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**MATRIC NUMBER: 17/SMS01/028**

**DEPARTMENT: ECONOMICS**

**COURSE CODE: ECO 304 (PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMICS)**

**QUESTION 1**

1. **Public Expenditure, this are expenses incurred by the government for its own maintenance, prevention and welfare of the economy and its citizens such as infrastructures, foundations, provisions. Relating public expenditures to an increase in population growth we can say, population growth is when there is an increase in number of individuals in a nation. Countries that have rapid growth have low standards of living this is because they lack quality employment opportunities and have a high risk of diseases and illnesses. An increase in population use will lead to an increase in government expenditure this is because the government will have to increase its budget to able to build the government will have to increase its budget to be able to build more infrastructures, education, law and order, medal facilities.**

**As increases in population will lead to an increase in demand and supply, which leads to a raise in the price of commodities such as food, health etc. which means citizens will have to pay more to survive and feed. Therefore, government will have to increase its resources to be able to meet with the demands.**

**Also for government to increase its expenditure there will be a rise in the revenue which means an increase in taxation leading an increase in tax burden on citizens. Borrowing is also a means whereby revenue can be made by the government doesn’t mind how the borrowing can lead to debt trap.**

1. **Firstly, Corruption can be defined as by Nkom (1982) is the perversion of public affairs for private advantage. Also Lipset and Lenz (2000) define corruption as an “effort to secure wealth or power through illegal means for private gain at public expense” (Fagbadebo, 2007). Challenges faced by this endemic are;**
2. **Corruption perpetuates social, economic and political inequality (khan, b) and thus, aggravates mass poverty as poor people on the average pay higher proportion of their incomes in bribes. This, in economic parlance, retards economic growth. The misappropriation and mismanagement of public resources by successive regimes, has rendered millions of Nigerians poor, unemployed and uneducated.**
3. **Corruption also diverts public expenditure from sectors that benefit the poor the most, away to the sectors and project where kick-backs can readily be obtained by public officials.**
4. **Corruptions can also cause reduction in quality of goods and services available to the public, as some companies could cut corners (thereby producing sub-standard goods to increase profit margins.**
5. **Corruption also impacts negatively on efficient mobilization and management of human and material resources. It can also alienate modernity–oriented civil servants and cause them to reduce (or withdraw) their service and to leave the country for greener pasture (the „brain-drain‟ episode is tied to corruption) as many Nigerians believe it is profitable to work outside Nigeria’s shore.**
6. **Corruption is a cause of low investment with a resultant effect of reduced economic growth both at foreign and at the domestic level. An economy undermined by corruption has the effect of discouraging foreign investment and public donors. The resultant effect of this is shortage of fund for productive investment. Simply put, corruption hinders direct foreign investment.**

**Solutions to this endemic are;**

1. **Introducing or launching national reorientation programs to educate people on the negative impacts and the need to eradicate corruption in all facets of Nigerian's public life. MAMSER, National Orientation Agency, War Against Indiscipline, War Against Indiscipline and Corruption are some of the steps, programs, agencies and measures taken to tackle corruption. Why these efforts did not yield fruit or failed to achieve the desired outcome in the past is that the leaders who introduced these programs distance themselves from its tenets and doctrines. Leadership, as the dictum says, has to be by example and as such the doctrines of such programs must be enforced right from the top to the bottom.**
2. **Moral Regeneration: This involves value re-orientation which de-emphasize the use of money or wealth for recognition and relevance and, political contests. The influence of money as a factor in politics must be curtailed and discouraged, People should be encouraged to vote for people’s qualities rather than money. Religious leaders‟ consistency and vigor in their campaign against corruption must be intensified, encouraged and promoted. The indispensability of the role of the agents of socialization, in this regard, should not be underplayed. This is because they are the vehicle for mobilization of potential human resources and agent of change of behavior and value re-orientation.**
3. **The government must introduce an equitable wages and incentive system and improve other conditions of work so that the level of poverty could be reduced and the quality of life improved. This will inevitably reduce civil servants' vulnerability and susceptibility to corruption. This must go hand in hand with prompt payment of the workers monthly wages and salaries.**
4. **Government should go beyond the mere pronouncement of anti-corruption policies. It should rather provide good governance and an enabling environment for democratic ideals to thrive.**
5. **Societal efforts must be geared towards the abolition of the “winner-takes-all syndrome” as this is what makes political contests a matter of life and death.**

**QUESTION 2**

**A.Broadband penetration**

**In 2012, under former President Goodluck Jonathan’s administration, a presidential committee for a national broadband strategy and roadmap was inaugurated. This 15-member committee came up with** [**a 5-year plan**](http://www.ncc.gov.ng/docman-main/industry-statistics/research-reports/624-strategic-management-plan-smp-2014-2018/file) **(2014-2018) to aid the government in partnership with the private sector to provide Nigerians with quality access to broadband. According to Omobola Johnson, the former minister for Communications Technology, if Nigeria can achieve an increase of up to 30% in broadband penetration by 2017, it would result in a 3% increase in GDP.**

**As of 2016, the country could only boast of a 14% penetration even though a later report released by the NCC suggested that penetration had** [**increased to 20.95%**](https://thenigerian.ng/ncc-nigeria-broadband-penetration-now-20-95/)**. With about 10% penetration to go and less than a year before the 2018 target period,** [**we wonder**](https://techpoint.ng/2016/10/13/national-broadband-plan-implementation/) **if the Nigerian government would be able to execute this plan effectively.**

 **CBN’s Cashless economy policy**

**The c**[**ashless economy policy initiative**](https://www.cbn.gov.ng/cashless/) **was first implemented by the CBN in Lagos in 2012. The CBN announced that this was the first phase of introducing the policy to the whole federation. The policy limits daily cash withdrawals and deposits for individuals to N500, 000 while corporate customers can withdraw and deposit a maximum of N3million.  In October 2013, the CBN implemented the policy in Abuja and five other states- Abia, Anambra, Ogun, Kano and Rivers states. In June 2014, the CBN while announcing the take-off of the third and final phase of the cashless policy stated that charges on withdrawals for both individuals and corporate account holders would be suspended in 30 states of the federation until July 1, 2015, when the policy would have been implemented in all these remaining states.**

**In 2017, two years after the proposed “deadline”, the policy has still not been fully implemented in these remaining states. The** [**CBN in a recent announcement revealed**](http://www.biztechafrica.com/article/cbn-cashless-rollout-30-states/12176/) **its plans to implement the policy in the remaining 30 states this year, 10 states at a time. 10 states by the 1st of May, another 10 by the 1st of August and the last 10 states by the 1st of October.**

**If the CBN could not do a nationwide rollout in 2 years, why should we believe they can pull it off in 8 months? The answer to this question would be partially answered by May.**

 **Bank Verification Number (BVN)**

**BVN was launched by the CBN on the 14th of February, 2014. The process involves the registration of customers in the financial system using biometric technology. This record can be used to correctly identify the person afterward. According to the CBN, the objective of the BVN initiative is to protect bank customers, reduce fraud and strengthen the Nigerian banking system.  The** [**deadline for BVN was extended twice**](https://techpoint.ng/2016/02/05/what-are-the-stats-saying-concerning-bvn-registration/) **because many Nigerians were not able to meet up. 3 years after the introduction of this initiative, has the banking system been able to get things right? We have heard many complaints about the unnecessary stress people have had to go through in a system that already has people’s data. If my data has been registered in the system, why should I still have to keep filling forms with these same data?**

**B. A nation which its production capacity is in total hurt, such a nation will definitely witness a low or shortfall in production capacity but in the public sector or in the private sector as such there will be an increased consumption without a commensurate production capacity. An economy grows when the production capacity increases as such the factors of production will be demanded more and because of it spillover effect goes a long way affecting the purchasing power of the Households who are the suppliers of the factors of production, thus an increase in per capita income (PCI) hence increase in GDP.**

**Due to the short, the GDP of nation will experience a reduction due to the fact that there is no active production of goods and services. Hence, the need for government to bring better measures to combat the deadly pandemic and as well a means to encourage production capacity of the nation. Such a measure may include partial closure of the economy in commercialized states like Lagos, Ogun, Abuja, etc. which are the production hubs of the nation instead of the total lockdown which inhibits production capacity of the nation.**