



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

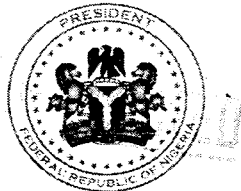
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 31 January, 2018

1. The House met at 11.18 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 29 January, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Message**
Mr Speaker read the following message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

25th January 2018

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Rt. Hon. Y. Dogara,

TRANSMISSION OF PROPOSED NIGERIAN MINERALS AND MINING BILL, 2017

I forward herewith the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Bill, 2017, for the kind consideration and passage by the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

While hoping that the Bill will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the House of Representatives, please accept, Right Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcement

(i) *Visitors in the Gallery:*

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of Students' Union Government, *University of Nigeria Nsukka*, (UNN), Anambra State.

(ii) *Constitution of Ad-hoc Committees:*

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the following *Ad-hoc* Committees:

(a) *Ad-hoc Committee on the utilization of ₦350 Billion naira National Resource Fund (NRF) as a Financial Window for Development of the Solid Minerals Sector and the need to ascertain Federal Government Investments and Proceeds from Solid Mineral and Steel Development:*

(1)	Hon. Adamu Kamale	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Bamgbose Joseph	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Awodumila Akinyede Julius	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ogbee Lazarus	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Julius Pondi	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Emmanuel Isaac Ukoete	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Garba Chede Hamman-Julde	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Aliyu Shehu	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Garba Shehu	—	Member

(b) *Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the activities of the Presidential Task Force on Pensions Reforms from 2010 to the time of its dissolution and those of any successor Agency (HR. 143/2017), (Tuesday, 4 April, 2017):*

(1)	Hon. Anayo Nnebe	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Amiru Tukur	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Akintola Micheal Taiwo	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Garba Umar Durbunde	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Emmanuel S. Akpan	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Simon Arabo	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Nkole Uko Ndukwe	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Tajudeen Abbas	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Adamu Gurai	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Joseph Edionwele	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Samson Olusunbo Olugbemi	—	Member

(c) *Ad-hoc Committee to investigate all outstanding sums due to the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) (HR. 209/2017), (Thursday, 18 May, 2017):*

(1)	Hon. Rufai Ahmed Chachangi	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Prestige Ossy	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Ayoade Olugbenga	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Kabir Shuaibu	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Edem Etta Mbora	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Onyenwife Gabriel	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Hosea Charles	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Karimi Sunday Steve	—	Member

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| (10) | Hon. Kehinde Agboola Emmanuel | — | Member |
| (11) | Hon. Hassan Bala Abubakar | — | Member |
- (d) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate election into the Boards of the National Sports Federations and forms of engagements and sporting activities in Nigeria (IIR. 221/2017), (Thursday, 25 May, 2017):***
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|-----|--------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Hassan Muazu | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Anaji Abiante | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Emeka Ugwu | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Michael Omogbehin Adeniyi | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Olayonu Olarinoye Tope | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Badamasi Ayuba | — | Member |
| (7) | Hon. Ayo Omidiran | — | Member |
- (e) ***Ad-hoc Committee to interface with the National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) (IIR. 163/2017), (Thursday, 20 July, 2017):***
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|-----|------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Aminu Ashiru | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Obinna Onwubuariri | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Etta Mbora | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Shadimu Mutiu | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Benjamin Ikani Okolo | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum | — | Member |
| (7) | Hon. Funke Adedoyin | — | Member |
- (f) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate Huge Debts Owed Indigenous Companies by International Oil and Gas Companies (IIR. 15/2018):***
- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Reyenieju Daniel Oritsegbubemi | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Sunday Katung | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Abdullahi I. Garba | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Mohammed Gololo | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Darlington Nwokocha | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Johnson Oghuma | — | Member |
| (7) | Hon. Evelyn Oboro | — | Member |
| (8) | Hon. Mohammadu Fagen Gawo | — | Member |
| (9) | Hon. Oni Olamide Johnson | — | Member |
| (10) | Hon. Abdullahi Usman Kukuwa | — | Member |
| (11) | Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu | — | Member |
- (g) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Allegations of Unwarranted Harassment, Persecutions and Threat to life by DCP Abduyari S. Lafia of the Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil, Kano against the Person and Office of the Inspector-General of Police:***
- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Diri Douye | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Garba Chede Hamman-Julde | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Prestige Ossy | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Faruk Abdullahi | — | Member |
| (5) | Hon. Sani Baba | — | Member |
| (6) | Hon. Goodluck Opiah | — | Member |
| (7) | Hon. Azodo Eucharua | — | Member |
- (h) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the Local Concessionary Tariff given to companies by the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment for Sugar Importation into the country from 2013 to 2016 as contained in the Backward Integration Policy (HR. 180/2017), (Thursday, 23 November, 2017):***
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|-----|------------------------------|---|----------|
| (1) | Hon. Abiodun Olasupo | — | Chairman |
| (2) | Hon. Abdulkadir Rahis | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Bassey Ekpenyong | — | Member |
| (4) | Hon. Abdulrahman S. Abubakar | — | Member |

(5)	Hon. Lawan Abubakar Garba	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Mato Dorothy	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Lawan Hassan Anka	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Randolph Oruene Brown	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Chime Oji Agu	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Murtala Isah	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Nurudeen Akinwunmi Olaitan	—	Member

(i) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate into Data Collection Processes, Maintenance and Usage by the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) (HR. 15/2018):***

(1)	Hon. Gbilla Mark Terseer	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Obinna Chidoka	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Babajimi Benson	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Mohammed Usman	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Mohammed Ayuba	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Mato Dorothy	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Onyemaechi Joan Mrakpor	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Onuigbo Samuel Ifeanyi	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Mohammed Jega	—	Member

(j) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the State of the Nation's Four Refineries, their Turn Around Maintenance (TAM) and Regular/Modular Licensed Refineries (IRR. 173/2017), (Tuesday, 21 November, 2017):***

(1)	Hon. Garba Datti Mohammed	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Akinfolarin Mayowa	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Idisi Lovette	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Chris Agibe Ngoro	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Mallam Bukar Gana	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Dickson Dominic Tarkighir	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Shehu Aliyu Musa	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Philip A. Gatuwa	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Yahaya Choda Gora	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Jerome Amadi Eke	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Olajide Jimoh Abdulraheem	—	Member

(k) ***Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the under-remittances of revenue by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to the Federation Account (Wednesday, 20 December, 2017):***

(1)	Hon. Abiodun James Faleke	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Ayo Omidiran	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Adamu Ocheipo Entonu	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ali Isa J. C.	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Darlington Nwokocha	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Salisu Garba Koko	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Ibrahim Abdullahi Dutse	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Nwazunku Chukwuma	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Onyemaechi Joan Mrakpor	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Mohammed A. Sanda Ngandu	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Diri Douye	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Zakari Salisu	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Abbas Tajudeen	—	Member

5. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Emmanuel Collins Chukwu, on the non compensation for his effort in rescuing 635 Nigerians from Liberia in 1989 - 1990, by the Federal Government of Nigeria, was presented and laid by Hon. Toby Okechukwu (*Aninri/Agwu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Umeh Gabriel Uzoma, on the stoppage of his salary by the Management of Federal Medical Centre, Keffi, Nasarawa State, was presented and laid by Hon. Azodo Eucharua (*Aguata Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Rita Orji (*Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Coalition of Civil Society Organizations for Justice and Equity, on the failure of the Nigeria Police to honour court judgment in favour of Incorporated Trustees of Peace Corps of Nigeria;
 - (b) S. Kelechi Nnamdi & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Oworubia and Otuokwu communities, Ndokwa East Local Government Area, Delta State, on the alleged pollution of the River Niger Water ways by Sterling Oil Exploration and Energy Production Company Limited;
 - (c) Ba'aga Alhussain, on the alleged denial of his appointment into the Federal Civil Service by the Head of Civil Service of the Federation;
 - (d) Evbayiro Usunobun & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Enogie, Elders and people of Oghede community, Ovia North East Local Government, Edo State, on alleged incessant destruction of residential buildings in their community by men and officers of the Nigerian Army;
 - (e) Imperial Legal (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Online Publishers Association of Nigeria (OPAN), on the arrest of Tim and Daniel Elombah ordered by the Nigeria Police;
 - (f) Julex Associates (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of African Arts and Cultural Heritage Association, on the fire incident at the Arts and Craft Village, Abuja;
 - (g) Comrade Ayodele Adewale, on the alleged arrest of Segun Adekoya by men of Special Anti-Robbery Squad/Intelligence Team;
 - (h) Auta Timothy and 12 others, on behalf of the residents of Durumi 1 and 2 communities, Abuja, on the excess billing of residents by the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC);
 - (i) Evang. Mfon A. Udo, on behalf of Conscience Search Association (CSA), on the non-payment of proceeds from their investments by Cashflow Abi Network Limited, and International Robot;
 - (j) Faisal A. Garba and 136 others, on behalf of Concerned Scholars Group on the alleged imposition of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) policy, on their members;
 - (k) Boma Oweredaba & 1 other, on behalf of Ochokorocho/Clifford Kiri, Baka community on the procedure adopted in the award of surveillance contracts in the Cawthorne Oil Fields of Kalabari Kingdom by AITEO EPC;

- (l) Boma Ayoka-Duke, on behalf of Kurt Kiri Bakara community, on the procedure adopted in the award of surveillance contracts in the Cawthorne Oil Fields of Kalabari Kingdom by AITEO EPC;
- (m) C. O. Okite & Associates (Attorneys at Law), on behalf of Kenel Ernest, on the alleged intimidation by Aloysius Ikegwuonu, using the instrumentality of the Nigeria Police, Anambra State Command;
- (n) Effiong Anso Ibianga, on the alleged destruction of crops on farmlands by Airport security personnel in Amanoma Okoba community, Akwa Ibom State,;
- (o) Apeiye Becon Clement Esq., on behalf of Kayode Abraham Ajeigbe, on the alleged unwholesome practices by the Management of MTN Communication Company;
- (p) Emmanuel Gbolagade against the Akwa Ibom State Independent Electoral Commission, on the assault of the petitioners.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

6. Presentation of Reports

(i) ***Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, No. 17 of 2007 to increase the Functions of the Agency; and for Related Matters (HB. 1131 and HB. 1178)" (*Hon. Mohammed Umar Bago — Chanchaga Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) ***Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board Act, Cap. M4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Reconstituting the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board for Effective Control of all Maritime Operations in Nigeria's Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone, Create the Maritime Security Fund, Establish Anti-Piracy Offences; and for Related Matters (HB. 1056)" (*Hon. Mohammed Umar Bago — Chanchaga Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Delta State; and for Related Matters, 2018 (HB. 1032) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Delta State; and for Related Matters, 2018 (HB. 1032) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Munguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and Passed.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Electoral Offences Commission; and for Related Matters (HB. 504 and HB. 546) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Electoral Offences Commission; and for Related Matters (HB. 504 and HB. 546) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Munguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and Passed.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Polytechnic, Abiriba, Abia State to Provide for Equity and Access to Tertiary Education in the Country, make Comprehensive Provisions for its Management and Administration; and for Related Matters (HB.1263) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Polytechnic, Abiriba, Abia State to Provide for Equity and Access to Tertiary Education in the Country, make Comprehensive Provisions for its Management and Administration; and for Related Matters (HB.1263) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Nkole U. Ndukwe — Arochukwu/Ohafia Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Health Records Officers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. H2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Health Information Practitioners Council of Nigeria for Effective and Efficient Health Information Management, to Regulate the Training, Practice and Management of Health Information System in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1250) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Health Records Officers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. H2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Health Information Practitioners Council of Nigeria for Effective and Efficient Health Information Management, to Regulate the Training, Practice and Management of Health Information System in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1250) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Mohammad Usman — Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission Act, Cap. F7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to give Married Women Option of Indigeneship and to Provide for the Establishment of Federal Character Tribunal for the Prosecution of Violations of the Federal Character Act; and for Related Matters (HBs 1190 and 1203) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission Act, Cap. F7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to give Married Women Option of Indigeneship and to Provide for the Establishment of Federal Character Tribunal for the Prosecution of Violations of the Federal Character Act; and for Related Matters (HBs 1190 and 1203) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency and 1 other).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Character.

12. **Request for Extension of Referral Time to enable the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Abuse of Pioneer Status by Companies to Conclude Work on the Matter (Referred: 21/7/2016)**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Recalls that on Thursday, 21 July, 2016, the House constituted an *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Abuse of Pioneer Status by Companies;

Also recalls that the *Ad-hoc* Committee was mandated to investigate the matter of the issuance of Pioneer Status to deserving Companies in Nigeria and the Power vested in the Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission in accordance with the Industrial Development (Income Tax Relief) Act, IDITRA of 1971 and the Pioneer Status Incentives Regulations of 2014;

Informed that the *Ad-hoc* Committee has carried out extensive work on the referral but owing to the sensitive nature of the assignment and the voluminous amount of data collected which are being carefully analyzed, the *Ad-hoc* Committee has not presented its Report in accordance with Order Seventeen, Rule 3 (g) of the Standing Orders of the House:

Resolves to:

Grant the *Ad-hoc* Committee an extension of time of eight (8) weeks to enable it conclude the hearings and present its Report to the House for further legislative action (*Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi — Karu/Keffi/Kokona Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

13. **Need to Complete Otukpo-Ajaokuta Railway Project**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Railway project running from Otukpo in Benue State to Ajaokuta in Kogi State which was started by the Administration of President Shehu Shagari had been abandoned, even after the construction of the Railway Bridge from Itobe-Ajaokuta;

Aware that rail transportation is about the earliest, cheaper and faster means of moving people and goods from one point to the other, and given that the people of the area are predominantly farmers, their produce would have been easily moved to the cities to earn revenues, boost economic activities and advance the diversification of the economy to agriculture;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Ministry of Transportation to include the completion of the Otukpo-Ajaokuta Railway project in the 2018 budget estimates; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Land Transport, and Appropriations to ensure implementation (*Hon. Hassan A. Omale — Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 21/2018).

Motion referred to the Committees on Land Transport, and Appropriations, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

14. Need to Return the Unutilized Expenses of Land Acquired for Military Barracks to the Host Communities

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that in the 1970s, the then Federal Military Government acquired large expanses of land in some States Capitals, measuring about ($\frac{1}{4}$) one-quarter of the land area of the cities for purposes of establishing military barracks;

Also notes that at the time those lands were acquired, the Communities affected could not raise any voice of opposition in spite of the economic deprivation the action constituted considering the draconian nature of military rule;

Further notes that since the acquisition, none of those lands has been put to maximum use by the Military, rather more than 80% of the land has not been occupied, a good example of which is the Owena Army barrack in Akure, Ondo State, Alamala Army barrack in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Ojoo Military Cantonment in Ibadan, Oyo State and the Abuja acquisition that covers Giri-Zuba-Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport;

Informed that the Commandants of those barracks have, using Agents, turned to emergency landlords/land owners and are now giving out the periphery of the lands to people that desire land for economic ventures on an annual rentage and are raking in for themselves colossal amounts of money, while properties of those tenants are usually destroyed in the event of default in payment of rents;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Power, Works and Housing and Defence, in collaboration with the Ministries of Lands in those States, to work out the modalities for the return of those expanses of unutilized lands to the host Communities for productive utilization; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence and Housing to ensure implementation (*Hon. Ajisafe Olowookere — Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed

Leave out Prayer (i) and insert a new Prayer as follows:

“urge the Federal Ministries of Power, Works and Housing and Defence, not to under any guise reallocate lands acquired for specific purpose to either individuals or corporate bodies with a sole aim of using them for other development activities” (*Hon. Lasun Yussuf f Sulaimon — Irepodun/Olorunda/Osogbo/Orolu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in the 1970s, the then Federal Military Government acquired large expanses of land in some States Capitals, measuring about ($\frac{1}{4}$) one-quarter of the land area of the cities for purposes of establishing military barracks;

Also noted that at the time those lands were acquired, the Communities affected could not raise any voice of opposition in spite of the economic deprivation the action constituted considering the draconian nature of military rule;

Further noted that since the acquisition, none of those lands has been put to maximum use by the Military, rather more than 80% of the land has not been occupied, a good example of which is the Owena Army barrack in Akure, Ondo State, Alamala Army barrack in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Ojoo Military Cantonment in Ibadan, Oyo State and the Abuja acquisition that covers Giri-Zuba-Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport;

Informed that the Commandants of those barracks have, using Agents, turned to emergency landlords/land owners and are now giving out the periphery of the lands to people that desire land for economic ventures on an annual rentage and are raking in for themselves colossal amounts of money, while properties of those tenants are usually destroyed in the event of default in payment of rents;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Power, Works and Housing and Defence, not to under any guise reallocate lands acquired for specific purpose to either individuals or corporate bodies with a sole aim of using them for other development activities; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence and Housing to ensure implementation (**HR. 22/2018**).

15. Need to Investigate Licensed Lottery Operators for Defaulting in their Financial Obligations to the Federal Government

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that out of the twenty-one (21) licensed Lottery Operators in the country, only about two or three have successfully paid their fees and other taxes to the Federal Government over the last few years, thus leading to the country losing millions of Naira in revenues to the Lottery Operators;

Also notes that all over the world, tax evasion is deemed a very serious offence as most advanced countries sustain their economies through effective and transparent taxation system where operators of businesses pay their taxes promptly;

Aware that the Nigerian Lottery Commission can become one of the revenue generating agencies if the Operators of Lottery are made to pay taxes to the Government as and when due, as the Government needs the money to execute various projects rather than borrowing to fund the annual budget;

Also aware that those Lottery Operators have been defaulting in payments of all their fees to the Commission for more than 10 years now, including the nature and type of games being played, the list of winners and total amount generated;

- *Recalls* that the Acting Director General of the Commission even stated that since his assumption of office about four months ago, the Operators have not been meeting their obligations;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to investigate the activities of licensed Lottery Operators from 2000 to date with a view to ensuring that tax defaulters among them are made to pay promptly, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Abdulrazak Sa'ad Namdas — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that out of the twenty-one (21) licensed Lottery Operators in the country, only about two or three have successfully paid their fees and other taxes to the Federal Government over the last few years, thus leading to the country losing millions of Naira in revenues to the Lottery Operators;

Also noted that all over the world, tax evasion is deemed a very serious offence as most advanced countries sustain their economies through effective and transparent taxation system where operators of businesses pay their taxes promptly;

Aware that the Nigerian Lottery Commission can become one of the revenue generating agencies if the Operators of Lottery are made to pay taxes to the Government as and when due, as the Government needs the money to execute various projects rather than borrowing to fund the annual budget;

Also aware that those Lottery Operators have been defaulting in payments of all their fees to the Commission for more than 10 years now, including the nature and type of games being played, the list of winners and total amount generated;

Recalled that the Acting Director General of the Commission even stated that since his assumption of office about four months ago, the Operators have not been meeting their obligations;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to investigate the activities of licensed Lottery Operators from 2000 to date with a view to ensuring that tax defaulters among them are made to pay promptly, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 23/2018**).

16. **Call for a Cost Analysis of the Monies Recovered by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Cost of Prosecution of Cases**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **Need to Decongest Nigerian Prisons to Promote the Fundamental Rights of Inmates, International Standards and Best Practices**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the level of congestion in Nigerian Prisons has become so alarming that they no longer serve as correctional facilities for reformation of inmates;

Also notes the information by the Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA), in partnership with the Nigerian Prison Service (NPS), showing that only 21,354 inmates (comprising 21,009 males and 345 females) were convicted offenders, while the remaining 46,756 inmates (comprising 45,765 males and 991 females) were still awaiting trial;

Further notes that the United Nations Minimum Standard Rules for Treatment of Prisoners, also known as the UN Nelson Mandela Rules, provide in Rules 12 (1) and (2) and 13 that where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night, a cell or room by himself or herself; but that in special cases, such as temporary overcrowding, it is left to the given prison authority to vary this rule, provided that due regard would be paid to climatic conditions and particularly, to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation, etc;

Aware that due to high congestion in virtually all the prisons, the inmates are exposed to risks of epidemics, jail breaks, lack of inmates reform, transmission of bad habits and crime techniques by hardened criminals, anti-social tendencies and moral decadence ranging from homosexuality to other forms of human abuse through illicit relationships which have also become common features of the prisons;

Concerned that congestion in the prisons has become so acute that many cells meant to accommodate about 50 inmates were found to be accommodating up to 150 inmates, a case in point being the Kirikiri Maximum Security Prison in Lagos, which was built to accommodate 956 inmates, but is today occupied by over 2,600 inmates;

Also concerned that the courts have continued to send accused persons to the already overcrowded prisons, even when their offences could have been otherwise handled in line with the provisions of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015;

Further concerned that the objectives of the Criminal Justice System, the primary purpose of governance under the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy in the 1999 Constitution as well as the Fundamental Rights of Nigerians and several Treaties to which Nigeria is signatory would be negated if the poor state of the prisons is not urgently addressed;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Interior, Human Rights, Federal Judiciary, FCT Judiciary and Police Affairs to conduct an investigative hearing on prison reforms in order to identify the specific challenges in terms of infrastructure, administration of criminal justice system and other factors that could facilitate the decongestion and reform of the prison system and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Olufemi Fakeye — Boluwaduro/Ifedayo/Ila Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed

Insert a new Prayer (ii) as follows:

“urge the Ministry of Interior to construct separate prisons for female prisoners to stop molestation and other immoral acts meted on them” (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the level of congestion in Nigerian Prisons has become so alarming that they no longer serve as correctional facilities for reformation of inmates;

Also notes the information by the Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA), in partnership with the Nigerian Prison Service (NPS), showing that only 21,354 inmates (comprising 21,009 males and 345 females) were convicted offenders, while the remaining 46,756 inmates (comprising 45,765 males and 991 females) were still awaiting trial;

Further noted that the United Nations Minimum Standard Rules for Treatment of Prisoners, also known as the UN Nelson Mandela Rules, provide in Rules 12 (1) and (2) and 13 that where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night, a cell or room by himself or herself; but that in special cases, such as temporary overcrowding, it is left to the given prison authority to vary this rule, provided that due regard would be paid to climatic conditions and particularly, to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation, etc;

Aware that due to high congestion in virtually all the prisons, the inmates are exposed to risks of epidemics, jail breaks, lack of inmates reform, transmission of bad habits and crime techniques by hardened criminals, anti-social tendencies and moral decadence ranging from homosexuality to other forms of human abuse through illicit relationships which have also become common features of the prisons;

Concerned that congestion in the prisons has become so acute that many cells meant to accommodate about 50 inmates were found to be accommodating up to 150 inmates, a case in point being the Kirikiri Maximum Security Prison in Lagos, which was built to accommodate 956 inmates, but is today occupied by over 2,600 inmates;

Also concerned that the courts have continued to send accused persons to the already overcrowded prisons, even when their offences could have been otherwise handled in line with the provisions of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015;

Further concerned that the objectives of the Criminal Justice System, the primary purpose of governance under the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy in the 1999 Constitution as well as the Fundamental Rights of Nigerians and several Treaties to which Nigeria is signatory would be negated if the poor state of the prisons is not urgently addressed;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Interior, Human Rights, Federal Judiciary, FCT Judiciary and Police Affairs to conduct an investigative hearing on prison reforms in order to identify the specific challenges in terms of infrastructure, administration of criminal justice system and other factors that could facilitate the decongestion and reform of the prison system and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) urge the Ministry of Interior to construct separate prisons for female prisoners to stop molestation and other immoral acts meted on them (**HR. 24/2018**).

18. Consideration of Reports

(i) *Committee on Agricultural Production and Services:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Fisheries Society of Nigeria charged with Responsibility for Registration and Disciplining of Members of the Profession; and for Related Matters (HB. 595) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Munguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FISHERIES SOCIETY OF NIGERIA CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR REGISTRATION AND DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS OF THE PROFESSION; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 595)

Consideration deferred to enable the Committee re-examine the provisions of the Bill and report back.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Fisheries Society of Nigeria charged with Responsibility for Registration and Disciplining of Members of the Profession; and for Related Matters (HB. 595).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(ii) Committee on Police Affairs:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Police Affairs on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Explosives Act, Cap. E18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Relating to their Regulations, Penalties for Defaulters, to make Provisions for the Control of Importation, Manufacture, Distribution, Storage, Possession and Use of Firecrackers and Explosives, to Repeal the Explosives Act, Cap. E.18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Explosives Act, 2017 to make Comprehensive Provisions for the Use and Control of Explosives in Nigeria; and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 379, HB. 498, HB. 552 and HB. 670) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Haliru Dauda Jika — Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE EXPLOSIVES ACT, CAP. E18, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 RELATING TO THEIR REGULATIONS, PENALTIES FOR DEFAULTERS, TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION, STORAGE, POSSESSION AND USE OF FIRECRACKERS AND EXPLOSIVES, TO REPEAL THE EXPLOSIVES ACT, CAP. E. 18, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND RE-ENACT THE EXPLOSIVES ACT, 2017 TO MAKE COMPREHENSIVE PROVISIONS FOR THE USE AND CONTROL OF EXPLOSIVES IN NIGERIA; AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH (HB. 379, HB. 498, HB. 552 AND HB. 670)

Consideration deferred.

Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa, Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno, Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang, Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi, Hon. Mohammad Sani Abdul, Hon. Shehu Shagari, Hon. Udende Emmanuel Memga, Hon. Kwewum Rimamnde Shawulu to critically examine the Bill and report back on Tuesday, 6 February, 2018.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Police Affairs on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Explosives Act, Cap. E18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Relating to their Regulations, Penalties for Defaulters, to make Provisions for the Control of Importation, Manufacture, Distribution, Storage, Possession and Use of Firecrackers and Explosives, to Repeal the Explosives Act, Cap. E.18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Explosives Act, 2017 to make Comprehensive Provisions for the Use and Control of Explosives in Nigeria; and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 379, HB. 498, HB. 552 and HB. 670).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

19. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 1 February, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Munguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.01 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker