



**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT  
PARLIAMENT BUILDING  
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL  
FREETOWN**

E-mail: [sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com](mailto:sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com)/[admin@parliament.gov.sl](mailto:admin@parliament.gov.sl)



**01<sup>st</sup> July 2019**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**PAC SUSPECTS AUDITORS OF COLLUDING WITH OFFICIALS IN COUNCILS**

Following the public hearings of the Public Accounts Committee, chaired by the Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas in respect of the Auditor General's Report of 2017, "the Committee has observed that Auditors are colluding with officials in Councils and MDAs in the provinces through the late acceptance of auditable documents after audit had been carried out and the Report tabled in Parliament".

The Deputy Speaker said he had already discussed the matter with the Auditor General and warned Auditors to desist from such conduct forthwith; otherwise they would take responsibility for those queries amounting to Millions of Leones in future.

The PAC was impressed with officials of Moyamba District Council "for having queries that are almost non-existent", save for not updating the property cadastre and poor collection of own-source revenue in 2017.

Responding, the CA of Moyamba District Council said "it was because of teamwork and the implementation of recommendations by Audit Service Sierra Leone".

The Committee also charged auditees for creating unnecessary excuses or bottlenecks during the audit exercise, adding that any dime spent would be fully accounted for with the relevant supporting documents.

The PAC has ordered the present and former officials of Pujehun District Council to bring a lot of items for verification including 28 outstanding receipt books, a DSTV decoder, Apache bike, digital camera and a computer to Parliament on the 10th July 2019. They are also expected to provide adequate explanations for the land purchased for the said Council and to also advance reasons why they paid sitting fees to Councillors to the tune of Le 94 Million after the dissolution of Councils.

The Committee has also directed that "all NASSIT deductions are paid and salaries are also paid through the banks", adding that "there should exist no worker in Sierra Leone without NASSIT", describing it as non-negotiable requirement for employment.

For various queries, officials of Bo City, Bonthe District and Municipal Councils were also summoned to be in Parliament on 10th July 2019. The officials include present and past Chief Administrators, Procurement Officers, Finance Officers and Internal Auditors.

Department of Public Relations

Parliament of Sierra Leone

+23278495023

01/07/19