



THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2018/2019:
FOURTH MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS



Ref: OP/5/1/48

THURSDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 2019.

1. **PREAMBLE:** The House met at 11:40 a.m. with the Rt. Hon. Speaker, Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu in the Chair.
2. **PRAYERS:** The Table Clerk, **Mrs. Fatmata Bintu Weston**, said the prayer.
3. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 5(2):**
Hon. Brima Mansaray of Constituency 017, Kenema District moved for the suspension of Standing Order 5(2) at 11:35 a.m. for the commencement of proceedings. It was seconded by **Hon. Rtd. Capt. Maada Kanjia Hafiju of Constituency 018, Kenema District** and approved by the House.

AMENDMENT OF ORDER PAPER:

The Acting Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma of Constituency 019, Kenema District moved for the amendment of the Order Paper, to insert a new agenda item under item **III (LAYING OF PAPERS)** to read as item “**III (II) NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT**”, whilst the initial item **III (ii)** becomes **(iii)**.

Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo of Constituency 034, Bombali District, Acting Leader of the Opposition: With the leave of Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member expressed great concern over the appreciation note to the Chinese Government and asked about the format which it would be carried out in order to know whether Hon. Members would be given the opportunity to make brief statements.

Response from Mr. Speaker- With regards the concern raised by Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo, the Hon. Speaker Clarified that he is quite aware of the fact that this particular gift from the Chinese Government had a beginning which represented the Opposition in office. He then extended an opportunity to the Opposition to make a brief statement of concurrence that would encapsulate the spirit of Parliament and should not be partisan.

The question was put and agreed to.

The motion for the amendment of the Order Paper was seconded by **Hon. Daniel B. Koroma of Constituency 046, Koinadugu District**.

Hon. Hassan A. Sesay of Constituency 050, Tonkolili District – The Honourable Member drew the attention of the House to an unfinished business in the House last week with regards contempt of Parliament which was supposed to be factored in the Order Paper of 24th January, 2019, for considered by the House. He also asked for an explanation to be given to the House for Hon. Members to have an insight of recent development on the issue.



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Response from Mr. Speaker – The Hon. Speaker responded that matter would be dealt with during consideration of the Votes and Proceedings accordingly.

4. ADOPTION OF RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THURSDAY, 17TH JANUARY, 2019.

The motion for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for Thursday, 17th January, 2019 was moved by **Hon. Alusine Kanneh of Constituency 013, Kenema District**, seconded by **Hon. Edward George of Constituency 097, Moyamba District** and adopted by the House with an amendment.

5. PAPERS LAID: Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma, Acting Leader of Government Business.

(i) GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE.

(ii) NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT

The Acting Leader of Government Business presented an appreciation address to the House as follows:

PRESENTATION OF CHINESE GRANT OF FURNITURE, PA SYSTEMS AND CARPET AS GIFT TO PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 118(7) OF THE 1991 CONSTITUTION ACT NO 6

In accordance with the final letters exchanged on 12th June 2018 between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the Chinese Government agreed to use grant assistance to provide the Parliament of Sierra Leone a batch of materials which include, 390 chairs for the chamber and the galleries, 500 arm chairs for committee room one and the conference room, 10 office chairs, 6 executive chairs for the leadership, 52 chairs for conference rooms, 400 chairs for the state hall, 150 microphones, speakers, and audio equipment for the chamber, committee room one, state hall and the conference room of the new administrative building, 2500 meter square of green and red carpet for the leadership offices, the members lounge and the chamber, 50 multipurpose tents, 2 air conditions, 4 laser jet printers, 2 B&W photocopiers.

The Chinese Government completed the procurement and transportation of the above mentioned supplies to Freetown on 28th December 2018. A technical work of debugging and instillation of the mentioned materials/equipment will be done by Chinese experts who are due in the country in the last week of February and work is expected to be completed by the end of March 2019. The containers were delivered to Parliament and opened on the 16th January 2019 in the presence of Chinese Embassy Officials and stored in six stores in Parliament.

As a Government and as Parliament we are deeply appreciative of the Chinese commitment to the state and people of Sierra Leone. We are particularly grateful to His Excellency the Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Sierra Leone Ambassador WU PENG, the commercial counselor and staff of the Chinese embassy for such a great gesture to the Parliament of Sierra Leone. We will be forever grateful!!!! On our part, we say a big thank you to the Human Resource Director of Parliament DR. Abdul Mbawah for facilitating the process up to this point.



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Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo of Constituency 034, Bombali District , Acting Leader of the Opposition – The Hon. Member stated that in the true spirit and sense of unity that has always been a hallmark of the APC, it is not novel that the Chinese could come again to render help to address the issues in Sierra Leone especially in a sector that is useful and necessary in the promotion of governance. He thanked the Chinese Government on behalf of the All Peoples Congress (APC) party and Parliament, for continuing to consider Sierra Leone as true friend of China and stated that the APC would always be a friend to the Chinese Government. He mentioned that the Chinese have helped Sierra Leone in diverse ways which include the award of scholarship to many citizens of Sierra Leone to study abroad, the development of our technology that is also very necessary for our development and the good ties that has always brought our leadership (China/Sierra Leone Government) together. He mentioned when the APC in governance took the decision to support the Chinese Government to be the true representatives of the Chinese people, by recalling the historic development that took place years back and mention the impeccable contributions of S.A.J. Pratt, then foreign Minister who played a vital role in the debate in New York and Ibrahim Taylor-Kamara, then Permanent Representative, who also was very eloquent in the debate (United Nations). Sierra Leone he said believed that, mainland China should be represented by the Chinese. He also stated that he would not under-estimate the fact that the infrastructural development in Sierra Leone is as a result of the furtherance of Chinese love for Sierra Leone. On behalf of the APC he expressed appreciation to His Excellency the President, Dr. Julius Maada Bio, for continuing to promote the good relationship between the Chinese Government and Sierra Leone. The Hon. Member once again demonstrated sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the APC and the Parliament of Sierra Leone to the Chinese Government through the Ambassador Wu Yeng in the Chamber of Parliament.

(iii) THANK YOU LETTER FROM QCELL MANAGEMENT.

Laid by the Leader of Government Business, **Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma.**

.....continued proceedings.....

I. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE

PROPOSER: HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA OF CONSTITUENCY 019, KENEMA DISTRICT, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

SECONDER: HON. HASSAN A. SESAY OF CONSTITUENCY 050, TONKOLILI DISTRICT.



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BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BE ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE AND THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE APPROVED.

The Acting Committee Chairman, **Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma of Constituency 019, Kenema District**, presented the Twenty-Sixth Report of the First Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service to the House and the recommendations contained therein on the following presidential nominees:

- i. **Mr. Sheku Ahmed Tejan Tamu – Proposed Member, Judicial and Legal Service Commission.**
- ii. **Mr. Michael Munda Laggah – Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board.**
- iii. **Mr. Anthony Michael Borbor Aruna – Proposed Member, Judicial and Legal Service Commission.**
- iv. **P.C. Foday Stephen Kpakra Faba – Proposed Member, Board of Trustees, Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC).**
- v. **Mr. Tejan Koroma – Proposed Member, National Youth Commission.**
- vi. **Mr. Abu Augustus Brima – Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board.**
- vii.

6. Question proposed for consideration:

The following Hon. Members spoke to the motion:

No.	Names of Members of Parliament	Constituency	District
1.	Hon. Hassan A. essay	050	Tonkolili
2.	Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo	034	Bombali
3.	Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma	019	Kenema

The question was put and agreed to.

FELICITATIONS BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker extended his felicitations to the newly-approved presidential nominees and wished them well in the execution of their respective appointments.

STANDING ORDER 23 (Personal Explanations)

The following Hon. Members stood on S.O. 23:



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1. **Hon. Dickson M. Rogers of Constituency 100, Pujehun District** – The Hon. Member brought a serious matter to the attention of the Committee on Finance about the fraudulent activities undertaken by some banks especially the ECO Bank. The Hon. Member explained an embarrassing situation he had experienced on several occasions that involved shortage of monies wrapped in bundles.
2. **Hon. Bashiru Silikie of Constituency 082, Bo District** – The Hon. Member reminded the House about people in the habit of impersonating the Clerk of Parliament, Hon. Members and even staff of Parliament. He took the opportunity to give notice to the public by stating that he is an Honourable Member that carry himself with dignity and do not engage in extort monies from people and would never do such. He concluded by giving a strong warning to the public for them not to fall as prey to impersonators.
3. **Dickson M. Rogers of Constituency 100, Pujehun District** – With regards the issue raised by Hon. Bashiru Silikie, the Hon. Member proffered that telecommunication service providers should not allow any use of unregistered sim card.
4. **Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma of Constituency 019, Kenema District** – In the Capacity of Chairman of the Committee on Information and Communications, the Hon. Member responded to the issue mentioned by Hon. Dickson M. Rogers that there is a cyber-crime unit at Natcom and effort has been made to address the issue by asking all telecommunication providers to re-register sim cards to mitigate the problem of cyber-crimes.
5. **Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo of Constituency 034, Bombali District** – The Hon. Member on behalf of his party expressed concern over the misinformation making rounds on social media that members of his party, the All Peoples Congress (APC), are engaged in humiliating journalists during the execution of their work. The Hon. Member stated that it is not part of the party to beat up journalists. He therefore took the opportunity to clarify it to the public that the Party has a policy that sees journalists as part of the governance structure in the country.

Mr. Speaker – The Hon. Speaker supported the statement made by **Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo** and suggested that the Hon. Members adds to his statement that *should any member of his party act contrary to what he had just said, that member would be disciplined accordingly by the party.*

6. **Hon. Emanuel Siadu Conteh of Constituency 129, Western Urban District** – the Hon. Member reminded the Hon. Speaker with regards the rehabilitation of the pedestrian road at the Congo Town Bridge he once discussed with the Speaker in his office. He Speaker that since he spoke to the engineer nothing has been done as at yet and a week ago, somebody from the community had managed to repair the most damaged area in the bridge. He called on the intervention of the Speaker to continue to call on the Sierra Leone Roads Authority to help rehabilitate the pedestrian road at the bridge to prevent more damage.

The Hon. Speaker asked the Hon. Member to see him in his office immediately after adjournment.



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7. **Hon. Ibrahim Conteh of Constituency 053, Tonkolili District** – that His Excellency the President visited his constituency on 19th January, 2019, to commission an ultra-medical facility in the chiefdom, which has the capacity to treat seven thousand lives even though there was lack of furniture.
8. **Hon. Dr. Mark Mahmoud Kalokoh of Constituency 032, Bombali District** – Drew the attention of the House to Section 95 in tandem with Section 101 spoke on immunity of Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama with reference to the issue of Dr. James Vibbi.

Response from the Hon. Speaker – with regards the concern raised by **Hon. Dr. Mark Mahmoud Kalokoh**, the Hon. Speaker invited all leaders of the various political parties in the House to his office immediately after adjournment.

7. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 5(2):**

Hon. Alusine Kanneh of Constituency 013, Kenema District for the suspension of Standing Order 5(2) at 3: p.m. for proceedings to continue. It was seconded By **Hon. Edward George of Constituency 097, Moyamba District** and approved by the House.

.....**Proceedings Continued**.....

9. **Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma of Constituency 019, Kenema District** – Asked Hon. Kalokoh to check his Constitution again to include Section 100 and informed the House that the matter is in the hands of the police and the Speaker will issue immunity with a quest from the Executive.
10. **Hon. John Chales Conteh, of Constituency 031, Bombali District** – Informed the House about a Chinese Company in his constituency which has adversely affected the lives of the people in the community due to neglect on the welfare of the indigenes. The Hon. Member complained that the Mabooleh river which is the only river used for drinking and cooking has been polluted by the Chinese mining company and the company has not signed any form of agreement to help improve the lives of the community people.

Mr. Speaker – intervened by advising the Hon. Member to seek the attention of the Minister of Mines and Minerals for him to address the issue and if he is still not satisfied he can call on the Hon. Speaker.

.....**Proceedings Continued**.....

11. **Hon. Paul Saa Sam of Constituency 025, Kono District** – Informed the House that Umaru Fofanah had launched a project to support Radio Democracy with logistics to promote their programmes. He called on Hon. Members to help by giving their support to the project and for the to see the they succeed.
12. **Hon. Rtd. Capt. Maada Kanjia Hafiju of Constituency 018, Kenema District** – Reminded the House about information he submitted to the House on the 10th of January, 2019, about the taxing of people at a



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checkpoint stationed at Mashimgbi to Kenema route. Also reported that there is no fuel in Kenema District and for every litre of fuel they pay a tax of ten thousand Leones to at Mashimgby to enter into Kenema. He reported that even though the Deputy Speaker had asked the Chairman of Internal Affairs to address the issue nothing has been done so far.

Mr. Speaker – With regards the concern raised by **Hon. Rtd. Capt. Maada Kanjia Hafiju**, the Hon. Speaker instructed the Chairman of Internal Affairs Committee to present a report to the House on the next adjourned date.

.....**Proceedings Continued**.....

13. Hon. Joseph Abdul Bash Kamara of Constituency 084, Bo District – Informed the House that he has a very large deposit of gold in his constituency that is attracting migrants to his town Gbaomao/Maomao, Bo District. He also informed the House that there are foreigners who could not even speak the Krio language, doing indiscriminate mining of gold in the said area and considered that to be a potential security threat. He also informed the House that he had called on the attention of the immigration.

Intervention by Mr. Speaker – Mr. Speaker intervened by advising the Hon. Member to inform the Minister of Internal Affairs about the issue.

.....**Proceedings Continued**.....

14. Hon. Abdul Karim Kamara of Constituency 059, Kambia District – Informed the House about the dilapidated condition of the bridge at Rokupur town leading to various chiefdoms and to various schools.

15. Hon. Hassan A. Sesay of Constituency 050, Tonkolili District – the Hon. Member informed the House about a rumour making the rounds that everyone had been dismissed at the National Civil Registration office. The Hon. Member hoped that what he heard remains a rumour and not true.

Mr. Speaker – With regards to the issue raised by Hon. Hassan A. Sesay the Hon. Speaker advised that whenever a Member receives unconfirmed information, he should first call on the Minister responsible to have a clarity on the issue before taking it the House of Parliament.

.....**Proceedings Continued**.....

16. Hon. Mohamed Sheriff Kassim-Carew of Constituency 122, Western Urban District - That some constituencies have members in ministerial position who do not give Members of Parliament the recognition they deserve as the political head of the constituency they belong.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE TABLE CLERK, MRS. FATMATA BINTU WESTON

1. The following Parliamentary Committees were requested to meet immediately after adjournment:
 - i. Legislative Committee



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- ii. Committee on Ethics
- iii. Committee on Labour and Social Security
2. The unveiling of the supporters jersey of the Kamboi Eagles football club, Thursday, 24th January, 2019 at the Atlantic Hall, Stadium Hostels, Freetown, at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

The Hon. Speaker informed the House about a football match between the Legislative and the Executive scheduled for Sunday, 27th January, 2019 at 3 p.m. He encouraged all Members of Parliament and staff Members to give their utmost support to usher the Legislative team to victory.

Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo of Constituency 034, Bombali District – The Hon. Member kindly informed the Speaker that Members of the APC would not be able to witness the football match due to the one year death anniversary that would take place on Sunday, 27th January 2019, in honour of the late Hon. Frank Kposowa at Benguma (near Bo District).

Mr. Speaker asked Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo to provide a list of Members that would be travelling to Beguma.

BEREAVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Hon. Speaker informed the House about the passing away of the father of Hon. Osman Abdal Timbo and asked the House to rise and observe a minute's silence in honour of the deceased. He ended by saying the conventional prayer, "may his soul rest in peace".

Hon. Alusine Osaio Kamara of Constituency 058, Kambia District – Kindly Informed the Hon. Speaker that the wedding of Hon. John Sattie Kargbo of Constituency 111, Western Urban District would also take place on Sunday 27th January 2019 and he would be taking a pivotal role in the rocess.

8. ADJOURNMENT-

- The House was adjourned to Tuesday, 5th February, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
- The House rose at 12:40 p.m.