

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

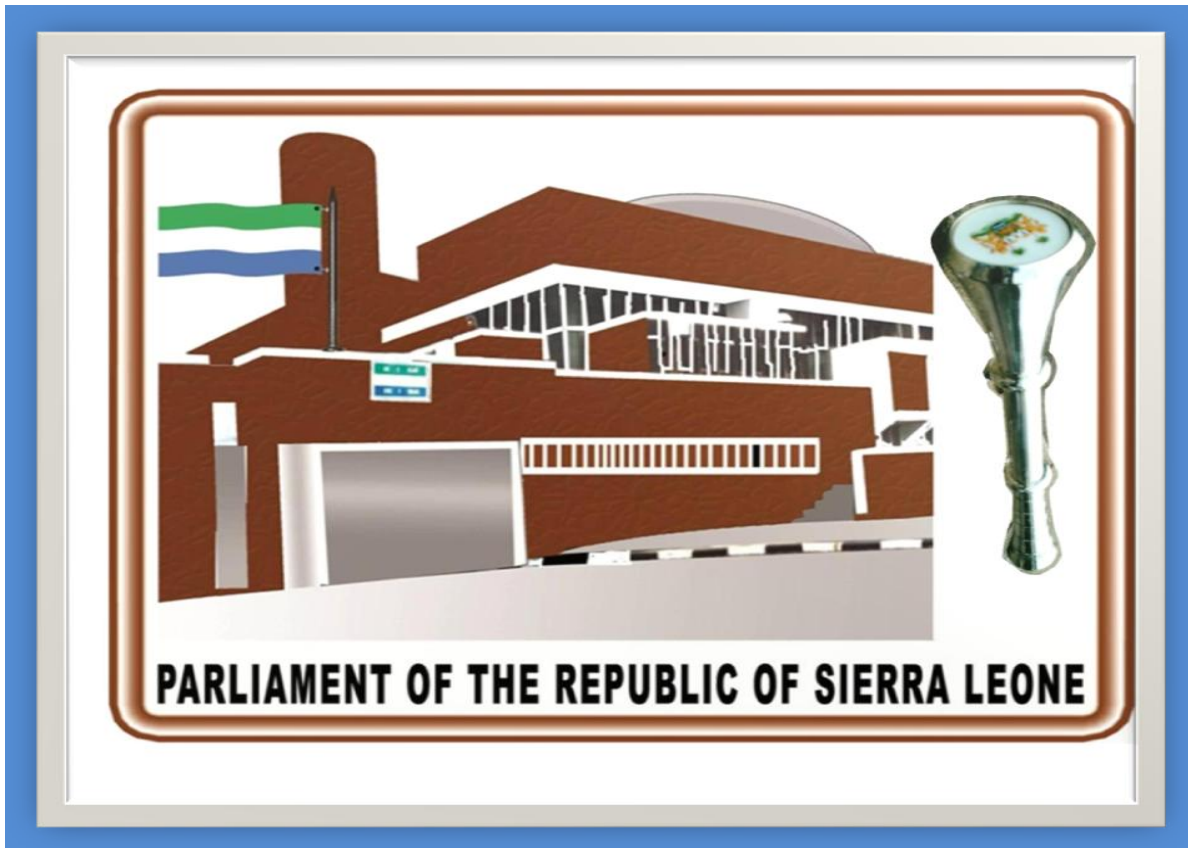
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

THIRD SESSION –FIRST MEETING

TUESDAY, 9TH APRIL 2026

SESSION – 2025/2026



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMETARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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First Meeting of the Third Session of the Sixth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
held on Tuesday, 9th April 2026

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THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

THIRD SESSION – FIRST MEETING OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC

THURSDAY, 9TH APRIL, 2026

1. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Yeama Mamie Musa, read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:05 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Speaker, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas, in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

II. ADOPTION OF THE RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY, 2ND APRIL 2026.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the Parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 2nd April 2026. As usual, we shall skip pages 1-4 and start with Page 5? Do you have any correction or amendment on Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? If there is no correction or amendment, can someone move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 2nd April, 2026 as presented?

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: I so move, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. REBECCA Y. KAMARA: I so second, Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 2nd April, 2026 has been adopted as presented]

III. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I wish to express my frustration and disappointment to the majority Members of Parliament due to what happened yesterday. Before the adjournment on Thursday, I pleaded with you passionately to be present at the Economic Community of West Africa States [ECOWAS] sitting that was held yesterday. I pleaded with you for two main reasons: first, this Parliament will be hosting the ECOWAS Parliament in Sierra Leone; and for that reason, we will be having our colleagues Members of Parliament from the Sub-regions coming to Sierra Leone. Unfortunately, even when I pleaded with you, most Members of Parliament deliberately failed or refused to attend. Some of the ones who decided to attend went there very late. I am extremely disappointed; and second, I told you that I will be giving a keynote address to all Members of the ECOWAS Parliament at the sitting that was held yesterday. Even though I pleaded with you, most of you did not turn up and it was so frustrating.

Sadly, even some Members of the Sierra Leone ECOWAS Parliament Delegation, [I will not call their names because some of them are leaders] went there very late. It is devastating for Members of the ECOWAS Parliament to go to their own programme late. This signals enough information relating to how you behave even when you leave Sierra Leone to attend ECOWAS Plenary sittings in Abuja. If you can go to your own sitting

very late, what do you expect ordinary MPs to think? Mr Clerk, we are going to arrange programmes where we will be visiting these international Parliaments to ask questions relating to the attendance of Members of Parliament from Sierra Leone. This is because you cannot leave here, claiming to attend ECOWAS, ACP/EU and PAP Sessions and end up going to the sittings very late even when you leave here on the pretext of representing Sierra Leone. How can you do that?

Honourable Members, let me state that I am frustrated and I am disappointed. You cannot host your own colleagues for a programme and you failed to attend the programme. We do not expect you to go every day, but at least, you should be there for the opening session. I pleaded with you and most of you did not attend. I hope this will not repeat itself. It is not good for the image of this Parliament.

Honourable Members, a letter relating to the formation of a delegation for the Sierra Leone/Turkey Friendship Parliament has been sent to me. We have an International Parliament that has just come up and I have instructed the Clerk to indicate strictly, the names of those who attended the programme yesterday on time. We are trying to form that Parliament and by Tuesday, I am going to announce the names of that Parliament. Also, if I do not see those I nominated for the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association [CPA] and other International Parliaments, you can be removed at any time. This is because this Parliament cannot put you on important programmes and at the end of the day, you refuse to come for parliamentary sittings and sometimes you come to Parliament very late. We will remove you at any time because these institutions are for responsible Members of Parliament and they are not for compensating Members of Parliament. We put people there because we think they are responsible. If you prove to be irresponsible, then we will just remove you.

I want you to know that I am taking note of all Members of Parliament who are diligent with their work by coming to Parliament on time. I told you the other day that at the end of the Sixth Parliament, I am going to write letters to every political party represented here. So, do not be surprised to see your name among those who did not perform their duties by not coming to Parliament at all. When I will be sending letters to your political parties, I am going to attach the attendance list on them, so that they can have a rethink about giving you a symbol to come back to this Parliament. I am going to do that; and for those who know me, they know exactly that when I say something, I will definitely do it.

I am going to write a letter to your political parties to tell them the level of engagement you had with this Parliament. I do not want you to say Mr Speaker wrote a letter and created a very bad impression about me. I am going to do that and I am not joking

about it. I wish to recognise the diligence of the following Honourable Members who came to this Well at the commencement time of this sitting:

Honourable Ibrahim Kabba
Honourable Alie Bayoh
Honourable Emerson Saa Lamina
Honourable Musa Fofannah
Honourable Umu Pyne
Honourable Idriss Sahid Kamara
Honourable Charles O. Abdullah
Honourable Retired Capt. Sylvester Boima
Honourable Amie Nyava Moriba
Honourable Fatmata Sarah Soukenah
Honourable Ambrose Maada Lebbie
Honourable P.C Alhaji Musa Bamba Foray Kulio Jalloh III
Honourable Beatrice Iyamide Langley
Honourable P.C Desmond M. Kargobai
Honourable Princess Kadie Daramy
Honourable Fatmata B. Bockarie
Honourable Adama Bangura
Honourable P.C Bai Farama Tass Bubu N'gbak
Honourable P.C Bai Shebora Sheba Gberek III
Honourable Idrissa M. Dauda
Honourable P.C Paul N. Saquee V
Honourable Neneh Lebbie
Honourable Festus M. Lansana
Honourable Abdul Karim Bangura
Honourable Ishmael Sankoh Yillah
Honourable P.C Kandeh Baba Kieh III
Honourable Alpha F.M. Jabbie
Honourable Alhaji Keikura C. Vandy

Honourable Momoh Bockarie
Honourable Abubakarr Fofanah
Honourable Hawa Rosaline Saifa
Honourable Mohamed Kanneh
Honourable P.C Kandeh Paria Kawaleh II
Honourable Edward George
Honourable Abdul Suliaman Marray-Conteh
Honourable Mathew S. Nyuma
Honourable Rebecca Yei Kamara
Honourable Foyoh Tholley

For the Members who attended the programme, I want to say thank you very much.
The likes of:

Honourable Beatrice Iyamide Langley,
Honourable Fatmata B. Bockarie
Honourable Adama Bangura,
Honourable P.C Bai Shebora Sheba Gbreh III
Honourable Neneh Lebbie
Honourable Festus M. Lansana
Honourable Momoh Bockarie
Honourable Abubakarr Fofanah
Honourable Hawa Rosaline Saifa
Honourable P.C Kandeh Paria Kawaleh II
Honourable Mathew S. Nyuma,
Honourable Mohamed Bangura
Honourable Alie Bayoh.
Honourable Musa Fofanah
Honourable Emilia Lolloh Tongi and others.

These names are going to be included in the Turkish Parliament. Thank you very much.
Proceed!

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Speaker, I did not hear my name.

THE SPEAKER: At what time did you come?

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Speaker, I came before most of the Members of Parliament you just mentioned. Some of them met me here. Since these names are going to be submitted to various political parties, I have to be conscious.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Anthony Kamara, please take note of that and include Honourable Mustapha Sellu. I am going to write a letter to the political parties and attach the attendance list. Do not say I did not warn you. You can go and win your elections in your constituencies, when you come, you will meet the letter at the party office. For those who attended the programme yesterday made me proud. The programme was to commence at 10:00 a.m. but we waited till 10:30 a.m. It was really frustrating. You cannot do that to your own Parliament neither your country. It gives bad image to the nation.

IV. BILL:

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT 2025

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION

[COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING]

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, we went as far as Page 37 of the Bill.

Parts 4-6, Clauses 51-90 Proposed

MR REX BONAPHA [*Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation*]: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 4-6, Clauses 51- 90 stand part of the Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN: Page 37? Page 38? Page 39? Page 40? Page 41? Page 42? Page 43? Page 44? Page 45? Page 46? Page 47? Page 48? Page 49? Page 50? Page 51? Page 52? Page 53? Page 54? Page 55? Page 56? Page 57? and part of Page 58?

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 4-6, Clauses 51- 90 stand part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the clauses relating to fines.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Parts 4-6, Clauses 51-90 form part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the Clauses relating to fines]

Parts 7-10, Clauses 91-139 Proposed

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 7-10, Clauses 91-139 stand part of the Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, Page 58? Page 59? Page 60? Page 61? Page 62? Page 63? Page 64? Page 65? Page 66? Page 67? Page 68? Page 69? Page 70? Page 71? Page 72? Page 73? Page 74? Page 75? Page 76? Page 77? Page 78? Page 79? Page 79? Page 80? Page 81? Page 82? Page 83? and Page 84?

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman. Honourable Members, I move that Parts 7-10, Clauses 91-139 stand part of the Bill as amended.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

Parts 7-10, Clauses 91-139 form part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the Clauses dealing with fines]

Parts 11-14, Clauses 140-222 Proposed

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 11-14, Clauses 140-222 stand part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the clauses relating to the fines.

[Question Proposed]

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, this is what happens when you have an effective Legislative Committee. They have done the entire job, so you just need to relax and listen to the numbering of the pages. They have done a very good work and the Chairman of that Committee is a very active Chairman. I want to say I truly appreciate you, Mr Chairman. You are an outstanding Member of Parliament and I want you to keep it up. Page 85? Page 86? Page 87? Page 88? Page 89? Page 90? Page 91? Page 92? Page 93? Page 94? Page 95? Page 96? Page 97? Page 98? Page 99? Page 100? Page 101? Page 102? Page 103? Page 104? Page 105? Page 106? Page 107? Page 108? Page 109? Page 110? Page 111? Page 112? Page 113? Page 114? Page 115? Page 116? Page 117? Page 118? Page 119? Page 120? Page 121? Page 122? Page 123? Page 124? Page 125? Page 126? Page 127? Page 128?

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: Mr Chairman, Pages 127 and 128.

THE CHAIRMAN: Please go ahead.

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: If you go to the last sentence, it is supposed to be "deem fit to make" and not "things fit to make."

THE CHAIRMAN: I think that correction was done in the report. Is that true Mr Chairman?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Yes, and in fact, at the end of the day, most of them will have to be renumbered. We are also going to rearrange the referencing. For instance, at the beginning, when you were talking about 150 Clauses, later it was adjusted to 149. However, we will pay attention to that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Clerks-At-The-Table, please take note. Honourable Member, are you okay with that?

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: I am okay. I am reading what we have in front of us.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am sure you also have the report in front of you.

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: Yes, Mr Chairman and I am reading directly from the report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you saying that this particular matter was not addressed in the report?

HON. IDRIS S. KAMARA: Mr Chairman, in the first sentence, it was changed to 'deem,' but going towards the end of the sentence, it was not changed.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Are you talking about replicating the word?

HON. IDRIS KAMARA: Yes, Mr Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Chairman of the Committee, please take note of that.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Thank you very much. I will take note of that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Page 128? Page 129? Page 130 and the remaining part of Page131?

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 11-14, Clauses 140-222, stand part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of all those Clauses relating to fines.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Part 11-14, Clauses 140-222 form part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the Clauses that have to do with fines]

Parts 15-17, Clauses 223- 314 Proposed

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 15-17, Clauses 223-314 stand part of the Bill.

[Question Proposed]

HON SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Chairman, I was not here at the start of this Session. I was unavoidably absent. I heard you the last time talking about fines; and in the entire parts of this Bill, I am seeing fines not exceeding two thousand Dollars [\$2,000]. I hope they have changed that.

THE CHAIRMAN: No, we are sticking on all Clauses relating to fines. We are going to choose a special sitting to deal with them. All of us are going to contribute in dealing with those fines. I have just told the Chairman to bring to this House the Act that has been ratified in the four countries; namely, Nigeria, Gambia, Ghana, and Liberia. This is because we want to do comparison of the Acts done by those countries.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Mr Chairman, I have them here.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is good because we cannot always be making laws and the fines attached to those laws are below the fines applicable in other countries in the sub-region. At least, we need to be at par with other countries. At one point in time, we were talking about levying One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars **[\$1,500]** on work and resident permits, but some people were shouting all over the place, saying we should levy Five Hundred Dollars **[\$500]**, instead of One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars **[\$1,500]**. Why should Sierra Leone be different? If you go to Liberia, they are levying Two Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars **[\$2,500]** on work and resident permits. Ghana is talking about Five Thousand Dollars **[\$5,000]**. In other countries, the amounts are huge for work and resident permits. In Sierra Leone, people were suggesting Five Hundred Dollars **[\$500]** on work and resident permits. In fact, somebody had the audacity to even do a write up on social media, defending the Five Hundred Dollar **[\$500]**. I consider that extremely hopeless act done by citizens. What is wrong with Sierra Leone? That is why foreigners bring even their drivers and chefs here. Do they actually need to bring their drivers or shop attendants in Sierra Leone, when we have our brothers and sisters that can do the job? If they decided to bring them, they have to pay.

Honourable Members, very soon we are going to amend this Bill and we will even go up Five Thousand Dollars **[\$5,000]**. If you cannot pay for them, then take them back and employ Sierra Leoneans. Page 134? Page 135? Page 136? Page 137? Page 138? Page 139? Page 140? Page 141? Page 142? Page 143? page 144? Page 145? page 146? Page 147? page 148? page 149? Page 150? Page 151? Page 152? Page 153? Page 154?

Honourable Members, about two adjournments ago, I invited the Leadership of the All Peoples Congress [APC] to a meeting, and I must say that meeting was fruitful. I have

to report to you about the meeting. However, we were supposed to have another meeting and I want to use this medium to invite the Leadership of the Opposition, the All Peoples Congress [APC] in Parliament, to a further meeting commencing tomorrow, 10th April, 2026 at 1PM prompt. This is for the information of the Leadership of the All Peoples Congress [APC] APC and Mr Clerk, please do a formal letter to the Leader of the Opposition so that when the Leadership of the All Peoples Congress [APC] are coming for that meeting tomorrow, they should bring the entire membership of the All Peoples Congress [APC] here, in Committee Room One tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. prompt.

I just want to engage them further on the discussion we had at the last adjourned date. Thank you very much and by this notice, Mr Clerk is directed to do a letter to the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament. Thank you very much.

Honourable Members, Page 154? Page 155? Page 156? Page 157? Page 158? Page 159? Page 160? Page 161? Page 162? Page 163? Page 164? Page 165? Page 166? Page 167? Page 160?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Chairman, Page 168. My intervention is on Clause 286[1]. The Clause is making it compulsory for an inspection of a cargo ship and when we move to Clause 286[2], it states why inspection is necessary. For example, for safety and to ensure that electrical installations and other equipment comply with safety regulations. I was suggesting that there should be an inspection certificate after an inspection has been issued. There should be evidence of proof.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Chairman, did you take this one into account?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: Mr Chairman, this is a large document, but I strongly believe that there are areas in this document that talk about the issuance of certificate for inspection. These issues were dealt with not only for that purpose, but for so many other inspections and enquiries.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, but he is specific about inspection certificate. Try to look into that issue.

HON. ABDDUL S. MARRAY-CONTEH: We will do that and we will even look at Clauses that address the issue.

THE CHAIRMAN: Please look at that and at the next adjourned date, bring that to the notice of this House, whether that is provided for or not and what we can do about it. Thank you very much. Page 168? Page 169? Page 170?

Honourable Members, let me recognise the presence of the former Member of Parliament of this House. You are heartily welcome. Page 171? Page 712? Page 723? Page 174?

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman, I am sorry to bring up this issue because we have just dealt with it. Mr Chairman, on Page 170, a certificate is issued with regard to surveys. It says: **“Where the Executive Director or such a person or organisation, as he may authorise for the purpose to satisfy on the receipt of the surveys reports in respect of the Sierra Leone cargo ship to which Section 291 applies, and that the ship complies with the cargo shipping instructions and survey regulations.”**

Mr Chairman, there is a certificate here for survey. I think, we should have a specific clause that will speak directly to the issue of certificate with regards to inspection. Mr Chairman, if you look at the state inspection, you would realise that there is a certificate issue for that. So there should be a specific Clause for that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Chairman, please take note. Page 174? Page 175? Page 176? Page 177? Page 178? Page 179? Page 180 and part of Page 181?

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 15-17, Clauses 223-314 stand part of the Bill as amended with the exception of those Clauses dealing with fines.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

Part 15-17, Clauses 223-314 form part of the Bill as amended, with the exception of the clauses that have to do with fines]

Parts 18-21, Clauses 315-356 Proposed

MR REX BONAPHA: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 18-21, Clauses 315-356 stand part of the Bill. Mr Chairman, inasmuch as we are expediting the enactment of this Bill into law, I have just realised that there are some breach of safety regulations or laws that have not got any penalties, such as load lines for vessels.

[Question Proposed]

HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH: Mr Chairman, I see this as an insult to this House. The Minister is backing a Bill that is sent to this House, and that Bill contains 306 pages, and the Minister is expecting this House to pass this Bill without him coming to this House and he has not come to House for once. Mr Chairman, we should stop this act because we are encouraging people to think that this Parliament is not serious. This Parliament, under your leadership, is a very serious Parliament. Since you took up office, the things we have done are very serious and critical. A Minister cannot send a Bill, as voluminous as this and the Minister has never come to this House for once.

THE CHAIRMAN: So, do you want to move a Motion?

HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH: Yes, Mr Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, move a Motion.

HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH: I move that we stop this Bill at this point until we get the substantive Minister of Transport and Aviation to come to this House before we proceed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any seconder?

HON. FATMATA BOCKARIE: I so second, Mr Chairman.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Motion moved by the Deputy Speaker has been carried]

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Deputy Minister, you may leave. We do not want to see you here again. We stopped at the remaining part of Page 181.

[The House Resumes]

HON. SHAIKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, you spoke about doing some comparative studies with regard the Bill and you asked the Chairman of the Legislative Committee to get the Acts from other countries.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, particularly those fines relating to Liberia Merchant Shipping Act, the Nigerian Shipping Act, the Gambia Shipping Act, and the Ghana Shipping Act. I want to do comparison with those four countries in the sub-region.

HON. SHAIKA M. SAMA: I have them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, can you send them to your colleagues and the ICT? They will do the needful. I do not want to be over ambitious. Let us limit our findings to the fines relating to the four English speaking countries in the sub-region.

V. BUSINESS STATEMENT

THE LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O 16.

[I] LAYING OF PAPERS:

- The Attorney General and Minister of Justice, the Copyright Regulations, 2024. The Copyright Act, 2011, Act No. 8 of 2011. Salutatory Instrument NO. 12 of 2024; and
- The Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, surrounding community based mangrove conservation and restoration project sears, simple, equitable revenue sharing Agreement.

[II] GOVERNMENT MOTION

The Minister of Transport and Aviation

- Advanced Passenger Information [API] Regulations.
- Drone Regulations.
- Amendment to Article [10], Sub-section [4] of the Constitution of Africa Civil Aviation Commission [AFCAC], adopted by the 2028 Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the 31st January, 2017.

BILLS

- (a) The Public Financial Management Amendment Act, 2023. The Minister of Finance.
- (b) The State Owned Enterprises and Governance Act, 2025. The Minister of Finance.
- (c) The Deposit Protection Fund Act, 2024. The Minister of Finance.
- (d) The Petroleum Exploration and Production Amendment Act, 2024. The Attorney General, Minister of Justice.
- (e) The Sierra Leone Correctional Service Amendment Act 2024. The Attorney General and Minister of Justice.
- (f) The Worker Compensation Act, 2024. The Minister of Employment, Labour and Social Security.
- (g) The Occupation, Safety and Health Act, 2024. The Minister of Employment, Labour and Social Security.
- (h) The Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Healthcare Act, 2024. The Minister of Health and Sanitation.
- (i) The Merchant Shipping Act, 2025. The Minister of Transport and Aviation.
- (j) The Mediation Act, 2025. The Attorney General and Minister of Justice.
- (k) The Constitution of Sierra Leone Amendment Act, 2025. The Attorney General and Minister of Justice.
- (l) The Credit Reference Act, 2025. The Minister of Finance.
- (m) The Legal Practitioners Act, 2025. The Attorney General and Minister of Justice.
- (n) The National Security and Central Intelligence Act, 2025. The Chief Minister.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, through the Legislative Department, we have sent letters to the various Ministries, Departments and Agencies [MDAs] to inform them that we have the following documents before the House of Parliament to be considered and we expect them to work together in terms of providing the appropriate data, so that we can discuss some of these issues.

Honourable Members, some of these Agreements are already being ratified by placement based on orderly presentation of the document, which we have done,

especially for the Minister of Transport and Aviation. We have written letters to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice in respect of what we have in front of us.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will soon take action against MDAs that will fail to respond to their documents that are in front of this Parliament. When I started reading out these documents, I told this Honourable House that these documents are in line with S.O 16 and this will bring Members of Parliament to speed. Thank you, Mr Speaker and thank you Honourable colleagues for your attention.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Mohamed Bangura.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the America/Israeli wars have affected prices of commodities across the world, especially the fuel; and as a result, the prices of basic commodities have also increased, particularly iron rod, cement, etc. I want to ask the relevant Committees, such as the Committees on Trade and Finance to summon the Ministers of Trade and Finance to come and explain the emergency measures they have put in place to address these issues.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, we do not want to limit that to the Committee level; we can bring them to the Well to address us. However, let us have this discussion at the next adjourned date. Let us see how things are going and by extension, they can come and address this House and the people of Sierra Leone.

HON. MOHAMED KANNEH: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand on S.O 23. Mr Speaker, one and a half week ago, in the space of five days, I lost two members of my family; my elder brother and my niece. My niece was 19 years old and she was a university student. She was involved in a fatal road accident. On behalf of my family, I want to use this platform to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to the leadership of this House for sending their messages of condolence.

I also want to thank colleagues, despite the high cost of fuel and the rough terrain, they decided to travel to Baiwala Chiefdom, which is two kilometers to the Liberian border just to witness the burial ceremony. I want to say thank you. I want to use this platform also to thank His Excellency the President, Dr Julius Maada Bio and his wife, who sent people to console me and my family with a condolence pause. I want to mention that the former Speaker of Parliament also sent a message of condolence through a Member of Parliament to me and my family. So, on behalf of the people of Baiwala Chiefdom and the Kanneh family, I want to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to this House for the support you have extended to us. I pray that we remain united as a family, and may the souls of the faithful departed, rest in perfect peace.

THE SPEAKER: Amen. Thank you very much, Honourable Kanneh and on behalf of this Parliament and my very good self, I want to express the condolences of this House

to you and your family. Unfortunately, I am just hearing that now. Please, do not blame me because I seldomly go on social media. I do not know most of the things that are happening around and nobody mentioned to me that you had this kind of incident in your family.

ADJOURNMENT

[The House was adjourned to Tuesday, 14th April, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.]

[The House rose at 11:06 a.m.]