



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

FIRST SESSION-FIRST MEETING

TUESDAY, 29th JANUARY, 2013

SESSION – 2012/2013



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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

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OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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First Meeting of the First Session of the Fourth Parliament
Of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held on Tuesday, 29th January, 2013.

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PROPOSER: HONOURABLE S. B. B. DUMBUYA

SECONDER: HONOURABLE DR MATTHEW TEAMBO

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT THE THIRD REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BE ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE
AND THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE ADOPTED.

IV ANNOUNCEMENT OF SESSIONAL SELECT COMMITTEES



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE

FIRST SESSION-FIRST MEETING OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC

Tuesday, 29th January, 2013.

The House met at 10:00 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown.

I. PRAYERS

[The Clerk of Parliament, Hon. Ibrahim Sulaiman Sesay, Read the Prayers].

[The Speaker, Hon. Justice Abel Nathaniel Bankole Stronge, in the Chair].

The House was called to Order.

II. CORRECTION OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR TUESDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 2013.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we commence with the correction of the record of Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday, 22nd January, 2013. As usual, we go through page by page. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4?

HON. P. C. KAILONDO BANYA: Mr Speaker, Page 4 Sir.

THE SPEAKER: What item Honourable Member?

HON. PC KAILONDO BANYA: Page 4, item 3

THE SPEAKER: Item 3?

HON. PC KAILONDO BANYA: Item 2 Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Item 2?

HON. PC KAILONDO BANYA: Yes Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: You saw your name as what?

HON. PC. KAILONDO BANYA: My name is under absent without excuse. It was not so Mr Speaker. I wrote a letter that I was going on official duties. The Ministry of Local Government and people from the Law Officers Department were going to me for police training. I wrote a letter left and it in your office and the office of the Clerk that I was going to attend that meeting. So, I wasn't absent without so I was not absent without excuse.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, your name will be transferred from item 2 to item 3. Would that satisfy you?

HON. PC KAILONDO BANYA: Yes Sir.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr Clerk, please make the necessary corrections. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7?

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: Page 7 Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Is somebody on his legs?

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: Yes Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: I am sorry Honourable Member. I didn't see anybody standing up.

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: I stood up Sir.

THE SPEAKER: I am very sorry. It was not because of the height, it was due to my inattentiveness.

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: Mr Speaker, the correct word is "Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)," and not 'Parliament for Global Action.'

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, are you saying that we delete 'Members of Parliament?'

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: Yes Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: And insert Parliamentarians for Global Action?

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: Yes Sir.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Clerk, take the necessary action. Are there more corrections to be made? If there is none, can somebody move that the record of Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday, 22nd January, 2013 be adopted as amended?

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA: I so move Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. ABIE KALOKOH: I second the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Any counter motion?

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

Record of Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday, 22nd January, 2013
was unanimously adopted as amended?

III. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND PUBLIC SERVICE

PROPOSER: HONOURABLE S. B. B. DUMBUYA

SECONDER: HONOURABLE MATHEW TEAMBO

HON. S. B. B. DUMBUYA (Majority Leader of the House): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am happy to present to the House the Fifth Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service on parliamentary vetting of presidential nominations.

INTRODUCTION:

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service met on the 21st and 28th January, 2013 respectively, and interviewed a total of seven Presidential nominees for appointments as *Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State and Director-General, National Minerals Agency.*

PROCEDURE:

The Committee strictly adhered to its established procedures. Probing questions put to the nominees were related to their educational backgrounds, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure. Allegations of malpractices in public office and or unsuitability in terms of character to hold such high offices of State were very closely looked into.

NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, 21ST JANUARY, 2013

The following nominees were interviewed:

(i) Mr Oluniyi Robbin Coker, Proposed Minister of Energy;

Mr Oluniyi Robbin Coker is an outstanding business professional with an admirable work experience in both the public and private sectors. He has a proven entrepreneurial track record, particularly while working with Citigroup Global Consumer Marketing in the United States of America. He had previously served as Private Sector Adviser to the President and Minister of Energy and Water resources

Answering to inquiring questions about the objective of the Ministry, Mr Robbin Coker revealed that the objective has been to provide some amount of electrification in the entire district headquarter towns. "So far we have continued to build on what we have achieved in Bo and Kenema. We have been working on rehabilitating supplies in Moyamba and Pujehun. Makeni has the good fortune of being along with the Bumbuna line and is fully connected. A mini-hydro project has started in Port-Loko District. We have generators awaiting the mending of the road to deliver to Kono. We are hoping to start some work in Bonthe and Kambia this year."

Questioned on the status of Bumbuna, he said: "I need to be very cautious in my response because there are some legal issues on which we are seeking advice from the Law Officers Department. On the 8th November, 2012, Bumbuna (which runs two turbines), experienced problems with turbine No.1 that resulted in it being shut down. This meant that we automatically lost 50% of the dam's generating capacity.

Thereafter, we decided to monitor turbine No 2, which continued to operate. We soon discovered that it was also beginning to manifest symptoms similar to those which had resulted in the shutting down of turbine No. 1. Currently, Bumbuna is operating at eight (8) Megawatts, which is the primary reason for the shortfall in our energy delivery at this point in time...”

(ii) Vandy Chidi Minah, Proposed Minister of Transport and Aviation;

Mr Vandi Chidi Minah is a professional legal practitioner who has acquired a wealth of work experience in the United States and the United Kingdom. He had served in the United Nations’ Missions as Legal Officer and Adviser in New York, East Timor, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone. He yielded to the call of the President to serve his country as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2008–2010; and as Minister of Transport and Aviation from 2010-2012.

Giving an opinion on ‘Operation WID’ in response to probing questions, Mr Minah said: “Operation WID represents the effort of Government to address a long standing problem within the city, i.e. the problems of congestion, the confusion as to who has the right-of-way, pedestrians, two-wheel vehicles, four-wheel vehicles and other road users.” The Ministry, he went on, was in full support of the operation because it has a role to play in the transport sector. “We have operators, especially the bike riders who have already approached the Ministry to see how we can support their effort to get their members to do the right thing. The Ministry has promised its support but impressed upon them that the right-of-way as determined by law and as supported by Government stands paramount. So, while we are willing to collaborate and cooperate with them, we are not ready to abdicate our responsibility to ensure that the right-of-way is secured for all citizens.”

On the issue of increase in license fees charged by the Sierra Leone Road Transport Authority (SLRTA), Mr Minah agreed with the committee that it was illegal for SLRTA to

increase those fees without reference to Parliament that has the ultimate power to increase taxes.

(iii) Mr Martin Alex Bash Kamara, Proposed Deputy Minister of Energy;

Mr Bash-Kamara has acquired a wealth of professional administrative and management work experience from diverse businesses and management outfits in the United States of America. Before his sojourn in the Diaspora, Mr Bash-Kamara had served in the Sierra Leone Civil Service as Assistant Secretary and Acting Students Secretary in the Ministry of Education. The nominee has previously served as Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources from 2007–2012.

Responding to questions, Mr Bash Kamara said that the objective of the Ministry was to deliver energy, particularly to the district headquarter towns to enhance the development of the country. The provision of energy, he said, was capital intensive; but he believed that considerable progress has been made.

Answering to further questions, Mr Bash Kamara said: “on the update, Kono is in the process of benefiting from the energy programme by the provision of six Mega Watts of electricity for the district. As I speak, work is in progress. Poles have been provided and two machines of three mega watts each would soon be installed.”

Questioned on how soon Lungi would have electricity, the Committee was informed that two machines of six mega watts have been installed in Lungi. The transmission lines i.e. the high voltage and low voltage lines have been installed. A customer survey had been undertaken for 5000 customers that have opted to apply for pre-paid meters and arrangements were in progress to install those meters. He said: “I believe that by March, 2013, Lungi would have got electricity.”

(iv) Mr Lovell C. Thomas, Proposed Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Security; and

Mr Lovell C. Thomas is an Agricultural Engineer who has spent the better part of his working life in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security. In 2007, he was appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security, a position he has held to date.

Reacting to the Committee's concern that he must be getting bored with the Ministry; Mr Thomas replied that on the contrary he was very happy to be reappointed Deputy Minister to the Ministry of Agriculture. He said: "For the past 25 years, I have worked in that Ministry as an Engineer and was later appointed Deputy Minister to the same Ministry. For continuity, I understand that Ministry far better than any other Ministry. Hence, I would be able to contribute a lot towards the success of the Ministry. I have learnt a lot of lessons working in foreign countries that I could draw upon to help develop my country. I am very grateful to the President for the appointment. I am glad that I have been given the opportunity to continue the work that I have started."

(v) Mr Sylvester E. O. Hanciles, Proposed Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Technology.

Mr Hanciles is an Educationist who has contributed in various ways to learning and development, particularly in Bonthe Island, where he was Registrar from 1992-2009 and later the Principal, Bonthe Technical Training Institute (Bonthe Tech). In 2009, he was appointed Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation, a position he has held to date.

Responding to Members' concern about what he was going to do for 'Bonthe Tech', Mr Hanciles assured the committee thus: "because I am now going to serve in a national capacity, my concern is not going to be focused on Bonthe Tech alone but on the whole spectrum of technical and vocational education nationwide. I believe that there is more work to do in that area if we are really to make the progress we want to make as a country. 'Bonthe Tech' is, without doubt, going to be very close to my heart because I

started it but my focus is going to be beyond Bonthe Technical, it would be towards the wider scope of technical and vocational education in the country.”

TENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 2013

The following nominees were interviewed:

(i) Mr Sahr Wonday, Proposed Director General National Minerals Agency;

Mr Sahr Wonday is a seasoned Mining Engineer with significant operational experience in mining and mineral processing, specifically related to diamond and mineral sand i.e. Rutile, Ilmenite and Zircon.

Mr Wonday had a four year sojourn with the National Diamond Mining Company in Kono from 1975-1978 before he moved to the Sierra Rutile Limited where he worked uninterruptedly for 34 years. He rose through the ranks to the position of General Manager in 2009, from where he was further promoted as Director of Strategic Projects from 2011-2012.

Questioned on whether Sierra Rutile mining communities were better off economically after decades of mining, Mr Wonday replied that the people have benefited. The company, he said, has been providing employment and paying taxes and revenue to Government which have benefited the people. The company has also been paying surface rent directly to the land owners, providing agricultural development funds, etc. The company has also provided a professional technical school to build the capacity of the indigenes for middle level jobs. He said: “The benefits of mining outweigh the disadvantages.”

The nominee promised to work to the best of his ability for the success of the Agency.

(ii) Mr Alie Badara Mansaray, Proposed Deputy Minister of Trade & Industry;

Mr Alie Badara Mansaray has a strong professional background in developing strategies and operation plans, preparing and monitoring impact assessment plans and planning and managing livestock programmes. Mr Mansaray has previously served as Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security from 2007-to date.

Reacting to questions on what he was taking to the Ministry of Trade that would be of help to him in his new assignment, Mr Mansaray replied that he viewed his transfer as a challenge, ..."being an agriculturist by discipline and experience. It is an exciting challenge I am looking forward to. With the experience I have gathered in the last five years in building up small scale farmers, I would be going to the Ministry of Trade to translate the efforts we have nurtured in the Ministry of Agriculture to build the capacity of small farmers, and to transform them into commercial farmers."

Propounding on this, Mr Mansaray made particular reference to the Agricultural Business Centres (ABCs). He said: "They are meant to serve as a nucleus for small holder farmers to be able to produce, add value to their produce, store their property and open up marketing channels. They are operated and owned by farmer based organizations. My movement from Agriculture to Trade would of course give me more interest in working with the Ministry of Agriculture to make these entities viable and functional."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following Presidential nominees to be satisfactorily qualified for their proposed appointments and are recommended to the House for approval:

- (i) Mr Oluniyi Robbin-Coker, Minister of Energy;
- (ii) Mr Vandy Chidi Minah, Minister of Transport and Aviation;
- (iii) Mr Lovell Chandi Thomas, Deputy Minister of Agriculture & Food Security;

- (iv) Mr Martin Alex Bash Kamara, Deputy Minister of Energy;
- (v) Mr Sylvester Earl Osmond Hanciles, Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Technology;
- (vi) Mr Alie Badara Mansaray, Deputy Minister of Trade & Industry; and
- (vii) Mr Sahr Wonday, Director General, National Minerals Agency.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Fifth Report is the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Fifth Report of the First Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service be adopted by the House and that the recommendation contained therein be approved. Signed by Honourable S. B. B. Dumbuya, Chairman.

HON. MATHEW TEAMBO (Majority Chief Whip): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to second the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Any counter motion?

(Questions proposed)

HON. ANSU J. KAIKAI: I thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to endorse the recommendations of the Appointments Committee presented to us this morning.

Mr Speaker I was part of the interview panel. During the interview exercise, I learnt a lot, especially answers that were given by some of those that we interviewed.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it is gratifying for me to have noted that this crop of nominees include some of the most qualified Sierra Leoneans that are supposed to hold public office in this country. It will interest you to know that most of those we interviewed cut across political and partisan borders. Mr Speaker, Mr Vandy Minah's performance during the course of the interview was outstanding. He is an international lawyer that has practiced in New York and in other parts of the world under the

auspices of the United Nations. His father was one the Members of Parliament of Sierra Leone. He spent 21 years in this House. Mr Minah's father was one of the most illustrious sons of this Parliament. Mr Minah's call to duty, to serve his country (from what I read and what I learnt) was not a mistake. Therefore, it is my fervent belief that people of this nature are the ones that should be holding such important offices.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I listened attentively to Mr Hanciles (who hails from Bonthe Island, the City of Cartage) during the course of his interview. Mr Speaker, before this man became a deputy minister, he had diligently served in the field of education in this country significantly. His appointment also cuts across political barriers. He was a member of the People's Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC). I don't know if he is still a member of that political party. He was one of the founding members of the PMDC. Mr Speaker, the fact remains that Mr Hanciles is a hardworking man that we in the Sierra Leone People's Party (S. L. P. P) would like to have on our side like his father (*Laughter*).

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to talk about Mr Oluniyi Robbin-Coker. Mr Speaker, at that point in time in the cooperate world, Mr Oluniyi Robbin-Coker was an accountant. During the course of his interview, he responded brilliantly and satisfactorily. I want to call on this Honourable House to join us in endorsing Mr Robin-coker. The satisfaction that I had during the interview convinced me to conclude that Mr Robin-Coker is a good man.

However, Mr Speaker Honourable Members, I was not satisfied with the differing answers he and his deputy gave on the issue of providing electricity in Kono. He said that the generators were on their way to Kono, but they were somewhere in Makeni. He deputy said that two generators of 3 megawatts were already in Kono, waiting installations. The interesting part of this is that one said the generators were in Kono, waiting installations; whilst the other was saying that the generators were on their way to Kono.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the rest of the nominees are technocrats in their areas of responsibilities. All of the nominees have proven their determinations to serve this nation. I want this Honourable House to know that the tractors that the Minister brought in this country do not have spare parts. Please work towards that.

On that note Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am calling on this Honourable House to endorse this batch of nominees. This batch of nominees include some of the best Sierra Leone has ever produced. I thank you.

HON. DR FODAY SUMAH: Thank you Mr Speaker. My intervention this morning will be short. I would not delve into the personalities of the nominees simply because I have not been privileged to have met with them. I have no doubt that these are nominees of impeccable character and unquestionable integrity otherwise they wouldn't be here.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my contribution would be directed to the Ministry of Education. My concern is the deplorable conditions of the educational system in this country. I will not go into the details of that simply due to my ignorance in the sense that I have not read any of the reports, not even the Gbamanja report. But I want to point at two aspects here.

Firstly, as I was informed, the elimination of French from the secondary schools is a pathetic situation. French Language is a beautiful language that if properly monitored in schools, would increase competitiveness of Sierra Leoneans for international jobs. Without any intention of being immodest, I have spent my professional life in five West African French speaking countries. Therefore, somebody of my background simply feels that French should be reintroduced in the schools. During the sixties, those of us that learned the French language went abroad and we were able to acquire jobs in those French speaking countries.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, during the 10 year carnage in Sierra Leone, some of us went to Guinea not because we are Sosos, but we discovered that some of our

colleagues who could have benefitted from various international jobs with various international institutions could not. Mr Speaker, because some of them could not communicate in French, they have to leave for English speaking countries. I want to remind Members of Parliament that Guinea still remains our neighbour, with a significant level of trade relations between the two countries. We also belong to the same regional organisations like the Mano River Union (MRU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Mr Speaker, I want this government, through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to reintroduce the French language in our schools.

Secondly Mr Speaker, I want to shed light on research. I had the experience of working with Masters Degree students in this country. They told me that they have never spent a day or two doing research. They did not know the basic skills in research. What does that mean? That should virtually mean that we need to educate our current university students and secondary school pupils how to do research so that our policies would be research evidence based policies. Research is very important because it increases our national ownership of policy making. It would also increase our ownership of the process and institutions of development. It would discontinue our dependence on experts from other countries. Mr Speaker, if we do not train Sierra Leoneans to undertake research, we will not be able to even know our own policy making process; and we will continue to depend on the advice of other countries and other institutions. Such dependence would not allow us to know the process of development in this country. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HON. PC KAILONDO BANYA: Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, like what the other speakers have said, all the nominees before us are qualified with lot of experiences to man the various positions for which they have been nominated. I have no doubt that they would do well in their assignments.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to make particular reference to one of the nominees, Mr Bash Kamara. Mr Bash Kamara is a man I have known when he was a

Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources in the last government. In my assessment so far Mr Speaker, Mr Bash Kamara is a hardworking, committed and a man who is devoted to his duties. Mr Bash Kamara has been paying frequent visits to Kailahun district to monitor the water works that were going in the district. I am happy for his reappointment to hold that office. Mr Speaker, I want Mr Bash Kamara to know that a promise was made to the people of Kailahun district in April, 2011 by the former Minister to electrify the district in nine months. I went out to get land for the power house. Since we left, nothing has happened.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to appeal to Mr Bash Kamara and the government to please consider Kailahun among the district headquarter towns for energy. I also want to say here that we used to receive pipe borne water in Kailahun during the 2012 campaign. We were very happy. But presently Mr Speaker, there is no water. I want to appeal to Mr Bash Kamara to please make it one of his first assignments to visit Kailahun and make sure that we have the water supply running.

HON. DR BERNADETTE LAHAI (Minority Leader): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as a member of the Appointment Committee, I do hereby identify myself with the report that has been read. Indeed, all the nominees passed through us and as usual, we questioned them on various aspects of the ministries that they would be working in. We did raise several issues that were not captured in the report. Some of the most important issues that would have been of significance to those who were not part of those interviews are not included in the report. We hope to see detailed reports in the subsequent interviews. I would like to see some of the most important issues raised during the course of the interview itemized in the reports for the education and edification of the Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I know almost all of the nominees before us this morning. I have worked with some of them. For the other nominees, we have been watching them from afar doing their work. Mr Speaker, since it has pleased His Excellency the President to reappoint them, they will double their efforts, particularly in

areas where they still have challenges as already highlighted by the previous speakers. The good thing about the interviews is that, for ministers who are being reappointed, they have been put on their toes. They are going to ministries they are familiar with. Therefore, they would be able to redouble their efforts, particularly in areas they would want to make more successes.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, a day after we interviewed these nominees before us, the Acting Executive Director of the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration forwarded the Charter of the African Transport Maritime to me. And when the requisite committee is put in place, we shall work with you, Mr Minah and the Maritime Administration towards the ratification of that important Charter so that by the time the report is laid, we would proudly report that Sierra Leone has met one of its obligations by ratifying that Charter.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to turn to Mr Hanciles. Mr Hanciles is moving to the Ministry of Education, Science and technology. I want to inform him that no country develops without building its human resources. In the last sitting, I did mourn over the plight of the students of Fourah Bay College, especially the transport plight. I am happy that Mr Minah is here. Please ensure that at least a bus is put at the disposal of the students at Model. They are really suffering. Some of them are missing their first lectures which start at 8 O'clock a.m. Some of the students have to wake up at 5 a.m. and when they reach at Model Junction, they have to struggle for taxis to take them to the college campus. Even if that student manages to get to Fourah Bay College to attend his or her first lecture, he or she must have exhausted. Therefore, their absorptive capacity may have been very low. We don't want to put our students in this type of stress. You can even appeal to the private sectors that are running the transport so that both of you can work together. You have to negotiate the fees with and other requisite conditionalities with them. When I was a student at Fourah Bay College, we use to have one or two student union bus (es) that shuttled us from Model to Fourah

Bay College. Mr Speaker, we hope that the concerns we have raised would be taken up as soon as they take up their various responsibilities.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to give this piece of advice to Mr Sahr Wonday of the National Minerals Agency. The minerals are our God's given right. We must get a good deal for our minerals in this country. The host communities of those minerals must benefit from their God given gifts. In as much as we want the investors to come and invest, they must also respect our people and carry out their corporate social responsibility in a manner that would be beneficial to them and people of this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with those few words, I want to congratulate these nominees in advance. All of them deserve their positions; and as I have said in my previous speeches, there are three Arms of government. The nominees before us are representing the executive and we are representing the Legislature. No one Arm is indispensable. The three arms of government are like the three fire stones. When one stone is disabled or removed, you cannot cook properly. Therefore, the three Arms of government must work together. They must cooperate and consult each other. We have to build this country together. I wish them success in their tenure of office and let them count on this Parliament in whatever way we could help them do their work. I am calling on them to respect us and include us in their activities. I thank you very much.

HON. S. B. B. DUMBUYA (Majority Leader of the House): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would want to associate myself with almost everything that has been said by the Minority Leader, Honourable Dr Bernadette Lahai. But I would only want to remind her here that the reports cannot be as comprehensive as we would want them to be. I want to remind Dr Bernadette Lahai that when we were in Parliament in 2002-2007, the reports used to be so verbose that a motion was passed to keep them brief and straight forward. That motion was moved and adopted by the House. And we all know that once a motion has been passed in this House, it becomes a law. Mr Speaker, this is why we want to keep the report as short as possible. I would

want to support you, Dr Bernadette Lahai that these people have to support Parliament and parliamentarians. You are going to what you want to be, but we are making you to be what you want to become. Be reminded of that we are the ones approving your nominations. You have to respect Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, the Honourable Ansu Jaia Kaikai talked about Mr Chidi Minah. To me, Mr Chidi Minah is one of the finest gentlemen in this country. He is as gentle as he is educated. He is well educated and very humble. My only advice to Mr Minah is that, when Members of Parliament call on you, please give them audience. They have been complaining about you (*Applause*).

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we would recall that we confirmed Mr Oluniyi Robbin-Coker for the position of Minister of Energy and Water Resources about a year ago. Mr Speaker, although this man came to that ministry less than a year ago, Mr Robbin-Coker waxed eloquently on energy that I became perplexed. I asked myself where this man has learnt all these ideas within this short a period. Mr Speaker, what does that show? It shows that he is a brilliant young man. Perhaps, the Robbin-Cokers are like that. Mr Speaker, during my teaching days, I had the opportunity of teaching one Kayode Robbin-Coker. He was so brilliant that I was learning from that boy. Mr Robbin-Coker impressed me so much.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to say something about Mr Alex Bash Kamara. Mr Speaker this boy, Alex Bash Kamara (incidentally I did not teach him but he), was my junior in school. I don't know whether he was junior to the Honourable Ansu Kaikai. Mr Speaker, this boy then used to be so responsible and to this day he has really been showing traits of that. Perhaps, that is one reason why he has been retained in that ministry. He has been doing extremely well, although there are still challenges.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Lovel Thomas had been in that ministry for too long. He has been a technocrat in that ministry; and now, he is serving there as a

minister. I am sure he was expecting a promotion. Dr Bu-Buakei Jabbi, Professor of English would agree with me that the Pope said: "all good things come to those who wait long enough." I belong to a catholic tradition in the sense that I attended a catholic school. Andrew Lungay would agree with me that our motto is "*de veritate*" (*lead us in the truth*). But Mr Speaker, I like the motto of the Methodist Boys High School which says: "*Laboramus expectantes*" which means *when you labour you expect*. Continue to do your work as the Honourable Ansu Kaikai has been saying that "*the expectation of reward always sweetens labour.*"

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Hanciles did very well in the Ministry of Transport and Aviation. But it has been said that you are an Educationist. Now you are going to be sent to your natural habitat, i.e., your area of qualification. If you say you an educationist, go and prove it. Mr Speaker, I have always said that I am not normally impressed about these so-called educationist people. In education, what is important is that you have to prove that you are an educationist. You have to apply yourself to show that you are well educated. That is what is expected of you.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it would be, perhaps, an exaggeration to say that Mr Sahr Wonday is even overqualified for that position. He is highly qualified. Therefore, there has been no mistake to nominate him for that position. And we too have made no mistake in recommending him to go there as Director-General.

Mr Speaker, I want to send this warning to Mr Vandy Minah. The Clerk did write to the Sierra Leone Road Transport Authority concerning the fees that have been raised. I want you to know that it is only Members of Parliament that have the authority and power to raise taxes.

Mr Speaker, all of these people (as the Honourable Ansu Kaikai has said) are a very formidable group. I commend them to this House for approval.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

Motion of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service has been ratified.

(Seven Presidential Nominees have been unanimously approved)

THE SPEAKER: You are no longer nominees. Your nominations have been approved by the House. I congratulate you on behalf of the entire House and I wish you well. I would say this at the risk of repeating myself. Failure is not an option. The public is highly aware and public expectations perhaps are unrealistically high. The public has a right to expect prompt delivery.

Honourable Members, for some good reason, I will stand down the sittings of the House until 11:30 a.m. We will come back at 11:30 a.m.

(The House stood down at 10:55 a.m. and resumed at 11:38)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, sorry for coming back a bit late.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SESSIONAL SELECT COMMITTEES

HON. S. B. B. DUMBUYA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the presentation of the Sessional Committees would be done by the Deputy Chief Whip, Honourable Claude Kamanda. I have delegated that function to him.

HON. CLAUDE KAMANDA (Deputy Majority Chief Whip): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am happy to present to you the Sessional Parliamentary Committees for this session, 2012/2013.

1. COMMITTEE ON SELECTION

1. Hon. Speaker Chairman;
2. Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu;
4. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai;
5. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah;
6. Hon. Ansumana Kaikai; and
7. Hon. PC Alhaji Bai Shebora Yek II.

2. STANDING ORDER COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Speaker Chairman;
2. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. S. B. B. Dumbuya;
4. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu;
5. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai;
6. Hon. Ansumana Jaia Kaikai.

3. PUBLIC PETITION COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Speaker Chairman;
2. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya;
4. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
5. Hon. Agibola Manley Spaine.

4. HOUSE COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Speaker Chairman;
2. Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai;
4. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu;

5. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
6. Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis;
7. Hon. PC Alhaji Bai Shebora Sellu Lugbu II.

5. BUSINESS COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya Chairman;
2. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
4. Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis;
5. Hon. PC Mohamed Sama Kailondo Banya IV.

6. PUBLIC ACCOUNT COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah Chairman;
2. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
4. Hon. Sheriff B. Hassan;
5. Hon. Alpha B. Lewally;
6. Hon. Lahai Marrah;
7. Hon. Suliaman Muluku Sisay ;
8. Hon. Dr Foday I. Suma;
9. Hon. Francis Amara Konuwa;
10. Hon. Alice Foyah;
11. Hon. PC. Alhaji Bai Shebora Yek II.

7. APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE

1. Hon. Sheku BB Dumbuya Chairman;
2. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai;
4. Hon. Ansumana Jaia Kaikai;

5. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah;
6. Hon. Augustine Bockarie Torto;
7. Hon. Mabinty Funna;
8. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams;
9. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
10. Hon. Benneh Bangura;
11. Hon. Alimamy A Kamara;
12. Hon. Amadu Mohamed Kanu;
13. Hon. Eric K Koedoyoma;
14. Hon. Alice Foyah;
15. Hon. Brima Conteh; and
16. Hon. PC Brima Victor Sidi Kebbie.

8. FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Sheriff B. B. Hassan Chairman;
2. Hon. Alimamy A Kamara Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo;
4. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams;
5. Hon. Patricia Brown;
6. Hon. Alusine Marrah;
7. Hon. Ibrahim Kamara;
8. Hon. Augustine Bockarie Torto;
9. Hon. Alhaji Seray Dumbuya;
10. Hon. Andrew Victor Lungay;
11. Hon. Foday Rado Yokie;
12. Hon. Brima Conteh;
13. Hon. Jusufu Barry Mansaray;
14. Hon. Lansana Ibrahim Kemokai;
15. Hon. Helen Kuyembah;

9. Hon. Thomas B Turay;
10. Hon. Moses B. Jorkie;
11. Hon. Habib Bakarr Munda;
12. Hon. Mima Yema Mimi Sobba-Stevens;
13. Hon. Komba E.S. Boyah;
14. Hon. Andrew Victor Lungay;
15. Hon. Senesie Fawundu;
16. Hon. PC Alie Balansama Marrah III.

11. COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE

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| 1. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu | Chairman; |
| 2. Hon. Komba E.S. Boyah; | Deputy Chairman; |
| 3. Hon. Claude D.M Kamanda; | |
| 4. Hon. Patrick Lahai M Kargbo; | |
| 5. Hon. Abdulai Sesay; | |
| 6. Hon. Alhassan Jero Kamara; | |
| 7. Hon. Tamba Entochema Ebba; | |
| 8. Hon. Songuwa Bundu; | |
| 9. Hon. Hassan Sesay; | |
| 10. Hon. Frederick Sandy Sourie; | |
| 11. Hon. Ansumana Jaia Kaikai; | |
| 12. Hon. Moses Allieu Swaray; | |
| 13. Hon. Alice Foyah; | |
| 14. Hon. Alusine Kanneh; | |
| 15. Hon. Brima Conteh; | |
| 16. Hon. PC Mansa Paki Kabombor II. | |

12. COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

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| 1. Hon. PC. Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III | Chairman; |
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2. Hon. Tamba Entochema Ebba Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Dr Aiah Dabundeh;
4. Hon. Allieu Badara K Munu;
5. Hon. Mabinty H Bangura;
6. Hon. Thomas Mark Turay;
7. Hon. Taworo Tara-Koroma;
8. Hon. Ajibola Manley Spaine;
9. Hon. Saidu Baba Kamara;
10. Hon. Dauda D. Fawundu;
11. Hon. Helen Kuyembah;
12. Hon. Andrew Lungay;
13. Hon. Frank Kposowa;
14. Hon. Moses Allieu Swaray;
15. Hon. Samuel H. Brima;
16. Hon. Alimamy A. Kamara.

13. COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Hon. Abu Bakarr Koroma Chairman;
2. Hon. Abdul Salaam Kanu Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Ajibola Manley Spaine;
4. Hon. Claude DM Kamanda;
5. Hon. Alie Kaloko;
6. Hon. Ibrahim Kamara;
7. Hon. Dan Y Sesay;
8. Hon. Sulaiman Muluku Sesay;
9. Hon. Mohamed Lamin Mansaray;
10. Hon. Lansana Ibrahim Kemokai;
11. Hon. Mohamed Thorley;
12. Hon. Sahr Fatorma;

13. Hon. Saidu Mansaray;
14. Hon. Gladys Gbamoh Gbappy Brima;
15. Hon. Dauda D. Fawundu;
16. Hon. PC Bai Burah Sallu Lugbu II.

14. COMMITTEE ON MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES

1. Hon. Amadu Kanu Chairman;
2. Hon. Taworo Tara-Koroma Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Chernor R.M. Bah;
4. Hon. Rosaline J. Smith;
5. Hon. Alusine Marrah;
6. Hon. Sahr Tengheh;
7. Hon. Augustine Bokarie Torto;
8. Hon. Isata Kabia;
9. Hon. Alimamy G Kargbo;
10. Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis;
11. Hon. Francis Konuwa;
12. Hon. Edward S. Jengo;
13. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma;
14. Hon. Helen Kuyembah;
15. Hon. Alfred B. Katta; and
16. Hon. PC Sheku A. T. Fasuluku Sonsiama III.

15. COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

1. Hon. Sulaiman Muluku Sisay Chairman;
2. Hon. Roland Foday Kargbo Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. David Johnson;
4. Hon. Isata Kabia;
5. Hon. Nicholas Kamara;

6. Hon. Sheku Sannoh;
7. Hon. Abdulai Sesay;
8. Hon. Dan Y. Sesay;
9. Hon. Kusan Sesay;
10. Hon. Habib Bakarr Munda;
11. Hon. Mohamed K Thorley;
12. Hon. Helen Kuyembah;
13. Hon. Lansana Ibrahim Kemokai;
14. Hon. Moiwai Momoh;
15. Hon. James N D Alie; and
16. Hon. PC Joseph Alie Kavura Kongomoh II.

16. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

1. Hon. Alimamy G Kargbo Chairman;
2. Hon. Henneh Raddar Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Kemoko Conteh;
4. Hon. Alhassan Jero Kamara;
5. Hon. Daniel B Koroma;
6. Hon. Alpha B Lewally;
7. Hon. Mabinty Kadija Sillah;
8. Hon. Sahr Tengbeh;
9. Hon. Ibrahim Martin Bangura;
10. Hon. Sahr Fatorma;
11. Hon. Mohamed K Thorley;
12. Hon. Dauda Fawundu;
13. Hon. Mima Yema Mimi Sobba-Stevens;
14. Hon. Mustapha Brima;
15. Hon. Abu Jajua; and
16. Hon. PC Alie Balansama Marrah III.

17. COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ETHICS

1. Hon. Ansumana Jaia Kaikai Chairman;
2. Hon. James N D Alie Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Lansana Kemokai;
4. Hon. Gladys Gbamoh Gbappy Brima;
5. Hon. Bu-Buakai Jabbi;
6. Hon. Alfred B. Katta;
7. Hon. Patrick Lahai M Kargbo;
8. Hon. Henneh Raddar;
9. Hon. Ibrahim Nox Sankoh;
10. Hon. Kerifala Sheku Conteh;
11. Hon. Alimamy G Kargbo;
12. Hon. Albert Deen Kamara;
13. Hon. Ibrahim Kamara;
14. Hon. Lahai Marrah;
15. Hon. Suliaman Muluku Sisay; and
16. Hon. PC Alex M. J. J. Kainpumu.

18. COMMITTEE ON TRADE

1. Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis Chairman;
2. Hon. Mustapha Briama Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Alice Foyah;
4. Hon. Umar Paran Tarawally;
5. Hon. Sahr Fatorma;
6. Hon. Moiwai Momoh;
7. Hon. Kerifala Sheku Conteh;
8. Hon. Dr. Foday I Suma;
9. Hon. Alusine Marrah;
10. Hon. Frederick Sandy Sourie;

11. Hon. Mabinty H Bangura;
12. Hon. Songowa Bundu;
13. Hon. Hassan B Sheriff;
14. Hon. Mohamed Kamara;
15. Hon. Rosky Momokani Mbayoh; and
16. Hon. PC Alhaji Bai Shebora Yek II.

19. COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND AVIATION

1. Hon. Alpha B. Lewally Chairman;
2. Hon. Nicholas Kamara Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Kemoko Conteh;
4. Hon. Dauda JB Kallon;
5. Hon. Amadu Mohamed Kanu;
6. Hon. Ibrahim Nox Sankoh;
7. Hon. Rosaline J Smith;
8. Hon. Kombor Kamara;
9. Hon. Saar Sangbah;
10. Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis;
11. Hon. Komba E.S Boyah;
12. Hon. Foday Rado Yokie;
13. Hon. Moiwai Momoh;
14. Hon. Bashiru Silikie;
15. Hon. Senesie Fawundu; and
16. Hon. PC Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III.

20. COMMITTEE ON WORKS, HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Hon. Kombor Kamara Chairman;
2. Hon. Ali Kalokoh Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. David Johnson;

4. Hon. Rosaline J Smith;
5. Hon. Albert Deen Kamara;
6. Hon. Abdul Salaam Kanu;
7. Hon. Sheku Sannoh;
8. Hon. Sahr Tengbeh;
9. Hon. Ibrahim Martin Bangura;
10. Hon. Jusufu Barry Mansaray;
11. Hon. Samuel H Brima;
12. Hon. Umar Paran Tarawally;
13. Hon. Mima Yema Mimi Sobba-Stevens;
14. Hon. Abu Jajua;
15. Hon. Sahr Fatorma; and
16. Hon. PC Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III.

21. COMMITTEE ON TRANSPARENCY

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| 1. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo | Chairman; |
| 2. Hon. Alhassan Kamara | Deputy Chairman; |
| 3. Hon. Ibrahim Rassin Bundu; | |
| 4. Hon. Benneh Bangura; | |
| 5. Hon. Songowa Bundu; | |
| 6. Hon. Mohamed Kamara; | |
| 7. Hon. Amadu Fofanah; | |
| 8. Hon. Amadu Mohamed Kanu; | |
| 9. Hon. Abu Bakarr Koroma; | |
| 10. Hon. Ansumana Kaikai; | |
| 11. Hon. Bu-Buakei Jabbi | |
| 12. Hon. Emma Josephine Kowa; | |
| 13. Hon. Sualiho Monyaba Koroma; | |
| 14. Hon. Mustapha Briama; | |

15. Hon. Mohamed K Thorley; and
16. Hon. PC Mansa Paki Kabombor II.

22. COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SANITATION

1. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda Chairman;
2. Hon. Isata Kabia Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Mohamed Kamara;
4. Hon. Mohamed L. Mansaray;
5. Hon. Abdulai Sesay;
6. Hon. Dr Michel Sho-Sawyers;
7. Hon. Mabinty K. Sillah;
8. Hon. Taworo Tara-Koroma;
9. Hon. Aiah Dabundeh;
10. Hon. Emma Kowa;
11. Hon. Dixon Rogers;
12. Hon. Veronica Sesay;
13. Hon. Bu-Buakei Jabbi;
14. Hon. Moses Jorkie;
15. Hon. Francis Kaisamba; and
16. Hon. PC Mohameh Sama Kailondo Banya IV.

23. COMMITTEE ON LABOUR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

1. Hon. Francis Konuwa Chairman;
2. Hon. J.B. Mansaray Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Edward S Jengo;
4. Hon. Emma Kowa;
5. Hon. Foday Rado Yokie;
6. Hon. Dixon Rogers;
7. Hon. Thomas B Turay;

8. Hon. Dr Michel Sho-Sawyer;
9. Hon. Kusan Sesay;
10. Hon. Ibrahim Martin Bangura;
11. Hon. Rosky Momokani Mbayoh;
12. Hon. Dr Roland Foday Kargbo;
13. Hon. Daniel B Koroma;
14. Hon. David Johnson;
15. Hon. Mabinty H Bangura; and
16. Hon. PC Sheku A. T. Fasuluku Sonsiama III.

24. COMMITTEE ON LANDS COUNTRY PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Hon. Patriirk Lahai M. Kargbo Chairman;
2. Hon. Ibrahim Nox Sankoh Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Alie Kaloko;
4. Hon. Henneh Raddar;
5. Hon. Claude D.M. Kamanda;
6. Hon. Daniel B Koroma;
7. Hon. Saidu Baba Kamara;
8. Hon. Mohamed Lamin Mansaray;
9. Hon. Thomas Mark Turay;
10. Hon. Alfred B. Katta;
11. Hon. Komba ES Boyah;
12. Hon. Bashiru Silikie;
13. Hon. Alusine Kanneh;
14. Hon. Jusufu Barry Mansaray;
15. Hon. Abu Jajua; and
16. Hon PC Prince Mambu Pewa.

25. COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

1. Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay Chairman;
2. Hon. Habib Bakarr Munda Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Bockarie Nomolie Salamy;
4. Hon. Edward S Jengo;
5. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma;
6. Hon. Segepoh Thomas;
7. Hon. Amadu Fofanah;
8. Hon. Dauda J.B Kallon;
9. Hon. Abi Kalokoh;
10. Hon. Alimamy A. Kamara;
11. Hon. Allieu Badara K. Munu;
12. Hon. Henneh Raddar;
13. Hon. Thomas Mark Turay;
14. Hon. Hassan Sesay;
15. Hon. Bai Kaloko; and
16. Hon. PC Brima Victor Sidi Kebbie.

26. COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

1. Hon. Benneh Bangura Chairman;
2. Hon. Thomas B Turay Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Kerifala Sheku Conteh;
4. Hon. Claude DM Kamanda;
5. Hon. Sheku Sannoh;
6. Hon. Dr Michel Sho-Sawyerr;
7. Hon. Mabinty Fornah;
8. Hon. Saar Sangbah;
9. Hon. Hassan Sesay;
10. Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay;
11. Hon. Frank Kposowa;
12. Hon. Habib Bakarr Munda;

13. Hon. Bashiru Silikie;
14. Hon. Mustapha Briama;
15. Hon. Saidu Mansaray; and
16. Hon. PC Bai Burah Sallu Lugbu II.

27. COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & WATER RESOURCES

1. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams Chairman;
2. Hon. Songuwa Bundu Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Alimamy G Kargbo;
4. Hon. Kusan Sesay;
5. Hon. Saidu Baba Kamara;
6. Hon. Saar Sangbah;
7. Hon. Abdul Salaam Kanu;
8. Hon. Abu Bakarr Koroma;
9. Hon. Allieu Badara K Munu;
10. Hon. Samuel Brima;
11. Hon. Francis Kaisamba;
12. Hon. Gladys Gbamoh Gbappy Brima;
13. Hon. Moses B. Jorkie;
14. Hon. Sualiho Monyaba Koroma;
15. Hon. Moses Allieu Swaray; and
16. Hon. PC Joseph Alie Kavura Kongomoh II.

28. COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas Chairman;
2. Hon. Alhaji Seray Dumbuya Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay;
4. Hon. Umar Paran Tarawally;
5. Hon. Senesie Fawundu;

6. Hon. Francis Amara Konuwa;
7. Hon. J. Barry Mansaray;
8. Hon. Mabinty Fornah;
9. Hon. Ajibola Manley Spaine;
10. Hon. Dan Y. Sesay;
11. Hon. Mabinty Kadija Sillah;
12. Hon. Dr Aiah Dabundeh;
13. Hon. Albert Deen Kamara;
14. Hon. Allieu Badara K Munu;
15. Hon. Saar Sangbah; and
16. Hon. PC Prince Lappia Boima IV.

30. COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

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|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Emma Josephine Kowa | Chairman; |
| 2. Hon. Gladys Gbamoh Gbappy Brima | Deputy Chairman; |
| 3. Hon. Alusine Kanneh; | |
| 4. Hon. Senesie Fawundu; | |
| 5. Hon. Moiwai Momoh; | |
| 6. Hon. Francis Amara Kaisamba; | |
| 7. Hon. Mabinty Fornah; | |
| 8. Hon. Roland Foday Kargbo; | |
| 9. Hon. Lahai Marrah; | |
| 10. Hon. Abi Kaloko; | |
| 11. Hon. Thomas B Turay; | |
| 12. Hon. Frederick Sandy Sourie; | |
| 13. Hon. Alhassan Jero Kamara; | |
| 14. Hon. Kombor Kamara; | |
| 15. Hon. Abu Bakarr Koroma; and | |
| 16. Hon. PC Alex M. J. J. Kainpumu. | |

9. Hon. Alie Kaloko;
10. Hon. Tamba Entochema Ebba;
11. Hon. Dr Aiah Dabundeh;
12. Hon. Hassan B. Sheriff;
13. Hon. Abi Kaloko;
14. Hon. Nicholas Kamara;
15. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams; and
16. Hon. PC Prince Mambu Pewa.

33. SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya - Majority Leader
2. Hon. Dr Bernadette Lahai - Minority Leader
3. Hon. Dr Mathew Teambo - Majority Whip
4. Hon. Sidie M Tunis - Minority Whip
5. Mr Ibrahim S. Sesay - Clerk of Parliament/Secretary to Committee

Signed by: The Honourable Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have been assured and I believe that by mid-day tomorrow, each of you will have a copy of this document in your pigeon holes.

HON. S. B. B. DUMBUYA: Mr Speaker the Sessional Committee has now been constituted. I would respectfully ask the Minority Leader, with the help of two or three of her most senior Members of Parliament to engage her own membership to tell them about the committee list. We would do the same for our Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, the Clerk of Parliament told me that there would be a general orientation for all Members of Parliament. In the meanwhile, I would ask that we do as I have suggested. The Minority Leader, with the help of her senior Members of Parliament would talk to their own membership and we would do the same. After that, we would

have the entire membership of Parliament in Committee Room No.1 where the leadership of Parliament would talk to them about the committees. The work of Parliament is hinged on these committees. The committees are a macrocosm of Parliament. Most of what Parliament should do is done by these committees. The importance of the committees would be emphasized to them by the Minority Leader of the SLPP. I will do the same for APC Members of Parliament. The Clerk of Parliament would be in attendance.

Mr Speaker, I want to inform all Members of Parliament that the debate on the '*Presidential Speech*' would hopefully begin on Monday, 4th to Friday, 8th February, 2013. After that, we would proceed to the '*Budget Speech*' debate. I want to apologise to Members of Parliament for the delay. We have been interviewing Presidential nominees. We still have nominees that would be coming for interview. Thank you very much.

HON. ERIC KOEDOYOMA: Mr Speaker, I rise on S.O. 23. I regret to announce to this Honourable House about a fire incident that took place in my constituency. The inferno engulfed the entire village of Sawa Fiama Chiefdom, Kono District. The entire village was burnt down. This announcement goes as an appeal to Members of Parliament and to all other well wishers to come to the aid of these marooned people of Sawa Village. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HON. P.C BAI KURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O.23. I want to talk about the importance of communication in this country. Most of the activities, discussions and planning people do nowadays are done on the telephones. But Mr |Speaker Sir, we have major problems with the telephone companies in this country. The network system of these mobile companies is very weak. Somebody might be saying something very important on telephone and all of the sudden the line goes off. The service providers will be telling you that your phone is out of coverage area. This is very serious Mr Speaker. It is terrible. Mr Speaker, you are the third man in terms of leadership in this country. This is why I am putting this mater to you Sir. Mr

Speaker, these telephone companies are charging us any time we make a call. They make a lot of money even when your phone goes off. Nobody is doing anything about it. I am sure everybody is affected in this country, including all the prominent people.

THE SPEAKER: On a more serious note Honourable Member, now that the committees have been constituted, why not bring this matter up to the relevant committee so that they will call the appropriate people and talk to them.

HON. PC BAIKURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: Mr Speaker, we are getting tired and disgusting when these telephone companies are, particularly Airtel are misbehaving this way. When that company was called Celtel, it was better. But the Airtel name is changing to Air-rotten. It is indeed a terrible situation Mr Speaker. I want to bring it to the notice of Members of Parliament. Very soon, I will bring it in the form of a motion. My next contribution will focus on the amount of money these companies are making per day. The profits they make are not invested in Sierra Leone at all. They transfer all their profits to foreign countries. We will soon call them in Parliament.

HON. ALIMAMY G. KARGBO: Thank you Mr Speaker. I am standing on S.O.23. I want to talk on a disaster that happened this weekend in the Western Area. I know you have already advised that the committees have been formed. But it is very important that (considering the population in the Western Area and how the buildings are constructed) that the Fire Force Department must try to do a better job. They should try by all means to ensure that whenever a fire disaster takes place in any area, they must try to get there as fast as possible. As the Speaker has advised, the Chairman of Internal Affairs must be robust and take this as his first assignment. I want this to be noted and for well-wishers to know what has happened. Thank you Sir.

HON. ALUSINE MARAH: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand on S.O. 23. On the 26th January, 2013, my car burnt down to ashes at Wilberforce. It burnt down completely. Therefore, I need to inform the Speaker and Honourable Members of Parliament.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, accept my sympathy. I will pass on your information to the committee on Transport and Aviation.

HON. MATHEW TEAMBO: Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise on S.O. 23. I believe sometimes when we ask people to do certain things and they respond accordingly, it is good to commend their efforts. What I am saying here is that, I want to commend the effort of Members of Parliament on their code of dress. We want every Member of Parliament to appear accordingly, as we are the number one arm of government in the country. I have been watching all Members of Parliament, particularly the news ones. Everybody has been coming here well dressed with the appropriate attire. I sometimes watch when Parliament is not in session. There are some Members of Parliament that are coming around the cafeteria with jeans. This is common among Members of Parliament from the opposition. I want to advice that they stop wearing jeans and folded sleeves to Parliament. Once you are in this Parliament, you have to dress accordingly. I thank all of us for actually keeping up to the dress code. The second point I want to bring up Mr Speaker...- *(Interruption)*.

THE SPEAKER: Order.

HON. MATHEW TEAMBO: I want to advice Members of Parliament, particularly those that are coming in to familiarize themselves with S.O.77, pages 127-128. The section cited is very clear about absenteeism from Parliament. Sometimes others may not know what they should do and what they should not do. S.O 1 and 2 (e)) explains all the rights of Members of Parliament, and what would happen if they fail to do so. Therefore, I am asking that Members of Parliament, particularly the new ones try by all means to familiarize themselves with Standing Order 77. Thank you Mr Speaker.

HON. FREDERICK SANDY SOURIE: I thank you Mr Speaker. I rise on S.O 23. Mr Speaker, I went to Kono during the weekend, where I had discussions with some of our voters. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the road leading to Kono is in a horrible state. Our people want us to tell the government, through this House that the road

from Matotoka to Koidu city is horrible. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, our people...- *(Interruption)*.

THE SPEAKER: Order!

FREDERICK SANDY SOURIE: Mr Speaker, I am going to say what my people told to me to tell this Honourable House. And Mr Speaker, I will say what my people told me. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, sometime ago our people had problem with Koidu Holdings. We had problem with Koidu Holdings that was handled by government. Our people are not happy of the statement made to them by our Vice President. They demand an apology.

THE SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Member, for your guidance S.O. 23 does not permit you to bring up controversial matters. I would therefore suggest that you advice yourself.

HON. MOHAMED KAMARA: Thank you Mr Speaker. I stand on S.O 23. I want to report on the amount of armed robberies that are taking place around the Calaba Town area. Mr Speaker, the people of Calaba town go to bed with fear.

The second thing I want to talk about is the cholera outbreak.

THE SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members, courtesy alone demands some decorum. I have heard distinctly a female voice interrupting the Honourable Member whilst he was making his contribution. Please, let us observe some decorum.

HON. MOHAMED KAMARA: Thank you Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Excuse me. Are you finished?

HON. MOHAMED KAMARA: Yes Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Alright, thank you.

HON. ABDUL SALAM KANU: Mr Speaker, I am standing on S.O 23.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, it is very clear that Members of Parliament on my left are bent on disrupting the progress of these proceedings. Please, let us observe some decorum.

HON. ABDUL SALAM KANU: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am happy that...-
(Interruption).

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, are you addressing the House?

HON. ABDUL SALAM KANU: I am addressing the Speaker Sir.

THE SPEAKER: Please continue.

HON. ABDUL SALAM KANU: Thank you Mr Speaker. Being appointed deputy chairperson for Local Government, I do believe that this House need some...-
(Inaudible). Somebody was saying that Members of Parliament are not recognized by the local authorities. What I want to say is that, since the Committee on Local Government has been constituted, we would work very hard to make sure that some of these lapses are addressed.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the new Ministry of Water Resources...-
(Interruption).

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have noticed that the Deputy Minority Whip is interrupting the proceedings of this House and I will not allow that to go on. I have appealed to him about three times.

ADJOURNMENT

(The House rose at 12.30 p.m., and was adjourned until Monday, 4th February, 2013, at 10.00 a.m.).