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15th July, 2025



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE 15/7/2025

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE CONTINUES ITS ENGAGEMENT WITH MDAs

The Public Accounts Committee chaired by the Deputy Speaker of Parliament Hon.Ibrahim Tawa Conteh has continued it engagement with Ministires Departments and Agrncies base on queries livid on them by the Auditor General's Report for the fiscal year 2023.

The following MDAs were scrutinized by the Public Accounts Committee:

\$ierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority (SLCAA)
National Public Procurement Authority (NPPA)
National Medical Supplies Agency

Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL)Eastern Technical University (ETU)

PARLIAMENT SUMMONS CDS ON SERVICES SCHOOL LAND GRABBING MATTER

With a concerted resolution by Members of Parliament, the Acting Speaker, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh on 10/07/2025, ordered the Clerk of Parliament to summon the Chief of Defense Staff, Lieutenant General Amara Idara Bangura, and the Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary School Education, relating to actions of the Chief of Defense Staff with an intention to demolish property owned and situated on the Land of Services Secondary School and to give the school's land to a business operative for trading.

Pegging his submission on Standing Order 23, the Deputy Opposition Leader, Hon. Daniel Brima Koroma intimated the House that the key flagship programme of the Bio-led Government is Human Capital Development, coupled with the Free Quality Education initiative. He therefore urged all Members of Parliament to support the government by ensuring that all learning institutions remained intact and protected. He described the actions of the Chief of Defence Staff to take the land belonging to Services School and give to a private business owner as a conscious move to deprive Services Secondary School of its legitimate land. He noted that the Chief of Defence Staff's intention of taking the land from Services Secondary School to give it to a private businessman was a very sardonic move, tantamount to undermining the government's human capital development. He considered the move by the Chief of Defence Staff as an insult to Parliament and an insult to President Julius Maada Bio's Government and a nefarious disregard to the Free Quality Education. He therefore suggested that the House established a Special Interest Committee to handle the matter.

PARLIAMENT RATIFIES ENERGY AGREEMENTS TO BOOST RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has, on Thursday, 10/07/2025, patriotically debated and unanimously ratified energy agreements aimed at improving electricity and enhancing accessibility in the country, with a particular focus on rural electrification.

The following agreements were ratified by Parliament:

1. The African Development Fund Project Preparation Agreement for the Sierra Leone Rural Electricity Access Project (SLREAP), signed on January 15, 2025, and

2. The Subsidiary Grant Agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone—represented by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Energy—for the preparation phase of the SLREAP.

Presenting the agreements to Parliament, Deputy Minister of Finance 1, Kadiatu Allieu, outlined key components and emphasized the strategic importance of enhancing the country's energy infrastructure.

COMMITTEE ON MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES ENGAGES SIERRA RUTILE

The Parliamentary Committee on Mines and Mineral Resources chaired by the Rt. Hon Saa Emerson Lamina Thursday, 10/07/2025 conducted a hearing involving Sierra Rutile Mining Company at the Speaker's Board Room at Parliament Building at Tower Hill in Freetown.

Prior to the hearing, the Chairman stressed that mining was an opportunity for economic growth, national development, and benefit for the people and also a profit to the investors. He emphasized that the government heavily relies on mining and went on to assure the witnesses that Parliament would also promote a win-win situation for all.

The Committee discovered that a Sierra Leonean indigenous investment now owns Sierra Rutile, and local content policy was fully applied.

PARLIAMENT RATIFIES USD 60 MILLION KISSY INDUSTRY AGREEMENT

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has, on Thursday, 10/07/2025, debated and ratified Sixty Million Dollars Kissy Industry and Trade Agreement. The Agreement aimed at advancing the country's socio-economic growth.

The agreement, which was presented to Parliament on Thursday, July 3, 2025, includes:

1. An Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and Kissy Industry Limited, dated January 2025.

During the presentation, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Ibrahim Alpha Sesay, provided background information about Kissy Industry Limited, highlighting the company's significant contributions to Sierra Leone's socio-economic development. He urged Parliament to ratify the agreement to enable the company to expand its operations, particularly in oil palm production, job creation, and development.

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