

# ABUJA UNDER SIEGE: SENATE ORDERS PROBE OF FAILED 460MILLION CCTV PROJECT

The Senate has told the Minister of Federal Capital Territory, Nyesom Wike, to revisit the \$460m spent by the Federal Government on a Closed-Circuit Television project in the nation's capital. The Red Chamber took the position following recent incidents of kidnapping in the federal capital. The Senate also asked the security agencies to probe the kidnappings in Abuja and its surroundings, with a view to bringing the perpetrators to book. The resolutions followed a motion sponsored by Senator Ned Nwoko, representing Delta North, on Wednesday. In 2010, the CCTV project was awarded to ZTE Corporation, a Chinese firm.

The contract involved a payment of 15 percent by the Federal Government and 85 per cent by the Chinese EXIM Bank – to be repaid within 10 years at the prevailing interest rate. While moving his motion on the floor of the Senate, Nwoko said Chris Agidy, his senior legislative aide, was among 19 people kidnapped from their homes by gunmen in Galadimawa, a district in Abuja. Nwoko said, "Approximately two weeks ago, a distressing incident unfolded where 19 individuals were forcefully taken from their homes in the Galadimawa area of Abuja.

"Upon receiving this distressing news, immediate measures were taken by Senator Ned Munir Nwoko whose SLA was unfortunately among. He contacted the Commissioner of Police who swiftly activated the OC Anti-Kidnapping team to secure the release of those abducted. "Regrettably, we have received

distressing updates from reliable police sources confirming that out of the 19 individuals abducted, 12 have been killed while seven remain in the custody of the kidnappers. Efforts to ascertain the well-being and status of our staff, Barrister Chris, among the seven individuals still held, are ongoing. "From the onset, the senator has maintained close coordination with the security operatives who have been diligently working on this matter. However, the challenges persist as contacting the kidnappers for negotiation has proven immensely difficult. Their lines remain inactive, hindering direct communication and negotiation efforts.

"According to the security operatives, efforts are still focused on securing the remaining individuals held captive from the forest area approximately 100 km away, despite the daunting challenges faced in reaching the kidnappers. "As we await further updates from the authorities, we remain resolute in our pursuit of a swift and safe resolution to this distressing situation." The motion was thereafter supported by Senator Eyinnaya Abaribe who stated that Abuja was under a siege of insecurity. He added that it was important that urgent steps were taken to avoid serious security threats. Also, Senator Adamu Aliero supported the motion and told the lawmakers that while he was the FCT minister, he awarded the CCTV project but the contractor took the money and never completed the job. Aliero, therefore, prayed the Senate to ask the FCT minister to resume the probe of the CCTV project.

## ALL YOU SEEK IS GIVEN FOR FREE

**A**s it is now obvious that the hope of most Nigerians may have been dashed. Some see a better tomorrow if they elect this or that but unfortunately even their choices does not make any difference because they end up being disappointed and even suffer for the choice they made or forced on them.

*The only true and accurate choice to make for a country like Nigeria is God. God is the only one that can provide all the basic amenities that you need. He doesn't even need your tax to give you all you need. Even when men fail, God never fails. He is the one that gives light that AEDC cannot give; solar light is from the sun that God gives freely, it's so reliable that the sun will always be out even when there is rain; it is not dependent on dam overflowing or transformer breaking down. God is the one who truly gives breath; it's free unlike the oxygen many pay for in the hospital. He gives the best security that your country cannot give you. He alone can exempt you from harm and secure you even in the midst of the insecurity. He alone provides; even the people you look up to cannot provide your needs because they are more focused on what they will get first*

*but God is All sufficient and He alone can provide all your needs; He can even use anyone to meet your need beyond your expectations. God gives health; health is one kind of wealth everyone seeks and only God gives such wealth. God gives water freely; rain fall and even the water we get from the ground, even ice blocks He sends down. God is indeed all we should seek. He alone can provide all the basic necessity we need. He made it all and gives it all for free. No one planted the crude oil, God gave it freely. No one owns the land, He gave the land and its fertile texture freely that we all farm on. He is the God you should seek if you really want to live above the challenges that you see. He is the God who taught the sun where to stand and the ocean how far it can go, He showed the moon where to hide till evening; He is the same God that spins things in orbit.*

*If you keep looking unto man, you will certainly be disappointed but if you look up to God, you will never be ashamed. Seek God and all that He gives freely and see Him manifesting beyond your wildest imagination.*