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24th JANUARY 2019

**PRESS RELEASE**

**PARLIAMENT EXPRESSES THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO THE  
GOVERNMENT OF CHINA**

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday 24th January 2019 expressed huge thanks and appreciation to the Government of the People's Republic of China for a plethora of gifts it had received in the form of Chinese Grant to give a facelift to the Parliament of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

Following the presentation of the gifts by the Acting Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma, the Speaker of Parliament, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu implored the House in a standing ovation, and called on His Excellency, the Chinese Ambassador to Sierra Leone, WU PENG "to convey the unanimous appreciation of the House to the Chinese Government for the gifts it had rendered to Parliament, through the Government and the People of Sierra Leone".

Presenting the gifts in line with the relevant provision in the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, Hon. Nyuma said that the Chinese Government had agreed to use its grant to assist the Government and the Parliament of Sierra Leone with materials which include 390 chairs for the Chamber, lower and upper galleries, 500 arm-chairs for committee and conference rooms, 10 office chairs, 6 executive chairs for the Leadership of Parliament, 52 chairs for the conference room at the New Administrative Building, 400 chairs for the State Hall, 150 microphones, speakers and other audio equipment for the Chamber, committee room 1, State Hall and the conference room at New Building, 2500 meter square of green and red carpet for offices of the Leadership, Members' Lounge and the Chamber, 50 multi-purpose tents, 2 air-conditioners, 4 laser jet printers, and 2 B & W photocopiers.

He also said that the technical work of installation of these items would be done by experts from China, who are due to arrive in the last week of February and work is expected to be complete by the end of March, this year.

Concurring, the Acting Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo said that "it is not a novelty for the Chinese to come and give assistance to Sierra Leone to promote good governance", whilst thanking the Government of China and the Communist Party for strengthening bilateral ties between the two countries, through the award of scholarships to Sierra Leoneans to study in China, technology and infrastructural development. He recalled the

role Sierra Leone played during the course of the debate in the United Nations, through SAJ Pratt “for mainland China to be recognized as the true representative of the Chinese people”, adding that “it will come to a time when we will ask for a little bit more, don’t be surprised because we are friends”.

In another development, the Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday 24th January 2019 debated and unanimously approved the Twenty-Sixth Report of its Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, chaired by the Acting Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma.

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

- I. Mr. Abu Augustus Brima-Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- II. Mr. Anthony M.B. Aruna-Member, Judicial & Legal Service Commission
- III. Mr. Sheku A.T. Tamu-Member, Judicial & Legal Service Commission
- IV. P.C Foday S. Faba-Member, Board of Trustees, Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation
- V. Mr. Michael M. Laggah-Member, Minerals Advisory Board and
- VI. Mr. Tejan Koroma-Member, National Youth Commission

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