



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 20 October, 2016

1. The House met at 11.16 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings**

Mr. Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 19 October, 2016.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

3. **Announcements**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Law Students Association, *National Open University*, Abuja Chapter;
- (ii) Staff and Students of *Lightway Academy*, Wuse II, Abuja; and
- (iii) Students' Representative Council, *University of Technology*, Akure, Ondo State.

(b) **Bereavement:**

By leave of the House, Hon. Adedapo Lam-Adesina (*Ibadan Northeast/Ibadan Southeast Federal Constituency*) informed the House that on Tuesday, 18 October, 2016 there was a fatal motor accident in Ibadan where several people lost their lives. He prayed the House to observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased.

*The House observed a minute silence in honour of the departed souls.*

4. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Sylvester George Umoh on the reduction of his pension allowance by the Pension Commission, was presented and laid by Hon. Ibora Ekanem Asuquo (*Ini/Ikono Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from CPL Anyua Terwase on his reinstatement into the service of the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Emmanuel Memga Udenye (*Katsina Ala /Logo/Ukum Federal Constituency*);

- (iii) A petition from Rev. David Abdulrahman Mohammed on the threat to his life by some members of his community in Lugbe District, Abuja - FCT, was presented and laid by Hon. Mohammed Nur Sheriff (*Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency*); and
- (iv) A petition from Abdulkadir Abdullahi Mohammed on his dismissal from the service of the Nigerian Navy, was presented and laid by Hon. Ahmed Garba Bichi (*Bichi Federal Constituency*).

*Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.*

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

- (i) ***The Need for Major Oil Ventures in the Niger Delta Region to be Encouraged to Partner with the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and the Niger Delta Ministry, to Build Roads, Bridges and other Major Infrastructures in the Region:***  
Hon. Ntufam Eta Mbora (*Calabar Municipal/Odukpani Federal Constituency and 4 Others*) 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 Need for Major Oil Ventures in the Niger Delta Region to be Encouraged to Partner with the NDDC and the Niger Delta Ministry to Build Roads, Bridges and Other Major Infrastructures in the Region:**

The House:

*Notes* the blunt refusal of major oil ventures in the Niger Delta Region e.g. Agip, Shell Development Corporation, Schlumberger, Samsung, Moni Pulo Petroleum Development, Addax Petroleum Development Nigeria Limited etc. to partner with NDDC and Niger Delta Ministry in the development of the Region;

*Aware* that the need to embark on capital intensive development projects that are required to fast track the development of the Niger Delta as occasioned by projects like the Ogbia-Nembe road which is partnered by NDDC and SPDC it is urgent and necessary for other companies to be encouraged to partner in the development of the Nembe-Brass and other linkage roads, and bridges within the region where the oil venture take place;

*Also notes* that the affected communities are overwhelmed by the non-committal tendencies of operating companies/ventures in the discharge of their corporate social responsibilities that are commensurate with the impact of oil exploration in the region;

*Also aware* that the convenient use of Helicopters and service boats by these oil ventures to their area of operations and explorations may also be responsible for the lack of commitment in the discharge of their corporate social responsibilities thereby having less concern to develop roads linking the affected communities and operational locations;

*Further aware* that the roads in the region are mostly bad and impassable especially when it rains as can be found in the urban areas in the Niger Delta, although one can argue that there has been some level of capacity building initiatives and few intervention in the areas of Education, Agriculture, skill acquisition, skeletal health amenities but the non-provision of roads in these region make it difficult for the communities to have access to some of these intervention and so they cannot relate socio-culturally and economically and exhibit the acquired skills;

*Concerned* that the grave consequences of non compliance of commitment in the discharge of adequate corporate social responsibilities by these major oil ventures in the region in addition to their statutory contribution and remittances continuously affect the socio-cultural and economic activities, heightened restiveness, and violence among youths, disruption of exploration activities and uncontrollable waste;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Mandate the Committees on NDDC, Ministry of Niger Delta, and Local Content to engage all the major oil ventures operating in the Niger Delta region and Governmental Agencies concerned to agree on a common and workable partnership framework for development of the region, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) amend the NDDC Act to include the representatives of these oil ventures in the NDDC board and ensure effective participation and remittances for development of the region (*Hon. Ntufam Eta Mbora — Calabar Municipal/Odukpani Federal Constituency and 4 Others*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* the blunt refusal of major oil ventures in the Niger Delta Region e.g. Agip, Shell Development Corporation, Schlumberger, Samsung, Moni Pulo Petroleum Development, Addax Petroleum Development Nigeria Limited etc. to partner with NDDC and Niger Delta Ministry in the development of the Region;

*Aware* that the need to embark on capital intensive development projects that are required to fast track the development of the Niger Delta as occasioned by projects like the Ogbia-Nembe road which is partnered by NDDC and SPDC it is urgent and necessary for other companies to be encouraged to partner in the development of the Nembe-Brass and other linkage roads, and bridges within the region where the oil venture take place;

*Also noted* that the affected communities are overwhelmed by the non-committal tendencies of operating companies/ventures in the discharge of their corporate social responsibilities that are commensurate with the impact of oil exploration in the region;

*Also aware* that the convenient use of Helicopters and service boats by these oil ventures to their area of operations and explorations may also be responsible for the lack of commitment in the discharge of their corporate social responsibilities thereby having less concern to develop roads linking the affected communities and operational locations;

*Further aware* that the roads in the region are mostly bad and impassable especially when it rains as can be found in the urban areas in the Niger Delta, although one can argue that there has been some level of capacity building initiatives and few intervention in the areas of Education, Agriculture, skill acquisition, skeletal health amenities but the non-provision of roads in these region make it difficult for the communities to have access to some of these intervention and so they cannot relate socio-culturally and economically and exhibit the acquired skills;

*Concerned* that the grave consequences of non compliance of commitment in the discharge of adequate corporate social responsibilities by these major oil ventures in the region in addition to their statutory contribution and remittances continuously affect the socio-cultural and economic activities, heightened restiveness, and violence among youths, disruption of exploration activities and uncontrollable waste;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) Mandate the Committees on NDDC, Ministry of Niger Delta, and Local Content to engage all the major oil ventures operating in the Niger Delta region and Governmental Agencies concerned to agree on a common and workable partnership framework for development of the region, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) amend the NDDC Act to include the representatives of these oil ventures in the NDDC board and ensure effective participation and remittances for development of the region (**HR. 138/2016**).

*Motion referred to the Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC).*

- (ii) ***The Need to Investigate the Status of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), Non-Core Assets Transferred to Nigeria Electricity Management Company (NELMCO) and Executed by Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) during the Liquidation of PHCN under the Electricity Power Sector Reform Act:***

Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam (*Nkanu East/Nkanu 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.*

***The Need to Investigate the Status of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), Non-Core Assets Transferred to Nigeria Electricity Management Company (NELMCO) and Executed by Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) during the Liquidation of PHCN under the Electricity Power Sector Reform Act:***

The House:

*Notes* that in 2011, in line with the PHCN liquidation pursuant to the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, Non-Core assets were transferred to Nigerian Electricity Liability Management Company (NELMCO) for disposal in order to recover finances;

*Also notes* that such non-core assets run into billions of dollars and are spread all across the country and the world;

*Aware* that these properties were supposed to be valued then transferred for sale or put to use that will recoup investments;

*Also aware* that these daunting times where our economy is facing recession and there have been calls for the sale of Federal Government assets, that these non-core assets are lying fallow and being misappropriated and abused;

*Concerned* that on the transfer of these assets, a lot of them are being leased at undervalued rates while some of them are being gifted to the Distribution Companies (DISCOs) and some have been diverted;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Mandate the Committees on Power, and Bureau for Public Enterprises to investigate the status and sale of all non-core assets under the PHCN regime;
- (ii) ascertain the methodology that was used for liquidation whether such properties were well valued; and
- (iii) ensure full compliance in the sale of properties that have not been sold and such funds transferred to the Federal Government and report back to the House within four (4) legislative weeks (*Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam — Nkanu East/Nkanu West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 139/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Power, Public Procurement, and Privatization and Commercialization.*

***Motion made and Question proposed,*** "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4), to enable it take more than two Matters of Urgent Public Importance" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

- (iii) ***Inhuman and Intimidating Treatment Meted on the Residents of Ifelodun /Ajeromi Federal Constituency, by Eko Distribution Company (DISCO):***  
*Hon. Rita Orji (Ifelodun/Ajeromi 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.*

**Inhuman and Intimidating Treatment Meted on the Residents of Ifelodun/Ajeromi Federal Constituency by Eko Distribution Company (DISCO):**

The House:

*Worried* at the inhuman treatment the residents of Amukoko LCDA, Lagos State have been undergoing in the hands of the Eko DISCO. For 10 days, Amukoko and its environs have been subjected to an eight day long blackout that has been causing a nightmare for residents. This came after the Electricity Distribution Company removed their Fuses for alleged non-payment of some outrageous utility bills running into hundreds of thousands. It has assumed a very high embarrassing dimension as several risk factors are in play;

*Also worried* that the resulting effects of the blackout will be enormous considering the population density of the Constituency and their businesses;

*Aware* that in addition to several health risks that could arise from carbon monoxide poisoning from improper use of generators during this period, the human risk for businesses extends to people who intend to commit a crime or who take advantage of this vulnerability during such instances. For instance, there was a reported case of abduction of two young girls who were trying to purchase fuel in the dead of the night;

*Also aware* that the outrageous bills that led to the disconnection couldn't have existed considering the near erratic supply of power to the area;

*Notes* that many houses have paid for the Prepaid Meters but yet none was installed;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Mandate the Committee on Power to delegate members of the group to ascertain the situation on the ground in Amukoko so as to avert a breakdown of law and order in the volatile communities and environs and report back to the House within two (2) weeks; and
- (ii) urge the Distribution Company in charge of the area to reconnect the lights and make sure adequate negotiation on how to manage the payment of the outrageous bills are established and to commence installation of Prepaid Meters in Ifelodun to forestall the occurrence of the outrageous bills (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the billing method of electricity distribution companies throughout the country” (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Awgu/Oji River Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Worried* at the inhuman treatment the residents of Amukoko LCDA, Lagos State have been undergoing in the hands of the Eko DISCO. For 10 days, Amukoko and its environs have been subjected to an eight day long blackout that has been causing a nightmare for residents. This came after the Electricity Distribution Company removed their Fuses for alleged non-payment of some outrageous utility bills running into hundreds of thousands. It has assumed a very high embarrassing dimension as several risk factors are in ploy;

*Also worried* that the resulting effects of the blackout will be enormous considering the population density of the Constituency and their businesses;

*Aware* that in addition to several health risks that could arise from carbon monoxide poisoning from improper use of generators during this period, the human risk for businesses extends to people who intend to commit a crime or who take advantage of this vulnerability during such instances. For instance, there was a reported case of abduction of two young girls who were trying to purchase fuel in the dead of the night;

*Also aware* that the outrageous bills that led to the disconnection couldn't have existed considering the near erratic supply of power to the area;

*Noted* that many houses have paid for the Prepaid Meters but yet none was installed;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) Mandate the Committee on Power to delegate members of the group to ascertain the situation on the ground in Amukoko so as to avert a breakdown of law and order in the volatile communities and environs and report back to the House within two (2) weeks;
- (ii) urge the Distribution Company in charge of the area to reconnect the lights and make sure adequate negotiation on how to manage the payment of the outrageous bills are established and to commence installation of Prepaid Meters in Ifelodun to forestall the occurrence of the outrageous bills; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the billing method of electricity distribution companies throughout the country (HR. 140/2016).

*Motion referred to the Committee on Power and to report back to the House in two (2) weeks.*

- (iv) ***The Need to Forestall the Breakdown of Peace in Olodiana Clan of Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, as a Result of the Operations of Azuzuama and Osiana Oil Field (OML 63) by Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) without the Mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Approval:***

Hon. Daniel Ofongo Henry (Southern Ijaw 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 Need to Forestall the Breakdown of Peace in Olodiana Clan of Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, as a Result of the Operation of Azuzuama and Osiama Oil Field (OML 63) by Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) without the Mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Approval:**

The House:

*Notes* that Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) has been operating in Olodiana Clan in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area for decades now;

*Worried* that Oil and Gas exploration activities do have severe negative effects on the ecosystem and health of the people living in the areas where such activities take place;

*Aware* that there have always been constant conflict between multinational oil/gas exploration companies and their host communities, hence, there is the need for engagement of all stake holders to have an understanding before such activities are carried out in those areas, which is the idea behind the Environmental Impact Assessment Act;

*Also notes* that sometimes in 2007, Nigeria Agip Oil Company (NAOC) entered a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with communities of Korokorosei, Ondewari, and Okpotuwari which are situated in the area where the Azuzuama and Osiama oil fields (OML 63) are located; to do some things which include developmental projects, employment of the indigenes, award of contracts to the indigenes etc, before carrying out their oil exploration activities, but unfortunately NAOC reneged from the MOU signed with the communities and went ahead with its activities;

*Concerned* that the activities of NAOC eventually resulted to spillages after two flare points were seen at the Osiama Oil field, which brought about destruction of the ecosystem in the area, and equally brought health issues of the inhabitants of the communities around the area;

*Also worried* that owing to the scale of operations of NAOC within the communities relating to flare points and oil wells, the Communities' Leadership found it necessary to investigate if NAOC had complied with the mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which ought to have been sought and obtained before the commencement of their operation in line with "Environmental Impact Assessment Act No. 86 of 1992". To the amazement of the Communities' Leadership, it was discovered that NAOC failed to obtain mandatory EIA approval to carry on with its operations;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Call on the affected Communities to maintain peace and be calm, since the resolution of the House of Representatives is pending; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment, and Gas Resources to investigate the issue and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative actions (*Hon. Henry Ofongo — Southern/Ijaw Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 141/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Gas, Environment, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), and Niger Delta Ministry.*

- (v) ***Need for Financial Assistance or Bailout for Automobile Industry in Nigeria:***  
Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi (*Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest 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 for Financial Assistance or Bailout for Automobile Industry in Nigeria:***

The House:

*Notes* that industrial growth, of which automotive industry is one, contributes to the nation's development in terms of increased foreign earnings, job creation and achieving other macro economic objectives;

*Also notes* that developed countries of the world such as the United Kingdom, USA, Germany, France, Italy, China, Spain, etc. depend on industrial development to revolutionalise their economic powers through manufacturing of goods for local consumption and exportation of same to other countries, as a booster to their foreign trades earnings;

*Aware* that inspite of the nation's automotive policy, aimed at creating enabling environment for automobile manufactures to operate by previous government, Nigeria's persistent gesture to already made automobile companies, such as NISSAN, TOYOTA, VOLKSWAGEN, KIA, etc. using our market for sales and distributions of their products, to establish their plants in Nigeria had yielded no result. Meanwhile Nigeria had a breakthrough into Automobile manufacturing industry in year 2010, with the commissioning of INNOSON MOTORS, being her first indigenous vehicle manufacturing company to cut down the country's dependence on importation of vehicle;

*Worried* that Innoson motors, in-spite of the euphoria which surrounded the establishment, as well as its expected contributions to the economy, has joined the league of industries and establishments shutting down operations in Nigeria; investigation reveals that INNOSON MOTORS, known for importation of basic motor components and engines from abroad and assembles them locally, is shutting down business due to unavailability of foreign exchange, borne out of economic recession;

*Also aware* that some developed countries of the world, witnessed economic recession at one time or the other, including the United States of America, which had its pills between late 2000s and early 2010s. The US government considering the importance of this sector came to the rescue of their indigeneous automobile industries like GM and CHRISTLER through provision of bailout and other incentives, including government patronage;

*Also worried* that allowing this company to shut down, while government folds its arms, will have negative effect on our economy by way of providing job loss, fall in local and foreign revenue, etc.;

*Resolves to:*

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee:

- (i) to interact with the relevant stakeholders in the sector with a view to finding solution by way of providing Financial assistance or a Bailout option for the Industry; and
- (ii) to Investigate inability of the Industry to access foreign exchange from Central Bank of Nigeria with a view to averting a total collapse of the Industry (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Northwest Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that industrial growth, of which automotive industry is one, contributes to the nation's development in terms of increased foreign earnings, job creation and achieving other macro economic objectives;

*Also noted* that developed countries of the world such as the United Kingdom, USA, Germany, France, Italy, China, Spain, etc. depend on industrial development to revolutionalise their economic powers through manufacturing of goods for local consumption and exportation of same to other countries, as a booster to their foreign trades earnings;

*Aware* that inspite of the nation's automotive policy, aimed at creating enabling enviroment for automobile manufactures to operate by previous government, Nigeria's persistent gesture to already made automobile companies, such as NISSAN, TOYOTA, VOLKSWAGEN, KIA, etc. using our market for sales and distributions of their products, to establish their plants in Nigeria had yielded no result. Meanwhile Nigeria had a breakthrough into Automobile manufacturing industry in year 2010, with the commissioning of INNOSON MOTORS, being her first indigenious vehicle manufacturing company to cut down the country's dependence on importation of vehicle;

*Worried* that Innoson motors, in-spite of the euphoria which surrounded the establishment, as well as its expected contributions to the economy, has joined the league of industries and establishments shutting down operations in Nigeria; iInvestigation reveals that INNOSON MOTORS, known for importation of basic motor components and engines from abroad and assembles them locally, is shutting down business due to unavailability of foreign exchange, borne out of economic recession;

*Also aware* that some developed countries of the world, witnessed economic recession at one time or the other, including the United States of America, which had its pills between late 2000s and early 2010s. The US government considering the importance of this sector came to the rescue of their indegeneous automobile industries like GM and CHRISTLER through provision of bailout and other incentives, including government patronage;

*Also worried* that allowing this company to shut down, while government folds its arms, will have negative effect on our economy by way of providing job loss, fall in local and foreign revenue, etc.;

*Resolved to:*

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee:

- (i) to interact with the relevant stakeholders in the sector with a view to finding solution by way of providing Financial assistance or a Bailout option for the Industry; and
- (ii) to Investigate inability of the Industry to access foreign exchange from Central Bank of Nigeria with a view to averting a total collapse of the Industry (**HR. 141/2016**).

**6. Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Nigerian Police Service Bill, 2016 (HB. 817).
- (2) National Open University Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 818).
- (3) Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 819).
- (4) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (HB. 820).
- (5) National Identity Management Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB.821).
- (6) Elderly and Vulnerable Persons Bill, 2016 (HB. 822).
- (7) National Energy Reform Bill, 2016 (HB. 823).

**7. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment, and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) — *Second Reading***

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**8. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) — *Second Reading***

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board Act, Cap. J1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Membership of the Board and Ensure that Results and Scores Obtained by Candidates Seeking Admissions into Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria are Valid within Four Subsequent and Consecutive Academic Sessions, and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 131) — *Second Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board Act, Cap. J1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Membership of the Board and Ensure that Results and Scores Obtained by Candidates Seeking Admissions into Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria are Valid within Four Subsequent and Consecutive Academic Sessions, and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 131) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mohammed Abdulkadir Mahmud — Agaie/Lapai Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Ordered:** *The Committee on Rules and Business to verify if a Bill on the same subject matter was transmitted from the Senate to the House for legislative action.*

10. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly: Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

(i) ***Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 706);***

(ii) ***Penal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 707);***

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negatived or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negatived or which were 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 Criminal and Penal Codes Acts (Amendment) Bills were 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 Bills have been re-gazetted as HBs 706 and 707, respectively and read the first time on Thursday, 23 June, 2016;

*Resolves to:*

Commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed — Gwale Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill recommitted to the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16.*

11. **Urgent Need to Complete the Reconstruction of Maiduguri-Bama-Banki Road**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the 130 km Road linking Maiduguri-Bama-Banki also connects Nigeria and Cameroun, as well as other neighboring States and is of vital economic and social importance to the people of Borno State, the entire North east zone, and Nigeria in general;

*Also notes* that the road has, over the years, been in such deplorable state that it had become a death trap before the Federal Government intervened by awarding a contract in 2007 to Messrs Standard Construction Limited to rehabilitate it;

*Aware* that progress of work on the project was hampered by the insurgency in the North East Zone which led to suspension of work by the contractor after having completed about 32.22% of the project;

*Also aware* that the commendable efforts of the Federal Government have led to the recovery of all the communities, and restored normalcy to those areas affected by the insurgency;

*Concerned* that if the construction work is not resumed given the huge presence of security operatives in the area, commuters will continue to face hardships and the economic activities may not fully resume;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works, and Housing to include the completion of work on the road in the 2017 budget proposal; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mohammed Nur Sheriff — Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 142/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).*

**12. Urgent Need to Avert a National Health Crisis through Revitalization and Adequate Funding of the Primary Healthcare System**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the wealth of any nation is the health of its citizens as advancement in the health sector and wellness of Nigerians will speed up economic recovery, especially during this period of recession;

*Aware* that previous Governments at all levels had invested considerably, but not enough to improve the sector commensurately as the state of health services and Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) remain dysfunctional;

*Also aware* that about 80% of ailments such as malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea, etc. and services including ante-natal and normal deliveries, minor injuries, immunization and other preventable diseases, are treated at that level;

*Further aware* that about 90% of the 34,000 Primary Healthcare Centres in the country are not functional at the moment, and according to a recent United Nations (UN) report, most of the PHCs do not have basic functional equipment and staff;

*Worried* that Nigeria is about to witness a shortage of vaccines as major donor agencies commence gradual withdrawal of support for funding vaccine procurement in Nigeria, and if adequate budgetary allocation is not made to the health sector, the result would be better imagined;

*Also worried* that funding remains a significant threat to the attainment of universal health coverage, given that Nigeria has consistently not allocated up to the minimum required 15% of the National Budget to the Health sector, as recommended by the African Heads of State Summit in Abuja in 2011, otherwise known as the Abuja Declaration;

*Concerned* that this might have contributed greatly to the non-attainment of the health related aspects of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Nigeria before the programme lapsed in December, 2015 and this portends great danger for the health and economic well-being of the current and future generations of Nigerians;

*Cognizant* that the nation is already witnessing the manifestations of the weak Primary Healthcare System in Nigeria, like the sporadic outbreak of cholera in parts of the South-East and Northern zone of the country, the new cases of Lassa fever in the South-South and now the resurgence of polio in the North East, which threatens to spread to other parts of Nigeria if urgent measures are not taken to address the matter;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to implement the Abuja Declaration by appropriating at least 15% of the National budget for the Health Sector in the 2017 Appropriation proposal; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to convene a public hearing to identify, harmonise and streamline additional sources of funding from Donor Agencies, National and International Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Bilateral and Multi-Lateral Agencies and Donors, including the Global Fund, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks, for further legislative action (*Hon. Chike Okafor — Ehime Mbano/Ihitte Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:  
“Urge the Federal Government to declare a state of emergency in the Primary Healthcare System in Nigeria” (*Hon. Edward Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (i) and *insert* as follows:  
“Urge the Federal Government to commence the implementation of Abuja Declaration relating to the Health Sector from 2017 Fiscal Year” (*Hon. Babangida Ibrahim — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the wealth of any nation is the health of its citizens as advancement in the health sector and wellness of Nigerians will speed up economic recovery, especially during this period of recession;

*Aware* that previous Governments at all levels had invested considerably, but not enough to improve the sector commensurately as the state of health services and Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) remain dysfunctional;

*Also aware* that about 80% of ailments such as malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea, etc. and services including ante-natal and normal deliveries, minor injuries, immunization and other preventable diseases, are treated at that level;

*Further aware* that about 90% of the 34,000 Primary Healthcare Centres in the country are not functional at the moment, and according to a recent United Nations (UN) report, most of the PHCs do not have basic functional equipment and staff;

*Worried* that Nigeria is about to witness a shortage of vaccines as major donor agencies commence gradual withdrawal of support for funding vaccine procurement in Nigeria, and if adequate budgetary allocation is not made to the health sector, the result would be better imagined;

*Also worried* that funding remains a significant threat to the attainment of universal health coverage, given that Nigeria has consistently not allocated up to the minimum required 15% of the National Budget to the Health sector, as recommended by the African Heads of State Summit in Abuja in 2011, otherwise known as the Abuja Declaration;

*Concerned* that this might have contributed greatly to the non-attainment of the health related aspects of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Nigeria before the programme lapsed in December, 2015 and this portends great danger for the health and economic well-being of the current and future generations of Nigerians;

*Cognizant* that the nation is already witnessing the manifestations of the weak Primary Healthcare System in Nigeria, like the sporadic outbreak of cholera in parts of the South-East and Northern zone of the country, the new cases of Lassa fever in the South-South and now the resurgence of polio in the North East, which threatens to spread to other parts of Nigeria if urgent measures are not taken to address the matter;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to commence the implementation of Abuja Declaration relating to the Health Sector from 2017 Fiscal Year;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to convene a public hearing to identify, harmonise and streamline additional sources of funding from Donor Agencies, National and International Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Bilateral and Multi-Lateral Agencies and Donors, including the Global Fund, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks, for further legislative action; and
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to declare a state of emergency in the Primary Healthcare System in Nigeria (HR. 143/2016).

**13. Call for Enforcement of Regulations against Collection of Revenues, Fees, Levies or Hackney Permits on Major Highways and to Curtail the Excesses of Task Force Teams and Union Members**

*Order; withdrawn by leave of the House.*

**14. Consideration of Reports**

- (i) *A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment, and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) (Committee of the Whole)*

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

- (ii) *A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Institute of Soil Science, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) (Committee of the Whole)*

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**15. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 25 October, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 2.14 p.m.*

**Yussuff Sulaimon Lasun**  
*Deputy Speaker*