



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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PRESS RELEASE



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

PARLIAMENT APPROVES TEN JUDGES

The Twelfth Report of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Honourable Mathew Sahr Nyuma, on Thursday 22/05/2025 debated and unanimously approved by Parliament.

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

1. Magistrate Mark Ngegba, Judge of the High Court
2. Magistrate Sahr Elongima, Judge of the High Court
3. Magistrate Isata Susan Sellu Tucker, Judge of the High Court
4. Magistrate Santigie Ibrahim Sorie Bangura, Judge of the High Court
5. Magistrate Josephine Feimata Hinga, Judge of the High Court
6. Ms. Khalila Diana Kamara _ Judge of the High Court
7. Hon. Justice Athanasius Alfred Tommy Ganda, Judge of the Appeal Court
8. Hon. Justice Abou Bahkarr Binneh Kamara Judge of the Appeal Court
9. Hon. Justice Aiah Simeon Allieu, Judge of the Appeal Court and
10. Mr. Samuel Andrew Curtis Johnson, High Court Judge

Presenting the Twelfth Report, the Majority and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma said the Presidential Nominees were interviewed on oaths and under strict procedures on issues pertaining to their educational backgrounds and probing questions covering a wide range of issues relating to track records and their declared assets, tax obligations, and vision for sustainable tenure. He assured the plenary that the report is the unanimous decision of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service.

PARLIAMENT DEBATES THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 2025

In another development, also the Parliament of Sierra Leone, on Thursday 22/05/2025, debated the Bill entitled; 'The National Country Planning Act, 2025' and committed it to the Legislative Committee for further scrutiny.

The Bill seeks to provide and promote sustainable development and establish a framework for national planning, enhance resilience to disasters, adapt to and mitigate climate change, encourage public participation, ensure effective enforcement, support the development of infrastructure, housing, and public amenities that contribute to improving the living standards of the people in both urban and rural areas, establish mechanisms for the continuous monitoring, evaluation, and improvement of planning policies and practices, harmonize country planning efforts with national development objectives and international commitments, including those related to sustainable development, climate change, and human rights and to provide for other related matters.

Presenting the Bill to Members of Parliament, the Minister of Lands, Housing and Country Planning, Dr. Turad Senesie said the Bill is a life changing document that would remodernise Cities and Towns.

Members of Parliament also made meaningful contributions to the debate.

HEALTH MINISTER GIVES STATUS UPDATE ON MPOX IN PARLIAMENT, DEVISES PLANS TO BREAK CHAIN OF TRANSMISSION

Pursuant to Section 107 subsection 2 of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, the Parliament of Sierra Leone on Tuesday 13/05/2025 summoned the Minister of Health, Dr. Austin Demby to brief Parliament and the General Public about the preparedness of the health systems amid Mpox outbreak in Sierra Leone.

Explaining to Members of Parliament, the Minister described the issue as a serious concern. He said that with the support of Parliament, Sierra Leone would handle the Mpox outbreak. He said

the outbreak started in January 2025 with two cases, which has now escalated to more than two thousand cases in the country as of May 2025.

The Minister also said that Mpox is a virus that transfers through body contact. He said a major solution to preventing the cases is by avoiding direct body contact and that regular hand washing could also be a major way to prevent the transmission of the disease outbreak.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BRIEFS PARLIAMENT

the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Alpha Sesay, also used the ministerial statements to explain to Members of Parliament and the Public on the status of Legal Aid Board and its contributions towards the justice system in the country.

The Minister highlighted key achievements and challenges of the institution.

PARLIAMENT TO RECEIVE INDIAN DELEGATION

The Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas, on Monday, 19/05/2025, received a letter of note verbal from Indian High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, B.C. Pradhan communicating the visitation of some Members of Parliament from India. The Indian High Commissioner to Sierra Leone made this disclosure when he made a courtesy call in the Office of the Speaker.

Explaining the purpose of their visit to Sierra Leone, the High Commissioner Pradhan, told the Speaker of Parliament that the delegation is expected to arrive in Sierra Leone on the 28th May 2025 and would subsequently visit the Parliament of Sierra Leone on the 29th May 2025. The Commissioner categorically stated that the purpose of the visit predicated around counter-terrorism attacks globally. He denounced the terrorist attacks and recalled a very destructive one that occurred in India, claiming the lives of innocent people. The High Commissioner vehemently condemned the act and noted that India had earmarked some countries to collaborate with in the fight against the same. He stressed that through global solidarity and partnership, they would be able to curb out the menace in order to maintain sustainable peace.

PARLIAMENT APPROVES SUPREME COURT JUDGE

The Eleventh Report of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Honourable Mathew Sahr Nyuma, has on Tuesday 20/05/2025 debated and unanimously approved by Parliament.

The following presidential nominee was approved by Parliament:

1. Hon. Justice Fatmatta Bintu Alhadi - Supreme Court Judge

Presenting the Tenth Report, the Majority and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma said the Presidential Nominee was interviewed on oaths and under strict procedures on issues pertaining to her educational backgrounds. Probing questions covering a wide range of issues relating to track records and her declared assets, tax obligations, and vision for sustainable tenure. He assured the plenary that the Report is the unanimous decision of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service.

SIERRA LEONE DELEGATION TO ECOWAS PARLIAMENT ARRIVES IN ABUJA

The Sierra Leone Parliamentary Delegation to ECOWAS Parliament headed by Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay has safely arrived in Abuja, Nigeria, for the First Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Parliament.

The session commenced on 20/05/2025 and would end on 31/05/2025. Among other things, the session would discuss regional trade, integration, peace, democracy and stability within the community of nations to promote trade and economic activities for the growth and prosperity of their people.

Sierra Leone's parliamentary delegation includes Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay, Leader of Delegation, Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama, Deputy Leader of Delegation, Hon. Abdul Kargbo, Member, Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina, Member and Hon. Mabinty Funna, Member.

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