



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

THIRD SESSION –SECOND MEETING

THURSDAY, 4TH MARCH, 2021

SESSION – 2020/2021



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMEN TARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

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of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held Thursday, 4th March, 2021.

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THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

**THIRD SESSION – SECOND MEETING
OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

Thursday, 4th March, 2021.

I. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Mrs Tangella M. C. Sam, Read the Prayers]

[The House met at 11:25 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas, in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

Suspension of S.O 5[2]

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA [Leader of Government Business]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand to amend the Order Paper. I propose that we insert item III which reads 'Swearing in of elected Member of Parliament [Third Schedule of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone] after item II. Item III will now become item IV, item IV becomes item V and item V becomes item VI on the Oder Paper.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, any seconder?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I so second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[The Order Paper has been amended accordingly]

II. CORRECTION OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON TUESDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY, 2021

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Tuesday, 23rd February, 2021. As usual, we shall skip pages 1 to 4. We start with Page 5. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? And Page 11? If there is no correction or comment, can someone move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Tuesday, 23rd February, 2021 as presented?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Mr Speaker, I so move.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: Mr Speaker, I so second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Tuesday, 23rd February, 2021 has been adopted]

III. SWEARING-IN OF ELECTED MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT [THIRD SCHEDULE OF THE 1991 CONSTITUTION OF SIERRA LEONE]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, pursuant to Section 83 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, Act No. 6 of 1991, I now invite the Clerk of Parliament to administer the oath to the Member of Parliament as established in the third schedule.

HON. DR PARAN UMAR TARAWALLY [*Clerk of Parliament*]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I now invite the Honourable designate, Zainab Kama Braima to step forward and subscribe to the oath [*Applause*]. With the leave of the Speaker, I now invite the Leaders of Parliament to join us, including the President and Vice President of the parliamentary Female Caucus. Madam Honourable designate, are you a Muslim or Christian?

[The Honourable Member Subscribed to the Oath]

HON. DR PARAN UMAR TARAWALLY: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I now handover three [3] very powerful documents to the new Honourable Member. These documents will guide her throughout her stay in Parliament. The documents are the 1991 Constitution of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the standing Order of Parliament and the Parliamentary Prayers.

HON. ZAINAB K. BRAIMA: Thank you, Mr Clerk.

HON. DR PARAN UMAR TARAWALLY: On behalf of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, the Leaders of Parliament, Members of Parliament and staff, I want to welcome you and congratulate you on your election as a Member of Parliament. Officially you are now Honourable Zainab Kama Braima [*Applause*].

I now invite the Director of Legislative Services to take the Honourable Member to her designated seat.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Clerk, before he does so, let me formally announce the seating arrangement. I hereby make the following allocations. Honourable Keikura Christoph Vandy moves to the vacant seat formally occupied by Alimamy O. Kamara, Honourable

Banya Satty moves to the seat of Honourable Keikura Christoph Vandy and Honourable Zainab Kama Braima takes the seat of Honourable Banya Sarty *[Applause]*.

Honourable Zainab Kama Braima, let me now take this opportunity to congratulate you profusely on behalf of the Parliament of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the people of this nation. We congratulate you and please take your rightful place in Parliament and make a mark. Thank you very much *[Applause]*.

HON. HASSAN A. SASAY: I want to make an observation, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we welcome the new Member of Parliament that has just been sworn-in as an ordinary Member of Parliament. However, I want to state here that we have buried two of our colleagues and we have conducted two by-elections. I am sure these deaths have to do with the health of Members of Parliament *[Applause]*. Members of Parliament go through stressful times, especially when it comes to parliamentary issues *[Applause]*. We should take this issue as serious as anything. The health of Members of Parliament is important and that has to be taken seriously. As we speak, we have a very young Honourable Member who is currently hospitalised. We do not have wherewithal to help the situation. This is pathetic and unfortunate situation for Members of Parliament. The question is why Members of Parliament are exposed to such situations? Those in ministerial and other positions enjoy special health facilities that Members of Parliament do not have *[Applause]*.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if we do not address this issue with urgency, Members of Parliament will continue to die. In this regard, I now move that this House stands-down until something is done about Members of Parliament *[Applause]*. Do we have to bury our colleagues before something is done? The late Honourable Samuel Panda, Honourable Momodu Eskimo Manasary and Honourable Alimamy O. Kamara were good people, but we have lost them to the cold hands of death. The Honourable Saiyo Kamara, who has been regular and punctual, is not here to participate. The Speaker had been referring to him as 'the editor.' He was very active in Parliament, but today he cannot participate. Mr Speaker, this is sad and we must do something fast.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to state here that something has to be done urgently in order to address the health condition of this Parliament. If you check the budgetary allocations to other MDAs, you will agree with me that Vote Controllers allocate special funds for their health *[Applause]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Hassan A. Sesay, let me state with all authority that I am **100%** in support of what you have just said *[Applause]*. I am sure matters relating to the health of Members of Parliament are serious matters and I was even going to announce that we have a meeting before the petition is laid. Thank God the Leader of Government Business has just done the amendment. According to the amendment, the petition is now the last item on the Oder Paper. Before the petition, let me urge Members of Parliament to go to Committee Room 1 for a meeting. Let us have a meeting relating to the welfare of Members of Parliament. I urge you all to be present before the laying of the petition. These are very serious matters *[Applause]*. A matter as that one presented by the Honourable Hassan A. Sesay is very serious and we are not going to wait for another day. Let us have a conversation around this issue before we sit on the petition. Thank you very much Honourable Hassan A. Sesay.

HON. CHERNOR R. M. BAH *[Leader of the Opposition]*: Mr Speaker, thank you very much. I am kindly requesting that you use the powers vested in you to encourage this House to rise for a minute silence for the footballers that died few days ago in a gruesome road accident on their way to Makeni.

THE SPEAKER: I agree with you, Honourable Member.

[A minute of silence prayer was observed]

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, during the last adjourned date, a complaint was brought by a Member of Parliament to this House relating to the pollution of water that drains into her constituency. I ordered the formation of a Special Committee for investigation relating to that and I wish to hear what the Leader of Government Business has to say to that.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we agreed to form a Special Select Committee which I will now announce to this House for approval. In view of the complaints made by our colleague from Bonthe, the following Honourable Members have been selected to serve in this Committee:

1. Hon. Emerson Saa Lamina	Chairman
2. Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Deputy Chairman
3. Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama	Member
4. Hon. Rebecca Yei Kamara	Member
5. Hon. Abdul Marray Conteh	Member
6. Hon. Moses Baimba Jorkie	Member
7. Hon. Dominic J. Lavalie-Tshombe	Member
8. Hon. Abdul Joseph Bash Kamara	Member
9. Hon. Tom Issic Tucker	Member
10. Hon. Dr Mark Mahmoud Kalokoh	Member
11. Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	Member
12. Hon. Alice Jebbeh Kumbal	Member
13. Hon. P.C. Alie Badara Sheriff	Member
14. Hon. Cecilia Mabinty Bangura	Member
15. Hon. Zainab Catherine Tarawalie	Member
16. Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
17. Hon. Foday Mario Kamara	Member
18. Kemoh Marah	Clerk of the Committee
19. Mohamed Sonnah	Clerk

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that this Committee be adopted by the House.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. ALICE J. KUMABEH: Mr Speaker, I so second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: We supposed to do this under announcement of Select Committees, but I realised that we did not do the adjustment. With the leave of the Speaker, therefore, I would now announce the Committees of the newly elected Members of Parliament.

THE SPEAKER: Proceed, Honourable Member.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Thank you Mr Speaker.

1. Honourable Khadija Davies: Committee on Marine Resources, Committee on Tourism and Culture and Committee on Lands, Housing and Country Planning;
2. Honourable Habie Feika Fabbah: Committee on Finance, Committee on Technical and Higher Education and Committee on Works and Public Assets; and
3. Honourable Zainab Kama Braima: Committee on Tourism, Committee on Water Resources and Committee on Youth Affairs. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, I so Second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I know you would recall that a couple of matters were referred to the disciplinary Committee of Parliament; i.e., the Committee on Ethics and Privileges. It has taken several months now we have not received any reports from that Committee. I would respectfully urge the Chairman of that Committee and the Committee Members to please ensure that the report of that Committee be brought to Parliament against the next adjourned date. I think that Committee is headed by Honourable P.C. Alie Badara Sheriff. Please ensure that the report is brought to Parliament for determination against the next adjourned date.

Honourable Members, a Committee was also formed and headed by the Honourable Shiaka Sama to investigate certain matters relating to allegations against Parliament. Please ensure that the report is brought to Parliament against the next adjourned date. We need to have this matter settled before the public begins to think that we are trying to hide information from them. I think it behoves this House to ensure that the public is properly informed on allegations made against Parliament. If we continue to keep these

reports, I do not think it will be in the favour of the House or in our favour. Therefore, let us ensure that reports are brought for proper determination.

Finally, Honourable Members, we have just established a Committee relating to the investigation about the water pollution. I urge Members of that Committee, particularly the Chairman to ensure that the report is brought here within two weeks. I hereby make the following orders that Parliament provides the required funds to enable Members of those investigating Committees carry out their mandates effectively. The investigations have to be fully funded with immediate effect.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: I am expecting you to brief us about the first accused we have at the court presently.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you for reminding me. Honourable Members, we arrested a suspect a week ago who used the name of the Leader of Government Business to collect money from the Minister of Health and Sanitation. When he was arrested, he decided to confirm that indeed he was sent by somebody, but in any case that matter is now in court. I gave my word that I was going to personally prosecute him and I have personally associated with the prosecution to ensure that we deal with this matter resolutely because the Leader of Government Business is not the only person whose name has been used by criminals. I am sure almost all Members of Parliament are victims. You might be lucky maybe somebody has not called you to say that your name was mentioned, but all our names are been used.

Suspension of S.O 5[2] being 12:00 noon

HON. HASSAN A. SESAY: Mr Speaker, the Deputy Whip was not talking from his own seat, so let him go to his seat before he moves the motion *[Laughter]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Deputy Whip, please move to your seat or you can use any seat *[Laughter]*.

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: But if you want to address the House, you move to your seat.

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Mr Speaker, there was a law in this Well. Mr Speaker, due to COVID-19, certain S.Os were suspended.

THE SPEAKER: In any case, please take note please. We have taken three witnesses and the Leader of Government Business testified yesterday and he was cross examined. We will however report accordingly when the matter is concluded.

V. PAPER LAID

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

MR SOLOMON JAMIRU ESQ [Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table of this House the following paper:

ECOWAS Convention A/P1/7/92 on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, before the Petition, may I crave your indulgence for a meeting at Committee Room 1. In the circumstance, this House is stood down for an hour *[Applause]*.

[The House stood down at 12:15 p.m. and resumed at 2:45 p.m.]

VI. PETITION

HON. EMERSON SAA LAMINA

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, unfortunately we cannot proceed today with the Petition till the next adjourned date. I therefore urge Members to talk on any other issues.

HON. CHERNOR R. M. BAH: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the first thing I want to talk about is the SLRA. I have just been advised by the Chairman of the Committee on Transport and Aviation that he is working on the issue I wanted to talk about. However, I want to state here that the SLRSA is not performing, but I have been assured that the Committee would meet with officials of SLRA next week. I hope that the Committee succeeds; otherwise I will bring the issue to the plenary.

Secondly, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have been raising issues relating to Cargo Tracking in this Well. I have spoken about this matter severally and we have had several assurances since last year that they would come to this House with the Agreement. They are operating without an Agreement being ratified by this House. I was told that they have signed an Agreement since February, 2020, which is over a year now. This House is not previewed under what condition they are operating. I am giving a notice of Motion and if they fail to cooperate, I will file a Motion that will ensure that they discontinue operations. This is just a notice am giving.

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am pleased to talk about the condition of the water. The water is now better than how it used to be two to three weeks ago.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Point of Order. We have given the responsibility to the Committee to go and find out and report to tis House. So, we want to have a situation report from the Committee.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Jebbeh Alice Kumabeh, I do not know whether you were in the Well this morning. We have already announced the Committee and I want to respectfully urge you to wait until the Committee tables its report to this House.

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: No problem Mr Speaker. I want to however congratulate our colleagues, especially Honourable Zainab Kama Braima. It was a hard battle, but well fought. I want her to continue doing the good job.

Secondly, I want to talk about the welfare and the security of Members of Parliament. These are critical and crucial issues we must all support. Mr Speaker,... *-[Interruption].*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, we have discussed that issue already.

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: But I just wanted to say something about this issue.

THE SPEAKER: No, Honourable Member. Please do not talk about that until the Committee tables its report.

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: No problem, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the last point I would like to raise is for you to tell us who is this criminal that has been using the names of Members to extort money.

THE SPEAKER: When a matter is subject to judicial decision, we should not mention it until a judgement is delivered.

HON. JEBBEH A. KUMABEH: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

HON. ARUNA A. KOROMA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise on Section 56[3] of the 1991 Constitution. With your leave, it reads: **“A Minister or a Deputy shall not, while he continues in office, hold any other office of profit or emolument either by way of allowances or otherwise, either private or public, either directly or indirectly.”** Mr Speaker, I decided to draw your attention to some Ministers and Deputies that are serving in other capacities in contravention of this particular provision. To start with, when the Ebola struck this country, the former President, Dr Ernest Bai Koroma wanted to use the Minister of Defence as NAC Coordinator. What he did in the first place was to relieve him his duties and then appointed to serve as NAC Coordinator. You will agree with me that after the Ebola, he had to wait for several months before he was reappointed.

THE SPEAKER: Under which S.Os. are you addressing the House?

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Mr Speaker, I rose on Section 56[3] of the Constitution.

THE SPEAKER: I want to know specifically the particular S.Os.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Mr Speaker, under S.Os. 23.

THE SPEAKER: If you rose on S.Os. 23, then your submissions are contentious. It is very contentious and maybe you can give notice of a Motion. You have to bring this issue in the form of a Motion.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: That is why I want to lay the premise first before the Motion.

THE SPEAKER: At this stage, that is controversial and contentious.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Please, I wanted to lay the premise. As we speak, the resident ministers of all the regions are serving as regional coordinators, using NaCOVERC vehicles. We have the Minister of Defence who is still holding onto his office as Minister of Defence, yet he is serving as the NaCOVERC Coordinator. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs... - *[Interruption]*.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Point of Order, Mr Speaker. I know you are a lawyer, but I will encourage the Honourable Member to do what his Leader had done. This is not the time to explain because it is a controversial issue under S.Os. 23. I do not want to interrupt the Honourable Member, but I wanted to draw his attention to the fact that certain issues are better brought to this House in the form of Motions. I will encourage the Honourable member to give notice of Motion.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, give us a notice of Motion, so that we can discuss it.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Alright, Mr Speaker. I want to thank the Leader of Government Business. I brought this for the attention of the House and I know that there is going to be a Motion.

THE SPEAKER: Are you giving a notice now?

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Yes, Mr Speaker. I am giving the notice now. The notice I am giving is that these people are relieved of their duties.

THE SPEAKER: Give notice of Motion and file the Motion, so that we can debate it.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: That will be done accordingly, Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Member.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when we were ratifying something that has to do with Qcell Mobile Company in this House in 2019, I told this House that I came from a constituency where there was no network. We find ourselves in the middle of Kambia District, Masungbala and Munu-Thallah. Those areas never had mobile network, but through the Committee on Information, Orange Mobile

Company had finally listened to our plea and they are currently constructing a tower. The reason we are bringing some of these issues to this Well is because we want the mobile companies to know that we are grateful with the assistance they provide to our constituencies.

Mr Speaker, Honourable members, the Africell Mobile Company has also approached me on the same matter and I would like use your good office to thank both mobile companies for the job well done. We are looking forward to more mobile companies penetrating the remote areas of this country. My constituency needs more communication poles. I thank you.

HON. MUSA FOFANAH: Point of Order, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: You may proceed, Honourable Member.

HON. MUSA FOFANAH: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I want to borrow a word from the Leader of Government Business who always says we need to treat our constituents with sincerity. I want to report to this noble House that the Minister of Works is required to answer some questions from this House because sometime in November last year, lots of road contracts were awarded. However, according to the National Medium Terms Plan document [which I believe is talking about coordination and about some projects], I want to submit to this noble House that the road from Bo to Valuna or Bo to Matotoka is on-going, but not as expected because the authorities along those areas are not consulted during the commissioning of that project. In Kono, the road linking Gandong to Koidu City is not really done well and the road from Koidu to Jagbamafiama is badly done. I am sure the funds for those projects were approved in this noble House.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, I do not believe the Honourable Member is right to have raised some of these issues under S.Os. 23. Those roads were awarded.

THE SPEAKER: No, hold on Honourable. I do not agree with you. This one has to do with his constituency. This is a personal explanation relating to what is happening in his constituency.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: But Valuna is not his constituency, Honourable Member.

THE SPEAKER: And as far as I know, you are not a contractor doing that road.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, I am the Chairman of Works.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, I do not want you to be defending the contractor. In fact, what I wanted to tell him is for him to write a letter of complaints, indicating all these issues to the Chairman of the Works Committee, so that the Committee can summon those involved. They have to appear before the Committee and answer relevant questions.

HON. MUSA FOFANAH: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Thank you very much. Mr Speaker, the Deputy Leader of Government Business spoke something and the Speaker had assured Members of Parliament of the opportunity to ask heads of MDAs relevant questions during 'Question Time, but nothing had been done. Some of us have done that since the last Session, but our questions have not been brought forward. The issue of preventing Members from introducing controversial issues under S.Os. 23 is in place, but when we write and request the presence of heads of MDAs to answer some questions, nothing had happened. The Speaker has failed to bring them here to answer some questions.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, I do not think the Speaker is the problem. Have you checked with the Clerk's Office?

HON. SAHR CHARLES: That is what I am saying, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, this is something the Speaker assured the House and some of us have done it. We have done it since the last Session, but our requests have not been granted. We want to raise salient issues that need answers *[Applause]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, I have been informed that your questions are currently being processed *[Laughter]*. I have been informed by one of the directors that the questions have to be accompanied with covering notes to the respective MDAs. So,

let us wait and see what will happen as against next week. If nothing happens as against next week, then we will urge the Leader of Government Business to take action.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I like procedures. When I heard him saying since last year or last session, when did he file his question? I have told him to read his Standing Orders always.

THE SPEAKER: Maybe the Honourable Member would have to renew his question.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: I do not want to intervene at this time, but is the Honourable Member talking about last session or last year? I do not understand.

THE SPEAKER: Let him renew his question.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Mr Leader, I believe we still have unfinished business from the last session.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Honourable Member, are you talking the last session?

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Of course, Mr Leader *[Laughter]*.

THE SPEAKER: No, certainly not.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, the ball is in you court and he said last session *[Laughter]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, you cannot bring anything from the last Session to this Session.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Mr Speaker, I am talking about last year.

THE SPEAKER: What you want to do is to renew your question with the Clerk's office.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: But no explanation was given from the speakership as to why those questions were not answered.

THE SPEAKER: The speakership?

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Yes because we want to know why the questions were not answered.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Point of Order, Mr Speaker. The Honourable Member should know that the decision of the Speaker is final and cannot be questioned.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Okay.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: As the Speaker mentioned earlier, you can renew your question with the Clerk's office, so that the question is brought forward to this Session.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you sir.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Let us discuss with the Director of Legislative Services.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please discuss with the Director.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: I will be waiting for your renewed question, Honourable member.

HON. SAHR CHARLES: Mr Speaker, with the assurance from the Director, I am satisfied.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Member.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, I am standing on S.Os. 23.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, if you are not rising on S.Os. 23, then let the next Honourable Member talk. We are dealing with S.Os. 23.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, the Honourable Member has exhausted his chance and I think you should give the Floor to Honourable Mohamed Bangura *[Laughter]*.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Mr Speaker, I raised issues last week.

THE SPEAKER: I want to hear from Honourable Mohamed Bangura.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: I want to bring to the attention of this House a very important issue. The Office of National Security [ONS] issued a press release that they were going to ban the use of Marshalls. The Public Relations Officer [PRO] was on radio this morning and this is a very serious issue. I would want the Chairman of Internal Affairs Committee to summon the Director of ONS to come to this Well so that he can

explain to us the motive behind the press release. We want to ask some questions. As we speak, the Sierra Leone Police cannot provide security for lots of people. If the Sierra Leone Police can withdraw security from a former flag bearer, myself, the former Vice President and many others, we rely on the Marshalls for security. The Director of ONS should come here and answer certain questions for clarity *[Applause]*.

THE SPEAKER: Noted, Honourable Member.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Mr Speaker, let the Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee summon the ONS team.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, are you moving a Motion or what?

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: No, Mr Speaker. I am asking the Committee.

THE SPEAKER: Where is the Committee Chairman?

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Honourable Hafiju Maada Kanja is here, Mr Speaker.

HON. HAFIJU M. KANJA: Mr Speaker, this is not a matter for the Internal Affairs Committee because the ONS is under the Committee on Defence.

THE SPEAKER: Chairman of the Committee on Defence, what have you got to say? Honourable Members, we cannot spend the whole day on S.Os. 23.

HON. HAFIJU M. KANJA: Well, the Honourable Member has made his claims and I will try to know whether the publication was made and the reason behind it.

THE SPEAKER: The Honourable Member is asking that the ONS Director be invited by your Committee.

HON. HAFIJU M. KANJA: Mr Speaker, is that a Motion being moved?

Suspension of S.Os. 5[2] being 3:00 p.m.

HON. HAFIJU M. KANJA: Mr Speaker, I was asking if the Honourable Member had moved a Motion.

THE SPEAKER: It is not yet a Motion. He was asking if you could summon the ONS team for questioning.

HON. HAFIJU M. KANJA: I will do so sir.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, as Chairman of the Committee on Defence, I now urge you to summon the Director here.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Before next adjourned date, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Certainly, Honourable Member.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: This is not relating to S.Os. 23.

THE SPEAKER: No, Honourable Member.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, it is for the records.

HON. DR MARK M. KALOKOH: Mr Speaker, this is in line with the accident that took place in my constituency with my footballers.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, what I am about to say is not controversial.

HON. DR MARK M. KALOKOH: Mr Speaker, thank you very much for according me this opportunity to say a few words. The Leader of the Opposition requested the House to observe a minute of silence prayers for our players who were involved in a fatal accident on Sunday, 28th February, 2021. The incident was a very sad because we lost nine out of the twenty one who involved in that road accident. As we speak, the twelve members who were seriously injured are in various hospitals. Most of them are at the Emergency hospital, Connaught and Makeni Government Hospitals. This issue needs stakeholders' intervention and I want to thank you for according us the opportunity this morning to offer prayers for them. May their souls rest in peace, Amen.

THE SPEAKER: Okay thank you Honourable Member. Announcements

ADJOURNMENT

*[The House rose at 3:39 p.m. and was adjourned to Thursday, 11th March, 2021 at
10:00 a.m.]*