

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

Thursday, 14th April, 2016

The House met at 11.15 a.m.

PRAYERS

(The Speaker in the Chair)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I have examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 13th April, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Notification of the Passing of the Father In-Law
of Hon. Herman Hembe and Invitation to the 40th
Day Prayer**

The Speaker: Hon. Members, let me read this announcement:

I wish to notify hon. Members and Mr. Speaker of the passing away of my father in-law Chief Dakpo Kadiejo and to invite Members in the vicinity and who have the time to join me on the 40th Fidau Prayer, on Saturday, 16th April, 2016 in Lagos.

Hon. Herman Hembe
(Announcer)

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC PETITIONS

The Speaker: Any Member who has a petition to present to the House should please rise to do so.

**Abuse of Office and Breach of Fundamental
Human Rights and Negligence of Duty by
FCT High Court Administration**

Hon. Adamu Ochepo Entonu (Apa/Agatu): I have a petition from one Gateway Group against Justice Lawal Gumi retired, Justice Jude Okeke, FCT High Court, Chief Registrar FCT High Court, Mrs Oluwatoyin Yahaya, Director Litigation Mrs. Uche Ezinne Bilkisu, for abuse of office and breach of fundamental human rights and negligence of duty by FCT High Court Administration.

Sometime in 2010 the Gateway Group secured judgment against Alh. Abubakar Abdulaziz Yari to eject him from a property at No. 1 Fatayi Williams Asokoro, the judgment was executed and Alh. Yari's properties were sealed to enable him to meet up with the outstanding rates as contained in the judgment. Surprisingly, the entire scenario changed the next day. The FCT Court officials colluded with Alh. Abdulaziz Abubakar Yari and his agents to deny them access to their property, more worrisome is the fact that the property has been vandalised and reduced to a mere carcass.

The petitioner is seeking the intervention of this Hallowed Chamber to cause a thorough investigation in to this matter, with a view to restoring their property to its habitable state as at when it was initially recovered and pay the entire outstanding amount accordingly. With your kind permission I would submit this petition.

Petition laid.

**National Youth Movement from Moral Rebel,
Imo State Chapter**

Hon. Bede Eke Uchenna (Aboh Mbaise/Ngor Okpala): I have a petition from the National Youth Movement from Moral Rebel, Imo State Chapter. The petition talks about financial impropriety in Alvan Ikoko College of Education Owerri against the Provost, Dr Mrs Blessing Ijeoma. The petitioners are praying that the House should investigate award of contracts during her tenure, employment and replacement spread during her tenure and entire handling of financial resources during her tenure.

With your permission I would lay the Petition before the House.

Petition laid.

All Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

ANNOUNCEMENT

**Hon. Adams Jagaba Thanksgiving Programme
in Chagwa**

The Speaker: All hon. Members who wish to attend Hon. Adam's Jagaba thanksgiving programme in Chagwa on Saturday, are advised to assemble at the

Hon. Speaker's residence, by at 8 a.m. latest.
Departure is 8.15 prompt.

Hon. Riman Shawulu
(Announcer)

**Marking of Two-Year Anniversary of the
Abducted Chibok School Girls**

The Speaker: Today is the second anniversary of the abduction of Chibok School Girls. We are all in red today. I would recognise Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir to move a Motion: *For Purposes of Today's Proceeding We Are All Chibok.*

**MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

**Need to Intensify Search and Rescue of
Abducted Chibok School Girls**

Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir (Chibok/Goza/Dambuwa): I present a very important Motion of urgent public importance. It is on the: *Need to Intensify Search and Rescue of Abducted Chibok School Girls on the Occasion of Two Years Anniversary of their Abduction.*

I urge this House to consider this matter as urgent and suspend the relevant rules and allow me to take it now. I rely on Order VIII, Rules 46 and 49, I so move.

Hon. Elendu-Ukeje Nnenna Ijeoma (Bende): I second this very important Motion as moved by Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir.

Question put and agreed to.

Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang (Jos South/Jos East): I second the second leg of this important Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the matter is of urgent public importance and it should be taken immediately.

Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move:

The House:

Notes the condemnable abduction of 267 school pupils of Government Girls Secondary School, Chibok, Borno State by the Boko Haram insurgents on the 14th April, 2014, where 56 out of that number were able to escape, remaining 219.

Also notes and commends the efforts of security agencies in the search and rescue of the abducted school girls as well as the military campaign against the Boko Haram insurgency.

Aware that today marks the two years anniversary of that dreadful incident and the girls are yet to be freed or their whereabouts known.

Concerned about the safety of the abducted girls as two years is too much a period for them to remain in custody considering that they risk being subjected to untold hardship, slavery, molestation, abuse, rape, pregnancy and forceful marriage in the hands of their abductors.

Further concerned about the plight of the abducted girls and the agony their parents go through each day they remain in captivity.

Worried that if the Chibok School girls are not rescued on time, their condition will worsen and chances of rescuing them in good condition diminish by the minute.

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government, especially the military, to form an intelligence team to intensify the search and rescue of the abducted Chibok girls and return them to their parents as a matter of priority.
- (ii) Urge the Federal Government to assist the parents of the abducted Chibok School girls who are emotionally devastated and cannot engage in any other meaningful or gainful activity but to search for the children endlessly.
- (iii) Observe a minute silence in honour of the parents of the missing girls who lost their lives and those who lost their lives in captivity and insurgency.

The Speaker: We will take contributions from the Floor. Hon. Asabe do you want to lead the Debate? I guess you have presentation so we will open the Floor

to other hon. Members who may want to contribute to the Debate.

Hon. Elendu-Ukeje Nnenna Ijeoma: Mr. Speaker, today marks 730 days that our girls had been in captivity; it marks a long dark story that started with the slaughter of 57 boys in beds in Buniyadi. When that happened, the enormity and the gravity of that crime was too painful for us to remember and so we chose to forget it.

The oxygen that terrorist require is the publicity that is given them. The 57 boys did not give them that publicity and so they went to the secondary school and picked 267 defenceless girls and abducted them. As at the time, opinions were divided, some people did not just want to wrap their minds around the fact that there was a possibility that this could happen, because things like this just never happened in Nigeria. They happened in Afghanistan and far places that were under the firm grip of terrorism. The truth of the matter is that was the day that our dear country lost her innocence and we were exposed to the sheer enormity and the horror that the people of the North East has been battling with for a long time.

Let me say that this is an opportunity to congratulate the very resilient men and women of the Bring Back our Girls Campaign because they have ensured that we do not forget. They have sat down, come rain come shine to remind us that our girls are out there. The last elections were another constant reminder of the fact that these girls were out there. Elections campaigns supposed to highlight our differences on the same subject and we did. We brought it up, we talked about it, the Chibok girls were front, right and center in the discourse of election agenda in much the same way as deepening democracy we use foreign policy, economic policy and so on and so forth they were there.

Let me say that the lethargy and complacency since then is what we witness. Government of course has done everything that government must do: government has strengthened the Nigerian Armed Forces, they have used diplomatic means, and the President has been everywhere to talk to them about fighting terrorism. We have used institutional means, the North East Development Commission, but the truth of the matter is that our girls are still out there.

Today I speak to them, the people who abducted these girls, that no matter how noble your cause is, when the mode of making your cause known is abducting little boys who in their beds have nothing

but probably their pyjamas to help themselves and little defenseless girls, then you have lost your chance to explain or rationalise your cause. You have carried on as people who have no fear of God, no love for country, and no respect for humanity; you have carried on like people who have no soul and who hate humanity.

“Stop fighting to eradicate Boko Haram because we believe that violence never begets peace.” That is what they say to us. But whatever it is that they want to tell us, by killing these girls, they lose the moral justification to continue to say nothing that makes any sense. For two years we have spoken to government to bring back our girls; we have said it and we have said that we have not forgotten the girls. But it is very difficult so to do; Mr. President and the soldiers have said it.

Let me say to the people who have these girls, that rape is not a man’s crime, taking girls and defiling women who do not want you is not a man’s crime, blowing up defenceless people who want to go to work and say they are soft targets is not a man’s crime, hiding and slaughtering little boys in their beds is not the way a man fights a battle. I have seen the pictures of the people who have been blown up; none of them is the despicable picture of the person who claims that he leads this sect. If he thinks what he fights for is worth dying for, let him put on a belt of bomb and blow himself up.

Let me say that while we implore them to bring back our girls, we ask them to release our girls. If you want to fight a battle face the newly equipped Nigerian Armed Forces, face the newly energized Nigerian Armed Forces, come out of your holes and fight like men but release the girls, they do not carry your message.

In conclusion, let me say to the girls out there, that every time we hear that they are raped, every time we hear that one of those girls is killed, every time those girls remain in captivity, we are bound and as a country we shall never forget.

Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku (Dukku/Nafada): Today is exactly two years since members of Boko Haram sect abducted 276 female students from the Chibok School. Somehow 57 girls managed to escape. Sadly however, 219 girls still remain in captivity two years later.

Today, we reflect on this sad note. When they were kidnapped, the Chibok girls were 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,

16 and 17 years old. Today, they are 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 years, leaving out the formative years of their lives in deplorable conditions away from their families and communities. Our voices must be heard on this issue. We must engage all relevant stakeholders to secure the freedom of their lives. The Chibok girls have the fundamental human right, freedom of movement, to education and to the full realisation of their human potential.

Hon. Colleagues, according to various human right organisations and accounts by some of the kidnapped girls who escaped, many girls who remain in captivity are being forced by Boko Haram to participate in insurgent activities throughout Nigeria and the region. The girls have been raped, drugged, beaten and brainwashed by the insurgents and are being used as suicide bombers, torturers and even as killers on behalf of their captors.

It has been two years and we must continue to fight for the return of these girls as strongly as we started. We must continue to fight for the freedom of the least among us including the educated doctors, the old parents that have been captured. We must continue to fight for their freedom collectively. The bottom line is our obligation in the human family must revolve around and be grounded in our conviction and commitment to the rights to freedom of movement, freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and the freedom from fear or terrorism, among others.

To these young girls who are still in the claws of this Boko Haram, I want to tell them that we have not forgotten them; we have not stopped fighting for them and we have not stopped fighting for their safe return. We are counting on them to remain steadfast, to remain strong and to be assured that help *insha Allah* is on the way. Their best days are yet to come. We know that when girls thrive, our world thrives and it is going to be a better life for all of us and for them *insha Allah*.

Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung (Barikinladi/Riyom): I stand to lend my voice to this all-important issue, the second anniversary of the abduction and the continuous captivity of the Chibok girls.

On a day like this, as we remember the horrors of terrorism that has been meted on this nation by Boko Haram. It is also an opportunity for us to appreciate the gallantry of our Armed Forces in fighting Boko Haram terrorism in our nation. Many of our Armed Forces men and women have paid the supreme price,

including one from my constituency, Major General Yusha'u, who was the Field Commander of the Operation Lafiya Dole who lost his life in a ghastly motor accident, and many others like him that have in the process of fighting to restore peace and to liberate Nigeria from the terrorism of Boko Haram. We want to note their gallantry and sacrifice.

We also want to acknowledge the sympathy and solidarity that Nigeria has enjoyed from the international community, global leaders, world celebrities that have identified with the quest for the liberation of the Chibok girls. We will also pay special tribute to the Bring Back our Girls campaign and other civil society, groups that have continue to sensitise Nigerians and to chip this matter on the front burner.

We want to note particularly the recent globally circulated video that has indicated that the girls may still be alive and to urge Mr. President and the Nigerian High Command of the Military to do all that is humanly possible to ensure the safe release and return of these girls, particularly now that this video has given us a ray of hope, and rekindle our hope that these girls are still alive. All that we need to do as a nation is to mobilise our security capacity, and our intelligence capacity to ensure that the girls are brought back safely.

We want to also celebrate the mothers, the fathers and Nigerian people, particularly the fathers of these girls, their mothers that have endured a lot of trauma and to pray that not too long from now the gallantry of our Armed Forces will result in the safe release and return of the girls.

Hon. Onyemaechi Joan Mrakpor (Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South): I want to lend my voice to this very serious and all-important matter. What has happened with the Chibok girls is not just a pain to the immediate families, it is an insult to the Nigerian nation; it is a diversion of destiny of the young girls and it is what every well-meaning Nigerian should begin to take a second look at. It is two years now and one would have hoped that by now it is something that we would have put to rest. Unfortunately the girls are still there. Like the last speaker said, we are hoping believing that they are alive.

But I just want to add that we still have so many Chibok girls out there, apart from the identified Chibok girls that are being captured everyday on their way to school; on their way to support their parents to earn a living. They are hijacked into unprepared

marriage, they are kidnapped, assaulted and kept somewhere for as long as it pleases whoever is keeping them.

At this time, it is a very big challenge as it is affecting the girl education. Now if you have a girl-child going to school almost we want to escort that child by whatever means. So many other girls will see the need for them not to go to school. Looking at the ratio of men to the women in the Chamber and by the time there is a threat to what should have enhanced the women education, it is something we should look at. I want to say at this period and time, the Nigerian Nation, authorities, security agencies should please do something a step ahead, something stronger that should be more effective than what is already in place to see that the girls return to this great nation.

Hon. Ekpoatai Owoidighe Ime (Eket/Onna/Esit Eket/Ibena): It is two years today that we heard on the news that girls were adopted in their school at Chibok. I was wondering what is the cause of this; why is that when adopters or kidnappers who go out for any adoptee they go for girls or women, the weak ones

Today we mark the two years, and now every day the parents go to bed they will be wondering what is happening to their children, where are they? They are not safe. We should own up that if they are our own children what should we do? It is not only the government that should put action, even we in the House of Representatives should put action by contributing to the Federal Government's action, in one form or the other, to search and rescue the Chibok girls.

The girls are missing their education, losing dignity, and missing the benefits of their growing age. By the time they were kidnapped and adopted they were about fifteen to twenty years and we are aware the trouble they are passing through; some have given birth twice as read in the news and. Imagine a girl to have given birth to children two times in two years, you can imagine the trauma that girl is passing through. I urge us to put action on ground and not only marking it here.

I want to congratulate and thank our Nigerian troop for going out there and work and search for these girls all over the States of Yobe, Adamawa, and the entire North-east. Unfortunately, up till today we have not found them. I also congratulate the Bring Back Our Girls Group who in rain and sun go out there to sensitise the public of the happenings, to convince the Nigerian people that these girls were actually adopted.

We know they are not safe at all, and we want to plead that the adoptee, if they want to fight war, they should come out to the battle front so that we know they are fighting war; but do not fight war with people that are very weak and have no weapon. Tell us what you want to do with the girls captured and have been shown in the video that are still there? We have enduring hope and beg the parents not to lose hope that these girls will come back one day. We pray that the Almighty God will cause the adopters to return these girls to their parents so that Nigeria will be safe.

Today, it is Chibok girls; tomorrow we would not know who will be the next victim. We pray that no other victim will come up because it is really painful that you sleep and wake every day to see your child is no more. When the video was played some parents did not see their children and we all know the problem and some girls might have die because of this. We should wake up as Nigerians who owns these girls and put action in place to make the security operatives have more intelligence of where these girls are so that they can be rescued and returned to us.

We pray God will help Nigerians that these girls will come back alive.

Hon. Binta Bello (Kaltungo/Shongom): Mr Speaker, first and foremost I will start by thanking this hallowed Chamber for giving me the support on the issue of Chibok girls, which started since the Seventh Assembly, and appreciate all the effort of legislation on the issue of Terrorism in North-east the kidnap of 257 girls.

Today marks the 730 days which I believe are days of agony, pains and destablised Chibok town because every day they sleep and wake, they wake with the pains, thinking if the girls are alive and when they will set their eyes on them. Yesterday when I was watching the clips sent by CNN I shed tears when some mothers are identifying their children myself as a mother and sister to those girls and someone closer to them I felt that If I can cry, what about the mothers that gave birth to those girls and all these long nights; and agony of just one night cannot be quantified with 730 days of hopeless nights.

We as women and Nigerians appreciate the contribution of the men because we believe that everybody in Nigeria stand by us during this period. We will want to continue to commend the Federal Government now that the Armed Forces are accessing the Sambisa forest; they are accessing some part that before now they cannot access. We need the

government to do more; we do not say that we do not appreciate the effort of government because a lot of progress has been made. But government needs to do more by bring some technologies like goggle map and other things they can use in the forest to locate even if it is only the part where those girls were found; may be tangible information will be given out and will lead to success.

I therefore, thank Nigeria for standing by us and would want to say the struggle continues until we find and bring them back, and put smiles on the face of their mothers. They are saying even if they are dead or gone mentally disorder, they still want to see them and take them back, because what they carried for nine months in their tommy is not something they can just forget, more especially girls that are helpful to them.

We need them back and we appreciate the Bring Back Our Girls' effort and also appreciate the Government of Nigeria and all those people that come on board to fight for the success of bringing those girls back. We thank you all.

Hon. Okechukwu Toby (Aninri/Agwu/Oji-Uzo): Mr. Speaker, today marks the second anniversary of the date which Boko haram infamously adopted our girls. It speaks to the haram that Boko Haram is that its activity, action, adoption offends Islam. That action offends the Nigerian humanity, Christianity, it offends our laws.

As a matter of fact, it broke our innocence and we must appreciate today and the sustenance of this struggle with regards to adoption and activities of Boko Haram. Wherever it is mentioned it is a red flag. We must continue to sustain this struggle and I believe that whatever action and whatever war we are levying against terror, it cannot come to an end if we do not come to a conclusion with regards to what has happened to our girls. We must be focused; we must be dedicated to it.

And this calls to question, the degree to which science can be exploited. It calls to question human intelligence and we are aware that in our communities, in our places, we have people who have carried out this heinous crime. We must dedicate our efforts to community effort, to building our society. How can, in Nigeria, people with conscience wake up and pick 270 girls who were ordinarily trying to advance their education. It is a big question mark with regards to the activities of Boko Haram. Whatever their cause is, whatever their mission is; it puts a lie to whatever that aspiration is. That effort to pick our girls speaks to the

inhumanity with regards to what they have done to Nigeria.

We appreciate the circumstances of our people in the North-East; it is not easy. That is a section of the country that has been put back 30 years. Much more than the physical destruction that has gone there, the destruction with regard to the spirit and lives of our people in the North-East should not be taken for granted.

I believe that in remembering this, we should further rededicate ourselves to ensuring that whatever of that nature will creep up anywhere; North-East, North-West, South-East, South-South, North-Central, any part of this country, should not be a victim of such degree of destruction. And whatever circumstances that will give rise to it, we shall with our common mind and common will, make sure that it is averted.

I will plead with my Colleagues that we will support this Motion.

Hon. Agbonayinman Johnson Ehiozwa (Egor/Ikpoba/Okha): I sympathise and I am highly pained by what we have witnessed almost two years now about our own children, the Chibok girls. It could have happened to you and I; they could have been my children, your children. I am happy that in this Eight Session, putting partisan politics aside, we have come as one to support the fight against this animosity, this chaos, this embarrassment that have been brought to our dear nation.

The Children, they have been kidnapped for all these while, the parents have been through a lot. It is difficult for us to say we can feel their pains, that we know what they are going through because we have not gone through that experience before, except themselves, having this sleeplessness day and night.

I want to appreciate you and my great honourable Colleagues that this issue is an issue all over the world today. In Nigeria today everything is about these Chibok girls. Even United State of America (USA), Great Britain look at what they have done in their Parliament. For almost one week now every day the US Congress has been holding talks about how to help Nigeria that these children must be brought back to their families. The support for Nigerians cannot be over emphasized; it is something that every Nigerian citizen, every good citizen of this world says is unacceptable. It is an appalling situation, looking at their parents, crying why they cannot hold their

children in their hands because of some people who believe that the right thing to do is to hurt others.

I am pained because this is not the country that I used to see; that we no longer want to be our brothers' keepers. It is said that God is Love and Love is God. Our great heroes who fought for the unity of this nation are there with God Almighty weeping about what is happening to our dear nation. Apart from Boko Haram insurgency issue is not only for President Buhari, it is an issue for all for us, deserving our collective effort.

My dear Friends, my dear Brothers, my dear Sisters, Nigerians should stand to fight this common cause that those who are embarrassing us are all our enemies. They are enemies of our great nation, they are enemies of the whole world and they are enemies of this great House. We must stand to defend our nation, and be prayerful for those children that they will be brought back in good health because good health is wealth.

Finally, what is important now is to put politics aside, this started way back in 2014. It is not the former President Jonathan issue, it is not President Buhari issue, it is an issue for all of us, and we must come together as a nation to fight this common cause that our children should not suffer this way. I plead with all of you, and I plead with Nigerians to support this great wonderful initiative.

Today, I can see a lot of red caps to show solidarity that we are standing with the parents; we are standing with the children. I must not fail to appreciate those Americans who took some of these Chibok girls, they have paid their school fees, those who were able to finish in the school, they are today in America being sponsored by Americans congress men and women. We here should do something to support the parents of those children Whatever we do is not enough; we should not leave the parents outside to suffer. We must support the parents. We must be there for them, not only making speeches, we must be proactive. Action must speak rather than voice.

Thank you.

Hon. Onyejiocha Nkeiruka (Isuikwuato/Umu-Nneochi): It is with heavy heart and frustration that I speak on this Motion today, two years after the adoption of these Chibok girls. I stood here last year to say that no mother, no matter who she is, can sit down and enjoy life when one of her kids is missing. Now

we are talking about over two hundred girls and the circumstances that surrounded their abduction at that time. And as if that one is not enough. The same people had gone on maiming, killing and destroying lives as if they are invisible, as if they are not living on this planet earth, as if they are just air; that they not breathe; nobody can touch them, see, even feel them. So that is the more reason why I get frustrated every day.

The critical question to ask is: In as much as we want these girls back and we see video clips, are these girls still alive? Is it possible to keep over two hundred people in one place in this country and nobody knows? There are no noises, they are not playing, crying or doing anything. So, it is a bit worrisome to me as a person. I will keep asking this question: Where are these girls? If we know where they are, then we begin to look for solution and process of recovering them. I still believe that there are a lot of things that we need to know concerning these girls because honestly speaking, we are all politicians. If we call meeting of fifty or hundred people in your compound, there is no way someone passing would not know. There is no way that neighbours or villagers would not know! That brings me to what my Colleague said about traditional institutions and about our neighbours. When they were moving over two hundred girls away people, were not in that village; nobody saw them? At the point they took them to Sambisa forest, one day, two days, three days, four days, up to over 700 days! It is very, very sad.

So, at this juncture, I would say that my heart goes to the parents and the relatives of these girls because I know that even when somebody is sick, you cannot just be yourself, talk less of when they said: Oh they are alive, they are not dead, they have seen or not are not seen them and so on.

It is time for us to come back to basic and that basic thing we have to do is pray to Almighty God, pray to Allah, and pray to the one who is the Creator of the whole universe who says, the king's heart is in his hand. He turneth it wherever he willeth. Meaning that even the lives of these Gboko Haram people, their hearts are in the hand of God; that we should pray that God should touch them, that they should release these kids by thunder and fire! This is because they are humans, not God. They cannot keep these girls and see all of us cry, weep without something happening. Many people have fasted and are weary, many people have prayed and are tired.

Many people are waiting as if there is no more hope. Still I believe that God can still do something because there is nothing impossible with God. He is God of impossibility that can do everything possible. So, I believe that yes, life can never be the same for these mothers. Life can never be the same for the relatives of these girls. Life cannot be the same for us as a people of Nigeria – people of this country – knowing full well that somehow we have failed if we do not bring these girls back.

So I plead with my hon. Colleagues that in as much as possible we talk and we lend our voices to ask about whereabouts of these girls, to ask about when are they going to come back urging the Armed Forces to do everything within their reach to bring them back. We should also be doing the most critical thing – to pray and pray and pray and not relent because I know with God all things are possible, and I know that where men fail, God would rise and do his own bid.

I believe that it is time for us to come together as a nation, and of course, in this particular matter. At this stage nobody is talking politics; we are talking about these girls because we are Nigerians. We are talking concerning their plights because we are human. We are talking because we are pained. We are talking because they are our relatives by extension, because all of us are from the same country. It would be a failure if at the end of the day, all the things we are hearing come out to be false and our hope would not be rekindled in so many things. If we find these girls we would rekindle the hope we have in the government of this country. So I believe they are doing their best but they should do more and make sure that before long these children are found.

In conclusion, I believe that anything that happens to anybody in the North-East, is affecting people from the South-East. If it happens to somebody from the West, is affecting somebody from the South. So in this particular issue, we are united, we are resolute and we are saying that we stand and we say in one voice that these children should be brought back alive.

Hon. Oboro Evelyn Omavowan (Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie): I start by saying that the evil that men do these days even surprises Satan the Devil himself. Satan the devil is amazed, surprised at the evil that men do these days. Chibok girls have been abducted for two years – over 700 days. As at the time these girls were abducted they were defenceless minors, little children who are still under the supervision of their parents, their teachers and guardians. Up till this

minute, these girls are still very defenceless and dependent.

Boko Haram insurgency, whatever their mission is, abduction of these girls have not in any way assisted them in achieving one per cent or a little bit above zero per cent of what their mission is. So, for what reason are they still keeping these girls? The last administration did everything it could to ensure that these girls are rescued. This present administration started to try to see that these girls are rescued, today it is two years.

It is a known fact that the Boko Haram insurgency abducted these girls not because they want to make any point to Nigeria as a government; it is obvious that these girls were abducted to satisfy their personal urge because as it is these girls are being abused on a daily basis. From the information reaching us, they are being misused. Their destiny has been mutilated by that action alone. Their dreams are being incarcerated by this insurgency.

We are 360 in number representing 360 Federal constituencies in this country, if these Chibok girls are somewhere in Nigeria, they will be in somebody's constituency. What are we doing as hon. Colleagues? What are we doing as representatives of the people? I want to urge my Colleagues, I want to plead with my fellow Colleagues; let us find a way to go back home to our constituencies have meetings with our traditional institution, have relationship with our Local Government Chairmen, our Governors and Senators; let everyone of us go back to our constituency and carry out a search for these girls. No matter how they are scattered in numbers of one or two in our various constituencies, if we carry out thorough search, we will find them.

Hon. Colleagues, I want to use this opportunity to plead with you that because these children are not our biological children does not mean that we will not show any form of concern. I am pleading with you and I also want to use this opportunity to plead with Boko Haram insurgency to swallow their pride and let go off these innocent girls.

Hon. Namdas Abdulrazak Sa'ad (Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo): This morning when I listened to British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Hausa Service, I almost shed tears when I heard the experiences of what the parents of the abducted Chibok girls, what they are going through on a daily basis. I really felt bad. But I must say that the good thing is that they have all resolved that they are

leaving everything to God and ask Nigerians to continue to pray for them.

The good thing also is that Mr. President indicated that he is ready to negotiate with the Boko Haram people, as long as he is able to authenticate those to be negotiated with. The latest video by the Cable Network News (CNN) which shows that these children were alive, we heard some of the parents and from what we have been reading, some people have identified these children that they are actually the Chibok girls. Even the Minister of the Federal Republic also commented on it and said they would look at the video.

If it is very true that these children are the ones that have been abducted, that they are the Chibok girls, we will like Mr. President to consider that to see the possibility of physical negotiation with this children because the CNN said they got the tape from one of the negotiators. Since one of the negotiators have been able to get some release, he is just trying to tell the world that these children are alive and we pray further for the possibility that they will show other children because they have been asking them questions and they have been telling people their identity and some of those girls' classmates identified them.

We know that the Federal Government is doing so much to ensure that these children are released; still we will continue to plead that they do more. I will just conclude because many people have made a lot of statements but I must say that Nigerians should continue to pray that these children be located and rescued.

Hon. Abdulsama Dalsuki (Kebbe Tambunwal): I stand before you today with a heavy heart after listening to the parents of Esther Ayuba, Gloria Adama, Dorcas Yakubu, Baraya Musa, Labaran John, Naomi Philemon, Kaona Lelei, Patience Jacob, Aisha Musa, Amina Bulama, Rose Daniel, Sophia Abdul, Comfort Habila, Fibi Haruna, Salmatu Lawal, Tabi Ujah and Mariam Lawal and over two hundred other parents who have not been able to sleep well for over two years. I do not want to repeat what have been said, most of the hon. Members the mothers in this House have said virtually everything.

As hon. Members, as fathers and mothers, you can imagine not having seen your loved ones for one day, the agony, trauma that you will go through. I am very sure, none of us, we can only imagine what the parents are going through. Hon. Speaker, you have said

everything on behalf of the hon. House this morning, so I think I will conclude by concurring with the vow you have made that we as the House of Representatives are going to make sure, God willing, everything within our power to make the spaces of the school save in Nigeria, we will do that.

Finally, this morning on our behalf, you vowed to do everything to assist the government of the day to get back these girls to their parents. I concur with you and plead with hon. Members to concur with everything you have said this morning and we pray to the Almighty God that these girls will come back to the safe hands of their parents at the shortest time.

Hon. Mohammed Nur Sherif (Bama/Ngala/Kalabaje): It is a national embarrassment for Nigeria to wait for two years without even given authentic information about these girls. The parents of these girls and Nigerians have cried for two years. They have for two years not able to sleep with their eyes closed, and they are telling the authorities to find out where these girls are. We are people's representatives, Chibok girls are from Chibok Local Governments of Borno State out of 774 Local Governments we all here represent. All have been said and we have listened to all the requests, what I want to pray hon. Members of this House to do, leading by the Hon. Speaker, is to demand the release of these Chibok girls. Enough is enough and we cannot wait for another two years of stories. It is about time we must take our responsibility as Members of Nigerian Representatives and to demand from the authorities if these girls are kept somewhere, we must walk to wherever they are to rescue.

What I am suggesting is that, as a Leader of this House you must lead the protest or whatever we may call it, to go to Executive and demand the release of these girls. We cannot continue talking; some of the parents have even lost their lives from the agony of their children. We are all parents, we have children and some of our children are in best schools across the world. These Chibok girls are in Chibok and because of negligence of government authorities they were in the first place abducted. Most of us went to public schools when Nigeria was solid, protecting its citizens and their properties in this country. We have reached a point where government does not care anymore and we must, as Members of Nigerian representatives, call the government to order that no more talking, debate, crying and we must walk to the government and demand the release of these Chibok girls. I pray we do not need to debate more but act and act now.

Hon. Mohammed Sani Abdu (Alkaleri/Kirfi): I am from North East, the epicenter of Gboko Haram insurgency which attracting anniversary celebration, of crying and shedding elephant tears. As Hon. Nur has said this second anniversary of the Chibok girls debacle exposed Nigeria to international embarrassment. It also shows lack of seriousness as a nation. We are neither our brothers, sisters nor daughters' keepers. We don't care for our wives, anybody who has listened to international radio and television from yesterday to today, whereby the parents were interviewed; you would know what it means.

Today, when I was coming out and I saw my 16 year old girl going to school, I said supposed she would not come back today; I would be one of those that are agonising. It is a national embarrassment and it shows that the fabric of state craftsmanship has cracked and has broken down in Nigeria and we need to be serious. The Chibok girls were innocent when they were abducted, their innocent parents in the village were also innocent and the entire North East was innocent but some idiots, bigots and wicked people have decided to put Nigeria on the front burners of burning down and we must water it down. This House must be at the front burner as all our colleagues have said.

We must take one line and ask some pertinent questions. I am not now talking about the girls, because the girls are only the symbol of the problem. There were also the Gujiba boys, the College of Agriculture was attacked and 49 were killed on the spot and many were abducted and nobody is talking about them. There was the Benishekh Secondary School, about 60 were burnt down and nobody is saying anything. There was the Buninyadi and Kalabalge. A lot of things have been happening; village women, village girls and all others. Our traditional rulers have been killed. Sir what is happening? We as a nation must be serious.

The few questions I would ask to complete my contribution on this are the wider issues. Where are the international treaties, protocols, agreements, and conventions on cooperation in terms of intelligence sharing, security cooperation, technology transfers and cooperation between us and the so called international countries that we all keep on travelling to help us? I was privileged in this House to travel with Hon. Nnena Ukeje the Chairperson of Committee on Foreign Affairs; we were in the Aviation Committee then, along with Senator Bala Na'Allah and the rest. We were able to go to the TRACON Centre in

Baltimore. We were shown that the number of aircrafts flying over Nigeria then, were only 57 and there were over 7000 flying over the United States of America. We saw it graphically, if they have that technology and they are our friends, why are they not helping us over this issue?

Since we came to this Assembly, I can remember that twice or three times you along with some of our Colleagues and some Senators have travelled to Israel, they are specialist in intelligence, counterterrorism and drone technology and so on. What is the essence of our friendship? If we are a failure, can't they help us? It is a national issue, it is a fundamental human issue and I have seen the amnesty crying and everybody is crying. Let us stop talking. We have a Committee on Security and Intelligence. We want them to stand up here today and call on all the security agencies; NIA, DSS, CID, CIB and all of them, sit down with them. Unless if these girls ceased to be terrestrial and they are extra-terrestrial, then we can talk to President Obama and Putin to use the international space base station, may be they can see them. I think we must know that they are around especially with this new evidence that 15 of them have been seen and one girl who happened to escape has identified that one of them was there.

We need timeline and we have a committee who can now talk. There is conspiracy theory. There are some sacred cows within our administrative and security system, we must expose them and deal with them. We have to give our lives for Nigeria and not Nigeria giving the life for us. Because the beginning is one these girls cannot be found, many other things cannot be found and all of us are vulnerable. I pray that God would be with the right thinking Nigerians. We must start thinking; we must be patriotic and work stronger from today the second anniversary of the Chibok girls. I would ask the Speaker to stand up all our security and intelligence committees to start doing this work. We must follow the procedure but we must have timeline and we must be hopeful. All this hanky-panky about saying that we should not speak security issues in public. Which public, when it is the public children that have disappeared? There is no more cover up, we must uncover; we must reach the destination sooner than later.

Hon. Yakub Abiodun Akanni Balogunn (Lagos Island II): I want to support wholeheartedly what my Colleague have said that what is happening now is a shame on us as a representative of the people who are part of those over sighting our treaties, agreements and protocols of this country.

I happen to know that we have many treaties signed with so many countries, including the United States of America, Israel, Saudi Arabia and so many other places; treaties that we should be invoking at this time. In fact those countries, like the United States of America (USA), that we have treaties with should have come to our rescue. The United States of America have the Intelligence, equipment that can detect anything, and we were told that the Sambisa Forest has been combed and nothing is there, and we learnt that these children are still around.

Please, are they on this earth or have they been taken to the space or they are about ten kilometres down the ground or in the seas? The fact that CNN could come out to say these children are still alive and some of them are videoed and circulated we should ask the CNN to produce evidences and let us get to the person who gave it to them. Sincerely, we should ask! The Freedom of Information Act is there for us to ask that the country needs to do more. Do we want to say that Shekarau and his people are more intelligent and have more capability than the Nigerian Military? Where are the Americans today? They say they are our friends, and the President has gone to them and we saw President Obama and our President the other day, why can they not come and solve this problem for us if we are not capable?

In fact the time we took in initiating action has actually worsened the case for us. Look at the case of what happened in Lagos State, immediately the Military, Police and the Government of the State took up the matter, within one week these people were rounded up. I believe that the Government of the country should revoke all the agreements, I am talking about the agreements we have had with these countries, because you know your friends when you are in problem.

My heart goes to the parents of these children and all of us. I want to say, as it has been said, the Hon. Speaker should lead us. My Committee on Army we were in Maiduguri and we were able to see all those things and saw that Goza Mountain had been cleared. Please let us know where these girls are on the surface of the earth and get them out.

Hon. Aminu Suleiman (Fagge): I thank all those who have sustained the struggle and who have kept Nigeria and Nigerians on our respective toes to show that the issue of the Chibok girls is not kept in abeyance.

I am once a victim of kidnap, even though not by terrorist. In the course of struggle for democracy in Nigeria, I once lost my freedom in a very crude manner akin to kidnapping. I could remember the Shekarau of that time, an Officer of the Army named Col. Ominga, between 1992 and 1993 precisely. I also lost that freedom within the premises of school and that is the University of Lagos. I was there then with the current Governor of Edo State, Comrade Adams Oshomoile, and of course a Student Union President, Mr. Segun Mayegun. We were in the Lagos University on the invitation of students and we were rounded up at that time as Anti-Government and for the next forty eight hours, we were separated and have to forcefully concede our freedom and liberties. And within those forty eight hours, I could remember the agony our families and our associates went through, having known that we were forcefully removed from a freedom arena and taken to a destination unknown to Nigerians.

As a father with equal number of children from both sexes, I bear witness that the womenfolk are wonderful. They are wonderful because among my children I receive a very unique love from the female children that I have. Therefore, I put myself in the shoes of these parents and I consider the agony that the parents have been passing through all this while.

I want to say that as a nation we have done the best we could, but our best is not good enough. I remember when this episode happened about two years ago, precisely three days after we had a very heated debate here, at that time the Hon. Speaker was a Floor Member, I could remember vividly what you said: *if it requires that all institutions of governance should be closed down to ensure that we address this matter, this matter is disheartening....* Two years after, we have not gone very far.

But I am proud to say that among the institutions that have sustained the struggle through debate, advices include the institution of the National Assembly, and particularly this House. I knew we have debated and debated the issue of Chibok many times that we cannot count by our finger tips. I therefore, join my Colleagues, while thanking the institution of the Military; we must continue to mount pressure on them to ensure that soon than later this matter is brought to a conclusive end. I knew how passionate you are, Mr. Speaker, and I urge you in your privileged position to talk to those in position of authority. We should not consider ego now in negotiating with the bad element to return these girls back. I think we should proceed and negotiate and for

me I will volunteer my vote any time it is required as to whether we should negotiate or not because the era of ego is gone.

I congratulate you for a very fine leadership that you have provided and I urge that you continue in this manner so that all of us will one day go back to Borno and possibly Chibok to celebrate the return of these girls.

Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno (Monguno/Marte/Nganzai): All that is needed to be said had been said by the previous speakers that have spoken before me. What I want to add that has not been said is the fact that, the Local Intelligence that we have is that these Chibok girls are not concentrated in one place, neither are they concentrated in one place in Nigeria. They are dispersed across the countries making up the Lake Chad Basin Commission of Niger, Cameroun, Chad and Nigeria. In as much as we salute the fact that the present administration and indeed the last administration has reactivated the Bilateral relationship that we have with the Lake Chad Basin Commission, there is need to have a robust relationship and intelligent sharing among these countries of Lake Chad Basin Commission for the purpose of rescuing these Chibok girls. They are not concentrated in Nigeria; rather they are dispersed across these countries making up the Lake Chad Basin Commission.

Lastly, this House has truly shown that whatever it is doing, it is in tandem with the wishes and aspirations of the people of this country by always sustaining the issue of the abduction of the Chibok girls in the front burner. And to further demonstrate that this House is responsible and responsive to the yearnings and aspirations of the people of this country, I want to suggest that a powerful ad-hoc committee be set up to visit the parents of these abducted girls in Chibok. This also is to demonstrate our level of sincerity, empathy and concern with the problem of the abduction of the Chibok girls. As I am speaking to you now, the Governor of Borno State and the Minister of Environment are in Chibok to sympathise with the parents of the Chibok girls. So this House can also set up an ad-hoc committee that will visit the parents of these Chibok girls to sympathise with their plight.

The Speaker: Let me also contribute to the debate and join Hon. Nnenna in saying that if the cause for which the terrorist abductors fight is not compelling enough to drive them from their hideouts, then that

cause is not enough to continue to keep these girls in captivity.

We must however, commend the Bring Back Our Girls group, whose very unrelenting campaigns have helped in sustaining our focus on these despicable crimes against humanity. We must also commend the security forces of the country who are toiling day and night with uncommon guts in efforts to bring back our girls to the warm embrace of their parents and loved ones.

But I sincerely believe, gauging the mood of the contributions from the Floor, that the time has come for us to insist, as an institution of government, that the Executive set targets for the security forces so as to ensure that we do not lose the sense of urgency that this very tragic incident - which as we have rightly described here amounted to national shame - brought upon this country. So we must insist as an institution that targets are set so that we do not lose the sense of urgency in our efforts to ensure that the girls are rescued and brought back to the warm and loving embrace of their families.

I would also like to call on the parents not to lose hope but to continue to believe that though their days of mourning and despair may be long, the morning will come. Joy comes in the morning and the morning may come sooner than expected. That is my brief charge in the course of this debate.

There was an amendment by Hon. Nnanna Igbokwe, which incidentally is the same amendment that was proposed by Hon. Monguno, calling that the House should send a high-powered delegation to meet with the parents of Chibok girls. So is there any seconder to that amendment?

Hon. Sule Nasiru Garo (Gwarzo/Ikabo): I second the amendment as proposed.

Question put and agreed to

The Speaker: There was a portion in the Motion that says we should observe a minute silence in memory of some of the girls that have been killed and those who have lost their lives as a result of this unfortunate incident.

A minute silence accordingly observed.

Shooting of Five People in Festac Town, Lagos

Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh (Amuwo Odofin):
Point of Order!

The Speaker: Hon. Emma, go ahead with your Point of Order.

Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh: Mr. Speaker, please permit me to move a Motion under Order VIII, Rule 46, Matter of Urgent Public Importance. This has to do with the shooting of five people in my constituency in Festac. One of them was shot three times by men of the Civil Defence, which resulted in the death of the young man; and four others that are badly wounded that are in the hospital today.

This is a major disaster that struck my federal constituency in Festac. I would be glad if Hon. Speaker and the House can allow me to move the Motion under Order VIII, Rule 46.

The Speaker: Hon. Oghene, your Motion is not too clear. First of all you are calling that the matter be considered urgent and secondly, you have to put it clearly that the House suspend the rules to enable you take the Motion.

Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh: Like I said, a major disaster struck my Federal constituency and I hereby appeal to the House that I want to come under Order VIII, Rules 46 and 49 to enable me move this very urgent matter of public importance and to suspend the rules to enable me move this very urgent Motion with respect to the disaster that struck my federal constituency.

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the first limb of the Motion is that we consider the matter to be urgent. Any seconder?

Hon. Awolaye Abiodun Dada (Ibadan North): I second the Motion as moved.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: Any seconder to the second limb of the Motion that we suspend our rules to enable him take debate?

Hon. Ismail Ahmed Gadaka (Fika/Fune): I second the Motion that the matter be taken now.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: Hon. Oghene, you can now move your Motion.

Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh: Mr. Speaker thank you for giving me the permission to move this very sad Motion on the incident in my Federal Constituency:

The House:

Notes that there has been a lingering fuel crisis in Nigeria for some time now. It is not uncommon to see people with fuel in their containers and so it was under this situation in Fort Oil Filling Station 21 Road, Festac Town, Amuwo Odofin Federal Constituency Lagos at about 1.30 p.m. on the 6th of April 2016 (Five days ago), when men of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence drove in and found people on queue with gallons to buy petrol;

Further note that when they drove in they began to drag and seize the gallons belonging to one Mr. Emeka Okoli and others. Emeka Okoli who had already bought fuel at the time was said to have laid down to plead with the officials of the (NSCDC) to allow him go home as he was not a fuel hawker but had bought the fuel for personal use.

Disturbed that the Commander of the team who felt that the boy was resisting arrest ordered a female official of NSCDC who was armed to shoot the young man and the woman promptly obeyed and shot the boy three times. With bullets at his shoulder, throat and stomach Emeka Okoli died on the spot, laid in his pool of blood while the Civil Defence Corps zoomed off in their patrol van. They shot sporadically at people which led to three others severely wounded among them is Mr. Oladiran Atolagbe of 311 road, E Close Block B Flat 11 Festac, Smart Oyabor of 21 road, H close House 24 Festac, and Kabiru Yusuf of 1st Avenue, A close Block 2 Flat 12 Festac, Lagos whom the NSCDC took away and till now Kabiru Yusuf has not been seen;

Worried that the killing of the lad and these unwarranted injuries an indication that the Civil Defence Corp do not know when to use fire arm and that they are not ready to abide by regulation on firearm usage;

Resolves to:

- (i) Call on the Minister of Interior to compensate Emeka Okoli's, Kabiru Yusuf and Oladiran

Atolagbe and others who were killed, maimed and still in the hospital till date;

- (ii) Call on the Inspector General of Police to bring the Civil Defence Personnel who perpetrated the act to justice. (Let him be arrested and tried);
- (iii) Invite the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC) boss to the National Assembly to explain why they shot and kill Emeka Okoli, an innocent boy of about 18 years and why Messrs Oladiran Atolagbe and Smart Oyedor were injured and till now they have not brought the corpse or Mr Kabiru Yusuf alive who was among those that were shot;
- (iv) Mandate the House Committee on Interior to liaise with Ministry of Interior to ensure compliance with prayer (1) and (3) and report back to the House;
- (v) Mandate the House Committee on Interior to liaise with Inspector General of Police to ensure compliance with prayer (2) and to report back to the House.

This is sad news that has bisected my constituency and I would want to appeal to you to join me at this period of morning to ensure we get to the root of the matter and to ensure that in future people are not murdered in the cold blood for unjust reason.

Hon. Agbedi Fredrick Y. (Ekeremor/Sagbama): I second the Motion as Moved by Hon Ogbene.

The Speaker: The Motion is straightforward and has been argued, so I will put the question.

Question put and agreed to

Motion referred to the House Committee on Interior.

Gruesome killing of Nineteen People in Gashaka Constituency

Hon. Hosea Danasabe Charles (Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna): Point of Order!

The Speaker: Yes Hon Hosea, go ahead.

Hon. Hosea Danasabe Charles: I come under Order VIII Rule 46 and 49; Matter of Urgent Public Importance. I seek the leave of the House to enable me present a report on the gruesome killing of about nineteen people from my constituency in Gashaka and also crave the indulgence of the House to suspend all the relevant rules to enable me present this Motion.

The Speaker: Any seconder to the first leg that the Matter is urgent.

Hon. Iorwase Herman C. Hembe (Konshisha/Vandekiya): I second the Motion that the matter is urgent.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: Any seconder to the Second leg of the Motion to enable him take it?

Hon. Amuda-kannike Abubakar Garba (Ilorin East/South): I second the Motion that we suspend our rules to take the matter now.

Question put and agreed to

The Speaker: Hon. Hosea, move your Motion Please.

Hon. Hosea Danasabe Charles: I move my Motion thus:

The House

Notes with dismay the gruesome attack by an unidentified gun herdsmen who invaded Dori community in Gashaka LGA Sunkuru in Kurumi LGA, burning houses and killing of innocent lives on Sunday the 10th April, 2016.

Informed that the attack took place early hours of Sunday 10th April, 2016 where most of the people within the attacked communities were in their worship places thereby killing not less than 19 people and burning down houses and food items worth millions of naira.

Worried that raining season has set in within the two LGA areas exposing the internally displaced persons who have either taken solace from friends and other sympathisers and primary schools to greater risk and hardship.

Resolves to:

- (i) Instruct the Inspector General of Police to draft security personnel to the affected community to restore peace and order immediately;
- (ii) Instruct the Comptroller General of Immigration to draft more personnel to borders of Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna LGAs which shares international boundary with the Republic of Cameroon to check further influx of herdsmen into the area to avert escalation of the situation;
- (iii) Mandate the House mandates the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to liaise with NEMA to provide relief materials to the IDPs;
- (iv) Mandate Inspector-General of Police to carry out investigation to ascertain the cause of the clash and perpetrators brought to book and victims adequately compensated.

I also crave the indulgence of the House, to observe one minute silence in honour of the departed souls.

Hon. Oboro Evelyn Omavowan: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion ably moved by my Colleague.

The Speaker: This is a straightforward Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the House Committee on Police Affairs and National Intelligence.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

Report on Establishment of the Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission

The Speaker: Hon. Members the first Business of the Day is presentation of report of the Committee on Federal Capital Territory on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission; and for Other Matters Related Thereto, standing in the name of Hon. Herman C. Hembé.

Hon. Members will recall that the Bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the 28th January,

2016. Hon. Hembé is now invited to present the Report.

Hon. Iorwase Herman C. Hembé: Mr. Speaker, may I move that this House do receive a report of the Committee on Federal Capital Territory on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission; and for Other Matters Related Thereto,

Hon. Agbedi Fredrick Y.: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion as ably moved by Hon. Hembé.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid on the Table.

Report on the Investigation of Acts of Procedural Breach by the Group Managing Director, NNPC

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the second Business of the Day is presentation of Report of Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Gas Resources, Local Content, and Legislative Compliance on the Investigation of Acts of Procedural Breach by the Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), standing in the name of Hon. Fredrick Agbedi.

Hon. Members will recall that the matter was referred to the Committee on Tuesday 8th March, 2016. Hon. Fred is now invited to present the report

Hon. Agbedi Fredrick Y.: Mr. Speaker, I present a Report of Joint Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Gas Resources, Local Content, and Legislative Compliance.

This Report is to investigate act of procedural breach by the Hon. Minister of State, Petroleum Resources and Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) - Resolution No. HR. 84, 2016 dated 11th day of March, 2016.

Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun (Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion as ably moved by my Chairman Petroleum Resources.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid on the Table.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Consolidation of Bills

**Nigerian Communications Act, Cap. N97, 2004
(Amendment)**

And

**Nigerian Communications Act, Cap. N97, 2004
(Amendment) Bills, 2016**

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the first Order of the day is consolidation of two Bills. Honourable Members may wish to know the Bills are of the same subject matter.

I will now invite the Chairman, Committee on Rules and Business to move that the Bill will now be consolidated.

Hon. Oker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa: Mr. Speaker, I move that a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Communications Act, Cap. N97, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for the Regulation of Unsolicited Telephone Communications from all Communication Industries in Nigeria and to make Provision for the Promotion of online safety that will require Internet Service Providers and Mobile Phone Operators to Provide a Service that excludes Adult Content and for Other Related Matters;

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Communications Act, Cap. N97, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by Prohibiting Sales of Pre-Registered Sim Cards; falsely or illegally Registered Sim Cards; and for Other Matters Related Thereto be consolidated as one Bill.

Hon. Nsiegbe Blessings Ibiba (Port Harcourt II): Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion ably moved by my hon. Colleague.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: Committee on Rules and Business please schedule a date for commencement of debate on the general principles of the Bill.

**Prevention, Treatment and Control of Cancer
(HB. 462) (Provision);**

National Cancer Institute (Establishment) and

**National Centre for Cancer Research and
Treatment (Provision) Bills, 2016**

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the second Order of the day is consolidation of three Bills. Hon. Members may wish to know the Bills are of the same subject matter.

I will now invite the Chairman, Committee on Rules and Business to move that the Bill will now be consolidated.

Hon. Oker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa: I move that Bill for an Act to Provide for the Prevention, Treatment and Control of Cancer; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 462);

A Bill for an Act to Establish a National Cancer Institute to be the Nation's Principal Agency for Cancer Research; to Coordinate a National Research Programme on Cancer Causes, Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment Through Various Research Projects and Clinical Trials; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 463); and

A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment and for Other Related Matters (HB. 464); be consolidated as one bill.

Hon. Yaya Bauchi Tango (Kwami/ Funakaye/ Gombe): I second the Motion as moved by Chairman Rules and Business.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: Committee Rules and Business please schedule a date for the commencement of debate on the general principles of the Bill.

**Official Secrets Act, Cap. 03 (HB.317)
(Amendment)**

and

**Official Secrets Act, Cap. 03 (HB.426)
(Amendment) Bills, 2016**

The Speaker: The third Business of the day is the consolidation of two Bills.

Hon. Members may wish to know that the Bills are on the same subject matter. I now invite the Chairman Committee on Rules and Business to move that the Bills be now consolidated.

Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa: I move that a Bill for an Act to Amend the Official Secrets Act, Cap. O3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Penalties and Fines Provided Therein; and for Other Related Matters; and

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Official Secrets Act, Cap. O3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Penalties Provided Therein; and for Other Related Matters - be consolidated as one. I so move.

Hon. Shuaibu Abdulrahman (Miaha/Mubi North/Mubi South): I second the motion as moved by the Chairman Committee on Rules and Business.

Question put and agreed to.

The Speaker: The Chairman, Committee Rules and Business, to please schedule a date for the commencement of debate on the general principles of the Bill.

**Roll-Over of all Unspent or Unlisted Capital Expenditures, 2016 (HB. 164)
(Mandating) Bill, 2016**

A Bill for an Act to mandate the Roll-Over of all Unspent or Unlisted Capital Expenditure of Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies in a financial year to the next Financial year under the same Head of Capital Expenditure, 2016 (HB. 164) –

Order for Third Reading.

The Speaker: The fourth Order of the day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to mandate the Roll-Over of all Unspent or Unlisted Capital Expenditures.

Hon. Members, you would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on Thursday 3rd March, 2016. I therefore call on the Leader of the House to move that the Bill be now read a Third Time.

Hon. Jibril Umar Buba (Lokoja/Kogi KK): I move that a Bill for an Act to mandate the Roll-Over of all Unspent or Unlisted Capital Expenditure of Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies in a financial year to the next financial year under the same Head of Capital Expenditure, 2016 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Awolaye Abiodun Dada: I second that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

Process of National Planning and Compliance (Provision) Bill, 2016

A Bill for an Act to Provide for a Process of National Planning and for Compliance with the Provisions of a National Development Plan for the overall objective of achieving rapid national development; and for Other Matters Related Thereto -

Order for Second Reading.

The Speaker: The fifth Order of the day is commencement of debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to Provide for a Process of National Planning and for Compliance with the Provisions of a National Development Plan.

Hon. Members would recall that the Bill was read the First Time on Wednesday 16th March, 2016. I now invite Hon. Nnam-Obi to move that the Bill be now read the Second Time.

Hon. Nnam-Obi Uchechukwu (Ogba/Ebgbema/Ndoni/Ahoada West): I move that a Bill for an Act to Provide for a Process of National Planning and for Compliance with the Provisions of a National Development Plan for the overall objective of achieving rapid national development; and for Other Matters Related Thereto be read the Second Time.

Hon. Jisalo Bitrus Zephaniah (Amac/Bwari): I second the Motion as moved by my Colleague.

Question proposed.

Hon. Nnam-Obi Uchechukwu: As leader of this debate I would like to say the Bill was read for the first time on 16th March, 2016.

The need for National planning has reached its crescendo and I can tell you that it requires no predestination to say that the absence can spell doom in this country. The Bill primarily sets out, as its primary objective, to create a framework for the process of the National Development Plan. This Bill seeks to enact a law specifying details that would enable the National Planning Commission deliver on its functions of developing a robust, elaborate national plan that would drive a rapid national development in Nigeria.

The Bill seeks to activate or strengthen the National Planning Act by enacting details of its operations to fortify the Commission and allow for effectiveness in formulating a national plan, giving the need for workable product and national development plan in the country. The Bill seeks to make the Commission open to elementary oversights, being a key institution and no longer answerable to Mr. President as can be seen in the parent Act Section 3(6) of the Act of 1993. Each State must be tied to time for efficiency and effectiveness.

This Bill is important because one of the fundamental importance of the Bill is to give life and drive to the Planning Commission. It is on record that this Commission was actually established by Decree 12 of 1992 and repealed by another Decree 71 of 1993. The mandate they have is to set out, to determine and advice Government of the Federation on matters relating to the National Development and of all management of our economy. We see that Nigeria as a matter of fact is going through certain turbulence, and the functions set under Sections 2, 3, 4, of the Act relates to what planning is to do. The importance again is to synergise the efforts towards the true and all-inclusive national development for the plan of the country. The Bill seeks to give impetus to the national development by making it a veritable tool for socio-economic development and an instrument for social engineering.

The benefits derived from this Bill will include, one, this Bill is to legalise. We know that that means to give support, to give it the backing of the law so we will no longer have a document that is of no assent; but it will come to be laid on the Floor of the House and it will not only be the document of the Executive arm of government but also be that of the generality of the people. It will be implemented, properly monitored and assessed over a period of time and what it has proposed is about ten years. The Bill will make the National Development Plan accessible to the

public and also the document for the plan of the country's annual national budget.

The Bill is made up of five parts of 22 sections. Part I contains three sections being the general provisions of the Bill. Part II of the Bill contains sections 4 to 12 which are provisions on the preparation of National Development Plan. Part III contains sections 13 to 16 dealing with the authorisation of the National Development Plan, amendment of the National Development Plan, compliance and the provisions of the plan when formulated, and annual budget to comply with the development plan. Part IV contains sections 17 to 18 dealing with the mid-term, and final assessment of National Development Plan and Final assessment of the national development plan. Part V contains sections 19 to 22 dealing with the regulations, annual report to the National Assembly, interpretation and Sub-Title.

The support for this Bill will carry out the implementation of the National Development Plan. Now we know that Nigeria is fraught with some problems. We have four National Development Plans in the past, from 1964 to 1985 but we have challenges. due to military interregnum and this has led to a lot of problems. Like Mr. Speaker rightly said, if we do not set target for our nation it will be difficult. What this Bill seeks to do basically is: one to legalise it, set proposals in motion, ensure that all segments of the country make inputs through submission or write-up and even testimonies.

Corruption, lack of discipline, lack of commitments, lack of the absence of valid data and overall and over-ambitious government plan has led us to where we are today. And I believe strongly that if this is actually looked-up and if my dear Colleagues support this particular Bill, it will in no small measure help us in moving our mission further towards sustainable development.

Hon. Okagua Jocelyn Betty-Apiafi (Ahoada East/Abua/Odual): Mr. Speaker, I must commend the mover of this Bill and want to support what he has said by saying that it is imperative and absolute necessity for us as a nation to pass this Bill because we need a national development plan to support our budgeting process. The astronomical number of abandoned projects all over the country tells a story of lack of planning. The long list of projects that we have in our budget, we have projects that are meant for local governments, we have projects that are meant for State Governments all jumbled into the national

budget makes the national budget an unwieldy document and difficult to implement.

I will like to say to my Colleagues, there is a lot of work to be done on this Bill. For instance, I will suggest that when we are working on this Bill at the various Committees, there is need for planning to be done in short-term, medium-term and long-term. I will suggest also that the short-term project that will be in the national planning can be altered by the annual budget, while the medium-term projects that will naturally tally with the medium-term expenditure framework will be for the period of 3 - 5 years and long-term period that will take about 10 years.

I would like to appeal to my Colleagues to support the passing of this Bill for further legislative imputes. It is a good Bill, it will help the budgeting process of the House, and it will help us to remain focus as a nation, so that we do not have projects abandoned all over the places. It will also help us to collate all abandoned projects all over the States that are Federal projects, that way we will also know the projects that are State and Local Government projects, which had been abandoned over time and pass them to the respective tiers of government. I crave the indulgence of my Colleagues to support this Bill.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the House Committee on National Planning.

Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as Amendment) 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2016

The Speaker: The sixth Order of the day is commencement of debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to alter Sections 68(g) and 109(g) of the Constitution of the Federal republic of Nigeria, 1999 to further provide the proviso on the vacation of seat by legislatures and for other matters connected therewith.

Hon. Members you will recall that the Bill was read the First Time on Wednesday, 16th March, 2016. I now invite Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok to move that the Bill be now read a Second Time.

Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang: Mr. Speaker, before I move the Motion, I also have an application to make. The Bill itself deals with an amendment of only one section. However, I have seen an omission, and if

the Speaker allows me to correct it I can make the amendment and then move my application.

The Speaker: If it is gazetted you may do the correction, you are just to apply to withdraw it and fix it before it is brought back please. We will not allow you to make that correction here. So, apply to withdraw it so that you go and fix it.

Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang: Mr. Speaker, going by our Rules, amendments are allowed, particularly when we are dealing with Second Reading. For instance, Rule 82(2) says

When debate on a Motion for Second Reading has been concluded and any amendment or amendment is put off, the Chairman can put the question on the Second reading.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this is that, amendments can be allowed even at this stage.

The Speaker: Can we proceed or do we step down the Bill to enable you fix it?

Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang: At this stage may I humbly apply to withdraw the Bill.

Bill by leave of the House stood down.

National Institute of Credit Administration (Establishment) Bill, 2016

The Speaker: The seventh Order of the day is commencement of debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to establish the National Institute of Credit Administration.

Hon. Members would recall that the Bill was read for the First Time on Wednesday, 16th March 2016. I now invite Hon. Emmanuel M. Egwu to move that the Bill be now read the Second Time.

Hon. Emmanuel M. Egwu (Idah/Igalamela/Ibaji/Ofu): I move that a Bill for an Act to establish the National Institute of Credit Administration to Regulate and set Standards for Professional Conduct of those who manage Credit and for other matters connected therewith, be read for the Second Time.

Hon. Jibril Umar Buba: I second the Motion that the Bill be now read the Second Time.

Question proposed.

Hon. Emmanuel M. Egwu: The Institute of Credit Management is very common across the world and we are now in global market where sales are connected across the whole world. Nigeria cannot be lagging but Nigeria is yet to have a credit management professional body that *shall regulate and educate our members on effective and efficient way of managing credit*. The credit management is necessary as a stimulant for an economic growth.

In the country today, there is no trust and trust is very cardinal in credit management. Where there is no trust, it deters sales and when there are no sales, it affects profitability of a country. When there is no profitability it creates unemployment, losses, and in effect, it affects the economy. We have a booming economy, an economy that grows from strength to strength. If we must sustain it we must create the knowledge, awareness and education forum whereby members would have to be educated. The traders would have to be conscious of the fact that when they seek for credit, it is on trust. The credit you get is not meant for mere consumption or leisure. It is given to you on trust to boost your business.

By so doing, many organizations that have refused to sell on credit would now be aware that if they sell on credit, they do not only boost their sale, they equally boost the economy and by so doing, generates employment opportunity. With awareness and professionalism of credit management in Nigeria, it is an opportunity for the association from time to time to advise the government when they want to go for credit, when they want to seek for loan even at the international level; they would be very decent and professional in their advice. Today, as we are talking, the President has gone to China to discuss how we get loan. Because of the fact that we do not have professional body that supervises credit management in Nigeria, the trust would not unlike where we have professionals discussing among themselves. These are areas that I think there is every need for us to have a professional body that; *shall supervise and regulate the activities of credit management in Nigeria*.

When there is trust, which is very cardinal in this issue, it brings about ethics. Any profession or vocation that has to do with trust and ethics, there must be a body that must advice, regulate and monitor these ethics. You cannot have ethics without a body supervising and regulating these ethics. That is why there is an urgent need at this point in time in Nigeria

for us to join other countries to have credit management association.

I do not want to waste much of your time, but I would like to mention the likes of United States, UK, Canada, Ghana, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Malaysia, Israel, South Africa and many other countries. They are all having credit management association now. Nigeria cannot be lagging behind. I urge Hon. Members to support this professional body; it is not in conflict with any other professional body.

I am a professional Accountant, a Member of Institute of Management and I want to say this is a different body based on the fact that sales on credit are becoming very necessary in Nigeria. We need to professionalise this area to boost our revenue, sales and optimise our resources. That is the aim of this professional body, and I urge my hon. Colleagues to support this technical and necessary professional association to be established in Nigeria.

Hon. Igboke Raphael Nnanna (Ahiazu Mbaise/ Ezinihitte): Mr. Speaker, I have tried to come to terms with the spirit of the Bill, in the sense that it is trying to create a legal framework with which a group of persons who are concerned in promoting the idea and concept of Credit Management in Nigeria under which they can come up. It will be a formal body to regulate and also set standards for those who wish to come into this specialised area of Credit Management.

Ordinarily, I would have wanted to object it, but I took pain to go through the Bill to see if there is any clause, segment, paragraph or provision there that seems to make the funding of this body have recourse to public fund and the answer is no. That means there is no financial burden on the Government of the day, the sustainability, financing and administration is solely going to be in the hands of those who voluntarily wish to become members of this institution.

As a body coming to promote specialisation in this branch of management science, I think as a people's Parliament we will always give them the freedom and platform to operate, especially where they will be making some contributions to the economic development of this country. I think the Bill is self-explanatory and there will be no need stretching the matter too far. I want to join my Brother and Friend, Hon. Emmanuel Egwu, to enjoin all of us to support the Bill so it goes for the Seconding Reading.

Hon. Abubakar Lawal Garba (Yola-North/Yola South/Gire): I intend to align myself with the last contributor, however I have some caveat. We have to be very careful about this Bill because there will be a proliferation of credit bureau. I do know actually that financial regulators and financial institutions are being governed by the Central Bank. The Central Bank Act regulates some Credit Bureaus, and they have also enjoined some Financial Institutions to join some of these Credit Bureaus. They are specialised in monitoring the credit of customers in various Banks and Financial Institutions.

We have three Credit Bureaus, CRS Inquiry Credit Bureau, CRS Credit Bureau and CRS Credit Bureau. I went through the provisions of this Bill and I have seen that some of the provisions they are *in pari material* with the provisions of the Central Bank Acts. They regulate people, standard, ethics and code of conduct of people that mind the administration of banking. If we are to establish this institution, in as much as we are talking of employment, we have to think about the proliferations and overlap of functions. We cannot just say we want to establish something when we have some that are existing there is need for us to be team players whereby some of these bodies can come but not for everybody to say I want to establish xyz institution and if you look at the functions and their objectives they are saying the same thing.

In as much as I am not totally against this Bill but I think there is need to look at this Provisions with critical objectivity so as not to overlap function.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Finance.

MOTIONS

Urgent Need for the Completion of the Dam Project at Ile-Ife

The Speaker: The eighth Order of the day is a Motion on Urgent Need for the Completion of the Dam Project at Ile-Ife, standing in the name of Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun. He is invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun: Mr. Speaker, the Motion is on the Urgent Need for the Completion of the Dam Project at Ile-Ife:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government, in its quest to provide potable water for the people of Ile-Ife, awarded a contract for the sum of ₦6,823,000,000.00 (Six billion, eight hundred and twenty-three million Naira) to Reynolds Construction Company Ltd to construct a dam at Ile-Ife, and the contractor mobilized to site in March 2005;

Also notes that the Federal Government paid ₦2,033,000,000.00 (Two Billion, Thirty-Three Million Naira only) to the contractor, leaving a balance of ₦4,493,000,000.00 (Four Billion, Four Hundred and Ninety Million Naira) only and the contractor suspended further works on the project in 2009 when the Government did not sustain the financing of the project;

Aware that the level of work done so far was 35% of the total work required for completion of the dam before the contractor moved out of the project site;

Also aware that the dam, when functional, will not only provide potable water but will also support irrigation which will boost food production, generate employment and enhance food security;

Concerned that the ₦2,033,000,000.00 (Two Billion, Thirty-Three Million Naira) only already paid for the project may become a colossal waste if urgent action is not taken to complete the Dam Project;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Water Resources to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ensure that priority attention is given to the completion of the Dam Project in order to salvage the over two billion Naira public fund already incurred on the project.

Hon. Shuaibu Abdulrahman Abubakar: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion, as moved by Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Water Resources to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ensure that priority attention is given to the completion

of the Dam Project in order to salvage the over two billion Naira public fund already incurred on the project.

Motion referred to the Committee on Water Resources.

Urgent Need to Rehabilitate the Effurun-Sapele Federal Highway

The Speaker: The ninth Order of the Day is a Motion on Urgent Need to Rehabilitate the Effurun-Sapele Federal Highway, standing in the name of Hon. Evelyn Omavowan. Hon. Omavowan is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Oboro Evelyn Omavowan: Urgent Need to Rehabilitate the Effurun-Sapele Federal Highway:

The House:

Notes that the Effurun/Sapele Highway is the only road that leads to the Warri Refinery, Ekpan and the Nigerian Ports Authority, Warri, Delta State;

Observes that on both sides of the Highway, there are very bad spots that hinder free flow of traffic as heavy duty vehicles such as fuel tankers, lorries, and trailers find it difficult to pass through the road, especially when they are carrying goods, as they fall on the failed portions which result in blockage of the road;

Disturbed that the aforesaid incidence may lead to accidents which could result to loss of lives and damage to properties if the failed portions are not rehabilitated;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to, as a matter of urgency, carry out maintenance of the failed portions of the Effurun/Sapele Highway.

Hon. Gbefwi Gaza Jonathan (Karu/Keffi/Kokona): I second the Motion as moved by Hon. Omavowan.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to, as a matter of urgency, carry out maintenance of the failed portions of the Effurun/Sapele Highway.

Motion referred to the House Committee on Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA).

Need to Investigate the Alleged Massive Fraud in ₦117 Billion Rice Import Quota Scheme

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the tenth Order of the day is a Motion on Need to Investigate the Alleged Massive Fraud in ₦117 Billion Rice Import Quota Scheme, standing in the name of Hon. Sergius Ose Ogun. Hon. Sergius is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Ogun Sergius Oseasochie (Esan North East/South East): My Motion is on the Need to Investigate the Alleged Massive Fraud in ₦117 billion Rice Import Quota Scheme.

The House:

Recalls that the Federal Government, in 2014 developed a new Rice Policy to fast-track national self-sufficiency in rice production;

Also notes that in order to facilitate the implementation of the policy, an inter-ministerial committee was set up to work out the national rice supply gap, allocate import licenses with appropriate quotas based on four key criteria to assess investments of individual companies in local Rice production;

Aware that the Policy was aimed at building local capacity in rice production, hence owners of existing rice mills and new investors with verifiable background integration into the rice value chain were allowed to pay 10 *per cent* import duty and 20 *per cent* levy while merchants who have nothing to contribute to local rice production were charged 10 *per cent* duty and 60 *per cent* levy;

Cognizant that investigations into the alleged frauds committed by Umza International Farms Ltd, one of the 26 beneficiaries of the rice quota scheme revealed that it received import quota of 36,000 metric tonnes under existing miller allocation and 49,000 metric tonnes under investor allocation, a rate higher than the rate prescribed by the policy despite the fact that it was only 30,000 metric tonnes capacity with no other investment in local rice production;

Worried that apart from Umza International Farm Ltd, Dangote and Golden Penny companies do not also have existing mills, but got 115,204 metric tonnes and 91,887 metric tonnes respectively, while Micap rice with a very small scale mill of between 15,000 to 20,000 metric tonnes got 82,897 metric tonnes;

Disturbed that several other companies such as Umza International Farm Ltd are in the habit of diverting parboiled rice from one port in a particular country to another port in some other countries, a situation that maritime experts described as another red flag irregularity and sabotage of the rice value chain that cumulatively undermine the efficacy of the rice import policy;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services and Customs and Excise to:

- (i) Investigate the allegations and ascertain the extent of non-compliance with the rice import policy by any individual, public officer, public authorities or rice milling company;
- (ii) Ascertain the extent of revenue losses arising from misapplication of the rice import policy or abuse of authority in the implementation of the policy;
- (iii) Devise strategies for recovery of lost, diverted and unremitted revenues due to gross misapplication of the policy, and make appropriate recommendations to address the challenges with a view to ensuring the development of the Rice industry, and to report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

Hon. Apiafi Betty Okagua Jocelyn: Point of Order!

The Speaker: Hon. Betty, go ahead.

Hon. Apiafi Betty Okagua Jocelyn: Order IX, Rule 6 says:

It shall be out of Order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon a substantive Motion for rescission.

We have discussed this issue of rice import last year and this year. I remember clearly that Hon. Leo Ogor was Chairman of the sub-committee that was handling this issue. So I wonder why we are discussing it again.

The Speaker: On this Point of Order, when I saw the Motion I was a bit confused. I thought that we took this Motion in this Session but I am not too sure.

Hon. Igbokwe Raphael Nnanna: It is true we took a Motion but it borders on Stallion. This issue is on Umza Farms Limited by my own records, and that is why we were reluctant to deal with Stallion because they are under investigation by us in other issues.

The Speaker: The Stallion was in the last Assembly moved by Hon Aliyu to the sum of ₦50 billion, but in this Assembly there is something about rice. Yes Hon. Nasir?

Hon. Sule Nasiru Garo: Mr. Speaker, yes we did discuss this matter on this Floor and there was an Ad-hoc Committee constituted chaired by Hon Leo Ogor. I was a Member and we did a very thorough job and submitted the Report.

The Speaker: Was this involved?

Hon. Sule Nasiru Garo: Yes, it was involved. All the companies that enjoyed the rice quota allocation were involved.

The Speaker: What we will do now is to ask the Acting Chairman Rules and Business to step the Motion down so as to crosscheck your records before listing them.

Hon. Akpatason Peter Ohiozogh (Akoko-Edo): I move that the Motion for the need to investigate the Alleged Massive Fraud in ₦117 billion Rice Import Quota Scheme, standing in the name of Hon Sergious be stepped down for further legislative input.

Motion by leave of the House stood down.

Call for Investigation of the Abandoned Contract of Agadagba-Obong-Arogbo link Bridge

The Speaker: The eleventh Order of the day is a Motion on *Call for Investigation of the Abandoned Contract of Agadagba-Obong-Arogbo link Bridge*,

standing in the name of Hon. Kolade V. Akinjo. Hon Akinjo is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Kolade V. Akinjo (Ilaje/Ese-odo): Mr Speaker the Motion is on: *A Call for Investigation of the Abandoned Contract of Agadagba-Obong-Arogbo link Bridge:*

The House:

Notes that in September 2012, the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) awarded a contract for the Construction of Agadagba-Obong-Arogbo Bridge with spur to Agwobiri-Egbesubiri (Phase I) to Piccolo-Brunelli Engineering Limited for the sum of ₦6,136,367,333.25 (Six Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Three Hundred and Sixty Seven Thousand, Three-Hundred and Thirty-Three Naira, Twenty-Five Kobo) with a completion period of fifty-two (52) weeks;

Also notes that the Commission made payment of ₦500,000,000.00 (Five Hundred Million Naira) only representing 15% mobilization fee to Piccolo-Brunelli Engineering Limited;

Aware that Piccolo-Brunelli Engineering Limited, acting on the standing instruction of the Niger Delta Development Commission, paid the sum of ₦50,000,000.00 (Fifty Million Naira) only as compensation to the inhabitants of Agadagba-Obong and Arogbo Communities;

Concerned that though the company mobilized men and materials to the site for a few months during which they only struck and pegged some iron rods, the company thereafter abandoned the site without any recorded milestone commensurate with the mobilization fee paid to it and it has since wound up and a receivership order of court granted to Skye Bank Plc.

Also concerned that the project, aimed at connecting the Ijaw oil-bearing riverine communities of Ondo State to the mainland, thereby easing the age-long transportation challenges of the people and boosting their economic activities and making life more conducive has suddenly become an illusion owing to the abandonment of that contract;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to investigate the

abandonment of the contract by Piccolo-Brunelli Engineering Limited and then initiate measures that will ensure the completion of the contract.

Hon. Igbokwe Raphael Nnanna: I second the Motion as moved by Hon Akinjo.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to investigate the abandonment of the contract by Piccolo-Brunelli Engineering Limited and then initiate measures that will ensure the completion of the contract.

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

Need to investigate the Abandonment of the 2x60 MVA and 132/33KV Sub-Station at Ogbomosho and 2x132KV Sub-Station line Bays Extension at Ganmo, Ilorin

The Speaker: The twelfth Order of the day is a Motion on the Need to investigate the abandonment of the 2x60 MVA and 132/33KV Sub-Station at Ogbomosho and 2x132KV Sub-Station line Bays Extension at Ganmo, Ilorin, standing in the name of Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun Dokun. Hon Odebunmi is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Odebunmi is not on the Floor of the House, Acting Chairman please move that we step down the Motion.

Hon. Akpatason Peter Ohiozogh: I move that the Motion on the Need to investigate the abandonment of the 2x60 MVA and 132/33KV Sub-Station at Ogbomosho and 2x132KV Sub-Station line Bays Extension at Ganmo, Ilorin standing in the name of Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun Dokun be stepped down.

Motion by the leave of the House stood down.

Need to Investigate the Sudden Death of Miss Comfort Dazan

The Speaker: The thirteenth Order of the day is a Motion on the Need to Investigate the Sudden Death of Miss Comfort Dazan, standing in the name of Hon.

Igbokwe Raphael. Hon Igbokwe is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Igbokwe Raphael Nnanna: I thank you my amiable Speaker and respected colleagues. I have a Motion on the Need to Investigate the Sudden Death of Miss Comfort Dazan, a student of the Yaba College of Technology;

The House:

Notes with sadness the untimely death of one Miss Comfort Dazan, a final year student of the Department of Office Technology Management (OTM), Yaba College of Technology, and Lagos which resulted into uncontrolled rampage by the students, leading to the closure of the school;

Concerned that the Medical Centre of the Institution was alleged to have demanded for ₦35,000.00 deposit before the late Comfort Dazan could be attended to;

Also concerned that the situation where the youths, the acclaimed leaders of tomorrow, are allowed to die without necessary steps being taken by relevant authorities to prevent further occurrence it is becoming worrisome;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, and Human Rights to conduct an investigation into the matter and report back to the House within two (2) weeks, for further legislative action.

Hon. Darlington Nwokocha (Isialangwa North/South): I second the Motion as moved by Hon. Igbokwe

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, and Human Rights to conduct an investigation into the matter and report back to the House within two (2) weeks, for further legislative action.

Motion accordingly referred to the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services and Human Right.

Urgent Need to investigate the Status of NNPC Crude Oil and Products Distribution Pipeline Network, Butanisation Plants and Depots across the Country

The Speaker: The fourteenth Order of the day is a Motion on the Urgent Need to Investigate the Status of NNPC Crude Oil and Products Distribution Pipeline Network, Butanisation Plants and Depots across the Country, standing in the name of Hon. Toby Okechukwu. Hon Toby is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Okechukwu Toby: The Motion is on: *Urgent Need to Investigate the Status of NNPC Crude Oil and Products Distribution Pipeline Network, Butanisation Plants and Depots across the Country:*

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Crude Oil Products Distribution Pipeline Network is a vast pipeline network measuring 5,120 kilometers and comprising 21 distribution depots, 9 LPG Depots, pump stations/houses, and other ancillary facilities spread across Nigeria;

Also notes that Pipeline Distribution Network is the nerve centre of operations within the downstream sector as it transports crude oil and refined petroleum products to and from the refineries, depots and jetties, and as a national grid pipeline; it traverses the entire Nigerian space, including Port Harcourt, Aba, Enugu, Markurdi, Warri, Benin, Auchi, Lokoja, Excravos, Mosimi, Atlascove, Ejigbo, Ibadan, Ore, Abaji, Suleja, Kaduna, Kano, Gusau, Jos, Gombe, Yola, Maiduguri, etc.;

Aware that the nine (9) LPG Depots which cost billions of naira to build have not been put to use over 20 years since their construction, in spite of challenges of accessing cooking gas or LPG by most Nigerians, thus leading to decay of the pipelines and depots;

Also aware that the network, which is managed by the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC), a subsidiary of the NNPC also supplies refined petroleum products to strategic locations and distribution depots from where tankers lift the products to designated retail outlets across Nigeria;

Worried that the non-utilization of the pipelines has led to petroleum and other products being conveyed through the roads thus, resulting in countless

incidence of petrol tanker explosions in various parts of Nigeria and also exacting heavy tolls on the road network;

Alarmed by the report that the PPMC, the products distribution arm of the NNPC accounted for 87% of the over ₦350 billion loss incurred by the NNPC in the first eight months of 2015;

Convinced that a fully functional and efficient products pipeline distribution network and operational butanisation plants will reduce accidents and gridlock on the highways and save Nigeria huge sums of money, both in man-hours and on road maintenance;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the status of the NNPC Products Distribution Pipeline Network and Butanisation Plants, and report back to the House within four weeks, for further legislative action.

Hon. Ossy Precious Chinedu Ehiriodu (Aba North/South): I second the Motion ably moved by my Colleague Hon. Toby Okechukwu.

The Speaker: The Motion is thoroughly argued except there is a notice of amendment before me from Hon. Diri Douye. Could you move your amendment please?

Hon. Diri Douye (Yenagoa/K/Opokuma): My amendment is based on the fact that the Motion is actually talking more about gas in terms of LPG, pipelines that are spread across the country. Therefore, my amendment is to include the leave of this honourable House to add the Committee on Gas Resources in the investigation.

Hon. Sule Nasiru Garo: I second the amendment moved by Hon. Diri Douye.

Amendment put and agreed to.

Main Motion as amended put and agreed to.

Motion accordingly referred to the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) and Gas Resources.

Urgent Need to Curb the Daily Incidents of Armed Robbery Attacks along Okene-Lokoja Road

The Speaker: The fifteenth Order of the day is a Motion on the Urgent Need to Curb the Daily Incidents of Armed Robbery Attacks along Okene-Lokoja Road, Kogi State, standing in the name of Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai.

The Chairman Rules and Business is not on the Floor, so Hon. Ossai will move that we step down the Motion.

Hon. Akpatason Peter Ohiozogh: Mr. Speaker, if the rule agrees, I would have loved to step in to move the Motion on behalf of my Brother because I am involved and this concerns my Constituency.

However, you may say the rule does not permit, so for now, I will like to move that the Motion *on Urgent Need to Curb the Daily Incidents of Armed Robbery Attacks along Okene-Lokoja Road, Kogi State* should be step down for further legislative input.

The Speaker: You said two things that connect, *I am involved and stepping aside*; but we are stepping down the Motion.

Motion by the leave of the House stood down.

Call for Review of the Country's Universities Curricular to Reflect Present day needs of Nigeria

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, the sixteenth order of the day is Call for Review of the Country's Universities Curricular to Reflect Present Day Needs of Nigeria, standing in the name of Hon. Joseph Edionwele, Hon. Joseph is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Edionwele Joseph E. (Esan Central/Esan West/Iguben): My Motion calls for Review of the Country's Universities Curricular to Reflect Present day needs of Nigeria.

The House:

Notes that the National Universities Commission is the regulatory Agency for the orderly development of University Education in Nigeria;

Also notes that the vision of the Commission is to be a dynamic regulatory Agency acting as a catalyst

for positive change and innovations for the delivery of quality University Education in Nigeria and to carry out oversight of the development of a well-coordinated and productive University system that guarantees quality and relevant education for national development and global competitiveness;

Aware that the Universities' curricular presently in use were designed between 40 to 50 years ago and not much reviews have been undertaken over the years to reflect the present day realities and needs of our ever changing society, and the Universities have continued to turn out professionals in only the traditional areas like law, medicine, conventional engineering, etc. to the detriment of technology based courses, which are more relevant and in more demand at the present time;

Anxious to ensure the offering of courses in cinematography, movie production, sex education, human resources, skills in petroleum, gas drilling and exploration, renewable energy, iron welding, construction of bridges and dams, wastes management, research in tropical diseases, food storage/preservation, space technology, entrepreneurship and other new areas in the Universities;

Concerned that many Nigerians now traveled abroad to acquire skills in those areas with the attendant foreign exchange drain on the national economy and the need to indigenize the acquisition of these skills that are in growing demand because of their immediate relevance:

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the National Universities Commission (NUC) to, as a matter of urgent national importance, make provision for such programmes to be taught in Nigerian Universities; and
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance.

Hon. Buba Yusuf Yakubu (Gombi/Hong): I second the Motion as moved by my hon. Colleague.

Question put and agreed to.

Motion accordingly referred to the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, and Legislative Compliance.

Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku: I was not given a fair hearing because I am against the Motion and you just asked those in support of the Motion, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: All you should have said was *nay* and your *nay* would have been swallowed up.

Urgent Need for Infrastructural Audit of Oil and Gas Companies

The Speaker: The seventeenth Order of the day is a Motion on the Urgent Need for Infrastructural Audit of Oil and Gas Companies as a way of curbing Environmental Pollution through Oil Spillages and Pipeline Explosions in the Country, standing in the name of Hon. Abubakar Amuda-Kannike. Hon. Kannike is now invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Amuda-kannike Abubakar Garba: I stand before the House to move a Motion on the Urgent Need for Infrastructural Audit of Oil and Gas Companies as a way of curbing Environmental Pollution through Oil Spillages and Pipeline Explosions in the Country.

The House:

Aware that the consequences of oil spillages include the poisoning of the waters and the destruction of vegetation and agricultural land; as a result of which people in the affected areas develop health issues such as breathing problems and skin diseases;

Concerned that a major reason for the frequent oil spillages in Nigeria is that many of the country's oil firms use obsolete and inadequate infrastructure to channel and distribute petroleum products in the country;

Also concerned by the report of the Institute for Global Energy Research that the oil exploration equipment of Shell Petroleum Development Company, Nigeria is over 40 years old, as against the permissible life span of 25 years for oil exploration and production infrastructure before maintenance or overhaul is required;

Further concerned that a percentage analysis of causes of oil spills established by the same Institute shows that corrosion of pipes and tankers accounts for 50% of oil spill cases, sabotage accounts for 28%, oil production operations accounts for 21% and inadequate or non-functional production equipment is put at 1%;

Equally concerned that most of the government's efforts to address these issues were curative rather than preventive, such as the establishment of regulatory agencies like the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA), all of which have resulted, majorly in addressing the effects while doing little to be proactive enough in preventing the causes of oil spillages;

Believes that as part of the strategy of reducing the adverse effects of the activities of the oil sector majors in Nigeria, old and obsolete infrastructure as well as old habits of doing things must give way to accommodate modern techniques and procedure.

Resolves to:

- (i) Call on the relevant Agencies of government, including the Department of Petroleum Resources and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that oil and gas companies operating in Nigeria comply with modern standards and techniques of production as a means of preventing/addressing the causative agents rather than waiting to repair the damages from the effects of these environmental hazards; and
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to cause an infrastructural audit on oil and gas companies in Nigeria with a view to ascertaining the status of their equipment and techniques, and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

Hon. Abubakar Lawal Garba: I second the Motion as moved by Hon. Abubakar Garba.

The Speaker: It is a straightforward Motion and it was comprehensively argued. I expected the mover to be comprehensive in his argument; he moved it. So I will put the question.

Question put and agreed.

Motion accordingly referred the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream).

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I now invite Leader of the House to move that the House do adjourn.

Hon. Jibril Umar Buba: I move the motion that the House do adjourn to Tuesday, 19th April, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. I so move.

Hon. Sule Nasiru Garo: I second the motion that the House do adjourn to Tuesday, 19th April, 2016 at 11.00 a.m.

Question put and agreed.

Resolved: That the House do adjourn to Tuesday, 19th April, 2016 at 11.00 a.m.

The House accordingly adjourned at 2.39 p.m.