



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 31 January, 2008

1. **The** House met at 10.50 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 30 January, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Announcement:**
Visitor;
Mr Speaker recognised the presence in the Gallery of members of the National Association of Nigerian Students led by the Joint Leadership of Yinka Dada and Femi Osabinu.
4. **Petitions:**
Eight petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:
 - (i) Hon. James Baitachi (*Bosso/Paiko Federal Constituency*), from PC Sunday Wakili, praying the House to investigate his wrongful dismissal by the Nigerian Police Force and to reinstate him;
 - (ii) Hon. Darlington Okereke (*Ohaozara Federal Constituency*), from 47 former staff of the National Orthopaedic Hospital, Enugu, praying the House to intervene in the alleged wrongful disengagement **from** service with a view to reinstating them;
 - (iii) Hon. Dino Melaye (*Kabba/Bunu/Ijuma Federal Constituency*), from Adeyanju Collins Gbadebo, praying the House to investigate in his alleged suspension from the Ahmadu Bello University with a view to reinstating him;
 - (iv) Hon. Herman Iorwase Hembe (*Konshisha/Vande-Kiya Federal Constituency*), from Mr Gberave B. I., praying the House to intervene in the alleged unlawful retirement from the services of Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNCP) and grant other reliefs sought therein;
 - (v) Hon. Herman Iorwase Hembe (*Konshisha/Vande-Kiya Federal Constituency*), from Joseph Orande, praying the House to investigate the wrongful seizure of his car by the Nigeria Customs Service and grant the relief sought;
 - (vi) Hon. George Daika (*Mikang/Pan/Shendam Federal Constituency*), from the Technical Trainees Graduates Association of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), praying the House to intervene in the case of non-payment of their salaries and grant other reliefs sought in the petition;

(vii) Hon. Godfrey Gaya (*Jaba/Zango Kataf Federal Constituency*), from disengaged staff of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources NPLD Kaduna, praying the House to intervene in their alleged improper retirement with a view to paying them all outstanding entitlements and to grant other reliefs sought therein;

(viii) Hon. Patrick Obahiagbon (*Oredo Federal Constituency*), from Prince Segun Alile, praying the House to intervene in the matter of the non-payment of his contract fees by the Federal Government and grant other reliefs sought in his petition.

5. Presentation of Report:

Joint Committee on Aids Loans and Debt Management, Finance and Appropriations:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management, Finance and Appropriations on the Partial Debt Write-off by Nigeria to Consolidate Peace Process and Facilitate Reconstruction in Liberia" (Hon. Abdulaziz A. Yari).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

6. Urgent Need to Review the Power Reform Programme Performance from 2000 till Date:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that Power supply is one of the essential requirements for industrial, technological economic and social transformation of any nation;

Worried that the level of power generation in the country has declined from 4500MW installed capacity, it is generating between 3000 to 3200 MW capacity only;

Disturbed that the last administration spent huge sums of money on power generation, transmission and distribution without commensurate results being achieved;

Concerned that despite repeated calls, orders and warnings by the Government of the day to the appropriate authorities to address these problems, there has not been any visible improvement;

Resolves to:

(0 Mandate the Committee on Power and Steel to carry out a comprehensive and thorough investigation into how the huge sums of money was expended on power generation transmission and distribution without any commensurate result;

(it) Urge Mr President to declare a state of emergency in the power sector to enable him tackle the problem of power supply (*Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume and 103 Others*).

Debate:

Precedence:

The Standing Order of the House not being exhaustive, Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah, relying on Order I Rule I(b), urged the House to determine the question on whether a Co-sponsor of a Motion could speak against the Motion.

Further Debate:

Question, that a Co-sponsor of a Motion could speak against it, put and negatived.

Ruling: A Co-sponsor of a Motion cannot speak against the Motion (HP 01/2008).

Amendment Proposed:

(0 In Prayer (i), line 1, immediately after the word "investigation" insert the words "and conduct a Public Hearing" (*Hon. Solomon Agidani*).

Question put and agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (if), and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"Urge Mr President to declare a State of emergency in the Power Sector to enable him immediately begin to tackle the problem of steady Power Supply, which also is included in the seven point agenda of his Administration" (Hon. Ihiabe S. A. Positive).

Question put and negatived.

- (iii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (ii) (Hon. Nicholas Mutu).

Question put and negatived.

- (iv) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"That the National Assembly refrain from making Budgetary provision for Ministries, Department and Agencies for the purchase of generators in the 2008 Budget" (Hon. Ita Enang).

Question put and negatived.

- (v) In Prayer (ii), line 1 immediately after the word "Sector" *insert* the following words "and ensure that government agencies are barred from the use of generators to enable total commitment" (Hon. Kayode Idowu).

Question put and negatived.

- (vi) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"That the Finance, and Public Accounts Committee investigate the revenue of Power Holding Corporation of Nigeria (PHCN) which are into billions of Naira" (Hon. Leonard Dilkon).

Question put and negatived.

- (vii) In Prayer (i), line 2, immediately after the word "generation" *insert* the word "transmission" and after the word "distribution" *insert* the word "from 1999 - 2007" (Hon. Aro Bamidele).

Question put and negatived.

- (viii) In Prayer (i) line 3, after the word "result" *insert* the words "to report back to the House within 4 weeks" (Hon. Doris Uboh).

Question put and agreed to.

- (ix) In Prayer (i), line 3, after the word "result" *insert* the words "the Committee should hold a Public Hearing and report back to the House within 5 weeks" (Hon. Rufus Omiere).

Question put and negatived.

- (x) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"That the Federal Government should set aside certain amount due for the Power Sector to take care of the environmental neglect and the misery such power generation inflicts on the inhabitants of such areas" (Hon. Isa Usman Ambaka).

Question put and negatived.

- (xi) In Prayer (ii), line 1, immediate after the word "Sector" *leave out* all the words and *insert* the words "within the first quarter of this year" instead thereof (Hon. Murtar M. Ahmed).

Question put and negatived.

- (xii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"The President should set up a special Committee like the Committee on Electoral reforms to investigate and make recommendations on reforms on the Power Sector" (Hon. Friday Itulah).

Question put and negatived.

Main Question as amended put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Power supply is one of the essential requirements for industrial, technological economic and social transformation of any nation;

Worried that the level of power generation in the country has declined from 4500MW installed capacity, **it** is generating between 3000 to 3200 MW capacity only;

Disturbed that the last administration spent huge sums of money on power generation, transmission and distribution without commensurate results being achieved;

Concerned that despite repeated calls, orders and warnings by the Government of the day to the appropriate authorities to address these problems, there has not been any visible improvement;

Resolved to:

- (i) Mandate the Committee on Power and Steel to carry out a comprehensive and thorough investigation and conduct a Public Hearing into how the huge sums of money was expended on power generation transmission and distribution without any commensurate result and report back to the House within 4 weeks;
- iii) Urge Mr President to declare a state of emergency in the power sector to enable him tackle the problem of power supply (**HR. 07/2008**).

7. Extension of Sitting:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do extend the Day's Sitting to enable it deliberate on the other items on the Order Paper (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Question put and agreed to.

8. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Students Union Activities (Control and Regulation) Act, Cap. S14 Laws of Federation 2004 to Empower Institutions Highest Governing Body to Sanction Students and Bodies and Remove Clauses which Infringe on the Fundamental Human Rights of Students, 2008 — Second Reading:

Order read; deferred.

9. Adjournment:

And it being 1.55 p.m. the House adjourned till Tuesday, 5 February, 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker