



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 17 July, 2019

1. The House met at 11.22 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 Tuesday, 16 July, 2019.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Petition**

A petition from Coalition of Federal Capital Territory Indigenous Associations, on the alleged invasion of their land at Giri, Abuja and killing of Hamza Usman, by the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Micah Jiba (*Abuja Municipal Area Council /Bwari Federal Constituency*).

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

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

Uprise of Cultism in Nigeria:

Hon. Nwawuba Henry Ndochukwu (*Mbaitoli/Ikeduru 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.

Uprise of Cultism in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that educational institutions from primary, secondary to the university level are proper places for education of children and the youth to enable them to be molded in character and learning;

Also notes that incidents of secret cultism in Nigeria's educational system dates back to the early 1950s when it developed in the institutions of higher learning as fraternities with the aim of maintaining law and order on universities campuses;

Informed that secret cultism that used to exist only at the universities and other institutions of higher learning has, over the years permeated the primary and secondary levels of education such that primary and secondary school pupils and students, some as young as between 8 - 16 years of age now being initiated into secret cults;

Aware that cultism is becoming a major threat in the nation's educational institutions as the activities of cultists are becoming major distractions to students with adverse consequences that impact on the individual cultist, families, schools, religious setting and society at large;

Also aware that cultism, which, when it was conceived, ~~was~~ aimed at fighting injustice has now become a veritable tool for operation, and settlement of personal scores which, in most cases are selfish and the ensuring cult-related squabbles and fights have led to tears, blood and sorrow and in some cases drop out of students from schools;

Concerned that this social vice has ravaged the cohesion that used to exist in most schools, in the process, destroying the moral and educational standard in the schools and leading to death of scores of youths in cult-related activities and clashes.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal and State Government, and University Authorities to set up anti-cultism vanguards to tackle the menace of secret cultism in Nigerian schools; and
- (ii) urge the security agencies to work closely with local vigilante groups on the activities of cult group with a view to arresting the cult (*Hon. Nwawuba Henry Ndochukwu — Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"Urge the National University Commission to keep record of expelled cultists from institutions to stop them from getting admission into any other university in Nigeria" (*Hon. Umeoji Chukwuma — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Ministry of Education to include Anti-Cultism in the curriculum of schools at the Basic and Tertiary Education level" (*Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:*
“Urge the Security Agencies to commit adequate resources into intelligence gathering and information sharing and where necessary carry out preventive/proactive investigation in schools/neighborhoods to forestall the activities of cultists in the society” (*Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo — Ilaje/Ese Odo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that educational institutions from primary, secondary to the university level are proper places for education of children and the youth to enable them to be molded in character and learning;

Also noted that incidents of secret cultism in Nigeria’s educational system dates back to the early 1950s when it developed in the institutions of higher learning as fraternities with the aim of maintaining law and order on universities campuses;

Informed that secret cultism that used to exist only at the universities and other institutions of higher learning has, over the years permeated the primary and secondary levels of education such that primary and secondary school pupils and students, some as young as between 8 – 16 years of age now being initiated into secret cults;

Aware that cultism is becoming a major threat in the nation’s educational institutions as the activities of cultists are becoming major distractions to students with adverse consequences that impact on the individual cultist, families, schools, religious setting and society at large;

Also aware that cultism, which, when it was conceived, was aimed at fighting injustice has now become a veritable tool for operation, and settlement of personal scores which, in most cases are selfish and the ensuing cult-related squabbles and fights have led to tears, blood and sorrow and in some cases drop out of students from schools;

Concerned that this social vice has ravaged the cohesion that used to exist in most schools. in the process, destroying the moral and educational standard in the schools and leading to death of scores of youths in cult-related activities and clashes.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal and State Government, and University Authorities to set up anti-cultism vanguards to tackle the menace of secret cultism in Nigerian schools;
- (ii) also urge the security agencies to work closely with local vigilante groups on the activities of cult group with a view to arresting the cult;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Education to include Anti-Cultism in the curriculum of schools at the Basic and Tertiary Education level; and
- (iv) still urge the Security Agencies to commit adequate resources into intelligence gathering and information sharing and where necessary carry out preventive/proactive investigation in schools/neighborhoods to forestall the activities of cultists in the society (**IIR. 35/07/2019**).

- (ii) ***Need to Investigate the Loan Procedures of Commercial Banks:***
Hon. Ibrahim Abdullahi Dutse (*Dutse/Kiyawa Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance.

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

Matter to stand over till the next legislative day.

5. **Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Nigerian Authors Trust Fund Bill, 2019 (HB. 132).
- (2) Sustainable Development Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.133).
- (3) Adamu Sanda Federal College of Education (Technical) Ganye, (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.134).
- (4) National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.135).
- (5) Nigeria Institute of Translators and Interpreters (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.136).
- (6) Advertising Practitioners (Registration, Licensing, etc.) Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2019 (HB.137).
- (7) Chartered Institute of Risk Management of Nigeria Bill, 2019 (HB.139).
- (8) Chartered Institute of Financial and Investment Analysts of Nigeria Bill, 2019 (HB.140).
- (9) Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Bill, 2019 (HB.141).
- (10) Hire Purchase Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.142).
- (11) National Automotive Industry Development Plan (Fiscal Incentives and Assurances) Bill, 2019 (HB.143).
- (12) Institute of Chartered Franchise Executives of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.144).
- (13) Chartered Institute of Customer Relationship Management Bill, 2019 (HB.146).
- (14) Corporate Social Responsibility (Special Provisions, etc.) Bill, 2019 (HB.147).
- (15) Chemical Weapons Prohibition Bill, 2019 (HB.148).
- (16) Criminal Justice (Release from Custody) (Special Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.149).
- (17) Students Union Activities (Control and Regulation) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.150).
- (18) Nigerian Communications Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.151).
- (19) Robbery and Firearms (Special Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.152).
- (20) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2019 (HB.153).

- (21) Chartered Institute of Trade and Investment of Nigeria Bill, 2019 (HB.154).
- (22) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.155).
- (23) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.156).
- (24) National Building Code (Enforcement etc.) Bill, 2019 (HB.157).
- (25) National Shipping Policy Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.158).
- (26) Investment and Security Tribunal (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.159).
- (27) Army Colour (Prohibition of Use) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.160).
- (28) Penal Code (Northern States) Federal Provisions Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.161).
- (29) Institute of Chartered Economics of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.162).
- (30) National Biotechnology Development Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.163).
- (31) Tertiary Education Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.164).
- (32) Civil Aviation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.165).
- (33) Nigeria Railway Corporation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.166).
- (34) Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.167).
- (35) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.168).
- (36) Federal College of Education (Special), Birnin Kudu (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 169).
- (37) Ajaokuta Steel Company Completion Fund Bill, 2019 (HB. 170).

6. **Presentation of Report**

Ad-hoc Committee on the Need for Intervention in the Edo State House of Assembly Crisis: Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Need for Intervention in Edo the State House of Assembly Crisis (HR. 15/07/2019)" (Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency).

Agreed.

Report laid.

7. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly, Pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

Proceeds of Crime Management Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 64):

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House, that "Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negated or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negated or which was passed by the National 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 Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*";

Also notes that the Proceeds of Crime Management Agency (Establishment) Bill was 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;

Aware that the Bill was read the first time on Tuesday 16 July, 2019.

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

8. **Need to Address the Worsening Plight of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Returnees in Bama/Ngala/Kala Balge Areas of Borno State**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

9. **Call for Intervention in the Communal Clash between Adadama Community in Abi Local Government Area of Cross Rivers State and Amagu Community in Ikwo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

10. **Need to Investigate the Molestation of Pupils of the Deaf and Dumb School at Kuje, Abuja**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. **Need to Reform the Almajiri Education System and Remove Beggars from the Streets through Provision of Formal Education and Improved Livelihood**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. **Consideration of Report**

Ad-hoc Committee on the Need for Intervention in the Edo State House of Assembly Crisis:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Need for Intervention in the Edo State House of Assembly Crisis and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Abdulrazak Numilas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"That the Governor of Edo State, Mr Godwin Obaseki, in the interest of peaceful co-existence of the State, should issue a fresh Proclamation within One (1) week in line with Section 105 (3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) stating the date, time and venue and publish in any National Daily and Television Station" (*Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That all actions taken by the 7th Assembly Members should be declared null and void pending proper inauguration" (*Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That all Members of the Edo State House of Assembly, both those who have been inaugurated and those who have not been inaugurated should dissolve their factions in the interest of peace and stability of the House with the view to moving the State forward" (*Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"That the Inspector General of Police and the Director General Services, Department of State Service should shut down the Edo State House of Assembly and provide adequate security to allay further fears of intimidation and threat as alleged by Members-elect" (*Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

"That where Recommendations (i), (ii) and (iii) above fail, the National Assembly should invoke the provisions of Section 11 (4) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) to take over the State House of Assembly until the situation normalizes" (*Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Need for Intervention in the Edo State House of Assembly Crisis and approved the Recommendations (i) - (v) of the Report.

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

13. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 18 July, 2019 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.28 p.m.

Femi Irikeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker