IMPACT OF THE STATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AN EXPOSITORY ANALYSIS OF ROAD, ELECTRICITY AND HEALTH

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KEYWORDS
Economic development, state, infrastructural facilities, good health, road network

ABSTRACT
This study views most study on infrastructure as pertinent due to their wholistic approach and theoretical orientation towards. But this study is a particular and pragmatic approach to the nexus between state and infrastructure like road electricity and health consequently, we explores the reciprocity between the state and development of infrastructure. The research questions were (1) Has the Nigeria state provided adequate and motor able roads for its citizen, (2) Has the Nigeria state provide constant electricity supply for the teeming population, (3) To what extent has the National health policies of government provided improved the quality of health for Nigerian citizens. Our methods of data collection was documentary which enabled us to use secondary sources of data like the documentary materials.The study was predicated on the structural functional analysis or structural functionalism as a theoretical framework. We adopted content analysis as the mode of analysis. With regard to validity of the study we adopted the content or face validity method together with the use of external criteria. Our findings revealed that government has not done enough in provision of health facilities, due to bad governance it has not provide adequate road network for the populace also that there is poor power supply. We concluded that if the government is able to provide good health facilities, adequate road network and relative stable electricity supply the situation will improve. The study recommended that Government should assume a renewed commitment to the construction of motorable roads in the six geopolitical zones of the country, it should endeavor to provide electricity supply. This can be achieved by providing money to improve the national grid, finally it should through the National Health Insurance Scheme, be duty committed in terms of the provision of stable and reliable health care services.

Introduction

The state in an attempt to proffer justification for its existence is fundamentally saddled with the constitutional mandate of improving the material well-beings of its citizen. In an attempt to realize this constitutional mandate, it participate in the development of road, health and electricity. The state is defined as a group of people occupying a particular territory with a government. People who make up a state may be of the same nation, thus nations are component of a state in that sense it becomes a nation-state.Example of a nation state is Nigeria, while a good example of a nation is Israel. State states the features of definite territory government, population, sovereignty, permanence. Okpata, etal., (2000 p 10).

Ubong, 2023, Okorontah & Uruakpa, (2023) made fundamental attempt at explicating the nexus between industrialization and sustainable development, in Nigerian state. The contribution of Krokeyi and Bassey (2023) in solving the endemic problem of poverty alleviation as a medium of developing the state is also significant. The above scholar, has expended collosal intellectual energy in discussing our subject matter but the scholarly disposition of this work is to identify the problem posed by the unavailability of motorable road, electricity and affordable health. Consequently, the study is extending existing scholarship.

One of the most contentious and yet the most fundamental problems that has defile political diagnosis and treatment remains the concept of the state, (Onuoha 2020). The above disparaging comments in the state was prompted by the discouraging and abysmal or depreciating performance of the state especially in the Nigerian State that triggered the above reports.

Defining the term infrastructure is also problematic on account of its definitional fuzziness specially relating to how the state has impacted on it in Nigeria. The account normally given by pro-government loyalist is often different from what is actually going on in the state due to the coloration of political economy on the intention of such writer. Some colorful publications are in some case put toward especially on the inter-state level to decorate the political aspirations of government in Nigeria. If one examines the role of the Nigeria state in promoting infrastructural development one cannot but confront a dismal picture and a direct opposite of what is proclaimed by the 1999 constitution, on how the role of the state in economic development should portray. Nwanne, (2023) contend that Nigeria state is in a deep coma not to talk of health and electricity this parlous condition does not in the least favorable to economic development In fact the debate on the actual meaning, nature, character and role of the state especially when it comes to infrastructural development has remained intractable (Onuoha, 2020). Nigerian road needs maintenance while electricity continues to struggle with inefficiencies and insufficient supply many health centers are not functional due to epileptic financial provision.

According to Backman, (1983), infrastructural development is often within the purview of the state.From 2005 to 2024 Nigeria has experienced mixed results in health sector such as life expectancy, infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate have shown improvement but still lag behind global averages. NBS, (2020) has insisted that accordingly, life expectancy increased from 47 years in 2005 to 54 years in 2020 but it is still below the global average of 72 years.Nigerian road needs maintenance while electricity continues to struggle with inefficiencies and insufficient supply, many health centers are not functional due to epileptic financial provision It is sad to note that in spite of all these imperatives, the Nigeria Government has not made significant improvement in infrastructural development. This poses a formidable structural pathology to economic development like road electricity and health the country.

Against this background, this study focuses on the impact of the state in the development of infrastructure an expository analysis of road, electricity and health.

Structure of the Study

For the sake of clarity and lucid comprehension of the subject matter; the study is organized consecutively as follows: introduction, structure of the study, origin of infrastructure methodology, validity and reliability, conceptual clarification, theoretical framework, causes of poor infrastructural development, access to electricity, state of road, state of health, summary, concluding remark, recommendation and references

Origin of Infrastructure

In the world, the origin of infrastructure dates back to the early days of human civilization. The Roman Empire believed infrastructure engineering to be a tragic investment by the state since with infrastructure; people can work together and provide specialized services to one another. Early development of infrastructure is also traceable to the days of Dairus the Great a Persian King between 522-486 Before Common Era (BCE) (quoted in Nwanne, 2021). He invested in infrastructure; the Roman Empire also emulated him. King Dairus built canals and road throughout the provinces of his empire which stretched from modern day Iraq to Egypt and Iran. It was gradually through the historical background traced here that other infrastructural facility started, Nwanne, (2023)

In Nigeria, the cradle of infrastructural development can be logically and historically traced to Pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial era. In pre-colonial time, infrastructural development was accomplished through the establishment of major trade routes during the Tran-Saharan trade leading to linking up of Kano and Katsina. The colonial era (1861-1960) railways were constructed to primarily facilitate the extraction and export of resources example was the construction of Lagos-Kano railway which was completed in 1917 to connect the interior with the coastal area.Utilities like electricity, water supply were established by the European settlers. During the post-independence era. 1960 till Present day, expansion of road network was anchored on expanding road network to facilitate connectivity between the three regions then. It included construction of expressways like Lagos – Ibadan, establishing airport, hydroelectric dam, and power plants. The oil bloom of the 1970's and 1980's increased investment in infrastructure, including the construction of new roads and bridges before the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) propelled a decline in infrastructure,on account of reduction in public spending. With the return of democratic governance in 1999 there came a novel commitment though mostly on paper to infrastructural development in Nigeria. On a general note, the cradle of infrastructural development in Nigeria has been fundamentally influenced by historical, economic and political forces Ake, (1981).

Research Questions

The study shall proffer solution to the following research questions;

i. Has the Nigeria state provided adequate road network for the populace?

ii. Has the Nigeria state provided constant electricity supply for the teeming population?

iii. To what extent has the National health policies of government improved the quality of health of Nigerian citizens

Methodology

In this study, the documentary methods of data collection was relied on. This will allow us to gather data from secondary sources. Our justification for the use of documentary method is that it is well suited for content analysis and it is important if the aim is to examine, clarify explain and pinpoint vital ideas in order to draw inference from the existing evidence (Nwanne, 2023). Hence official document, from Federal Ministries of Health, Power Holding Company of Nigeria, will be utilized in the course of this study. In order to concretely analyse the corpus of qualitative data generated in the course of this study, we adopted content analysis. The strength of this method of analysis is that numerous documentary material can be analysed in a clear and systematic manner, convincing evidence can be produced to test the hypotheses, and the analysis can be replicated to confirm the results (Burnham, Gillan, Grant, & Layton-Henry, 2004). Content analysis is a method of putting behavioural data into categories to allow individual screen the content for the purpose of summarization and tabulation. White, (1999, p.241) "contend that content analysis allows individual to screen the content of a document with the intention of comprehending its innate structure, ideas and concepts and to measure the information it relates".

Validity and Reliability of Instrument

Validity and reliability are not only necessary for quantitative research but also for qualitative one. Goode and Hart (1952) believe that a scale has validity when it really measures what it claims to measure, however reliability means the ability of a measuring tool to give consistent result across time when applied to the same sample, Goode and Hart, (1952), Black and champion, (1976); McCormick and Tiffins, (1975).As regards validity of the study, we made use of the content or face validity method together with the use of external criterion to ensure the veracity of the findings of the instrument.

Conceptual Clarification

In political science, the "state" is typically defined as a sovereign political entity with defined geographical boundaries, a permanent population, a government, and the capacity to enter into relations with other states (Nwanne ,2017). Infrastructure according to Online Oxford English Dictionary, as (cited in Nwanne, 2023) is defined as the Basic physical and organizational structures needed for the operation of the society or an enterprise. According to the structural/functionalist theorists. The progress or otherwise of a society depended largely on the functional structures of that society. What this means is that structures in the societies will largely determine the economic development.

Ajayi (2003) noted that the term infrastructure refers to the technical structures that enhance living condition in any society which included health facilities, agricultural facilities, good road network and telecommunications as well as energy and water supply.

Thus, infrastructure is the basic physical and organizational structures needed for the operation of a society like industries, buildings, roads, bridges, health services, governance and so on. It is the enterprise or the products, services and facilities necessary for an economy to function (Sullivan and Schifrin, 2003). The World Development Report elaborated by the World Bank (1994) defined infrastructure as long-life engineering structures, equipment and facilities, and also the services that are derived from Furthermore, the definition of infrastructure has been shifting from one focusing on physical fixed assets such as roads, airports, sea ports, telecommunications systems, energy, water distribution systems and sanitation (public utilities). It now often embodies notions of 'softer' types of facilities such as information systems and knowledge bases (Button, 2002).

The World Bank landmark study on infrastructure (World Bank, 2004) cited in (Nwanne, 2023) highlighted the critical role of infrastructure in the development process. The importance of delivering quality infrastructure has also been underlined by the United Nations declaration of the Millennium Development Goals. now SDGs. According to Hirschman (1958) in Olayiwola and Adeleye (2005), infrastructural facilities refer to those basic services without which primary, secondary and tertiary productive activities cannot function. Broadly this includes all public services like education, public health, transportation, communications and water supply.

Theoretical Framework

Nwanne and Ayogu, (2015) believe that theoretical framework is a device or scheme for adopting or applying the assumptions, postulations and principles of a theory in the description, explanation, analysis and prediction of a research problem. Clearly, It is a way of describing analyzing, interpreting and predicting phenomena Obasi (1999).In order to philosophically, academically and concretely justify and explain the relationship between the state and the provision of basic infrastructure like road health and electricity and health in Nigeria, we predicate our analysis on the structural functional theory or analysis or structural-functionalism.

Structural-functionalism as a theoretical framework is intended to explain the basis for the maintenance of order and stability in society and the relevant arrangements with the society which maintain the said order and stability (Haralambos and Heald, 1980). Structural functional analysis originated in the biological and mechanical sciences as part of systems analysis. It was adopted and adapted as a mode of analysis in sociology and anthropology as is evident in the works of Emile Durkhiem and Talcott Parsons. It was developed for political analysis. By Gabriel Almond.Varma (1975)

observed that structural-functionalism revaluates around two main concepts – functions and structures, on the basis of which three basic questions could be posed as follows: (a) What basic functions are fulfilled in any given political system, (b) By what structures, (c)Under what condition? This study uses the above theory to demonstrate how structure and functions relates in economic development of the state. Thus, we used the above theory specifically to demonstrate that governmental structures perform different functions of economic development with specific focus on road, electricity and health

The basic assumption of the structural-functional framework is that all systems have structures which can be identified and theses structures perform functions within the system necessary for its persistence. Thus, it is perceived by Almond (1966) that all political systems, regardless of their type, must perform a specific set of tasks if they are to remain in existence. In various political systems, those functions may be performed by different kinds of political structures and sometimes, even by structures which are not overtly recognized as being, primarily, 'political' Varma, (1975) argued that there is no one-to-one correspondence between functions and structure a particular function may be fulfilled by a complex combination of structures, just as any structural arrangement may perform functions which might have different kinds of consequences for the structure.

In the analysis of political systems, the analyst compares not the political structures since these may not actually be the mechanisms through which all the necessary functions are being performed or they may not be performing the functions originally allocated to them. Structural functional analysis tries to shift the focus of analysis away from the observable institutional political mechanisms to any area where the actual performance of the functional requirement of the system is located. Political systems are then compared in terms of the manner in which structures perform the expected functions in society. There are three output functions which include: Rule making, Rule application, Rule adjudication. All input functions are seen as being performed by non-governmental sub-system of the political system, such as the society, pressure groups, and interest groups, schools, families, political parties, independent newspapers, etc. The output functions are all governmental and it is the government and their bureaucracies that performs that.

Political systems can therefore be analyzed and compared in terms of the degree to which their political structures are specialized. Whether specific functions are performed through particular structures or a particular structure can perform a number of functions. In some political systems such as those of the advanced industrial nations of America and Europe, structures are specialized, political roles differentiated and functions specific.

In a nutshell, it is to be noted that while the yardstick by which systems are measured consists of the functions which are performed by the political system, the units which are being analyzed, and compared are the various structures which compose individual political systems.

Thus, with Almond's method it becomes possible to relate various types of structures to a particular function. While the list of functions is limited, the list of structures can be indefinitely expended depending on the characteristics of particular systems. The justification for the use of this theory among other competing theories is that infrastructure is something that is used for the enhancement of good living condition. According to Jeremy Bentham and J.S Mill, the primary purpose of government is to provide the greatest happiness for the greatest number of people (quoted in Nnoli (2003). Aristotle 384-322 BC, noted that government exists for the sake of the best life. Verma (1975) argued that structural functionalism revolves around two major concepts that is function and structure. Since our study focuses on development in Nigeria, the theory becomes without mincing words a sine-qua-non for the explanation and analysis of the issue under investigation.

Causes of Poor Infrastructural Development

From 2016 till date, the Nigerian State was confronted with chronic recession, economic instability and stagnancy which grossly eroded the government fiscal capacity. This precipitated protracted inflation and currency devaluation which eroded the financial capacity of the government. Bureaucratic bottlenecks was another formidable factor that delayed

infrastructural provision in Nigeria in the recent years, couple with poor planning, budget deficit, and acute bad governance. It should however be noted that the most significant single factor that impeded the development of infrastructural facilities was debt which we see in this study as unproductive. It is seen as unproductive debt because the money borrowed by the government was not used to do reasonable things increasing debt burden caused by the Buhari's administration was largely responsible for the delay in infrastructural development in the recent years (Nwanne, 2023).

The honest truth remains that the major causes of poor infrastructure development that permeate Nigeria nation and indeed many African countries find their roots in the structural, systemic and socio-political lapses that are inherent from the past historical realities of colonial administration. This is worsened by the contemporary experience of the neo-colonialism and the current political maneuvering of the present bourgeois democrats since 1999. There has been no clear and implemented political manifesto and ideology with regards to good governance in Nigeria especially since independence. Mohammed (2008), believe that one of the challenges of development process in Nigeria is that other African societies has been most pronounced in the area of good governance. It lies with the operators of the system of governance in the country, the local and international elites and their perception of what democracy entails, represents and meant for society. (Ezeogidi, 2015).

Good governance remained a theory that has not found relevance in the concept of empiricism and testability in Nigeria; it remained a utopian and unrealizable theory, a million miles journey that is waiting for a takeoff grant. Only God knows when the wind of good governance will begin to blow in Nigeria. According to Achebe (1983) the Nigeria problem is squarely the problem or failure of leadership. Associated with the conundrum of the good governance is the cankerworm called corruption which has eaten deep into the fabric of Nigerian economy.

According to Oluleye and Obi (2012), corruption can be said to be largely responsible for the under development of Nigeria. Funds appropriated for development purposes are either diverted or misappropriated for self-aggrandizement with the consequence that those projects remain undone or uncompleted. A visit to some of the Uncompleted projects or abandoned projects that are scattered all over Nigeria will give a hind sight and information on how very sound developmental projects which would have boosted the infrastructural state of the economy were abandoned at the detriment of the Nigerian poor masses. Some of these projects may have received certificate of completion from the appropriate authority even when they have not been completed.

The global effect of the poor infrastructure is that as a result of hardship and frustration occasioned by bad governance and corruption, Nigerians migrates to other countries with no assurance of what to expect. Some of them met a worse condition while some were stranded and could not find their ways back. Hence some of them in the latter category resorted to different types of sinister or illicit businesses thereby posing a social menace to the host country. In the recent past, some Nigerians were deported from various locations in Europe, South Africa and North America.

Access to Electricity in Nigeria

According to Mahdi (2004) the most spectacular failure of successive Nigeria Governments from 1966 till date, which actually boarders on criminality has been in the field of energy and power supply. In line with the Mahdi's view, Akinwumi and Ukase (2010) believed that the electricity demand in Nigeria far outstrips the supply and the supply is annoyingly epileptic in nature, a development which is hindering the nation's development notwithstanding the enormous vast natural resources in the country. The situation of power supply has degenerated so much in Nigeria that one can hardly boast of availability of power for six hours uninterrupted in a day. This can be dangerous and expensive for industries and domestic users. The effect is enormous. Mahdi (2004), also argued that it is obviously impossible and unthinkable that investors would contemplate on investing in Nigeria when the country has been for most of the time in total black out.

There is no doubt that many industries folded principally as a result of poor power supply and the high cost of operating with private generator and plant. The reason is that operating with plant and generator resulted in high overhead

cost which knocks off the product in the market as a result of competition with foreign products. It is almost impossible to talk of economic development as a reality in 21st century in a situation where greater percentage of operating cost of an industry is on power generation and maintenance. The annoying thing about this epileptic power is that the people are suffering in the mist of plenty. There is no doubt that Nigeria being the sixth largest oil producing country is blessed with natural resources which included energy. The nation had a proven reserve of 25 billion barrels of crude oil in 1999. This increased substantially to 34.5 billion barrels in 2004. Sambo (2008) projected that Nigeria's oil reserve will reach 68 billion barrels by 2030. The infrastructural state in Nigeria is in comatose stage

Moreover, accesses to electricity in rural areas show that the percentage of the population that has access to electricity in rural area is highly unimpressive.

The electricity sector has recently recorded further system collapse with some parts of the country thrown into darkness due chiefly to equipment failure. This is due to the lackluster attitude of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN). For example, the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC) in charge of Kogi, Niger and Nasarawa state as well as FCT, lament that they have only 20 megawatts (MW) of electricity allocated to it as against over 400MW that it has been receiving in recent time (Ejoh, 2021). In a related development the Eko Electricity Distribution Company added that there has been a collapse in the national grid due largely to the general instability in the electricity system in Nigeria. This disappointing and epileptic power supply fundamentally undermines economic development in Nigeria since electricity and other infrastructure is indispensible for development.

In a related development, Ohiare, (2015) lamented that the challenge of inadequate electricity supply in rural area is further compounded by lack of cogent electrification plan which have posed a formidable challenge to the development of infrastructure in Nigeria. The 2017 United Nations declaration of international year for sustainable energy for all highest for all highlights the rationale for sufficient electrification project to accelerate the pace of development. But despite the above, electricity supply remains elusive in most parts of developing countries to the extent that about 1.3 billion people are have no access to electricity with 85 percent of them living in rural areas of Asia and sub-Saharan African (Ohiare 2015) (Goldemberg, Rovere & Coelho 2004).

For International Energy Agency (IEA) 2011 sub-Saharan Africa has an electrification rate of 32 percent. Again, 70 percent of those lacking access to energy live in a handful of countries including Nigeria. Moreover, it is evident in works of Ohiare (2015), ESMAP (2005), that the Northern parts of Nigeria suffer more for this lack of electricity while an estimated 73 million Nigerians lack electricity going by the NBS figure of 2013. Kano state has the highest number of households without electricity. Approximately average of 769,000 households in each state of the federation of Nigeria lack access to electricity while the state with the least number of un-electrified households is Edo at 106,000 households approximately (Ohiare 2015). Taraba is the least electrified state so far in Nigeria (Ohiare,2015).

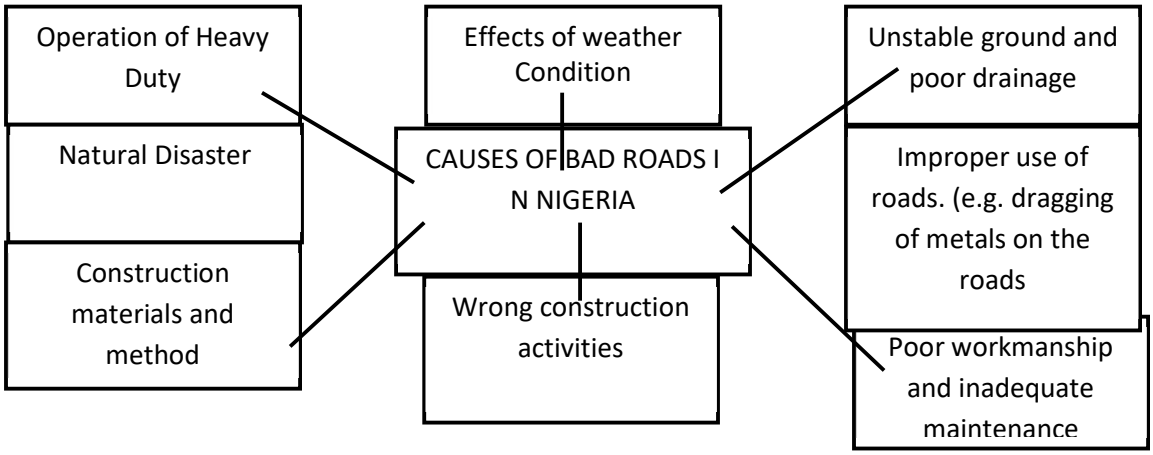
Nevertheless, the non-availability of electricity has worsened over the years, in Nigeria; its commercial sectors have become heavily reliant on self-generated power using petrol. Nigeria's shortage of reliable power supply is a constraint on its economic growth. The lack of economic diversification or the dominance of oil sector in our economy is implicated in in in the current poor economic development in Nigeria. Moreover, the state of transport infrastructure has been generally poor as roads, rails, air and water transport system have for scores of years been afflicted by deplorable condition such that most rural areas cannot link up with the rest of the country. Again, the different transport modes are not properly linked to several socio- economic needs of the people in Nigeria." The federal government claims that they are doing their best to improve infrastructural development for Nigeria to exist but the effects has not been seen in Nigeria" (Edo and Ikelegbe 2014 p 15).

State of Road in Nigeria

Apart from the provision of electricity by government, road network has been suffering the same fate in Nigeria. For example Enwerem and Ali (2016), Abdulkareemand Adeoti(2005), Agbonkhese (2013), explore the economic effect of bad road network on both SMEs, large

industries and motorist who convey finished goods to their final destination. The overall impact of bad road has cause extra havoc for SMEs especially the agro-based SMEs who have to move their products from one location to the other. Many roads in Nigeria has fallen beyond expectation structural failure of roads is due to some of the reasons figured out below. This affects development.

Figure.1. A Typical Road Problem in Nigeria



Source Enweren & Ali (2016 p.763)

The figure above present a typical road problem in Nigeria which ranges from the operation of heavy duties, effects of weather condition, unstable ground poor drainage system, natural disaster, improper use of road for example, dragging of metals on the roads, construction material and wrong construction , including poor workmanship and inadequate maintenance as illustrated in the figure above.

Nigerian roads are owned by federal, state and local government. The table below shows the structure and state of road ownership by the different tiers of government

T**able 1. Structure of Road Ownership in Nigeria**

	Federal	**State roads**	**L.G. Roads**	**Total**	**Percent**
Paved roads	26,500	10,400	-	36,900	19%
Unpaved main roads	5,600	20,100	-	25,700	13%
Urban roads	-`	-	21,900	21,900	11%
Main rural roads	-	-	72,800	72,800	38%
Village access roads	-	-	35,900	35,900	19%

Total	32,100	30,500	130,600	193,200	100%
Percent	17%	16%	67%	100%	

Source: CBN, (2003) cited in Enwerem& Ali 2016. p.7

The table above shows the total number of road network in Nigeria. The estimated current total road network in Nigeria is about 194,000 one hundred and ninety-four thousand kilometers CBN, (2003) but only 19 percent of these roads are paved road, while the rest are at different stages of dilapidation. The table also shows the numbers of paved main road, unpaved main roads, urban roads, main rural roads and village access roads in the federal, state and local government in Nigeria and their various percentages. From CBN report as cited in Enwerem and Alli, 2016, the annual loss due to bad roads is valued at N80 billion, while additional vehicle operating cost resulting from bad roads is valued at N53.8 billion (Enwerem&Ali, 2016), bringing the total loss per annum to N133.8 billion. The worst of all is that this causes air pollution, delayed movement, armed robbery and incessant accident on the road all this impact negatively on infrastructure and consequently economic development in Nigeria.

Nigeria road has su**ffe**red persistent and considerable neglect over the years from 2005 to 2024. The federal government only made a theoretical statement of embarking on road. Construction and rehabilitation geared towards reviving and supporting economic development. However, on a practical note the prospect has not been cheerful as our roads has turned to mere death traps. For instance, once you pass Lokoja when going travelling the Southern parts of the Nigeria, your movement halts to a mere crawl due to dangerous pot holes which have accumulated over the years. The last straw that breaks the camel, back is travelling from Auchi to Agbor which is hardly motorable especially in this rainy season due to poor drainage system which is supposed to be a cardinal responsibility of government based on the spirit of effective democracy and good governance (Nwanne, 2023).

According, NBS (2024) Nigerian roads are in a poor condition due to poor maintenance and utilization materials are grossly below standard p.22. Again, inspite of the exclusive task of the federal road maintenance Agency. The agency is fundamentally bedeviled with administrativebottlenecks which erode its effectiveness. This poor status of Nigeria roads has led to excruciating and frequent road accidents in the recent years (NBS, 2024). Again, the NBS has recently made available comprehensive data on poor road development, the data revealed that road maintenance remains a critical factor.

Health Infrastructure

World Health Organization (WHO, 1984) has defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. This definition that used to be the most acceptable definition of health is bedeviled by concerted criticism based on the use of the phrase “complete physical , mental and social well-being”.Critics have contended that no person could be in the state of complete health in the strict sense of the word. They argued that healthy is a matter of one’s ability to adjust to one’s condition. What it implies is that when an individual is not able to adjust to one’s condition, that individual suffers from ill-health. Consequently, this adjustment is a matter of urgency and should be regular. This is because achieving and maintaining health is an ongoing process, shape by both the evolution of health care knowledge and practices, as well as personal strategies and organized interventions for staying healthy (Jadad and Grady, 2008).

This makes health policy necessary. A policy is a formalized set of procedures designed to guide behavior. Its purpose is to either maintain consistency in behavior or alter behavior to achieve specified goal. It is a management strategy, like what might be implement for a business (or organization) to achieve a desired profit or an NGO to achieve its social mission (Magretta, 2002)

Health policy can be defined as the "decisions, plans, and actions that are undertaken to achieve specific healthcare goals within a society World Health Organization, (2017). According to WHO, an explicit health policy can achieve several things; it defines a vision for the future; it outlines and prioritize the expected roles of different groups; and it builds consensus and inform people (WHO, 2017) Based on the above criticism of the WHO definition, Alex Jadad and Laura Grady (2008) (cited in BMS 2011) propose a new definition of health as "the ability to adapt and self-manage in the face of social, physical and emotional challenges according to them, if health is the goal of healthcare and research, we then need to know what it looks like and how to measure it. They explain that the currently accepted definition, formulated by WHO in 1948 is no longer helpful and is even counterproductive. Its emphasis on "complete physical and social well-being" was radical in its days for stepping away from defining health as the absence of disease.

Health Policies in Nigeria

A Policy is a purposive course of action followed by an actor or set of actors in dealing with matters of concern (Anderson 1975 p1). Essentially**,** a nation's health policy is the blueprint and step by step guidelines of how health issues are handled, promoted or treated by health practitioners at all levels be it primary, secondary or tertiary. It is a formal statement or procedure within institutions (notably government) that defines priorities and parameters for action on health matters. A health policy is intended to be a vehicle for the exploration and discussion of health issues aimed at enhancing communication between the practitioners and consumers otherwise referred to as the public.

The goal of the Nigeria Health Policies is to bring about a comprehensive health care system, based on primary health care that is promotive, protective, preventive, restorative and rehabilitative to every citizen of the country within the available resources so that individuals and communities are assured of productivity, socialwellbeing and enjoyment of living. The health services, based on primary health care, shall include among other things: education concerning prevailing health problems and the methods of preventing and controlling them. But unfortunately, the Nigerian health system has failed woefully since all efforts to convince the government to improve it has ended in a monumental fiasco in the recent years.

Nigeria's Health System

Nigeria health infrastructure is in a parlous state. Unfortunately, the position of Nigeria is very poor as the country's position in World Health Organization (WHO) ranking is 187 out of 190 countries. This shows that Nigeria is only better than three countries as seen in the table below.

World Health Organization Ranking; The World's Health Systems and Position of Nigeria

1	France
2	Italy
3	San Marino
4	Andorra
5	Malta
6	Singapore
7	Spain
8	Oman
9	Austria

10	Japan
11	Norway
12	Portugal
13	Monaco
14	Greece
15	Iceland
16	Luxembourg
17	Netherland
18	United Kingdom

19	Ireland
20	Switzerland
21	Belgium
22	Colombia
23	Sweden
24	Cyprus
25	Germany
26	Saudi Arabia
27	United Arab Emirate
28	Israel
29	Morocco
30	Canada
31	Finland
32	Australia
33	Chile
34	Denmark
35	Dominica
36	Costa Rica
37	USA
38	Slovenia
39	Cuba
40	Brunei
41	New Zealand
42	Bahrain
43	Croatia
44	Qatar
45	Kuwait
46	Barbados
47	Thailand
48	Czech Republic
49	Malaysia
50	Poland
51	Dominican Republic
52	Tunisia
53	Jamaica
54	Venezuela
55	Albania
56	Seychelles

57	Paraguay
58	South Korea
59	Senegal
60	Philippines
61	Mexico
62	Slovakia
63	Egypt
64	Kazakhstan
65	Uruguay
66	Hungary
67	Trinidad and Tobago
68	Saint Lucia
69	Belize
70	Turkey
71	Nicaragua
72	Belarus
73	Lithuania
74	Saint Vincent &the Grenadines
75	Argentina
76	Sri Lanka
77	Estonia
78	Guatemala
79	Ukraine
80	Solomon Islands
81	Algeria
82	Palau
83	Jordan
84	Mauritius
85	Grenada
86	Antigua and Barbuda
87	Libya
88	Bangladesh
89	Macedonia
90	Bosnia-Herzegovina
91	Lebanon
92	Indonesia
93	Iran
94	Bahamas

95	Panama
96	Fiji
97	Benin
98	Nauru
99	Romania
100	Saint Kitts and Nevis
101	Moldova
102	Bulgaria
103	Iraq
104	Armenia
105	Latvia
106	Yugoslavia
107	Cook Island
108	Syria
109	Azerbaijan
110	Suriname
111	Ecuador
112	India
113	Cape Verde
114	Georgia
115	El Salvador
116	Tonga
117	Uzbekistan
118	Comoros
119	Samoa
120	Yemen
121	Niue
122	Pakistan
123	Micronesia
124	Bhutan
125	Brazil
126	Bolivia
127	Vanuatu
128	Guyana
129	Peru
130	Russia
131	Honduras
132	Burkina Faso

133	Sao Tome and Principe
134	Sudan
135	Ghana
136	Tuvalu
137	Ivory Coast
138	Haiti
139	Gabon
140	Kenya
141	Marshall Island
142	Kiribati
143	Burundi
144	China
145	Mongolia
146	Gambia
147	Maldives
148	Papua New Guinea
149	Uganda
150	Nepal
151	Kyrgystan
152	Togo
153	Turkmenistan
154	Tajikistan
155	Zimbabwe
156	Tanzania
157	Djibouti
158	Eritrea
159	Madagascar
160	Vietnam
161	Guinea
162	Mauritania
163	Mali
164	Cameroon
165	Laos
166	Congo
167	North Korea
168	Namibia
169	Botswana
170	Niger

171	Equatorial Guinea
172	Rwanda
173	Afghanistan
174	Cambodia
175	South Africa
176	Guinea –Bissau
177	Swaziland
178	Chad
179	Somalia
180	Ethiopia
181	Angola
182	Zambia
183	Lesotho
184	Mozambique
185	Malawi
186	Liberia
187	**NIGERIA**
188	Democratic Rep of the Congo
189	Central African Republic
190	Myanmar

Source: https://www.who.int/healthinfo/paper30
Published on;
http://thepatientfactor.com/canadian-health-care-information/world-health-organizations-ranking-of-the-worlds-health-systems,
Friday, 21st June, 2019.

The position of Nigeria on the world health system is nothing to write home about. As the most populous country in Africa and the most endowed with resources of all kinds, our placement on the world health system is a complete disappointment and slap in the face to the so called "giants of Africa". African countries such as Uganda, Kenya, Senegal, Gambia, Gabon have been ranked to have a better, more standard and highly affordable healthcare system in comparison to Nigeria. The highest with the best healthcare system in the world is France because they have made healthcare a second oxygen to the people, both rich and poor alike. It is both highly affordable and effective. In contrast,the lowest is Myanmar, of which Nigeria is above by just two spots. They are ranked thus for the reason of sub-standard or lack of proper healthcare facilities and delivery services.

This poor health provision affects developmentin Nigeria, since a healthy man is a wealthy man. The government proves conservative and adamant to providing health infrastructure for the populace. As Africa's most populous country and one of its biggest economies, Nigeria's health indicators are of national concern.

National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS)

National Health Insurance Scheme, or NHIS for short, is a corporate body that provides health insurance in Nigeria. It was formally established in 1999 by the Act 35 of the Constitution. Its main goal is to provide accessible healthcare to all Nigerians regardless of their social status or income. NHIS aims to provide quality affordable healthcare by providing its participants with pre-paid plans. These payments are collected into a collective fund, which is then used to cover any expenses for medical services and supplies that participants might need. (Awoyinfa, 2019).

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) is a combination of both compulsory and voluntary contributory health insurance schemes targeted at formal sector workers as well as informal sector workers. It aims at ensuring access to quality health care services, provide financial risk protection, reduce rising cost of health care services and ensure efficiency in health care,(Aregbesola, 2018).

Percentage of Nigerians Covered By NHIS

Although formally established in 1999, Nigeria only launched the NHIS in 2005, after several attempts at introducing legislation on health insurance, since the 1960s. Years after it was launch in 1999, NHIS is yet to achieve the aim for which it was established, with less than five percent of the Nigerian population, mainly federal government workers and their dependents being covered by the scheme. (Aregbesola, (2018). In fact, less than seven million out of the 180 million people in the country are covered, of which the majority of the enrollee are the Federal Government workers, according to the NHIS. The scheme has not done much to reduce maternal death. A maternal death is defined as the death of a woman during pregnancy, childbirth or within 6 weeks after birth, but not from accidental or incidental (such as self-harm) causes. The maternal mortality rate is given as the number of maternal deaths per 1 00,000 live births in a specified period. The UN views a rate of fewer than 100 deaths per 100,000 live births as low. Once the rate crosses the 300 barrier, it is considered high and above 500 very high. Nigeria's maternal mortality rate (about one mother's death in every one hundred delivered) is one of the highest in the world. Some other health status indicators like under-5 mortality rate and adult mortality rate are higher than the average for sub-Sahara Africa .It has been estimated that Nigeria loses 2,300 children under the age of five and 145 women of child bearing age every single day, and accounting for the second largest number of maternal and child deaths in the world (Ifijeh, 2016).

The Maternal Mortality Rate of Women of Childbearing Age, 2001-2010

Years Mortality	Population of Mothers	Deaths of Mothers	Maternal mortality
2001	448	15	3348.21
2002	488	31	6352.46
2003	526	26	4942.97
2004	468	18	3846.15
2005	501	19	3792.42
2006	466	30	6437.77
2007	484	13	2685.95
2008	650	21	3230.77
2009	671	29	4321.91
2010	254	19	7480.32

Source: OlabisiOnabanjo University Teaching Hospital, Sagamu, 2013

http://files.aisciencc.org/journal/articie/pdf/70240018.pdf Accessesed on 20|9|19

A maternal death is defined as the death of a woman during pregnancy, childbirth or within 6 weeks after birth, but not from accidental or incidental (such as self-harm) causes. The maternal mortality rate is given as the number of maternal deaths per 1 00,000 live births in a specified period. The UN views a rate of fewer than 100 deaths per 100,000 live births as low. Once the rate crosses the 300 barrier, it is considered high and above 500 very high.

It is worthy to note that fifty percent of economic growth differentials between developed and developing nations are attributable to ill-health and low life expectancy (World Health Organization (WHO), 2005). Available data indicated that on the average about 2.1%-5.8% of total government expenditure was expended on health between 2015 and 2020 (National Bureau of Statistics (2020). The belief is that this would improve the health of the citizenry which can translate into a healthy human capital base with effects on economic growth and development. Statistics have shown that the country's public expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP is 4.1 percent against the 4.6 percent African average and over 9.3 percent in developed countries. On the other hand, the 2020 Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Programme shows that Nigeria's human development index increased, but her ranking continued to be at the low levels of human development.

The assertion by Ibrahim Waziri Abubarkar (2011) equally serve as a cardinal point in over-viewing the state of health service in Nigeria. He contends that, Nigeria's health sector has been performing below expectation for so long despite the billions of naira spent for it. Policies have been produced, refined, panel beaten and changed: agencies have been created to focus on specific health matters all sorts of foreign aids and assistance has been solicited yet Nigerians still die of health conditions and diseases that would have been easily preventable.

The obvious truth is that cost of assessing medical services is very high, and in most cases are not affordable to the majority of the populace. Only few percentages of Nigeria can afford to travel to Overseas for a better treatment especially for such ailment that may not be treated well in Nigeria or not treated at all. Problems like heart transplant, kidney and liver problems and some other complicated ailments may cost over two million naira to treat in India, Pakistan, United States. The cost is above the total earnings of an average Nigeria civil servant for five years, assuming he decided not to spend one naira out of his entire earnings. The cost does not include, transport fare, feeding and accommodation of the sick and his attendant. The alternative to this high cost is that people resorted to the patronage of quark doctors and other alternative medical solutions. . It is true that the federal government has come up with the National Health Insurance Service Scheme. This is beneficial and applicable mainly to the civil servants who are still finding it difficult due to the associated deductions from their meager salary after other deductions including taxes. Hardly could the National Insurance Scheme be assessed by the rural dwellers. Pearce (2001) noted that from colonial period, the pattern of medical care delivery and infrastructural provision favoured the Urban population in particular at the expense and detriment of the rural settlers. It should be noted that, most of the medical centers located in the rural areas were built by the Christian missionaries who were largely for evangelism. According to Ademiluyi and Aluko (1982) this medical centers in the real sense were merely mobile clinics and at most communities' dispensaries or outposts to treat primary health problems such as snake bite and minor injuries

Although there have been some seeming improvement in infrastructure, such improvement is only a tip of the ice berg. This is not unconnected with the fact that many rural communities are grossly plagued by lack of basic health facilities, couple with the poor funding associated with most government hospital, where the government no longer provide basic amenities especially for pregnant women and nursing mothers. In 2010, health expenses was 5.4 percent of the national budget with a slight increment to 7.2 percent in 2015 and 8.7 in 2020. The above increase notwithstanding, the health sector remains abysmally under funded with the concomitant and hydra-headed challenges of inadequate staffing, and deficient medical

supplies. It has fallen short of the 15 percent target as provided by the Abuja declaration (NBS, 2024) the NHIS covers only 5 percent of the population which remains grossly infinitesimal. This was as of the year 2020 (NBS, 2024).

Summary, Concluding Remarks and Recommendations

The central thrust of this paper here to examine how government has been doing with regard to provision of road, electricity and health in Nigeria we made ground breaking remark by interrogated the works of other scholars in this area of research but here the central thesis of this paper is to expand the frontiers of what they have done before this is seen in the structure of the paper

Singapore once celebrated 25 years of constant electricity supply while Nigeria cannot boast of a full day electricity. Ghana has enjoyed tremendous electricity supply, while South Africa is vehemently blessed with good roads, many African countries are enjoying relatively good health. Achieving the three critical infrastructural provision mentioned here is seen as a sine-qua-non for economic development in Nigeria Adam Smith and the classical economics clarified that provision of basic subsistence for the masses or providing enabling environment for the masses to provide basic subsistence for themselves remains the fundamental hallmark of political economy.

This has become necessary since current experience has shown that agencies like NHIS only concern itself with those working under government public administration is the use of human and material resources to achieve the policy of the government. So public administration is state or government administrant which is expected to carter for the interest of all people whether they are government staff or not. The essence of government and the state is to administer the people, since in most cases, the state and government in Africa are used interchangeably. According to Waldo (Cited in Nwanne, 2023 p 10) public administration has been conceptualized as the management of men and material to achieve the purposes of government. The word “men” in this context is generic and does not specify only men under government payroll. In some advanced countries state are solely responsible for the social welfare or their citizen it is therefore not understood why Nigerian situation has been a different thing. Spencer quoted in Nnoli (1986) stated that government and by implication the state exist to prevent individual from infringing the rights of another. Thus government becomes a joint-stock protection company for mutual assurance. According Laski as (quoted in Igwe (1989), the state becomes an organization enabling the masses of men to realize social good on the largest possible scale. So electricity, road and health are parts of the social goods mentioned here. The government is conceived as the highest institution of the state, an impartial arbiter with a central authority which claims allegiance from all members of the state, capable of imposing its will on all members of the state if need by means of force and which is ready to protect the lives and properties of all members within its confine. On this note government under the capacious and all-embracing umbrella of the state is expected to provide adequate health for all state members.

Findings

In the course of our systematic exploration of the impact of the state on infrastructural development in Nigeria with optimum focus on road, electricity and health. We found out that government under the instrument of National Health Insurance Policy has continued to put the country on a reverse gear due to blatant and deliberate neglect of the health to the peril of the ordinary man. Couple with mangrove insufficiency of motor-able road network which have continued to exacerbate the sufferings of mankind. We also concluded that insincerity and the spoil or patronage system in politics has made government neglect the power sector The absence of good governance over a long period of time in Nigeria has been seen as the fundamental cause of the souring state of basic infrastructure in Nigeria, one cannot give what he does not have the Nigerian government over the years are fundamentally bereft of good conscience and has refused to listen to the yearning and aspirations of the people Unaccount of the above findings, we proffer the following recommendations .

Recommendations

1. Government should assume a renewed commitment to the construction of motorable roads in the six geopolitical

zones of the country. This can be achieved by giving contracts of road construction to people of relatively impeccable character and proven integrity. The government while doing this, should ensure that anyone who refuses to execute contract given to him/her should have the contract revoked and appropriate punishment be given to him or her. Also periodic road maintenance operation should be carried by the government it should be carried out through Federal Maintenance Agency (FERMA).

2. Government should endeavor to increase the provision of adequate electricity supply. This can be achieved by providing money to improve the national grid and megawatts of electricity which has continue to dwindle on daily basis. There must be through and periodic inspection of Electricity Distribution Company, which is charged with the executive responsibility of supplying electricity to Abuja must be inspected periodically.

3. The government through the National Health Insurance Scheme, must be duty committed in terms of the provision of adequate health care services to avoid people from going outside the country seeking medical care. It is our contention that if the above recommendations are strictly adhered to, the problem will be a thing of the past government should as matter of urgency and necessity continue to provide money for the provision of necessary materials in hospitals and primary health care centers. Again, the NHIS should continue to cover those not working under government.

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