



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

I

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 6 October, 2005

1. The House met at 10.55 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, 5 October, 2005.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Announcements:**
 - (i) **Obituary:**
Mr Speaker announced, with deep regret, the death, recently, of Mallam Bala Usman in Zaria. He eulogized Mallam Usman as a distinguished scholar and a renowned social-critic. He remarked that Mallam Usman's contributions to the constitutional development of Nigeria would remain indelible in our history.

Concluding, he prayed for the peaceful repose of the soul of Mallam Bala Usman and directed the Clerk to address condolence letters to the deceased's family and to the University Community in Zaria.
 - (ii) **Visitors:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence, in the Gallery, of Constituents from Zaria Federal Constituency, at the instance of Hon. Y. D. Baba-Ahmed.
- ii) **Conference Committee:**
Mr Speaker named Conferees to the Conference Committee on the Federal High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2005:
 - (a) Hon. Bala Ibn Na¹ Allah
 - (b) Hon. David Idoko
 - (c) Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum
 - (d) Hon. Mohammed Kumalia
4. **Petition:**
A petition was received and referred to the House Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. Y. D. Baba-Ahmed, from Mohammed Sani Dan-Indo, praying the House to investigate the circumstances of the refusal of his Party, the Peoples Democratic Party to register him as a Member.
5. **Presentation of Bills:**
 - (i) Prisons Bill, 2005 (HB. 186) — *Read the First Time.*
 - (ii) Police Public Complaints Bureau (Establishment) Bill, 2005 (HB. 190) — *Read the First Time.*

(HI) Special Advisers to the President (Prescription of Number) Bill, 2005 — *Read the First Time.*

6. Presentation of Report:

Committee on Appropriation:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Appropriations on the Virement proposal in respect of the Appropriation Act, 2005 and approve the recommendations therein" {*Hon. Farouk Lawari*}.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

7. Rising Cases of Arbitrary Arrests, Torture and Extra-Judicial Killings in Nigeria:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That:

The House:

Notes that Section 33(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees the right to life;

Further notes that Section 4 of the Police Act confers on the Nigeria Police Force the responsibility of detection and crime prevention, preservation of law and order and the protection of lives and property;

8 *Is mindful* of the unfavourable social and physical environment in which the Nigeria Police Force carries out its lawful duties;

Is disturbed by reports of numerous complaints of arbitrary arrests, torture and extra judicial killings without a corresponding scientific study of this rising phenomenon;

Is concerned that this phenomenon is antithetical to the rule of law and constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of our citizens;

Resolves to:

(ii Urge the Federal Government to set up a high-powered Judicial Commission of Inquiry to carry out a comprehensive inquiry, analysis and examination of numerous reports of all arbitrary arrests, torture and extra-judicial killings in Nigeria between 1999 and 2005;

(II Call on the Nigeria Police Force to embark on a massive education of its Officers and Men on the use of fire arms;

(iii) Mandate the House Committee on Police Affairs to conduct a Public Hearing on all arbitrary arrests, torture and extra-judicial killings in Nigeria between 1999 and 2005 and report to the House within one month (*Hon. Haruna Yerima and 8 others*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the words in prayer (i) (*Hon. Wumi Bewaji*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Main Question as amended put and agreed to. The House:

Noted that Section 33 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees the right to life;

Further noted that Section 4 of the Police Act confers on the Nigeria Police Force the responsibility of detection and crime prevention, preservation of law and order and the protection of lives and property;

Was mindful of the unfavourable social and physical environment in which the Nigeria Police Force discharged its lawful duties;

Was disturbed by reports of numerous complaints of arbitrary arrests, torture and extra judicial killings without a corresponding scientific study of this rising phenomenon;

Was concerned that this phenomenon was antithetical to the rule of law and constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of our citizens;

Resolved to:

(i) *Call* on the Nigeria Police Force to embark on a massive education of its Officers and Men on the use of fire arms;

(ii) *Mandate* the House Committee on Police Affairs to conduct a Public Hearing on all arbitrary arrests, torture and extra-judicial killings in Nigeria between 1999 and 2005 and report to the House within one month (HR. 36/2005).

8. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That A Bill for an Act to Re-organize the Role of the Federal Government in the Coordination of Hajj Matters, the Consequential Repeal of the Nigeria Pilgrims Act, 1989 and to Establish a Hajj Commission that will License, Regulate, Perform Oversight and Supervisory Functions over Other Bodies and Agencies and Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2005" and "A Bill for an Act to Re-Organize the Role of the Federal Government in the Coordination of Christian Pilgrim Matters, the Consequential Repeal of the Nigerian Pilgrims Act, 1989 and to Establish a Christian Pilgrim Commission that will License, Regulate, Perform Oversight and Supervisory Functions over Other Bodies and Agencies and Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2005" be Consolidated for Second Reading (Hon. Bala Ibn , Na 'Allah).

Resolved in the Affirmative.

(i) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That A Bill for an Act to Re-organize the Role of the Federal Government in the Coordination of Hajj Matters, the Consequential Repeal of the Nigeria Pilgrims Act, 1989 and to Establish a Hajj Commission that will License, Regulate, Perform Oversight and Supervisory Functions over Other Bodies and Agencies and Other Matters Connected Therewith 2005" be now read a Second Time (Hon. Usman Bugaje).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

(ii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That A Bill for an Act to Re-Organize the Role of the Federal Government in the Coordination of Christian Pilgrim Matters, the Consequential Repeal of the Nigerian Pilgrims Act, 1989 and to Establish a Christian Pilgrim Commission that will License, Regulate, Perform Oversight and Supervisory Functions over Other Bodies and Agencies and Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2005" be now read a Second Time (Hon. Ita Enang).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time, put and agreed to. Bill

read a Second Time and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9. A Bill for an Act to Make Provisions For the Payment of Compensation for Delayed Salaries, Allowances, Pensions and other Contingencies; and for Related Matters, 2005 (HB. 167) — *Second Reading.*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the Bill for an Act to make provisions for the Payment of Compensation for Delayed Salaries, Allowances, Pensions and other Contingencies; and for Related Matters 2005" (Hon. D. Y. Baba Ahmed).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Joint Committee on Public Service Matters, Employment and Productivity.

10. Adjournment:

That this House now do adjourn till Tuesday, 11 October, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.25 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker