



# PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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## PRESS RELEASE



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE 8/9/2025

### PARLIAMENTARY TRADE COMMITTEE CONCLUDES OVERSIGHT

The Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Trade and Industry chaired by Hon. Veronica Kadie Sesay, on Monday 25th August 2025, concluded its four-day oversight in Freetown at Confidence Trading Company (CTC), a leading rice importing company in Sierra Leone.

During the oversight tour, the Chairperson, in her series of statements, said the visit predicated on having first-hand information about the industries and companies in light of progress. She stated that the Committee on Trade and Industry, as a parent committee, would like to know the achievements and challenges of the entities in order to proffer solutions and relate well for national growth. The Chairperson made reference to the Constitutional mandate that constitutes the powers of the Committee and roles of Members of Parliament.

### PARLIAMENT PROBES THE YOUTH SECTOR

The Parliamentary Committee on Youth Affairs has concluded a two-day parliamentary oversight activities on the activities and operations in the youth sector in Freetown. The oversight which started on Tuesday

26/08/2025 and ended on Wednesday 27/8/2025 is part of Parliamentary mandate as enshrined in section 93 of the 1991 Constitution, to scrutinize Ministries, Departments and Agencies regarding expenditures on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone.

During the probing of National Youth Commission and National Youth Service, the Chairman of the Committee on Youth, Hon. Hamidu Eskimo Mansaray emphasized the importance of oversight and that Parliament does not witch hunt but rather to work in the interest of the People of Sierra Leone. He admonished the witnesses to be calm and answer to questions and concerns raised by Members of the Committee "Please give us actual status report, achievements and challenges of your institution, and be truthful as you are under oath", he said.

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONDUCTS OVERSIGHT VISIT TO CORRECTIONAL CENTERS

In line with its constitutional mandate to ensure the protection of inmates' rights and assess prison conditions, the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, chaired by Hon. Dr. Unpha Sorie Koroma embarked on an oversight visit to three correctional centres in Northern Sierra Leone, Mafanta, Makeni, and Port Loko respectively. The visits, which took place on August 26th and 27th, 2025, aimed to evaluate progress and uncover challenges affecting these institutions.

The committee began its inspection at the Mafanta Correctional Centre in Magburaka, Tonkolili District which was established in 1958 on land donated by a nearby village, the facility currently houses inmates involved in various rehabilitative activities.

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL WELFARE PROBES MDAs

The Parliamentary Committee on Social Welfare chaired by Hon. Haja Miatta Amara, over the weekend, concluded its oversight activities at Approved School Juvenile Home East-end of Freetown.

During the course of the oversight activities, the Chairperson made reference to the Constitution in light of their mandate and stated that they want to be updated as a committee.

The Committee initially engaged the National Public Health Agency and the National Drug Enforcement Agency, where they categorically expressed concerns that drugs are undermining the development of the State and concerted efforts are required to fight the menace in the country. The Committee observed that illicit drugs were negatively projecting the country's image into disruption, and hence, the need for a collaborative consultation in order to report the mitigation to the President.

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