



**SENATE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER**

Tuesday, 21st February, 2017

1. Prayers
2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
3. Oaths
4. Announcements (if any)
5. Petitions

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment
Consumer Protection Act (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 257)
Sen. Fatima Raji-Rasaki (*Ekiti Central*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on the Consumer Protection Act (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 257) - *To be laid.*
2. Report of the Committee on Works
Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 219)
Sen. Kabiru Gaya (*Kano South*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Works on the Federal Roads Authority Bill, 2017 (SB. 219) - *To be laid.*
3. Report of the Auditor General for the Federation
Senate Leader
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Auditor General for the Federation on the Accounts of the Federation of Nigeria for the year ended 31st December, 2015 Part 1 - *To be laid.*

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. The urgent need for the Federal Government to redeem Local Contractors Debts.
Sponsor: Sen. Oluremi Tinubu (*Lagos Central*)
Co-sponsors: Sen. Shehu Sani (*Kaduna Central*) Sen. Solomon O. Adeola (*Lagos West*)
Sen. David Umaru (*Niger East*) Sen. Magnus Abe (*Rivers East*)
Sen. Gbenga Ashafa (*Lagos East*)

The senate:

Notes that the Nigerian economy is experiencing difficult times caused by a slump in oil prices, with the result that a negative GDP (it shrank by 0.36% in the first quarter, 2.06% in the second quarter, and 2.24% in the third quarter) was recorded in three consecutive quarters of 2016. As a result there has been an increase in the rate of unemployment and increase in prices of goods;

Further Notes with interest, the CBN's report on the Federal Government's indebtedness to the local economy and its effects in protracting the current economic situation;

Disturbed that further delay in servicing these debts may adversely affect business organisations. Owing to the fact that many businesses are indebted to banks, further delay may subsequently affect financial organisations;

Further notes that a publication contained in the guardian newspaper of Tuesday, 10th January, 2017 alleges that banks are being owed over N465 billion by oil importers alone;

Disturbed because it is also alleged that the mounting debts owed to the banks is as a result of failure of the Federal Government to pay outstanding subsidy arrears before entering into the new oil pricing regime;

Further disturbed because a publication contained in the Nation Newspaper of Wednesday, 26th January, 2017 put Banks' bad loan at N856.9b; with the upstream oil and gas, general commerce, manufacturing and power sectors accounting for a significant portion;

Worried that this could spell doom for the banking and the financial services sector;

Concerned that inability to repay subsisting bank loans may affect the purchasing power of these Petroleum marketers, thus creating scarcity of Petroleum products;

Further concerned about the alleged failure to pay debts owed to Pharmaceutical Companies and the impact this may have on the health sector. This is contained in a publication by the Nation Newspaper on Monday, 6th February, 2017;

Disturbed that data released by the Debt Management office put Nigeria's domestic debt as at June 30, 2016 at over 10 trillion Naira. Local contractors debt is estimated to amount to an additional N2 trillion;

Opines that settling these local debts will ensure that affected businesses stay afloat through increase in the circulation of money in order to bring the current economic recession to an end;

Conscious and determined to ensure that Nigeria's economy recovers from this recession and is nursed back to prosperity in the shortest possible time,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Federal Government to appraise its indebtedness to the local contractors; and
- ii. Urge the Federal Government to propose a framework/repayment plan for servicing of these debts.

2. Illegal Importation of Fire Arms into the Country.

Senator Hope Uzodinma (Imo West)

The Senate:

Aware that on January, 27 2017, the Nigerian Customs Service in Lagos seized a truck load containing 661 Sophisticated Riffles illegally imported into the country from China, packed in 49 boxes and concealed with Steel Doors and other merchandize goods in a 40ft container;

Alarmed by the confirmation from the Service that the 40ft container with the 661 Pump Action Riffles were cleared at the Lagos Port by some Custom Officers and had infact left the port before it was intercepted at Mile 2 area of Lagos;

Worried that such quality of dangerous weapons that are completely prohibited from coming into the country could be cleared by the Custom Service for whatever reason, and even left the port to the streets of Lagos before it was intercepted;

Concerned that incidents of illegal importation of Arms appear to be on the ascendency in the country as exemplified in the reported cases of December 2016, when the Nigerian Customs Service, Tin-can Island

Command, intercepted a cache of Arms, Ammunition and Military Gadgets smuggled into the country from United State of America as well as several other incidents of interception of ammunitions in concealed Containers at different Ports, including the recent shocking discovery of large quantity of ammunition abandoned at the Nigerian Aviation Handling Company Ltd (NAHCO), Lagos;

Worried that the Scanning Machines at our Ports and entry points have become obsolete and dysfunctional thus incapacitating the operational efficiency of the Service;

Further Alarmed that this development is capable of worsening the fragile security situation in the country where Armed Robbery, Kidnapping, Insurgency and Terrorism abound, and that these illegal arms will more likely end up in the hands of Dissidents and Criminals;

Determined to ascertain how Illegal Arms are actually imported into the country in the first place by examining all the processes for importation of goods from issuance of form M, Shipping Companies up to single goods declaration and release, to clearance and delivery from the Ports,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Investigate* the recent incident of Illegal Importation of 661 Sophisticated Weapons into the country: the December 2016 incident, the NAHCO incident, and any other incident relating to illegal importation of Arms into the country and identify the importers and their collaborators, including customs officers if any;
- ii. *Examine* all the processes involved in importation of goods, and ascertain also who does what and how, in the said process, including Cargo Inspection, the model and status of scanning equipment used by the Service, with a view to determining whether the process and its operators are effective, efficient and of the required standard; and
- iii. *Come up* with recommendations to this distinguished senate within four (4) weeks on how to eradicate the menace of importation of Illegal Arms and Contraband Goods.

3. Unidentifiable Sooty Particulate dropping in Rivers State and its Environs

Sponsor: Sen. George Thompson Sekibo (*Rivers East*)

<i>Co-sponsors:</i>	Sen. Ike Ekweremadu (<i>Enugu West</i>)	Sen. Godswill Akpabio (<i>Akwa-Ibom North West</i>)
	Sen. James Manager (<i>Delta South</i>)	Sen. Osinakachukwu Ideozu (<i>Rivers West</i>)
	Sen. Barnabas Gemade (<i>Benue North East</i>)	Sen. Emmanuel Paulker (<i>Bayelsa Central</i>)
	Sen. Dino Melaye (<i>Kogi West</i>)	Sen. Enyinnaya Abaribe (<i>Abia South</i>)
	Sen. George Akume (<i>Benue North West</i>)	Sen. Usman Nafada (<i>Gombe North</i>)
	Sen. Ben Murray-Bruce (<i>Bayelsa East</i>)	Sen. Samuel Anyanwu (<i>Imo East</i>)
	Sen. Mao Ohuabunwa (<i>Abia North</i>)	Sen. Theodore Orji (<i>Abia Central</i>)
	Sen. Bassey Albert (<i>Akwa-Ibom North East</i>)	Sen. Nelson Effiong (<i>Akwa-Ibom South</i>)
	Sen. Foster Ogola (<i>Bayelsa West</i>)	Sen. Hope Uzodinma (<i>Imo West</i>)

The Senate:

Notes that there is in recent time's droppings of unidentifiable sooty particulates in Rivers State, which is suspected to be after-effects of Oil and Gas Exploration and Exploitation activities in the State;

Aware that Oil and Gas Exploration and Exploitation activities started in Rivers State and its environs since the discovery of Hydrocarbons in the Niger Delta region in 1957;

Aware also that the environment; including land, water and air has already been grievously polluted through the activities of the Multi-national Companies;

Further Aware that an environmental audit due to the degradation of the environment has never been carried out since the commencement of the Exploration and Exploitation activities in the area which has lasted for over 60 years, meaning that the contaminated environment remains without the hope of remediation;

Worried that the sooty particulate substances dropping in the state is becoming too visible that one cannot stay outdoors without receiving drops of them on one's body. It has become more worrisome that they are seen on bedspreads in bedrooms, worktops in kitchens, chairs and other materials in houses, meaning that they are entering through every available crevice into inner spaces of buildings as the wind directs them;

Concerned that residents of Rivers State have noticed logs of these sooty particulates settling in their nasal tracts which has occasioned cleaning of their nostril several times in the day;

Further concerned that the amount of these particulates that have been inhaled by Nigerians resident in the State cannot be estimated just as the after-effects of their inhalation have not been determined;

Disturbed that the sooty particulates are dropping on water bodies, farmlands and whatever is left under the sky, which may be detrimental to human health, as residents in the area are exposed to consumption of harvests from both the seas and the lands as well as drinking water from the water bodies;

Further worried that these particulates which are suspected to be by-products of hydrocarbons or crude oil that did not go through proper refining processes (incomplete combustion) may contain some chemicals that can pose some health hazards to the people;

Knows that air pollution has no boundary or limit within which it could be contained as means of containment of air pollution has not been discovered, therefore the possibility of spread of these sooty particulates to other neighbouring States to Rivers State and indeed the entire nation cannot be doubted;

Observes that recent outbreak of difficulty in breathing caused by congestion of nasal tracts of many residents in Rivers State could be linked to this epidemic;

Further observes that this may also be the cause of the many recent cases of deaths without noticeable ailments in many towns of Rivers State;

Knows further that it might become a national emergency if not handled appropriately from its root cause, hence the urgent need to carry out a comprehensive investigation of the causes of their occurrence, their chemical composition and likely side effects, as a stitch in time saves nine;

Understands that Rivers State Government has since commenced investigation of the likely causes of the droppings of these sooty particulates with a view to possibly addressing same;

Aware that the issue of clean environment is one of the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy of the Nigerian State as provided in Section 20 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), which states inter alia:

"(20) The State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard the water, air and land, forest and wild life of Nigeria";

Also aware that the 1999 Constitution, within the context of its Social Order in Section 17(2)(d) has admonished that exploitation of natural resources to the detriment of the human person shall be prevented as shown below;

"17(2)(d) Exploitation of human or natural resources in any form whatsoever for reasons, other than the good of the community, shall be prevented";

Recalls that in anticipation to forestall this type of emergency or occurrence and other hazardous pollution that may occur due to the Oil and Gas exploitation activities that the Federal Government set up the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) in 2006 with the following three cardinal objectives among others as provided in Section 5(a), (b) and (c) in its enabling Act:

"(5) The objectives of the Agency shall be to co-ordinate and implement the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for Nigeria (in this Act referred to as "the Plan") as follows:

(a) Safe, timely, effective and appropriate response to major or disastrous oil pollution;

- (b) *Identify high risk area as well as priority areas for protection and clean up;*
- (c) *Establish the mechanism to monitor and assist or where expedient direct the response, including the capability to mobilize the necessary resources to save lives, protect threatened environment, and clean up to the best practical extent of the impacted site etc.”;*

Recalls also that as provided in Section 6 of its establishing Act NOSDRA is also saddled with the responsibility to carryout surveillance, co-ordinate issues on oil spillage and associated pollution as well as implement such plan as may be issued by the Federal Government;

Dismayed that NOSDRA with this huge responsibility of preparedness, detection, and response to oil spillages (pollution due to oil refining activities) in the country has not lived up to its mandate of surveillance and monitoring and has therefore not informed the nation of this occurring national epidemics, while Nigerian citizens are suffocating due to this epidemic;

Disturbed that undue delay in identifying these sooty particulates and proffering the necessary solution to eradicate them may affect not only the lives of the residents of Rivers State but also that of its immediate neighbouring States of Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Abia, Imo and beyond,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to note that there is an impending environmental danger that is occurring in Rivers State and its environs due to unidentifiable sooty particulates dropping in the State;*
 - ii. *Urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and its Agency, National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) to immediately carryout a holistic investigation of the sooty particulates that are dropping in Rivers State and its environs and take steps to eliminate their occurrence;*
 - iii. *Invite the Minister of Environment and the Director General of NOSDRA to brief the Senate after preliminary assessment of the situation in Rivers State within 2 weeks; and*
 - iv. *Direct its Committees on Environment, Petroleum Upstream and Petroleum Downstream to visit Port Harcourt, the Rivers State Capital and carryout observatory assessment of the level of these sooty particulate substances dropping in Rivers State and its environs and report back to Senate within 2 weeks.*
4. *Befittingly renaming the Federal Airport, Benin City after the Late Omo N’Oba N’Edo, Uku Akpolokpolo, Oba Erediauwa, CFR, Oba of Benin Kingdom.*

Senator Matthew A. Urhoghide (Edo South)

The Senate:

Recognizes the selfless service of the late Oba Erediauwa, CFR, Oba of Benin to our great nation, Nigeria at a time when the services were most important to its existence;

Recounts those very important national duties as:

- a. *In 1952, Late Oba Erediauwa, as young Prince Solomon Akenzua, joined the Colonial Civil Service upon completion of a law degree from the Cambridge University. He worked extensively in the then Eastern Region as an Assistant District Officer serving as a judge in land cases as well as an administrator in the district which duties he discharged creditably;*
- b. *In 1965, he transferred to the Federal Civil Service, Lagos and rose to the rank of Permanent Secretary – a position he also performed in meritoriously;*

- c. In 1968, he became the substantive Federal Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Power and Steel which he helped immensely to stabilize to perform and operate optimally;
- d. In his capacity as a Federal Officer, he worked closely and tirelessly with the former military heads of state, General Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi and General Yakubu Gowon;
- e. In 1966, he was appointed by the then Head of State to serve on the Board of Enquiry in the crisis of the same year as secretary. His success in that role is public knowledge;
- f. As Permanent Secretary (Cabinet Office) he accompanied the then Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon to the Aburi Conference in Ghana and served as the Conference's Secretary. The beneficiaries of his services in that Conference are eternally grateful for his efforts;
- g. He served as Permanent Secretary 1 in the Ministry of Health immediately after the civil war ended and helped in formulating the health policies which were second to none at the time;
- h. In early 1970, Papua New Guinea which was on the verge of gaining independence from Australia, requested for a seasoned administrator to be sent to present a series of lectures and tutorials at conferences for the country's civil servants. Oba Erediauwa was the administrator sent by Nigeria for the job. To this day Oba Erediauwa's efforts in that appointment form a part of that nation's independence history;
- i. After retirement in 1973, Oba Erediauwa worked as Regional Representative of Gulf Oil until 1975;
- j. He took up appointment as Commissioner of Finance in the then Bendel State and also helped formulate financial policies which ensured the development of the state;
- k. Upon the demise of his father, Late Oba Akenzua II resigned from that appointment and in 1979 was crowned the Oba of one of the oldest, most traditional, most cultural, most revered and most consistent monarch in the world- the Great Benin Kingdom;
- l. Between 1986 and 1994, Oba Erediauwa was the Chancellor of Nigeria's premier university, the University of Ibadan in present day Oyo State;
- m. As Oba of Benin, he acted as unofficial adviser to successive presidents in Nigeria;
- n. In recognition of his immense contributions to nation building, he was awarded the prestigious national honor of Commander of the Federal Republic, CFR;
- o. He was chairman of the movement that ensured the creation of the present day Edo State from the then Bendel State in 1991;

Latches especially onto, amongst other achievements of this great Nigerian son, his role in the creation of Edo State from the then Bendel State, a role which necessarily made him the Father of Edo State;

Believes that Late Oba Erediauwa's memory is worth immortalizing when his achievements, numerous selfless services and contributions to Nigeria's development of this outstanding Monarch which are worthy of emulation and commendation are taken into consideration;

Believes Further that having served in federal capacities as enumerated above and in keeping with the tradition of immortalizing distinguished Nigerians by naming federal structures after them that the Benin Airport be named after Late Oba Erediauwa;

Aware that the Edo State Government House, Benin City, is located within the Kingdom of the Late Oba Erediauwa as several other federal ministries, departments and agencies of the government;

Mindful of the added argument that the Kingdom of Late Oba Erediauwa is host to the Benin Airport and in a state that the late revered Monarch worked hard to help create;

Mindful Further that the Benin Airport is only one and a half kilometers from the Palace of the Oba of Benin in the heart of Benin City, Edo State,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. By way of immortalizing this great Nigerian, rename the federal airport presently known and referred to as the 'Benin Airport' as 'Oba Erediauwa Airport';

- ii. Urge and or prevail on the relevant Ministry or Department or Agency vested with the duty of effecting the resolution of this motion to so do; and
- iii. Treat the resolution of this motion with dispatch in order to ensure that the change is effected in the earliest possible time.

5. The inability of Airlines to operate in Nigeria's Airspace, and Airports during the Harmattan period.

Senator Barau I. Jibrin (*Kano North*)

The Senate:

Notes the operational challenges that confront both Local and Foreign Airlines to operate successfully in Nigeria's airspace and land unhindered at the nation's Airports during the harmattan season;

Worried that whereas Aircrafts land and take off under zero visibility conditions in other less endowed countries than Nigeria, the same feat cannot be achieved in Nigeria at less than 800 meters range of visibility because of the lack of the appropriate navigational facilities in our Airports;

Observes that such challenges are clearly as a result of the absence of vital and functional operational facilities at the nation's Airports resulting in the creation of grave difficulties for Airlines every year;

Saddened that aside from the consequences posed to the safety of passengers, the situation has become an albatross and a grim threat to the continued operational viability of Airlines and a threat to its potential as a sub-sector for employment to Nigerians;

Further notes that the situation does not portray Nigeria in good light due to non-functional and decrepit aviation facilities, foreign and local airlines are constrained in their operations in Nigeria during harmattan period, and thus impacting negatively on the nation's economy;

Concerned that more often than not, airplanes are diverted to smaller neighbouring countries with state - of - the - art navigational facilities where such airplanes pay various sums of money as dues for the use of such Airports thus depriving Nigeria of earning such revenues,

Accordingly resolves to:

1. *Mandate* the Senate Committee on Aviation to conduct an immediate inventory/audit of facilities in all the nation's Airports with a view to ascertaining a clear understanding of the true state of affairs at our Airports;
2. *Call* on the Ministry of Aviation to take urgent steps to remediate all operational challenges that threaten the landing and take - off of Aircrafts at our Airports at all seasons of the year especially during the harmattan period; and
3. *Caution* Airlines that they must at all times be conscious of the grave consequences of operational complacency that threatens aviation safety, and the contribution of the sub - sector to the revenue net of the country.

6. Deplorable State of the National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos.

Senator Obinna Ogba (*Ebonyi Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that many years ago, after football ceased to be a mere novelty exercise in Nigeria the Federal Government decided to build a National Stadium in Lagos. The goal principally, was to help improve the standard of the game and peradventure stimulate private participation in the sponsorship of football matches and other sporting events in the long run as it is done worldwide to achieve the aforesaid goals. Therefore, when the stadium was built in 1972, to among other things, host the *All African Games in 1973*, it had a capacity of 55,000, which was then reduced to 45,000 in 1999. It recorded the highest attendance of 85,000 during the final match of the African Cup of Nations in 1980 between Nigeria and Algeria, which Nigeria won and it was the first time ever that the country won the African Cup of Nations;

Notes also that the National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos was at a time in this country, a national monument and a symbol of national pride, which has played host to several national, continental and international competitions, including the *All African Games in 1973*, *Africa Cup of Nations in 1980*, the *FIFA Under-20 World Youth Championship in 1999* and the *2000 Africa Cup of Nations co-hosted by Nigeria and Ghana*, etc;

Worried that this once iconic stadium and pride of the nation has become a shadow of itself where you can only see dead electronic scoreboards, non-functioning floodlights and a totally dis-repaired pitch. The last major competition that was held there was the final of the *2000 Africa Cup of Nations*, jointly hosted by Nigeria and Ghana, where the rusty billboard advertising a television station as the host broadcaster of the tournament is still seen in the premises of the stadium as a testament of this state of neglect;

Worried also that the stadium now serves as a parking lot for the smaller Teslim Balogun Stadium, which is located opposite it. At nights, under the cover of darkness, without functioning floodlights, it becomes home to shady characters and miscreants who loiter around its premises to carry out nefarious activities. Other indoor sporting facilities in the stadium are not any better; from the dirty-algae-infested swimming pool which has not been used for years and the worn-out tartan tracks, to the boxing gym- all in need of urgent renovation and rehabilitation;

Observes that if all the national stadia along with all their facilities are maintained and updated with state of the art equipment, Nigeria will not be wasting colossal amount of money on overseas' trainings for our sportsmen and women. Also, it will afford the country the opportunity of not expending huge sums of money for the purpose of maintenance or construction of new stadia when the country is to host continental or international sporting events in the future;

Further Observes that the National Stadium Abuja is also in terrible state of disrepair due to the inability of the Federal Government to meet up its financial obligations to Julius Berger, the company hitherto responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the stadium,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge* the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency, renovate and rehabilitate the national stadium Surulere, Lagos with a view to revamping it to meet international standard for effective and efficient use so that such a monument that huge amount of money was spent to put together, will not be lying waste;
- ii. Urge* the Federal Government to empower the Federal Ministry of Youths and Sports through its department on Stadia and Facilities Management with adequate budgetary provisions for regular, routine and turnaround maintenance, refurbishment and rehabilitation of all national stadia in the country;
- iii. Urge* the Senate Committee on Sports and Youth Development to, from time to time and as part of their mandate, embark on inspection/tour of all national stadia across the country as part of its legislative oversight responsibilities to ensure that the stadia are adequately maintained and rehabilitated by the relevant authority; and
- iv. Mandate* the Federal Government to as a matter of National interest hand over the management and maintenance of the stadium back to Julius Berger.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Information and National Orientation	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building
2.	Power, Steel Development & Metallurgy	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	2.30pm	Committee Room 431 Senate New Building
3.	Customs, Excise & Tariff	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	1.00pm	Committee Room 231 Senate New Building
4.	INEC	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	4.00pm	Committee Room 204
5.	States and Local Government Administration	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	1.00pm	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
6.	Joint Committee on Fact Finding visits to Kaduna	Tuesday, 21 st February, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 211 Senate New Building
7.	Niger Delta	Tue. 21 st & Wed. 22 nd February, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building
8.	Finance	Wednesday, 22 nd February, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 211 Senate New Building
9.	Finance	Monday, 27 th February, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building