the Tenure of Office of the Rector and other Principal Officers of

Federal Polytechnics in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1488) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and Passed.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Road Safety Commission Act, Cap. F19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Introduce Stiffer Penalties for Traffic Offences and Ensure the safe Commercial Transportation of Glass Bottled Drinks on Roads and Highways; and for Related Matters (HB. 1438 and HB. 1450) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Road Safety Commission Act, Cap. F19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Introduce Stiffer Penalties for Traffic Offences and Ensure the safe Commercial Transportation of Glass Bottled Drinks on Roads and Highways; and for Related Matters (HB. 1438 and HB. 1450) be now read a Second Time" (A(Hon. Babatunde Gabriel Kolawole — Akoko Southwest/Akoko East Federal Constituency and 1 other).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Advertising Practitioners (Registration, etc.) Act and Enact the Advertising Practitioners (Registration, Licensing, etc.) Bill and Establish Council for Advertising Practitioners as the Apex Regulatory Authority for the Nigerian Advertising Profession and Practice; and for Related Matters (HB. 1445) — Second Reading**
Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. **Call to Restore Electric Power Supply to Gujba, Katarko, Buni Yadi, Goniri and Buni Gari Towns of Gujba Local Government Area of Yobe State**
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that electric power supply was disrupted in the Communities of Gujba, Katarko, Buni Yadi, Goniri and Buni Gari Towns of Gujba Local Government Area, Yobe State in the wake of the Boko Haram onslaught;

Aware that hitherto the disruption of the electric power supply, economic and social activities in the affected communities has been very impressive;

Worried that the absence of electric power supply in the affected communities has led to loss of jobs and the security of the affected communities threatened;

Concerned that the absence of such amenity has subjected the affected communities to untold hardships and brought their economic power to a halt for over 3 - 4 years;

Desirous of restoring the people of the affected communities back to economic and social based economy;

Appreciates the intervention of the Executive Governor of Yobe State in reconstructing the blown off bridges by the Boko Haram sect and rehabilitation of the road from Damaturu to the Border between Yobe and Borno States.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Adamawa Electricity Distribution Company to restore power supply to Gujba, Katarko, Buni Yadi, Goniri and Buni Gari towns of Gujba local Government Area; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Power to ensure compliance (Hon. Abdullahi Usman Kukuwa — Damaturu-Gujba-Galam Tarmawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 50/10/2018)

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

15. Need to Reform Nigeria's Tertiary Educational System

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. Consideration of Reports

- (i) *Committee on Environment and Habitat:*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Environment and Habitat on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2006; and for Related Matters (HB. 964) and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Obinna Chidoka — Idemili North/Idemili South 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)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY (ESTABLISHMENT, ETC.) ACT, 2006; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 964)

Consideration deferred.

Chairman to report progress:

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Environment and Habitat on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2006; and for Related Matters (HB. 964) till Tuesday, 16 October, 2018.

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

(ii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Mr Wodung Adamu Abubakar:

That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Wodung Adamu Abubakar against the Federal College of Education, Osiele, Abcokuta, Ogun State on the illegal stoppage and termination of his appointment and approve the recommendations therein.

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 16 October, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.24 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 10 October, 2018, *leave out* all the words in item 5 (4) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

(4) Hon. Lawal Abubakar — *Member*