



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 18 February, 2020

1. The House met at 11.35 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 13 February, 2020.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
4. **Announcements**
Visitors in the Gallery:
Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:
 - (i) Staff and Students of *Rayjay International School*, Suleja, Niger State; and
 - (ii) Staff and Students of *Gudmerc Kiddies Academy*, Kurudu, Abuja.
5. **Executive Session**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do resolve into a Closed Session" (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader) — *Agreed to.*

<i>Closed Session</i>	—	11.42 a.m.
<i>Open Session</i>	—	12.54 p.m.
6. **Suspension of Plenary**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do take 15 minutes recess" (Hon. Fulata Abubakar Hassan — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency).
Agreed to.

House in Recess — 1.05 p.m.

House in Plenary — 1.20 p.m.

7. **Petitions**

(i) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Haruna Isa Dederi (*Karaye/Rogo Federal Constituency*):

(a) Tony Ochei & Co., on alleged breach of contract and violation of due process by Rector and Bursar of the Federal Polytechnic, Nekede, Imo State;

(b) Saad Ibrahim and 58 others, seeking for reimbursement to the remaining 2013/2014 Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) sponsored scholars;

(ii) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Tolu Akande Sadipe (*Oluyole Federal Constituency*):

(a) Amnesty International, on alleged unfair trial of Suliamon Olufemi, on death row in Saudi Arabia;

(b) Falode Oluyemi Oyeleye, on alleged disappearance of four Nigerians against the Interpol Unit of Nigeria Police Force.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) ***Need to Complete the Installation and Upgrade of Landing Equipment at the Nation's Airports to Enhance Safety in the Airspace:***

Hon. Tasir Olawale Raji (*Epe 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 Complete the Installation and Upgrade of Landing Equipment at the Nation's Airports to Enhance Safety in the Airspace:

The House:

Notes that over the years there have been clamour from stakeholders in the aviation sector and other well-meaning Nigerians on the need for the Federal Government to adequately equip and upgrade the Nation's airports with modern landing equipment from the current Category 1 and 2 in use in Nigeria to Category 3 Instrument Landing System (ILS);

Also notes that these agitations were predicated on the high number of delayed and cancelled flights during the harmattan season and inclement weather conditions which made landing and takeoff of aircrafts very difficult and near impossible;

Further notes that on account of poor visibility some foreign airlines are presently diverting their international flights to Accra, Ghana, Ndjamena, Chad and other neighbouring countries with the attendant negative consequences;

Aware that the Federal Government has made budgetary provision for the procurement and installation of modern landing equipment in seven airports in Nigeria, comprising Lagos, Abuja, Kano, Port Harcourt, Katsina, Maiduguri and Sokoto airports amounting to about ₦7.8 billion in Phase one;

Also aware that Cat 3 ILS has recently been installed by Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport (MMIA) Lagos to enable pilots carry out approach to landing in zero visibility and see the runway no matter the weather condition;

Further aware that recent reports in the media also indicated that the Category 3 ILS instrument is not functioning at its optimal capacity because of the non-availability of other supportive equipment like the runway and approach lights which are yet to be installed and upgraded by Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN);

Disturbed that the lack of cooperation amongst the aviation regulatory agencies on account of petty differences has negatively impacted on the efficient management of the airports;

Worried that the constant diversion of airlines to alternate airports outside Nigeria has adversely affected the image of Nigeria aviation and undermine economic benefits accruable to the country and the airlines;

Hopeful that increased cooperation and collaboration amongst the regulatory agencies will greatly enhance efficient management and seamless operations at the airports;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to collaborate with the relevant regulatory agencies and other stakeholders in the aviation sector to ensure that all the acquired landing equipment (Category 3 ILS and other supportive equipment) are installed in the designated airports without further delay to forestall further incidences of flight diversions in our airspace, and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Wale Raji — Epe Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (ii) as follows:

“Also mandate the Committee on Aviation to collaborate with the relevant regulatory agencies and other stakeholders in the aviation sector to ensure that all passengers of diverted aircrafts are collated and costs incurred refunded by the Agencies and the Airline in question” (*Hon. James Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that over the years there have been clamour from stakeholders in the aviation sector and other well-meaning Nigerians on the need for the Federal Government to adequately equip and upgrade the Nation's airports with modern landing equipment from the current Category 1 and 2 in use in Nigeria to Category 3 Instrument Landing System (ILS);

Also notes that these agitations were predicated on the high number of delayed and cancelled flights during the harmattan season and inclement weather conditions which made landing and takeoff of aircrafts very difficult and near impossible;

Further noted that on account of poor visibility some foreign airlines are presently diverting their international flights to Accra, Ghana, Ndjamen, Chad and other neighbouring countries with the attendant negative consequences;

Aware that the Federal Government has made budgetary provision for the procurement and installation of modern landing equipment in seven airports in Nigeria, comprising Lagos, Abuja, Kano, Port Harcourt, Katsina, Maiduguri and Sokoto airports amounting to about ₦7.8 billion in Phase one;

Also aware that Cat 3 ILS has recently been installed by Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport (MMIA) Lagos to enable pilots carry out approach to landing in zero visibility and see the runway no matter the weather condition;

Further aware that recent reports in the media also indicated that the Category 3 ILS instrument is not functioning at its optimal capacity because of the non-availability of other supportive equipment like the runway and approach lights which are yet to be installed and upgraded by Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN);

Disturbed that the lack of cooperation amongst the aviation regulatory agencies on account of petty differences has negatively impacted on the efficient management of the airports;

Worried that the constant diversion of airlines to alternate airports outside Nigeria has adversely affected the image of Nigeria aviation and undermine economic benefits accruable to the country and the airlines;

Hopeful that increased cooperation and collaboration amongst the regulatory agencies will greatly enhance efficient management and seamless operations at the airports;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Aviation to collaborate with the relevant regulatory agencies and other stakeholders in the aviation sector to ensure that all the acquired landing equipment (Category 3 ILS and other supportive equipment) are installed in the designated airports without further delay to forestall further incidences of flight diversions in our airspace, and report back within four (4) weeks; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Aviation to collaborate with the relevant regulatory agencies and other stakeholders in the aviation sector to ensure that all passengers of diverted aircrafts are collated and costs incurred refunded by the Agencies and the Airline in question (**HR. 36/02/2020**).

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

- (ii) ***Need to Urgently Overhaul and Intensify the National Assembly Security System:***
Hon. Shehu Barwa Beji (*Bosso/Paikoro 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 Urgently Overhaul and Intensify the National Assembly Security System:

The House:

Notes the report of the Daily Trust newspaper of 14 February, 2020 and the National Assembly Management Intelligence report indicating that Boko Haram terrorists may attack the National Assembly premises;

Recalls that the last invasion of the National Assembly was on Tuesday, 10 July, 2019 by the Shiite members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria resulting in the death of 2 Police officers;

Disturbed that from the previous attack under reference, the security apparatus of the National Assembly is obviously below the threshold required for its protection;

Worried that the degree of insecurity in the country speaks volume of the likelihood of such attack in a greater magnitude if proactive measures are not taken;

Also worried that a terrorist attack on an institution like the National Assembly which is the constitutional voice of the people will be an international eyesore on our democracy, given the fact that persons from different kingdoms, chiefdoms and empires who officially visit the National Assembly including innocent school kids who come on excursion could be affected by the ugly event;

Also notes that according to the intelligence report, strange persons have been spotted around the National Assembly Complex and when confronted at the gate of the Complex were quick to claim being constituents of the law makers at the Senate or House of Representatives;

Concerned that in the face of the facelessness of terrorist, the security apparatus of the National Assembly and its environs requires total overhaul;

Also concerned that co-operation of Honourable Members and Distinguished Senators is imperative in the circumstance given the fact that influx of strangers into the National Assembly Complex has been linked to the legislators;

Observes that alleged compromise by certain security personnel in the form of receiving tokens from strangers in order to grant them access into the premises poses serious security threat to the National Assembly complex and its environs;

Recognizes that the Intelligence Unit of the National Assembly deserve commendation for gathering the information at hand, yet more strategies need to be evolved to prevent any attack on the National Assembly;

Also observes that unnecessary delay in issuance of Staff Identity Cards compromises security standards of the National Assembly;

Further concerned that the National Assembly security system has no means of identification for vendors who carry out businesses within the National Assembly precinct;

Again concerned that the capacity of the National Assembly shuttle buses is way below the population in need of the services, consequently making the road sides overcrowded, which is another threat to security;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Internal Security of the National Assembly to further inquire into the instant information;
- (ii) call on the management of the National Assembly to commence installation of CCTV Cameras and Modern Scanning Systems at the gates and strategic points of the National Assembly Complex,
- (iii) also call on the National Assembly Management to introduce screening, registration and issuance of Identity Cards to vendors who conduct businesses within the National Assembly Complex; and
- (iv) further call on the National Assembly Management to make provision for more shuttle buses in tandem with passengers in the National Assembly to decongest the roadsides of the National Assembly (*Hon. Shehu Barwa Beji — Bosso/Paikoro Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.**Agreed to.**The House:*

Noted the report of the Daily Trust newspaper of 14 February, 2020 and the National Assembly Management Intelligence report indicating that Boko Haram terrorists may attack the National Assembly premises;

Recalled that the last invasion of the National Assembly was on Tuesday, 10 July, 2019 by the Shiite members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria resulting in the death of 2 Police officers;

Disturbed that from the previous attack under reference, the security apparatus of the National Assembly is obviously below the threshold required for its protection;

- *Worried* that the degree of insecurity in the country speaks volume of the likelihood of such attack in a greater magnitude if proactive measures are not taken;

Also worried that a terrorist attack on an institution like the National Assembly which is the constitutional voice of the people will be an international eyesore on our democracy, given the fact that persons from different kingdoms, chiefdoms and empires who officially visit the National Assembly including innocent school kids who come on excursion could be affected by the ugly event;

Also noted that according to the intelligence report, strange persons have been spotted around the National Assembly Complex and when confronted at the gate of the Complex were quick to claim being constituents of the law makers at the Senate or House of Representatives;

Concerned that in the face of the facelessness of terrorist, the security apparatus of the National Assembly and its environs requires total overhaul;

Also concerned that co-operation of Honourable Members and Distinguished Senators is imperative in the circumstance given the fact that influx of strangers into the National Assembly Complex has been linked to the legislators;

Observed that alleged compromise by certain security personnel in the form of receiving tokens from strangers in order to grant them access into the premises poses serious security threat to the National Assembly complex and its environs;

Recognized that the Intelligence Unit of the National Assembly deserve commendation for gathering the information at hand, yet more strategies need to be evolved to prevent any attack on the National Assembly;

Also observed that unnecessary delay in issuance of Staff Identity Cards compromises security standards of the National Assembly;

Further concerned that the National Assembly security system has no means of identification for vendors who carry out businesses within the National Assembly precinct;

Again concerned that the capacity of the National Assembly shuttle buses is way below the population in need of the services, consequently making the road sides overcrowded, which is another threat to security;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Internal Security of the National Assembly to further inquire into the instant information;
- (ii) call on the management of the National Assembly to commence installation of CCTV Cameras and Modern Scanning Systems at the gates and strategic points of the National Assembly Complex.
- (iii) also call on the National Assembly Management to introduce screening, registration and issuance of Identity Cards to vendors who conduct businesses within the National Assembly Complex; and
- (iv) further call on the National Assembly Management to make provision for more shuttle buses in tandem with passengers in the National Assembly to decongest the roadsides of the National Assembly (**HR. 37/02/2020**).

9. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Council for the Regulation of Freight Forwarding in Nigeria Act, Cap. C54 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 176 and HB. 604) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Council for the Regulation of Freight Forwarding in Nigeria Act, Cap. C54 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB. 176 and HB. 604) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Patrick Asadu — Nsukka/Igboeze South Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Ports and Harbours.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Labour Act, Cap. L1, LFN, 2004 to Prohibit and Minimize Casualization of Workers after Six Months of Engagement by Employers in Nigeria, Outsourcing Employment in Core Areas of Operation; and for Related Matters (HB.494) — Second Reading**

Order deferred by leave of the House.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun Act, 2017; and for Related Matters (HB. 613) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun Act, 2017; and for Related Matters (HB. 613) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Oberuakpefe Anthony Afe — Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie 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 Tertiary Education and Services.

12. Orders of the Day

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do set down items 4 - 12 on the Order Paper to another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)" (Hon. Fulata Abubakar Hassan -- Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

13. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 19 February, 2020 at 12.00 p.m. (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.48 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker