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Parliament Investigates Agriculture Projects in the Southern Region

The Parliamentary oversight Committee on Agriculture Forestry and Food Security in collaboration with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, has concluded investigations on Agricultural projects sites in the Southern Region of the country.

The objectives of the oversight according to the Deputy Chairman, Hon. Thomas Mark Turay, are to have firsthand information on the operations of projects within the jurisdiction of the Ministry and to ascertain their working condition, challenges and achievements.



A cross section of MP's, farmers and officials of the Ministry of Agriculture at a farm site in Pujehun District.

The Committee visited Bonthe , Bo ,Pujehun and Moyamba Districts during which they focused their investigation on feeder roads, Inland Valley Swamps ,ABC Centers, Palm Oil Community Health Post, and related issues .

During their engagement with stakeholders and farmers, Hon. Thomas Turay, dilated on the responsibility of the Committee and the results they as a committee wanted to archive. Hon. Turay and committee members were, impressed with the southern region's agricultural Sector in actualizing President Koroma's dream on food security for the country, whilst the Chief Agriculture Officer Mr. Francesie A.R Sankoh acknowledged the role of Parliament in nation building and the achievements of the Ministry in the Agriculture Sector.

The Deputy Minister One, Madam Marie Jalloh, appreciated the work of the Committee, during which she noted Parliament is complementing the efforts of the Ministry by probing into the activities of Agricultural Sector heads in the provinces. The Minister was full of praise for the Southern Region Agriculture Sector in the maintenance of agricultural projects.

In Bonthe District, the Committee visited project sites around Matru Jong during which the Committee observed that certain projects are working well while some needed improvement in the ABC centers.

In Bo District, similar visitations were made to project sites, during which MPs applauded the agriculture Sector for job well done in the Agriculture Business Centers, feeder and animal livestock.

In Pujehun District, the Committee was not impressed with agriculture office's, documentation of records. The Committee observed that there was a disconnect in communications among sector heads within the agriculture sector in the pujehun. But in Moyamba, the MPs were impressed with the Women's Farmers' Forum in championing agricultural activities.