

### OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

## PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

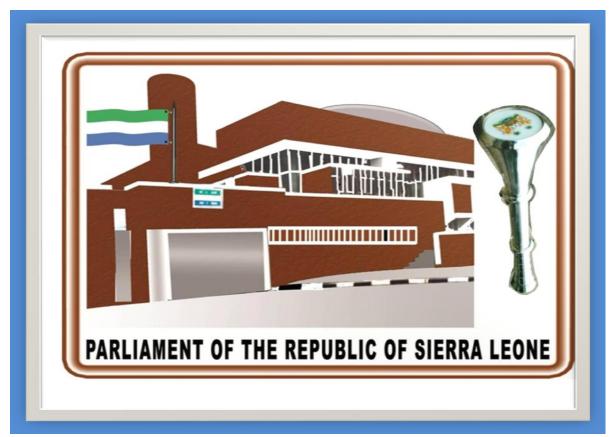
(HANSARD)

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT** 

SECOND SESSION-SECOND MEETING

TUESSDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2014

SESSION - 2013/2014



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

## PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT** 

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

> Proceedings of the Sitting of the House Held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.

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THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

#### **Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House**

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

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.

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

#### I. PRAYERS

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

[The Speaker, Hon. Sheku Badara. B. Dumbuya, in the Chair].

The House was called to Order

#### Suspension of S.O. 5(2)

**HON. CHERNOR R. M. BAH:** Mr Speaker I stand on S.O. 34. I wonder why the SLBC Camera Men are not here today. I wonder what explanation they will give for their absence.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Clerk, any explanation on this issue?

**MR IBRAHIM S. SESAY** *(Clerk of Parliament):* The Public Relation Officer (PRO) should have an explanation to make because he is in charge of that Department.

THE SPEAKER: Is the PRO in the Chamber?

**MR CYRIL JUXSON SMITH** *(Director of Public Relations):* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Resident SLBC Cameraman has gone on an Oversight with the Committee on Transparency and Accountability. I asked him to ensure that he made an alternative arrangement and he told me that he was going to do that. This morning I spoke with the Director of Media at the SLBC and he promised to send a replacement Cameraman for this Session.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Director, the person you are referring to is not here.

**MR CYRIL JUXSON SMITH:** He is not yet here Sir.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I don't think that should prevent us from going ahead with the Business of the House.

**HON. CHERNOR R. M. BAH:** I do agree with you, Mr Speaker, but after the sitting, I want to see him in my office with your permission.

# II. CORRECTION OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING, HELD ON THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2014

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2014. As usual, we go page by page. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8?

There being no amendment, can somebody move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2014.

HON. AMADU M. KANU: Mr Speaker, I so move.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. ALHAJI S. DUMBUYA: Mr Speaker, I so second.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

(Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2014, has been adopted as presented).

#### III. PAPER LAID

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

THE NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMME A BLUEPRINT FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SIERRA LEONE'S NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMME, 2014-2018

**HON. ALIMAMY KAMARA** *(Minister of Youth Affairs):* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am here this morning to lay a Paper titled: "A Blue Print for Youth Development Sierra Leone's National Youth Programme, 2014-2018."

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this document is compiled by a team of national and international Expatriates. They have been making consultations with Stakeholders of this country. They were provided with financial and technical assistance from the UNDP. This document seeks to achieve among, all other things, one million new jobs for two million young and active citizens. The minimum wage will be three hundred thousand Leones.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, on the funding aspect of this project, the Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and other Development Partners should come together to form a steering committee that will be headed by His Excellency the President, Dr Ernest Bai Koroma, and other Ministries concerned. Also, there will be a Steering Committee with technical people, comprising of other Stakeholders that are expected to come together to mobilise funds.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, according to this document, there will be a National Youth Fund that will be put aside to look into the issues of youth in this country. The UNDP is expected to spearhead the process and they are to work with the Ministries concerned, in order to bring other development partners on board. I believe that if what is contained in this document is adhered to, many issues that have to do with young people will be addressed accordingly and this will help to ameliorate the challenges of the youth of this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as I lay this Paper on the Table of Parliament, I want to thank this Parliament for the extra-ordinary work it is doing currently. In other words, Parliament is presently probing into the activities of Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that are receiving funds on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone. Mr Speaker, we all know that before now, these NGOs believed that they could not give account to anybody. This Parliament has spearheaded the process, in terms of probing into their activities. Mr Speaker, you advised me to maintain the status of a Member of Parliament. As I lay this Document, let me hasten to inform this House that the Committee on Youth Affairs will ensure that people give account of all public funds in the Ministry of Youth Affairs.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I also want to crave the indulgence of Parliament to help the Ministry of Youth Affairs to get more partners in the youth sector. We expect all Development Partners and all MDAs to adhere to the dictates of this document. It has already been launched by His Excellency the President. I am here this morning to solicit the support of Parliament in terms of approving this document. I want this House to assist the Ministry of Youth Affairs in ensuring that issues of young people in this country are carried out in a transparent manner. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, on that note I now lay the Document titled, "A *Blueprint for Youth Development, Sierra Leone's National Youth Programme, 2014/18."* Thank you...- (Applause).

**HON. ANSUMANA J. KAIKAI:** Mr Speaker, I was advising the Minister to move the motion for ratification.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, the document is not before us for ratification. He presented it as if it was meant for ratification.

#### IV. BILL

THE POLYTECHNICS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2014

**INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING** 

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**DR MINKAILU BAH** *(Minister of Education, Science and Technology):* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the Bill Entitled: "*The Polytechnics (Amendment) Act, 2014,"* being an Act to amend the Polytechnic Act, be read the first time.

#### (Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

(The Bill entitled: "The Polytechnics (Amendment) Act, 2014, has been read the first time).

SECOND READING

**DR MINIKAILU BAH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the Bill entitled: "*The Polytechnic (Amendment) Act, 2014, being an Act to amend the Polytechnics Act"* be read the Second time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the founding of a new institution of higher education is not a one-off event, but a continuous, complex and at times, a difficult process, destined to extend over a long period and to shape the lives of generations to come. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the first World Conference on Higher Education, held in Paris in 1998 underscored the role of higher education, to educate, undertake research and to provide services to the community. The Conference also declared that higher education shall be equally accessible to all, on the basis of merit. Higher education plays a critical role in the development of nations, peace building, advancing equity and promoting democracy.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the recent traumatic history of Sierra Leone, its remarkable recovery effort, its emerging dynamic socio economic climate and the democratic structures demand a work force with new skills, expectancy attitudes and values. The centrepiece of the philosophy of the Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology is to promote graduates who do not only possess the right skills to cope in an increasingly complex and involving world, but also the ability to generate new knowledge and skills to use it for their own self-realisation as well as for the development of the nation. This Philosophy aligns very well with the revised Vision and Mission for the education in Sierra Leone, as initiated in the 2013/2018 Education Sector Plan, Government of Sierra Leone.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this Bill seeks to delete the Makeni Polytechnics and the Port Loko Polytechnics from the Schedule of the Polytechnics Act of 2001 because these institutions have been upgraded to the status under the Universities Amendment Act, 2014, which was passed in this Honourable House on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2014. In view of this, I move that the Bill entitled: "*The Polytechnics (Amendment) Act, 2014,"* be read the second time.

#### (Question Proposed)

**HON. SULAIMAN M. SISAY:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this is a continuous process that started on the first of July. We have amended the University Act of 2014 to create the Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology. Mr Speaker, on the second page, we are going to make amendment by deleting the Polytechnics Act, so that this institution becomes a University. This is not a controversial amendment, and

as I said, it is history in the making and it is a continuous process. I urge my colleagues to speedily amend this Polytechnics Act, so that we can have the Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology in the North. Thank you very much.

**HON. DR ROLAND KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as it has been said, the establishment of a University is a gradual process. One of the things that should be done, especially at the initial stage, is to expunge the existing structures and replace them with the provisions made by this Bill. I think what this Act intends to do is to remove what is not part of the University from the list that existed before now.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, quality is important when a University is created. There is a difference between a Polytechnic and a University. This quality must be maintained because there is the issue of relevance and accreditation. Accreditation is not just an internal affair. We can make sure that the Universities have a general standard in terms of entry requirements. When you go to the Polytechnics, their entry requirements are a bit lower than the Universities. Therefore, that difference should be spelt out clearly. Accreditation is also important because we need international comparison and recognition. That is our degrees from our Universities must be comparable and recognised by other Universities in the world. This is very important, Mr Speaker. In as much as we stress on relevance, in terms of our development aspirations, providing jobs for the educated youths, we also need to make sure that our qualifications are comparable with international institutions. This amendment is in place and I want to urge that we ratify this amendment. Thank you very much.

**HON J. B. MANSARAY:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when we talk about education in Sierra Leone, I do believe that it is going to be for every Sierra Leonean. Moving institutions to the North, West and South is just like saying that people from Koribondo will go to the North to get education and those from Wonde will go to the North to get education. If you go to the present Polytechnics of both Makeni and Port Loko, you will see South-Easterners acquiring education. I want to crave the indulgence

of the Ministry of Education that when these Polytechnics are being given other names, it should be in good spirit, because transfers are very key.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to give you an example. The Bo Teachers College was changed to the Njala University. Everything was done in good faith. The Ministry of Education is taking up its responsibilities to see that the University continues to provide essential services to the people. Mr Speaker, as we speak, there are cases of non-payment of allowances to workers of the Bo Teachers College which has not been addressed for many years. We are talking about 98 good citizens of Sierra Leone from whose efforts, some of us have benefitted. I only hope that while Port Loko and the Makeni Polytechnics are getting new names, such mistakes cannot happen again.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Ministers come and go; Vice Chancellors of this University may come and go; therefore, let the responsibilities of these institutions be managed by the Ministry of Education. Few minutes ago, the Minister of Youths was making reference in terms of upgrading the standards of the youth of this nation. How are they going to gain good employment if they do not have the requisite skills? The appropriate skills will be acquired through this institution.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to crave the indulgence of the Minister, who is to make this Amendment a reality, to make sure that those students, teachers and workers working in those institutions are properly taken care. Let the Lecturers take the full responsibility of doing the right thing for the youth of this nation, because it is going to be funded by the Tax-Payers' money. Mr Minister, please make sure that the right thing is done for this institution. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**HON. FRANK KPOSOWA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, any well-meaning Sierra Leonean will not frown at the creation of institutions of higher learning, because for a country to develop, we have to have certain percentage of educated people. And if anyone is seen to be making effort in that direction, that person should be supported. What I want to say here is that, for some time now, a number of factors have come into play to contribute to the progressive discussion of the Polytechnics concept. Why did we start talking about the need to create Polytechnics institutions in this country?

This was as a result of the realisation that there was a gap in the supply of middle level man-power. This was even heightened after our return from exile in Guinea, where we saw the contribution of Polytechnics towards the development of that country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have said earlier that a number of factors had come into play over a period to distort the Polytechnics concept. When Polytechnics are transformed into Universities, expectations are altered. Every other thing about Polytechnic Education is altered. How are we going to achieve the realisation of this middle level man-power need? It is true that most people would not like to be called carpenters because they feel it is an inferior job. Mr Speaker, if our youth attend big institutions like the Fourah Bay College, Njala University etc., they will not mind to be called carpenters. There is a lady called Fatlow. She started a hair dressing school and that school had to be re-named Fatlow School of Cosmetology. Anybody graduating from that school saw herself as a big Cosmetologist *(Laughter across the Floor).* 

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my worry is that, when these Polytechnics are transformed into Universities, not many people may have the wherewithal to pay university fees. I think other Universities can still be created; we can have the Dr Ernest Bai Koroma University; and we can have other Universities in every district. This is normal and it is part of the development of this nation, but let these polytechnic schools remain as they are. That is my prayer, Mr Speaker. I don't think a number of people are going to have access to polytechnic education when once they are absorbed into Universities. I thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**HON. AJIBOLA MANLEY-SPAIN:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Act we have before us has a Memorandum of Object and Reasoning. It is quite clear that what it seeks to do is merely to remove a couple of institutions regarded as Polytechnics from the list of Polytechnics institutions in this country. Mr Speaker, in 2001, this House passed a Bill entitled: "*The Polytechnics Act of 2001."* It was meant to establish the Polytechnics institutions listed in the Schedule. The schedule was found on Page 23 of the Polytechnics Act of 2001, which has institutions. Two of these institutions: Makeni

and Port Loko Polytechnics have been elevated to the University Status under the 'Ernest Bai Koroma University.'

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my submission is that, this is merely an Amendment to put the present situation in its right place. The Makeni and the Port Loko Polytechnics are no longer Polytechnics. They have been transformed to University Status. Mr Speaker, the Amendment that is required is therefore in place and ought to be done. I should also point out some typographical errors. I believe on Page 2, the date of Bill should be 2011, instead of 2001.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Minister, please take note.

**HON. AJIBOLA MANLEY-SPAINE:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I submit and pray that this House amend the Bill. Thank you.

**HON. PATRICK L.M. LAHAI:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, those of us coming from the provinces know how difficult it is to raise moneys to pay university fee for our Children. Today, the document in front of us is a welcome gesture because it will help our young ones to get some educational achievement in their lives. The availability of Polytechnics will help us to get a strong and effective middle-man power that will contribute to Nation Building. We agree, as you said earlier that college fees are very high these days. There are some children who have their university requirement, but because of financial constraints, they are not able to enter University. We have seen that happening in this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I know that not everybody is opportuned to be highly educated, but people can contribute in nation building in their areas of speciality. That is why the Bill before us is a welcome idea. My concern now is the availability of learning materials in these Polytechnics. It is very important because if you enter an institution and you don't have the learning materials, it will be very difficult for you to achieve whatever you desire. People are talking about Makeni, Port Loko and Kambia, but that is not a concern to me. The whole issue is meant for Sierra Leoneans that will intend to be there to learn something. We don't care whether you are coming from Kailahun District. You should be able to come and learn, so that you take something back to your people and help build your community and the nation as a whole. With these few words, Mr Speaker, I want to urge my colleagues to speedily pass this Bill into Law. Thank you very much.

**HON. ALHAJI S. DUMBUYA**: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as I said, this institution is a blessing in disguise for Northerners. Although it is going to cater for both national and international students, I believe preference is going to be given to people in that locality. I have issue with the composition of the Council. I believe the composition of the six members from within the locality of the Polytechnic institution should be taken into consideration. Also, Members of Parliament where the University is located should be included like the Paramount Chief. As Political figures, we are looked upon as representatives of the people in all spheres of life *(Applause).* 

Mr Speaker, I believe education is the backbone of every aspect of development. The current President is working very hard to develop this country more than any other President who had served this country. This is an addition to the achievement made by this Government. On this note, Mr Speaker, I thank you and I am asking my colleagues to speedily ratify this Bill.

**HON. DR BERNADETTE LAHAI** *(Minority Leader of the House):* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Bill before us is a straight forward Bill. A week ago, the Bill to establish the Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology was brought here. The Bill ensures that we upgrade the two Polytechnics: Makeni and Port Loko into a University. This cannot be complete without coming back to the Polytechnics Act of the 2001 to repeal and expunge from this Act the two Polytechnics. We are not here to look at the composition of the Council because that is not what is before us.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I was not here when that Bill was passed into law. Sometimes you have to make hay while the sun shines. Let me add my voice to what the previous speakers have said. I have always said here that development should afford its citizens many choices. Any citizen that has limited choices faces problems either in education or otherwise. You should be presented with many choices for you to choose from, based on your aspiration in life. The same goes for education, Mr Speaker. If you are born in Oyo State in Nigeria, you can do your primary, secondary, first degree, second degree and PhD degree without moving out of Oyo State because there is no need for you to go out of Oyo State. Mr Speaker, you can only go to River State or Kaduna State if you so wishes, but the choices are yours. Every State in Nigeria has a University that offers almost all academic courses that you want.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, what we are doing in Sierra Leone is also offering Sierra Leoneans multiple choices. Until the creation of this University, we had only two choices. That is, you either go to the University of Sierra Leone, which consists of Fourah Bay College, IPAM and COHMAS or you go to Njala University. Mr Speaker, before now, people who hailed from the Northern Province would have to leave the Northern Province to either come to Freetown or go to the Southern Province in Njala to access higher education. Now, with the creation of this University, we will have another choice to make. Again, those who hail from the North, if they so desire, can stay there and acquire primary, secondary and University education; and can only come to Freetown or Bo if he or she so wishes. With the establishment of this University, people can now have choices to make. This is what development is all about.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when the President was in my Constituency, I did tell him that we have three Universities: Njala in the South, Fourah Bay College, IPAM and COMAHS in the Western Area and the Dr Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology in the North. I did draw the attention of the President that the Eastern Polytechnics should also be transformed into a University of the East so that each region of this country will have a University.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the citizens of Sierra Leone will even have further choices of deciding either to go to the Eastern University or go to the Dr Ernest Bai Koroma University. The choices will be yours, depending on what you want to do and when you want to do it. Mr Speaker, the President, in his response, said that he is working towards that direction. He has a plan to establish Universities all aver this country, so that people could only move for acculturation. That is, you can move from the South and East for you to learn the cultures of the North or you move from the North to the East so that you learn the cultures of the East. Afterwards, that was what we used to do when boarding schools were there. Boarding schools were there as a means of acculturation. Some of us left the East and went to the South to learn their cultures and they also learnt ours.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to tell the Minister that this is a welcome move and we hope that the country will have the resources to make sure that adequate provisions are made to transform the two Polytechnics that we have already transformed into University. We are praying to have the Eastern University, so that Sierra Leoneans will have the full range of choices. This is a welcome move and I want to thank you and those that contributed towards the establishment of the Dr Ernest Bai Koroma University. I thank you very much.

**HON. IRAHIM R. BUNDU** *(Majority Leader of the House and Leader of Government Business):* Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let me thank the previous speakers who have indicated their willingness for this Bill. I want to assure the Minority Leader that we are going to establish the Eastern University. We may even name it the Bernadette Lahai's University'... - *(Applause).* 

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if you go to Section 19 of the Parent Act, this would have come by a Statutory Instrument to be laid for twenty one days before it becomes a law. However, you can amend it through this procedure we are having this morning. I only want few clarifications to make. I want to know if the Ministry has made adequate arrangement for the transfer of students who are presently in Port Loko and Makeni Polytechnics that are not qualified to go to this University. What arrangements has the Ministry made and what is the time frame? With that, I want to join colleague Honourable Members to speedily pass this Bill into law. Thank you very much.

**DR MINKAILU BAH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will start with the last point the Majority Leader just mentioned. He spoke about the transfer of students from the Polytechnics to the University. I think provision has been made in that regard. We

graduate these students as they move along. Students who have been promoted second or third year will graduate and they will move along with the University. We also have to redundant some of the staff, as somebody mentioned earlier. Some of the staff and students are not competent enough to be in the University. We have to make sure that we get the right students and the lecturers. We will make the necessary arrangements before the beginning of the academic year. We will make provisions for students who are already in the system for them to graduate.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the issue of establishing a University in the Eastern Region, I want to assure Members of Parliament, particularly those from the Eastern Region that when we had our Cabinet meeting, I reported that the University Amendment Act of 2004 had been passed into an Act. His Excellency the President, Dr Ernest Bai Koroma instructed me to start the process of establishing a University in the Eastern Region... - *(Applause).* 

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as I mentioned earlier, the founding of a new Institution is a complex process. We have to see that it is established properly just like we have done in the case of Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology. In terms of naming that University, let us have due diligence and the name will come later. Mr Speaker, I want to inform Members of Parliament that there are lots of conditions we look out for when naming a University. I want to assure this House that we are working in that regard. We started the process for the establishment of this University in 2011. As I mentioned in my last presentation in this House, we did not only restrict ourselves to Sierra Leone. We went to countries like Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Kenya and other countries that have established Universities that are functioning very well. We did this in order to bring home some best practices. We will continue with the same process in establishing a University in the Eastern Region.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, these are my responses to issues raised by Honourable Members. Some Honourable Members gave pieces of advice, which we will consider very seriously. Somebody said that 98 workers have not been paid. We have made provision in the budget for that not to repeat again. These are some of the things we have to take into account. When you redundant workers, you have to pay them their benefits. If you go into the budget, you will see that there is an allocation for the start-up of this University; not only what have been allocated for the present institution, but there is additional allocation. These are funds that are going to be used to pay redundant workers. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

Mr Speaker I move that the Bill be read the Second Time.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

(The Bill entitled: "The Polytechnics (Amendment) Act, 2014 being an Act to amend the Polytechnics Act, 2001 has been read the Second Time").

#### COMMITTEE STAGE:

THE HOUSE REVERTS ITSELF.

Section 2(1) to stand part of the Bill.

**DR MINKAILU BAH:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the Schedule, Section 2(1), as amended, stand part of the Bill.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

(The Schedule Section 2(1), as amended, form part of the Bill).

THE HOUSE RESUMES.

**DR MINKAILU BAH:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I wish to report that the Bill entitled: "The Polytechnics (Amendment) Act, 2014, being an Act to amend the Polytechnic Act, 2001," having gone through the Committee of the whole House with amendments be read the third time and passed into Law.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

The Bill entitled: "*The Polytechnics Amendment Act 2014, being an Act to amend the Polytechnic Act 2001, has been read the third time and passed into Law.*"

**HON. IBRAHIM R. BUNDU:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have two Announcements here. The first one is the Pre-legislative briefing for the Trade Mark's Act, 2014. I want to remind all Chairpersons who have gone on oversight visit to lay their reports on the Table of this House, so that Members will have the opportunity to look at them and make their comments. This is going to be a condition for all parliamentary Committees before they embark on other Oversight activities. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Madam Minority Leader, it is my observation that some members on your side do come at the commencement of sitting, but leave and do not return before the end of the sitting. I don't want to see that spectacle anymore. Please advise them accordingly.

#### ADJOURNMENT

(The House rose at 11.40 a.m. and was adjourned until Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2014, at 10.00 a.m.)