

*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

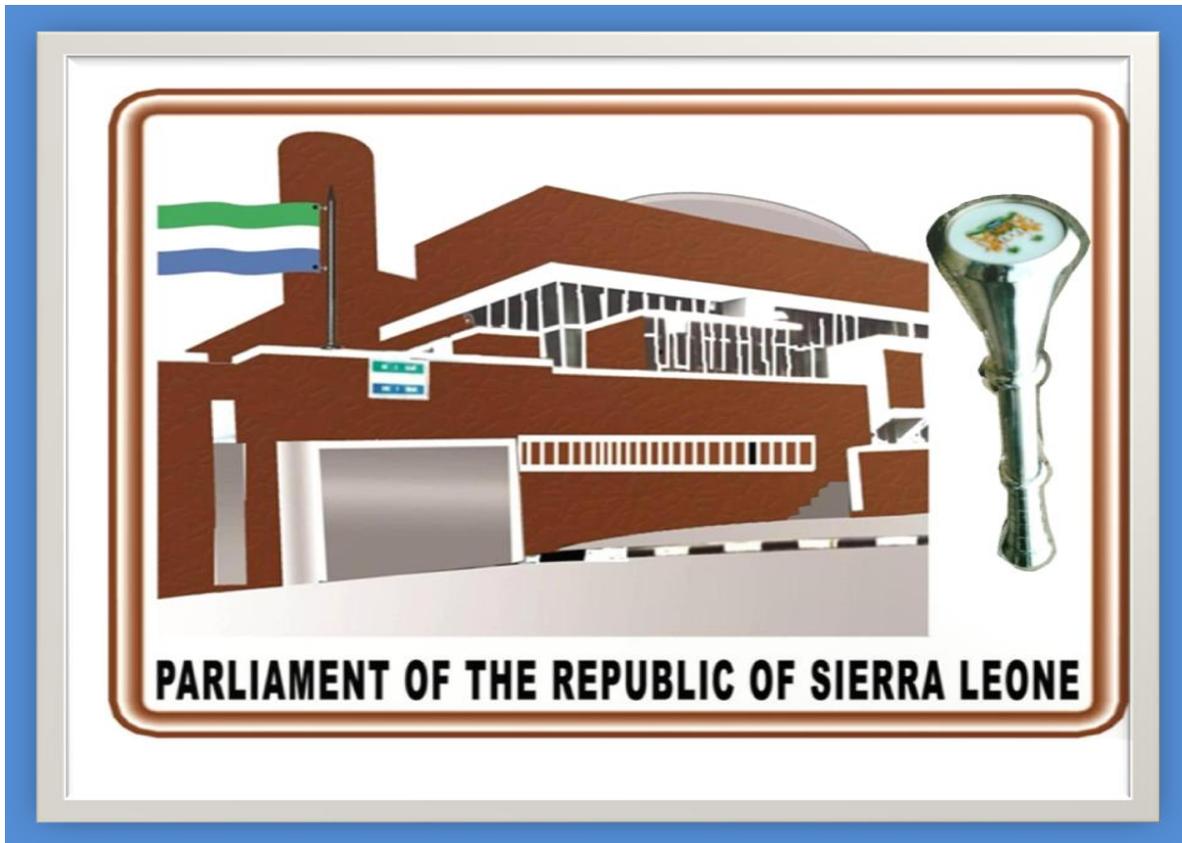
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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**THIRD SESSION –FIRST MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2025**

*SESSION – 2024/2025*



*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMETARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**VOLUME: II**

**NUMBER: 14**

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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, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2025

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*THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE*

## **Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House**

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

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**TUESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2025**

#### **I. PRAYERS**

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

*[The House met at 10:17 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]*

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

The House was called to Order

*Suspension of S. O. 5[2]*

**II. CONSIDERATION OF THE RECORDS OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2025 AND MONDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025.**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the Parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2025. As usual, we shall skip pages 1-4 and start with Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? and Page 10? We now go to the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025. We shall skip pages 1-4 and start with Page 5? Page 6? and Page 7? If there are no corrections or amendments, can someone move for the adoption of the records of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sittings, held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 and Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 as presented?

**HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN:** I so move, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any seconder?

**HON. FALLAH TENGBEH:** I so second, Mr Speaker.

*[Question Proposed Put and Agreed To]*

*[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 and Monday, Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 have been adopted as presented]*

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Clerk, have you received the Committee lists from the Ruling and the Opposition parties?

**MR KARMOH CONTEH [Clerk of Parliament]:** I have not yet received them sir.

**THE SPEAKER:** Leaders, do you want the social media journalists to start writing against Parliament before you take this matter serious? We want the lists today.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Speaker, unfortunately, you cannot get the list today, but we promise that you are going to get it in the next adjourned date.

**THE SPEAKER:** Have you done yours?

**HON. NENEH LEBBIE:** Can I say something, Mr Speaker? We have almost completed and the printing process is ongoing.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Chief Whip, have you consulted your deputy?

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Yes and she is here. Mr Speaker, this was why I said you are going to get them at the next adjourned date.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Neneh Lebbie, are we going to get the list today?

**HON. NENEH LEBBIE:** Definitely, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Please hand over the list to the Secretary of the Committee, who is the Clerk and send a copy of that list to me. Mr Clerk, please ensure that the lists are handed over to you today.

**MR KARMOH K. CONTEH:** Alright sir.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much. Let us proceed.

### **III. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER**

**THE SPEAKER:** Please go to the next item on the Order Paper.

### **IV. PAPER LAID**

HONOURABLE VERONICA KADIE SESAY [CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in line with the Standing Orders 36[1] of the Revised Standing Order of Parliament 2006, I, Honourable Veronica Kadie Sesay, Chairperson of the Committee on Trade and Industry, hereby lay on the Table of this House the following paper:

Report of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Trade and Industry on an enquiry into compliance and operational capacity of different trade industries in the Western area [Urban and Rural] and Koya Chiefdom, Port Loko District.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Honourable Veronica Kadie Sesay. I want to remind Honourable Chairmen who went on oversights, but have not tabled their reports to do so as soon as possible. This is the very last announcement that I am going to make in relation to that. We have a critical announcement to make and this is going to be the final announcement before that critical announcement is made. You will get yourself to be blamed if you do not bring your report to the Table.

### **V. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS**

#### **A. THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION**

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Deputy Minister, why the substantive Minister is refusing to come to Parliament? Please tell him that any other document that is coming to this Parliament, he should be here or else, we will not proceed. Mr Clerk, please take note.

**MR REX BHONAPHA [*Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation*]:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House hereby ratify the

following Agreement which was laid on the Table of the House on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025:

Offshore bulk handling Concession Agreement between Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority and the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone [GOSL] and Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited [SBH], dated on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2025.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Offshore Trans-shipment is the transfer of Cargo between vessel at sea, typically involving larger and smaller vessels. This is one of the core functions of Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority [SLPHA]. However, due to the large investments involved in carrying out such a complex operation, the Authority has never been able to carry out these functions. This Agreement gives out the function to the Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited for the period stated in this Agreement, to carry out this service with support and supervision from the Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority [SLPHA]. Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited [SBH] is seeking a concession to carry out all offshore bulk handling of consignments, and trans-shipment in the waters of Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited [SBH] is a newly established Sierra Leonean Company with the objective of commercialising offshore bulk handling activities within the Sierra Leone waters. Based on the current situation, offshore shipment is carried out by private companies with no inflow of resources for government, creating an environmental impact. The benefits of this Agreement are:

- ❖ to consolidate approach: With a consolidated approach, it would give government the visibility in terms of data to offshore activities that are currently being carried out on daily basis in our waters;
- ❖ it will provide security to offshore operations;
- ❖ it will help to improve the environment and it will reduce fleets and the pollution of our water; and
- ❖ it will create both marine and offshore job opportunities for Sierra Leoneans.

This agreement will deliver substantial new stream of revenue for government, which is not forthcoming presently under the current operations. This operation will incur zero cost to government. The investment for this operation will be provided **100%** by the investor. This will be a first of its kind partnership between government and the private sector under the New Port and Harbour Act.

**Revenue for Government and Concession fee:** Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars [\$250,000] will be paid in ninety days after the Agreement is passed and that amount will be paid annually and a triple fee of **20.10%** metric tons of Cargo inward and outward. This operation will be carried out with Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority [SLPHA] and there will be annual monitoring fees of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars [**\$25,000**] for that service alone, which will enable the government to

participate in the growth of the economy and delivery of our development agenda. A commercial activity that brings additional revenue to the government ensures that operational and environmental standards are met. It also ensures the needs of the key participants, such as mining companies, are met.

**Projected financial inflow for government:** In 2020, when this concept note was submitted for this Agreement to the Ministry, export for bulk minerals for 2026 was projected at twenty-five million tons, between mining companies operating in Sierra Leone. If this projection is sustained, this Agreement will generate two million, five hundred Leones additional revenue for government, plus a concession fee and other taxes, such as corporate, PAYE, NASSIT and other employment related income.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House hereby ratify the following Agreement which was laid on the Table of the House on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025:

Offshore Bulk Handling Concession Agreement between Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority and the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone [GOSL] and Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited [SBH], dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

[Question Proposed]

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have been here since 2012 and this is the first Agreement I have seen a company owned by a Sierra Leonean in which the government has no obligation. This means the Government is not investing anything in this Company and the Government stands to gain a lot from this Agreement. Thank God we are passing this Agreement in the presence of the Minister of Finance. Since we are struggling with the economy, we need to find avenues to bring more income into the government budget.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when the Minister was speaking, I took note of the amount of revenue this Company will generate for this government. The development this Company is bringing to the country is in line with the promises made by the President to this House. He said that he is going to create five thousand jobs within five years and I believe the effectiveness of this Company will create more than a thousand jobs. This Agreement is not controversial. Whether this Agreement is passed or not, the beauty of it is that the offshore transaction is still going to take place on a daily basis and government is not gaining anything from it. With this Agreement and when properly monitored by this Committee, the government will start benefiting.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Agreement talks about ten Dollars per metric-ton, but when you divide that amount by at least twenty-five thousand metric tons or five thousand metric tons per annum, it is a huge amount of revenue this government

will generate. Mr Speaker, no string is attached to this Agreement and the government stands to benefit a lot from this Agreement. This is a situation I will say it is during our tenure we raised so much revenue for the government. I will also say it was during this Sixth Parliament we passed this Agreement which brought so much money to the Government. As we struggle to raise revenue, I believe the Ministry of Finance will be very happy if we pass this Agreement. This is because the Agreement is not controversial and it takes into consideration the huge amount this Company will be investing to this country and the jobs that will be created.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I therefore move that this Agreement be speedily ratified. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, I will take one from this side and we round off the debate. I will give the Leader of the Opposition two minutes to make a statement.

**HON. ABDUL KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I always feel excited when we promote our local content and when we try to see how best we can capacitate Sierra Leoneans. We have a good number of businesses that make profits, but these businesses are managed by foreigners. You would Agreement with me that the profit they make is to develop their own country. This Agreement is going to capacitate a Sierra Leonean who has nowhere to develop other than Sierra Leone as a country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am excited, but that is not enough. I took time to carefully look at the Agreement and one thing that is missing in most of the Agreements we have ratified is the standards and environmental protection concerns. We have had people in other places who are exposed to adverse environmental conditions, caused by companies that operate in those areas. They failed to prioritise the safety of the people. However, Clause 5[1&2] of this Agreement clearly states that it is mandatory that the Company must comply with the application of the law and industrial standards. It also shows that the concessionaire is legally bound to operate properly, efficiently, safely and professionally. With this provision, our people are safe. With this, the safety of our people is a concern. It does not always stop there. Most times, government does not have the right to pay an unannounced visit to most of the operation sites, especially companies operating within our jurisdiction, but Clause 5[4] clearly gives him the authority to inspect. It says: **"The authority may enter and inspect the area during working hours without prior notice."**

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am sure government's oversight is critical in enhancing the safety of the local communities residing where those companies operate. In this Agreement, government can pay unannounced visits and make sure that they take the necessary action where it is needed. Unlike other Agreements we entered into as a nation, in this agreement, there is a mandate for monthly reporting. Clause 5[6]

makes it very clear that on monthly basis, they should submit the cargo quantity, the vessel tonnage and the turnaround time, accidents and injuries. This is very important because it ensures regular performance, monitoring and transparency. We have had Agreements with private companies, but those Agreements are not too transparent. Government does not know what the private entities are making; government does not have an idea with what is happening and government has invested in some of those businesses. The private companies might have invested, but there are no corresponding in returns. In most of these Agreements, the profits the companies are making are being under reported to the government. So, in this particular Agreement and unlike other Agreements, it has been made abundantly clear that there should be monthly report being submitted as stated in the Agreement. I am sure this will enhance transparency in the system.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with regard import and export facilitation, and health operation, although the government's grant permits machinery or exportation, it also means they have to declare what they have in hand and I am sure their declaration will help a lot to ensure transparency. There are lots of good things in this Agreement and MPs on this side would not want to be a stumbling block. This is because I have said here that we are Members of the Opposition, but we are not opposed to the development of this country; we are in support of the development of this country. This is why whatever Agreement that is not controversial, we will support it. In other words, any Agreement that is geared towards the development and promotion of this nation, we will support it. Yesterday, it was the Sierra Leone People's Party in power; and tomorrow, it will be the All Peoples Congress in governance. So, these are some of the positive clauses that are entrenched in this Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there is an anti-bribery and anti-corruption clause, which is Clause 10 of this Agreement and it says: **'Giving or receiving unlawful payment...'** it also requires internal anti-corruption policy and breaches will lead to immediate termination." So, this Agreement is shaped and tailored in a way that it will not encourage bribery; it will not encourage corruption and if ever any breaches take place, it may lead to the immediate termination. It provides a direct exit for the state if corruption is detected. This means that if corruption is detected, the state can take leave of this Agreement. To me, it is very good.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this Agreement also promotes confidentiality and state information. Clause 11 states: **"Sensitive information cannot be disclosed, except under strict exceptions."** I believe that protection of Government information and data is very important and operational intelligence is also important. However, there are critical aspects in this Agreement I want to also look at carefully. In

this Agreement, there is a major power imbalance. The concessionaire receives more power and protection than the government. Therefore, we have to carefully ensure that the government has protection with more power.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Agreement has weak regulatory control. The ability of the government of Sierra Leone to monitor, inspect and penalise or enforce compliance is reduced in this Agreement. In a nutshell and what we have always said, there is no perfect Agreement. I have carefully stated some of the good things in this Agreement and I have similarly stated some of the challenges. Mr Speaker, when you put them on scale, the good things outweigh the challenges in this Agreement. So, we on this side of the aisle have no alternative, but to ensure that this Agreement is expeditiously passed, so that the operation will begin as soon as possible.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have seen some of the advantages in this Agreement, especially for the fact that government is demanding the concessionaire to pay two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars in ten days after the approval of this Agreement. Therefore, I want to crave the indulgence of our colleagues from both sides of the aisles to speedily approve this Agreement because it means good for this country. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Leader of the Opposition. Yes, Mr Leader of Government Business.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Thank you very much, Hon. Abdul Kargbo for supporting us. In your last statement, you said there was no perfect Agreement and you clearly stated the good things and the challenges in this Agreement. This reminds me of our oversight responsibilities as Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to make some clarifications that have to do with Page 12 and Page 13. Page 12 has to do with the concessional fee which is two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars. This is the annual amount they have to pay within thirty days. However, for this Agreement to be enforced or operationalised after its ratification, it has to take ninety days. When you look at Page 12, it is twenty five thousand Dollars as monitoring fee and the total amount is two hundred and seventy-five thousand Dollars. This is very good, Mr Speaker. If you look at the same page, you will realise that it is **0.10** cent Dollars per metric ton. We are doing projection because in your statement, you said that in 2025 to 2026, they have done the projections. We have not seen the projections here, but we can take you by your words that if you have done projections amounting to seventy-five thousand Dollars per metric ton. If you do the calculation based on the **0.10** cent you will get two million five hundred Dollars. This will increase the revenue base of this country. Those are the calculations based on the projections you mentioned.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we are taking the Minister at his words because it is not written in the Agreement. The Leader of the Opposition mentioned something that has to do with monitoring inflow. There is a provision in this Agreement that is talking about monthly report which the Opposition Leader mentioned. It is on Page 13 and the super Clause is Clause 'B.' I will not ask you to read it, but let me explain something. The projection here is not constant. What we are saying is that, if there is an increase in the tonnage of the trans-shipment, we have to do the calculation. For instance, if **0.1** cent increases to thirty thousand Dollars, you have to calculate it based on that figure you have given us because the projection can be increased in order to ensure complete transparency regarding the revenue that will go to the account through Ports Authority which will have a specific account.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there is complete transparency in this Agreement because we were told that they would establish the account where this money will be paid. But now, the trans-shipment transaction of offshore is based on assumption in terms of security, pollution and anti-corruption. We do not even know what is going to happen. So, the Government thought it fit that we need to put a layer by bringing the private sector because these are things we need to do; and in doing so, we will also enforce the local content policy. In this direction, if the Minister did any calculation and there is an upward trend based on projected figures and based on the tonnage, we can even talk about changing the figures first in the calculation of the tonnage, which is **0.10** cent. So, if there is an increase in the fee, the Ministry of Finance can review their Agreement and they have always been reviewing them.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want the Minister to note that these companies can always come back and say no, let us bring it to **0.1** cent. This is a fact and it is not sycophantic at all. I thank the Leader of the Opposition for bringing us to speed as far as this Agreement is concerned. It is just a baseline and you have mentioned specific clauses in the Agreement. However, Clause 13 is specifically talking about the tonnage. It is also stated that this Company is going to pay PAYE taxes and NASSIT.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there is something that I want all of us including the Chairman to know. There is something that is very strange here. Mr Speaker, we are giving waiver, but there is something there and I am not talking about the machineries. We are talking about the consumables. If we are talking about protecting the infant industry, we should also talk about the display of consumable items and the local content policy must be enforced. I think the Leader of the Opposition mentioned it in his statement. He said we needed to support our industries and not only by supporting them, we must ensure that these companies pay attention to the services we get from

them. So, waiving the consumable goods, we have to get the list and this particular Agreement has to be gazetted. It is clearly stated that it has to be gazetted.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to bring to the attention of all us that we should take note of the provision of the anti-corruption as stated by the Leader of the Opposition and also the fee stated therein. Clause 5 mentioned all the good things in this Agreement. There is a general provision we should take note of, which is the stabilisation Clause. Inasmuch as we are anticipating government not to put a dime and we are looking at the transactions, monitoring, security; we are also going to talk about the stabilisation Clause. The stabilisation Clause stated that if we are paying taxes, we ought to protect the investment from all difficulties and challenges they will be facing in terms of generating revenue. As a government, we need to ensure smooth running of the private sector to enhance investments. We are happy that we have a stabilisation Clause which addresses issues relating to how we can handle the revenue; how to handle inconsistencies in terms of industrial strikes; how to handle natural disasters; and how to handle things we have not anticipated. Therefore, we have to pay attention to the stabilisation Clause.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we talk about the wreckage relating to the area of operation. Also, there is a provision relating to the area of operation, which is Clause 7. This Clause is saying that if there are wreckages in the areas of operation, they have the opportunity to clear the wreckages. They should not leave them there at all. This has to do with the tidiness and cleanliness of the offshores. Many things happen on the offshores. If you stand on top of this building, you will see the trashes there. We have realised that it is difficult for us to monitor what is happening on the offshore. Perhaps, with the help of the private sector, they will help to monitor those areas.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want the Minister to know that the projection they did is only for the mining companies, which is the twenty five million metric tons. You also spoke about the monitoring and this is very important because monitoring can even track the people who are involved in offshore transactions. So, these are some of the advantages that have to do with the security of our offshore transactions on our internal waters. I am sure monitoring will help us to have a better understanding of what is happening on the offshore. I thank the Leader of Government Business for his contribution. I appreciate you a lot.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, before I take my seat, we have to talk about the safety of the environment. Whatever we do on our waters, we have to ensure that there is environmental safety and prevention in terms of water pollution. We have so many organisms and other activities taking place on the offshore. We have seen the seaweeds coming to our offshore and all around the Lumley beaches. This is a very

difficult situation. We have now seen the reason we should not discharge substances in the waters because they will affect the species in the waters.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to join the Leader of the Opposition to state here that this Agreement is not controversial and confidentiality is clearly stated in it. We need to take note of this, Mr Minister. This is clearly stated on Page 26. Mr Minister, we need to take this into consideration since the government is dealing with the private sector. This is the sole responsibility of the court because they have decided to delegate this function to the court to handle such matters. The government has thought it wise to delegate this duty to a private sector and the person is a Sierra Leonean for that matter. This is laudable, Mr Speaker. We have listened to the Leader of the Opposition. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Leader of Government Business.

**MR REX BHONAPHA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, please allow me to use this platform to thank Honourable Members of Parliament from both sides of the aisle for their wonderful contributions and for alluding to the fact that this Agreement is not controversial. It is indeed in the best interest of us, as Sierra Leoneans. Owing to this reason, I want to thank you and Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with regard to some of the issues raised by Honourable Members of Parliament, we will look into them. I said earlier that the objective of this Agreement is to generate more revenue. The President has always been telling us to look for innovative ways of raising revenue. This is just one of those innovative ways of generating revenue. I am happy because all of us agreed that these activities are happening out there; and as a country, we do not have the mechanism to look at those issues. This is why we have decided to have this Agreement with a private company, so that they will have the capacity to look over our waters and our offshore project. Indeed, this is a laudable venture and I want to thank all of you.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House hereby ratify the following Agreement which was laid on the Table of the House on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025:

Offshore bulk handling concession Agreement between Sierra Leone Ports and Harbour Authority and the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone [GOSL] and Sierra Leone Bulk Handling Limited [SBH], dated on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2025.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Mr Minister. Honourable Members, I hereby recognise the following personalities who are here this morning with us: Mr Sheku Ahmed Fantamadi Bangura, Minister of Finance; Ambassador Ernest Mbaimba Ndomahina, Commissioner, National Commission for Social Action [NaCSA]; Ing. Alfred

Momodu, Director General, Sierra Leone Road Authority; Joseph Munda Sandy, General Manager, Sierra Leone Housing Corporation; Mr Morie Momoh, Deputy Financial Secretary; the Deputy Director General of the Sierra Leone Road Authority; Deputy Minister of Finance who happens to be my sister. You are heartily welcome to the House of Parliament.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agree To]*

*[Government Motion by the Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation has been ratified]*

Honourable Members, I would like to recognise the following Members of Parliament who were in this Well in time. I am saying this for the attention of the public. In the event you want to write against Members of Parliament who normally come to Parliament late or who do not come to Parliament at all, please exclude the following Members of Parliament because they have been very diligent with their work.

Honourable Joseph Williams-Lamin

Honourable Ibrahim Fabbah

Honourable Abu Bakarr Fofannah

Honourable Alpha F.M, Jabbie

Honourable Brima Mansaray

Honourable Mustapha M. Sellu

Honourable Rosaline H. Siafa

Honourable Christopher K. Vandy

Honourable Hawa Conteh

Honourable Paul Saba Conteh

Honourable Abdul Karim Kamara of Kambia

Honourable Princess Kadie Daramy

Honourable Mohamed S. Bangura

Honourable Rugiatu Rosy Kanu

Honourable Fallah Tengbeh

Honourable P.C Alameen Kanneh

Honourable Karim Bangura

Honourable Mariama Ella Goba

Honourable Sarty Banya

Honourable P.C Prince Lansana Bio

Honourable John Charles Conteh  
Honourable Alpha Ben Mansaray  
Honourable Neneh Lebbie  
Honourable Lucinda F. Kellie  
Honourable Edward George  
Honourable Emilia Lolloh Tongi  
Honourable Dickson M. Rogers  
Honourable Bockarie Momoh  
Honourable Memunatu Jalloh  
Honourable Foyoh Tholley  
Honourable Sylvester A.M. Boima  
Honourable Bernadette Wuyatte Songa  
Honourable Marie Kamara  
Honourable Mohammed Conteh  
Honourable Ambrose M. Lebbie  
Honourable Francis A. Kaisamba  
Honourable Massay Ngahiteh Aruna  
Honourable Mariama Bangura  
Honourable Daniel Fornah  
Honourable Abdul Karim Kamara from Port Loko  
Honourable Veronica Kadie Sesay  
Honourable Ishmael Sankoh Yillah  
Honourable Sahr Kortu Momodu  
Honourable Juliana A. Fartomah  
Honourable Abdul Joseph Bash Kamara  
Honourable Charles Osman Abdulai  
Honourable Moses Edwin  
Honourable Mabinty A. Taylor-Bangura  
Honourable Emerson Saa Lamina  
Honourable Hawa Kallon  
Honourable Ibrahim Aziz Bangura

Honourable Abdul Suliaman Marray Conteh  
Honourable Daniel Brima Koroma  
Honourable Aminata Sesay  
Honourable Tamba Kellie  
Honourable Adama Bangura  
Honourable Alex M. Rogers  
Honourable P.C Kandeh Baba Keiha III  
Honourable Kemokoh Conteh  
Honourable Abdulai A. Kamara  
Honourable Issic Tucker  
Honourable P.C Saifa M. Tamu  
Honourable Abdul Kargbo  
Honourable Aaron Aruna Koroma  
Honourable Fatmata Sarah Soukunah

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Minister, you may leave.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, before the next item on the Order Paper, may I use this opportunity to stand on S.O 26 to appeal through your office for the Minister of Finance to meet with the Clerk for privilege discussions.

**THE SPEAKER:** Please read S.O 26 for the Minister.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** S.O 26[1] is all about Privilege Motion. It says: **“A Motion directly concerning privileges of Parliament shall take precedence to all other public business.”** We did that the last time and that was why I said the Minister of Finance, the Clerk and I will approach you for discussions.

**THE SPEAKER:** It is alright an permission is granted.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Further to that Mr Speaker, can we proceed to Committee Room One after the meeting with the Minister of Finance in your Chamber or can we wait after the meeting in Committee Room One?

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, can you please go to Committee Room One, so that after that meeting, I will go to Committee Room One.

*[The House stood down at 11:11 a.m. and resumed at 12:15 p.m.]*

## **V. GOVERNMENT MOTION**

### **B. THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**MR SHEKU AHMED FANTAMADI BANGURA** [*Minister of Finance*]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, be it resolved that this Honourable House hereby ratify the following Agreements which were laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2025:

- a. Loan Agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Reconstruction of Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road Project, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025;
- b. Agency Agreement [Installment Financing] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Reconstruction of Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road project, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025;
- c. Framework Agreement [Installment Sale Financing] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Reconstruction of Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road Project, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025;
- d. Technical Assistance Grant Agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Reconstruction of Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road Project, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2025.
- e. TDCP Grant Agreement 'Tripartite Agreement' between Probase Manufacturing SDN.BHD and Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the reconstruction of Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road Project, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025;
- f. Loan agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the livestock and livelihoods development project dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2025;
- g. Agency Agreement [Installment Financing]-[Tranche one] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Livestock and livelihoods Development Project, dated 23/11/1446H corresponding to 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025;
- h. Agency Agreement [Installment Financing] – [Tranche two] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Livestock and livelihoods Development Project dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2025;
- i. Framework Agreement [Installment Sale Financing] –[Tranche one] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Livestock and livelihoods Development Project, dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2025;
- j. Framework Agreement [Installment Sale Financing] – [Tranche Two] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Livestock and livelihoods Development Project, dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2025;

- k. Technical Assistance Grant Agreement between Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank regarding the Livestock and livelihoods Development Project, dated 21/05/2025.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the construction of the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road is a project for the North/West Region of the country and it will traverse from Kambia through Bombali to Kamakwie. It is about one hundred and five kilometers from the West of Freetown. The scope of the project involves civil works and consultancy services, design, supervision, capacity building, support the project unit, startup workshop and entrepreneur roadshow, financial audit of land acquisition, contingency and emergency response. The civil work aspect of the project will benefit the South Cooperation through the TDCP, where the technology partner called Probase, would provide a grant to blend with the Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank [ISDB], financing for the construction of the road using innovative soil stabilisation technology. The Islamic Development Bank [ISDB] and the Probase team from Malaysia, have conducted startup workshop in the country with participants from beneficiary communities along the road corridor, involving paramount chiefs, section chiefs, youth leaders, traders and women. Parliamentarians from those constituencies along the road corridor also participated in the workshop.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the cost of this project is 2.8 Million Euro. It consists of a loan, but also a technical assistance grant as well. More so, the grants will mobilise Probase into a Tripartite engagement between the government of Sierra Leone and the TPP, which is the state Technology Deployment Corporation Program itself. In terms of breakdown of the value of the project itself, there is a strong connectivity linkage in the North-Western region. It will facilitate the agricultural base of that province and I strongly believe that it has some linkage with our neighboring country, Liberia. There are lots of potentials for creating opportunity for market access. It will enhance entrepreneurship, employment creation and also improve the livelihood of our compatriots who are living in that part of the country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this investment is an innovative investment and it is cost effective because the Probase soil stabilisation technology reduces the cost of construction by **38%** compared to our methodology of constructing roads in the country. It has a very solid quality in terms of warranty, which is ten years warranty period and it is superior to all other technologies compared to our methodology in doing roads in our country. We believe this is a relevant investment for the government and it will align with the Big Five Game Changers, especially the one that has to do with the Feed Salone Project. I also believe that this investment is important for integrating our communities in the country, especially in the North/Western Region. It will improve

rural accessibility, trade between the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS].

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to state here that roads open up the economy and the people residing along that corridor will certainly benefit a lot from this. So, it is a durable technology for the quality of the road that will be provided and we believe it will ensure market access. We also believe that there are other beneficiaries like the farmers, traders and youths of the North/West Region. They will have lots of benefits from this project. There are associated benefits along the way in this Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have been engaging with the National Commission for Social Action [NaCSA] and this Commission will have the access to open certain facilities, such as schools, community centers, water facilities like borehole along that corridor, solar facilities, etc. The Agreement makes provision for capacity building of SLRA's engineers. With this technology accessibility, I believe we can capitalise on the commencement of road construction in other areas as well.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, like I stated before, the Probase stabilisation of the soil will reduce the cost by **38%**. This is also environmentally friendly and energy efficient methodology. We spoke about the durability of the road even under difficult weather condition, especially during the rainy seasons. We have noticed that this technology is used in many countries like Senegal, Uganda, Malaysia, Ghana and Nigeria. So, this project was presented to Cabinet for consideration.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the case of livestock and livelihood development projects, it is also a core component of our delivery on the Feed Salone Project. It is part of the one hundred and seven [**\$107,000,000**] million Dollars investments funded by three key agencies which this Honourable House had already ratified. The Islamic Development Bank will provide an additional thirty-eight [**\$38,000,000**] million Dollars. This has already been signed. We will bring another thirty-eight million Dollars [**\$38,000,000**] and government counterpart contribution will be nine million, two hundred Dollars [**\$9,200,000**]. This will be submitted to Cabinet for consideration. This brings the total to **\$107,000,000**. For this particular investment, the project cost is 38.18 million Dollars and it is a loan with some components of the grant in the Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this Agreement will benefit huge number of households. I am sure over sixty-two thousand households of which **40%** is for the women and youth. It will also target farmers who are aspiring to enter into livestock investment and entrepreneurship in the country. This is part of our core initiative to

enhance food and nutrition quality in the country and to also provide the opportunity for employment for our rural women and youth.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there are critical components in the project that worth the attention of the Members of Parliament and that has to do with livestock production and productivity. This will deeply enhance production in the country. Livestock is not something that we do too well, especially in the area of importing chicken in Sierra Leone. So, we are trying to change that narrative with this investment. I think the size of it is very huge and it will help us to have improved breeds pastoral development for livestock, animal feed quality and veterinary services. All of these things will be provided in the country and it will also bring innovation in the development of livestock in Sierra Leone.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, there will be value addition in terms of market access in this project, wherein the construction of two livestock markets will have slaughter houses in the country with veterinary drug cells, purely for the health of our animals. Mr Speaker, there is a livestock station at Musaia and that will be rehabilitated. We will build the capacity of our institutions by training our farmers. There will be graduate scholarship and we will support both the SLARI and Njala University. The Agreement establishes proper quarantine facility in the event there is an outbreak of disease, we will be able to protect the lives of the animals. We are going to enhance access to finance and livestock value chain actors through Apex banks. We will have the opportunity to be able to provide access to finance. We will ensure that this project is efficiently managed with the effective audit of the project.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have put together a list of the beneficiaries of this project and **40%** will be women. We are targeting sixty-two thousand people and we believe there will **10%** increase in household income, especially those who are involved in livestock farming. There will be **15%** increase and this will enable us to have access to quality meat, beef, poultry or mutton in the country. We will also ensure that production is increased. As I said earlier, all the things that have to do with veterinary, vaccination systems that will make our animals healthy will be put in place.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I therefore move that this Honourable House ratify the Agreements that have been laid on the Table of the House on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025. Thank you very much.

*[Question Proposed]*

**THE SPEAKER:** I will start with the Chairman of the Finance Committee before I take the Opposition Chief Whip, Honourable Abdul K. Kamara and Honourable Christopher Vandy and then we round off.

**HON. FRANCIS A. KAISAMBA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Minister of Finance for signing these Agreements. Basically, the Agreements can be categorised into two. We have bulk of them on the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road. Like what the Minister has elucidated, I believe these Agreements will commence and the reconstruction of that road is very important. I could remember vividly that most of our colleagues, particularly those residing in that part of the country have been raising these issues relating to the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road. It has been shown that such road is very important. So, the Minister of Finance, under the leadership of President Bio, has done a marvelous work by signing these Agreements that have to do with that road. Of course, the benefits of that road are so immense.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to start with productivity. Mr Speaker, with regard the benefits of this road, we are having quality agriculture and food sufficiency, which is part of the Five Big Changers in the country. There is no way you can succeed in doing that without feeder roads in the country. When those agricultural goods would have been available, they have to be taken to the market and those roads will create other infrastructural developments in the country. Mr Speaker, the Minister mentioned electricity that will be planted along the road. He also mentioned solar lights. This is very important Agreement. These Agreements have grants components. Some are very technical, especially in dealing with the technical aspects; some are dealing with finances and other aspects. In overall, the benefit of the Agreement is overwhelming. As the people's representatives, when Agreement like this comes to Parliament, we should look at them and argue based on the interest of our people. You would agree with me that the loan is very reasonable and the interest rate is very minimal. Government is capable to handle those Agreements.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, livestock development and livelihood is very important. The Minister mentioned that in this country, we are not so vast in dealing with livestock. In fact, even the few traders that deal with livestock development, they have gone into agriculture. We usually import livestock from Guinea, Mali and other countries. Livestock are very expensive. If you want to purchase livestock for Islamic sacrifices or for other purposes, they are very expensive. So, if there are Agreements that deal with livestock development, of course that will be a fulfillment of one of the components of the Feed Salone Project. When we talk about agriculture under the Feed Salone Project, it does not basically have to do with the production of rice, but there are other components like livestock, fishery, vegetables, etc. These are all very important. So, Agreement that deals with livestock is very important.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Minister also spoke about job creation and that is one of the benefits of this Agreement. It will cater for sixty-two thousand households of which **40%** percentage will be women and children. Indeed, this Agreement is very important. It will equally provide employment for our young people across the country and it will also improve the quality of our food. The Minister mentioned that people are still doing chicken breeding and I believe that is not healthy at all. However, with this Agreement, we will be able to manage our own livestock in the manner that is stated in the Agreement. This is the type of Agreement the people of Sierra Leone are interested in. We are the representatives of the people and that is why we are in this Parliament to approve Agreements. Most of the Agreements we have approved in this Chamber are very important. We want this Agreement to be implemented in the manner it is meant to improve the lives of our people. We equally want to say part of the Agreement will be implemented by the implementing agencies, like the Ministry of Public Works and the Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA]. We want to see these institutions do due diligence to these Agreements. I am sure bulk of the money is a loan and this loan will be paid by our children or grandchildren overtime. We want to see that this development is accurate and we expect the parliamentary Committee responsible for this development to oversee these institutions, so that the money used for the purpose. The Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road should be of quality and it should stand the test of time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the area of agriculture, we want to see the Ministry of Agriculture or other implementing agencies to ensure that the project is wholly implemented, so that the intended beneficiaries will benefit from these Agreements. This is a very good Agreement signed by the Minister of Finance. I am sure if this Agreement is implemented properly, it will help the Feed Salone Project and there will be development from the revenue the government is generating. I believe these Agreements are good because they are meant to bring development to our people. I want to state that any Agreement that brings development to our people, we should ensure due diligence to this Agreement. I thank you so much for listening.

**THE SPEAKER:** I take Honourable Abdul K. Kamara.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as the representative of the people of Kambia District, I want to say the Agreement in respect of the road is very important to us. If you travelled from Kambia to Bombali, you would have to go through Port Loko and take a U-turn to get to Bombali District. It is easy to leave Kambia to Bombali using the Tomparie and Kamakwie axis than to go round. So, this Agreement is laudable. I have said in this Well many times and I am going to say it again that our problem is not roads. I said this when I was invited to participate in the

workshop of this very Agreement. It is high time we took definite decision as leaders. We have a critical example before us and this would have been a lesson for us as leaders. We should have a cut off line. In 2005-2006, when I was working in Bo, the road from Taima to Bo was under construction. Today, that road is as rugged as if it has never been constructed.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if you go to other parts of the world, every part of the road you pass through, you will see many tollgates. These tollgates are not meant to punish the people, they are meant for the government to generate revenue, so that the roads can be repaired. Today, we are talking about a very important road, the Kamakwie-Tomparie/Kambia Road. In twenty years from now, if these roads are not constructed properly, it would be a challenge to repair them. Where do we get the money to repair those roads? We must start to think and take certain decisions as leaders, in order to solve our long term problems. I agree, it is a loan and we have to pay the loan. However, by the time we start paying, the roads would have been completed. The question is how are we going to repair the road? Let us forget about how politically it may sound and let us forget about how our people may see it. Let us agree, as leaders that we have to be repairing these roads.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if look at the Waterloo/Masiaka Road, you would find out that even when it is under construction, it is also undergoing maintenance at the same time. So, think about what will happen to that road in twenty-five years from now. My suggestion is very clear, Mr Speaker. We should not create the Kamakwie-Tomparie-Kambia Road without tollgates. I am clear on this with all seriousness. This is an essential road for economic reasons. As the Minister stated, this road is leading us to the upper part of Guinea and Mali. This means that road will be taking heavy duty trucks; it is an international road. Can we say we should us leave it like that? No, we cannot. It might sound political to those who do not want to hear the benefits of developing a country. I will say that and stand by it.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when it comes to livestock, I pay keen attention to the Minister's submission. You will not understand the importance of some of the components that are embedded in this Agreement until you decided to go to either the butchering market or Kissi Area, by the Old Road, where they butcher these animals. If you see the manner in which they process those animals, you will be discouraged. For instance, when they kill the animals, they put them in old taxis or wheelbarrows, distributing them from market to market. So, during the processing stage, the meat has already encountered poison. We have no other places where these animals should be butchered. Mr Speaker, even the water they use to clean the animals, it is nothing to write home about. I want to encourage you to go and see how the meat you are eating

in your homes is being treated. We do not have slaughterhouses in this country. We treat some of these things lightly and we are even comfortable with them. Mr Minister, if there is any Agreement that deals with hygiene, I will support it with my head up. The hygiene condition under which these animals are being slaughtered is not good for this nation.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have seen many other project grants that have come to this country, where we spoke about the empowerment of young people and distribution of resources. However, the method in which these moneys are being utilised is still questionable. We want a clearer road map as to how these farmers access these loans. It is a loan, but how do they access them? We want to know the bureaucracy that surrounds this Agreement. We hope we will not have a situation where we give commercial banks **0% to 5%**, but and they charge our people **20% to 28%** interest rate, thereby depriving them from these benefits. I want to see an opportunity where graduates will be encouraged to embark on livestock business with low tax. The payment opportunity should be flexible because you cannot empower the young people when the loan you provide is so huge that when it comes to repayment, such as **28% or 43%**, it keeps us off the business. Mr Speaker, most times when we give out these loans, we give them to people who have never been in the sector. Let us identify those who are in the sector, so that they will mentor those who are just coming into the sector. With this, I think we will do well for ourselves.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, value addition is important. However, we must not only create employments, we must create employments with people who have interest in the business. Let us not give these loans to people who just want the opportunity to have the money to buy flashy cars. We must have considerable conditions attached. We should see what an individual has already started. How can you come for this money when you have not started anything? At least, you should have had one hundred bags of cement in your stores. Let there be conditions that have been laid before us. If we are going to give them a startup, *S.O 2 some man ihn money na for buy forerunner motoka ehn as soon as den gi am, na for go buy the forerunner fos*. Definitely, the business will not grow. I must thank the Minister and His Excellency the President, for considering the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie axis and understanding the vitality of that road. I wish the Honourable Fofie is here. For four good years, he has been talking about the importance of the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie and the Madina Road. Today, if this road is completed within one year, I must say that even the returns on investments will be huge for this nation. This is an opportunity we must grab and we must grab it with everything we have.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when Guinea had a problem, the Malians were coming here for fuel and that situation would have exposed us to understand how close we are to Mali, compared to the distance from Conakry to Mali. We must take advantage of this opportunity. Let me say we must not leave that road and come back after twenty-five years and start complaining that the road that President Maada Bio constructed in that area is cosmetic. No, we are not waiting to criticise it. We are doing it now, so as to find a suitable solution. Let us have something meaningful that will ensure the sustainability of that road, so that in the next twenty-five years from now, we will have a standing fund to repair the road. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** I call on the Honourable Deputy Leader of Government Business and Honourable Fofanah before we round off this debates.

**HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, today, we are approving a loan Agreement for the construction of Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road. I want to take the queue from where the Opposition Chief Whip said that these roads must be toll roads. I am just coming from Morocco. I observed that from Casablanca to Rabat, you will meet four tollgates. When we are talking about loans, we must be critical. That is why the government faces serious constraints because we take loans to build roads, but there are no mechanisms in place to repair these roads; and at the end of the day, the burden is on the government. I want the Minister to know that this is a loan Agreement and at the same time a grant. Therefore, the contract should be awarded to the right contractor[s]. I cannot imagine that we are doing additional four bridges and the Ministry of Agriculture was leading in the construction of the bridges; but after the end of that project, I did not know how they transferred the construction of other four bridges to the Ministry of Transport that has no technical expertise. The Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA] and the Ministry are just there to give technical advice.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if we take loans that the State is going to pay, we should ensure that they give the technical experts to participate and to make sure that the contract is awarded to the right person. Today, we are seeing roads that are being constructed and these roads have warranty of twenty years, but in less than ten years, these roads are no longer appreciable because those who influenced contractors to make these roads are not even fit for purpose. I could vividly remember when the Lumley/Tokeh Road was under construction; but today, that road requires rehabilitation even when the construction has not been completed. What is happening, Mr Speaker? If we had made that road a toll road, we should have been able to maintain that road to date.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if you looked at the Hill Side Bypass Road, you would realise that there is no mechanism put in place and the revenue that the SLRA is generating for road maintenance is extremely small. So, if you have an optional road, for instance, if the Hill Side Bypass Road is good, then it will not consume a lot of time to arrive at your destination. However, the Hill Side Bypass Road is absolutely not good and cannot serve as an optional road. Today, there are no mechanisms in place and it is going to be a burden on the government of Sierra Leone. Mr Minister, you were at the Cabinet meeting when that issue came up. How did you resolve that the Ministry of Transport should do the additional bridges? It is even funny and the civil experts are there to provide technical advice and even influence who gets this contract, which is being done by the line Ministries that are responsible for that purpose. The Ministry of Works has no legal standing to even provide oversight. Mr Speaker, even if they want to provide oversight on these bridges, you have to go through these line Ministries who have no experience. I am pleading to the Minister to ensure that the Ministry of Works and the SLRA determine those who should be the contractors. This is because they are the ones with the experts and technical knowledge. They should be given the free hand to construct those bridges; and if anything happens, we will hold them responsible.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let us consider the Bonthe Road. Today, we are struggling to get to that district. The road from Matru Jong to Gendema is still incomplete. That road was supposed to have been constructed within two years or within 24 years. Mr Speaker, you would realise that those who advocated for the contractors did not take into consideration the fact that these roads are political roads. They give contacts to people who are not supposed to get the contracts. How can you give such a road contract to someone who is not reliable for the first time? Inasmuch as we are happy to approve these Agreements, we should also bear in mind that these roads are for the interest of the country. We should make sure that these roads stand the test of time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I heard the Minister said that the Agreement has a new technology and the warranty period is ten years. Mr Minister, let me remind you that if a serious expert work is done with specification, and Consultant and Sierra Leone Road Authority do their job, the warranty period for every road is twenty-five years and not ten years. Today, if you looked at the Wilkinson Road, which was done by the previous government, it is very accurate because it was done with specifications. So, I am appealing to you, Mr Minister, to do the needful. This is a loan Agreement you are championing here today. You may want to influence for those who should be awarded the contract, but please allow the SLRA and the Ministry of Works to take the right decision in the award of this contract. That is the only way we hold them accountable. Mr Speaker, you will notice that contracts are even signed at the Ministry of Finance,

especially road contracts and that should not be the case at all. The SLRA should be given free hand, so that when we are doing our oversights, we should be able to ask them relevant questions. If you asked them about road contracts, they would say, *S.O2 ah, we no no oh*. There was a time the Minister of Public Works refused to sign a contract. He said he would not go to the Ministry of Finance to sign a road contract. Therefore, inasmuch as you are providing the funds for the people of this country, let us allow the rightful Ministries to do their work. I have always said that these offices are constitutional offices. You are here today, but somebody will be there tomorrow. I know we have not signed any contracts in the Ministry of Finance under his name as Minister of Public Works and that should tell you that those who signed those contracts while they were Ministers are no longer Ministers. These contracts are still in existence because most of them are still incomplete.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let me remind the Minister that in this Parliament, we have ratified the Songo/Gbangbatoke Road and that road should be a toll road. Six months down the line, they have not even seen the mobilisation process for that road, but they rushed to this Parliament seeking the approval of the contract. Six months down the line, there has not been any mobilisation of funds for the purpose. What is happening to that road, Mr Speaker?

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it was expected that the mobilisation process of resources for the Manowa/Tongo/Kono Road should have started; but as we speak, funds are not available for that road. They ran to us for the ratification of that Agreement; giving the impression as if funds were available. We do not even know what is happening with that Agreement. This was why I said we should allow SLRA and the Ministry of Public Works to do their work. This is because if the SLRA entered into an Agreement they are going to supervise or monitor, some of these contractors will not even have contracts. How can someone sign an Agreement with us, ratify by Parliament and six to seven months down the line, you cannot even mobilise resources. The timeline for the complete execution of the Agreement is two years. This is a loan Agreement and the contractual Agreement should be left in the hands of the Ministry of Public Works and SLRA. Please, let every office take its rightful position, so that when Parliament wants to ask questions, we know exactly the person to ask the questions.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am very pleased with the bridges we are constructing because most of them are no longer accessible. We are almost completing the Tomparie Bridge, but there is no road leading to the Tomparie Bridge. What is the essence of constructing the bridge? I thank the Minister for bringing an Agreement that will lead us to Tomparie Bridge. We hope when this Agreement is ratified by this Parliament, the work will commence immediately.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like the Minister to please bring another Agreement for Gendema Road and Manowa Road. This is because we have constructed expensive bridges, but there are no roads leading to those bridges. Mr Speaker, even if we are going to make them toll roads, like the Opposition Chief Whip said, it would be better for the people. What we are doing today is that we are helping the President to achieve the food security programme. Do you know how many goods have been wasted because they have no road? When these roads are constructed, they will ensure easy access from Bombali to Kambia, from Kambia to Port Loko and from Port Loko to Bombali. Mr Minister, please do not forget Yile and Bo Road. We know you have started discussions and we are waiting for that Agreement to come to Parliament. This is because that will not only create jobs, but also facilitate trade and agriculture. Mr Speaker, if you live in the villages in Kailahun District, you would struggle to even transport bananas to Kenema District because the bananas will get spoil on their way to the markets. So, these Agreements are very good for this Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the area of livestock, the Minister should make sure that those who have already started the process are the ones that should benefit from the loans. Thankfully, I have gone to Honourable Keikura Vandy's farm and I can confirm that he has more than nine thousand beds in Kenema, close to Bo District. He is now producing one thousand beds, right? He is doing very well and he is one of the people that should benefit from the loans and not those who want to start the process. Mr Minister, you would agree with me that when you give some people loans, they will go and buy cars, instead of investing the money wisely. If someone had struggled to secure funds for a while now, the government will support the individual. I want the Minister to know that some people are now doing their projects because they want to benefit from the loan scheme. I want you to know that there are people who have started the process and they have passion for what they do. These are the people we should be looking for and not those that only want to benefit. Mr Speaker, because some of them have heard about this Agreement, they are now going for agriculture. These are not the people we should be passionate about; we have people who have passion and who have started investing with their own money. They took bank loans and we should encourage and support them.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will continue to appeal to the Minister and team regarding the signing of road contracts. Road contracts are being signed at the Ministry of Finance that has no business in that regard. I have been Chairman of the Committee on Works and I know what I am saying. I am not saying it was done under your leadership, but it was used to happen. We are appealing that this anomaly is corrected and it should not happen under your leadership. Please, let us allow the Ministry of Public Works and SLRA to take their rightful positions. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Deputy Leader of Government Business. I now take Honourable Keikura Vandy, Honourable Fofanah and Honourable Mustapha Sellu. I will give three minutes each.

**HON. CHRISTOPHER K. VANDY:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I may even reduce my time to two minutes. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank the Minister of Finance and his team for this Agreement. I also want to thank the Minister of Agriculture for the passion he has shown to that sector. I am just talking about the LLD Project, the Livestock and Livelihood Project supported by IFAD and other financial institutions, such as the OPEC Fund, etc. That project is a very good project. I was part of a startup workshop 19, 20 and 21 at Hotel Barmoi. As you have heard from the Deputy Leader, I am an established farmer with nine thousand, five hundred [9,500] flock. I am highly recognised in that direction, Mr Speaker. Mr Minister, I am speaking to you not as only a politician, but as a big time farmer. I am one of the biggest livestock farmers in the Southern Province. This project is very good and I want to assure the Minister that the way they have started is good and there will be positive progress. There was a thorough engagement at Bamoi Hotel, where different beneficiaries were invited. We discussed and proffer our own recommendations to the project on how they should implement it. This is because at the end of the day, we want it to yield dividend. Of course, it is worth one hundred and five million Dollars. We want, at the end of the day, when we are talking about this money, let the people see tangible things.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we are happy for this Agreement. There are certain things in this project the Minister mentioned earlier, like us the livestock farmers. Most times we suffer from the lack of veterinary drugs. If there are provisions for that, having access to that facility is crucial. Mr Speaker, sometimes access to funds is interesting and ridiculous. I want the Minister of Finance to take note of this, even if I am a farmer, if I want to have access to loan, for the fact that I am a politician, they will frown at me. This is interesting and we should be role models; we should have the rights to agricultural loans. Let us set the standards; let us set the pace, so that our people will also follow.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have established a poultry of about nine thousand, five hundred flocks. How many non-politicians have established that in Bo? Well, I have done that and it is beneficial for the people. Is it crime to have access to agricultural loans simply because I am a politician? Why should I be deprived? Mr Minister, you should take that into consideration because it is very common. There was a time I wanted to have accessed to a loan, I had to use my wife and I took the backseat just for me to secure the loan. It appears as if we are criminals, Mr Minister.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as we have heard from my brother with regard the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road, I want to state here that this is a very good Project. We cannot just construct these roads and leave them. We have to find ways of addressing these defects. I want to support the Opposition Chief Whip to erect tollgates on this road. The roads should be tolled, so that the government will generate revenue to address future problems. Funds should be available at all time, so that when there are maintenance issues, these funds could be easily accessed to fix the problems. If you looked at the Bo/Freetown highway, you would find out that it sometimes takes time to undertake any maintenance activity because the SLRA and the Road Maintenance Fund Administration would always say they do not have funds. So, where is the money?

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank you very much, and I want to encourage you to be a livestock farmer.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. I am a coconut and rice farmer. I have over ten thousand coconut trees.

**HON. ABUBAKARR FOFANAH:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this afternoon, we have a very important Financing and Loan Agreement that are before us for ratification. These Agreements were well negotiated by the capable Minister of Finance and his team. Having gone through this Agreement, Mr Speaker, I would like to inform this Honourable House that this Agreement shares the interest of our people. I want to draw your attention to the Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road. This is a win-win Agreement for both parties, especially for the people of Sierra Leone. In order to support my claim, I want to refer this Honourable House to Articles 3 and 4 of this Agreement. With your leave, Mr Speaker, I read from Page 4. It says: **"The executing Agency of this project shall be the Minister of works and public assets through the Sierra Leone Road Authority [SLRA]. The project shall be executed over a period of four years."** This shows that the Agreement is our baby and it is our own ministries that are going to execute this project.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to tell this Honourable House that the SLRA, under the current Director General, Mr Momodu, is a man of integrity. He is a straightforward man and he is a man of few words. The construction stage is timely. Our people of Kambia have waited for far too long for this road to be constructed. Mr Speaker, if you go further to Article 4, you would see twenty-five years payment term and out of this period, we have seven years grace period. This is a fantastic Agreement and it means we are going to use this road for seven years before we start paying for it. Thank you, Mr Minister for your service and for thinking about the interest of the

people of Sierra Leone. I also want to thank the Director General of the Sierra Leone Road Authority for giving his technical support to the Minister of Finance.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, because of time, I want to sound a note of caution to the Minister of Finance and by extension the implementing partners like SLRA for them to be vigilant and proactive during the implementation of this project. These moneys are not small at all. They are loans we have to pay from our taxpayers' money. So, I want to call on all state actors to do due diligence, so that our people will benefit from this road. Our people of Kambia District have waited for too long. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I thank colleagues who have spoken before me. They have spoken very well on this particular Agreement that is before us. I would like to take a quick look at the Agreement that deals with livestock management. We know that there have been serious gaps in that particular sector because most of our eggs we consume are imported into this country. However, we now have local farmers that are investing in this sector, like the Honourable Member from Bo District. I think this is a novelty.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, those who took the Floor before me have spoken very well. They spoke on critical issues, especially the one that has to do with accessibility of the loan. When people apply for this loan, there are lots of bureaucracies to the extent that they will not allow you to proceed. It is so frustrating and we are doing this in line with the government's agenda, so that we can achieve food sufficiency and increase the employment rate and boost our economy. However, with these bottlenecks and constraints, I think it is something we need to look at properly. Although these are grants, we have to see how we can manage them properly. This is for our people and if we put in place stringent measures, I am sure our people will not benefit from it and those who are supposed to benefit will run away from this facility because the measures are not friendly. I think this is something we have to be very careful with. When you go for bank loan, they will ask you for collateral, preferably a building that costs three times the amount you intend to take. If you wanted to start a business with one hundred thousand Leones, but you do not have any property to use as collateral, you will not get the loan. It was in this House we passed laws that talk about movable and non-movable assets as collaterals. Are they working? These are some of the issues we should be talking about when it comes to conditions and criteria for loans.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to look at the road construction Agreement. It is a very good Agreement with a lifespan twenty-five years and seven years grace period. The payment schedules are clear here. The project's estimates and financing

plans are very clear. Mr Speaker, one thing about this Road Agreement is that they are going to construct what we call rest areas for the trucks and these rest areas should have some facilities, like car wash facility and their proper management. There are other facilities like toilets and water. If these facilities are not available, people will defecate in the bush and this will have devastating consequence on our health. So, we do not just create these resting areas, but we have to put in place other facilities to enhance their effective use. We have have the one in the West, but let us have solar, water and toilet facilities, so that people will have time to charge their phones. It will also help truck drivers to make use of the facilities.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, all of us that know that the National Commission for Social Action [NaCSA] is responsible, as by law established, for all social protection issues in this country or social infrastructural assessments. As we are about to ratify this Agreement, I really want us to look at the critical components in this Agreement. The Agreement talks about the Project Management Unit [PMU] and with your leave, Mr Speaker, it reads: **“The Project Management Unit will perform the functions relating to the overall project administration. The Sierra Leone Road Authority [SLRA] and National Commission for Social Action [NaCSA] will contain the position of all auxiliary works.”** The point I want to make here is that, in the case of social infrastructures, the NaCSA is responsible for this. The assessment of this particular Agreement was done by NaCSA. I can see that NaCSA has **1%** of this particular amount to enable them monitor the social infrastructures, instead of focusing on buildings like schools, health, etc. but the sustainability of those buildings. How are these facilities managed after the road construction phase? You have to get social infrastructure or community structures to manage this project properly.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I think it is important for the Ministry of Works, Ministry of Finance, SLRA and NaCSA to come together because these are all government institutions and we are getting the funds on behalf of the people and Government of Sierra Leone. So, let us see how NaCSA can be part of the implementation process. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Honourable Member. I now give the Floor to Honourable Musa Fofanah, follow by Honourable Bangura before we round off the debates.

**HON. MUSA FOFANAH:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, may God bless you for this opportunity. As a grandson from Kambia District, Karene/Kamakwie to be specific, this is an opportunity for me to give my voice to this debate. I want to state that the people of Tonko are celebrating today because this Parliament and the government of Brigadier Dr Julius Maada Bio is making history. Mr Speaker, 95 years

ago, when my father was born in Tonko, he always told us about that road because it had always been a challenge for him to use that road with motorbike. Today, after he has passed away, the President has approved the Madina, Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road. This is a blessing and I believe the people of Karene should understand the reason why they need to celebrate His Excellency the President.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if you considered the linkage between Karene, Guinea, Kambia and Tonko; and if you looked at the road that is going to be constructed, you would know that economically, this road is a blessing and it is going to be a blessing, not only for the people of Kambia District, but for the entire Northern Region. I do not have any doubt in what the SLRA will do because the Director General, his Deputy Director General and team are very good. Honourable Members who were in the Fifth Parliament I worked with them regarding the constructing of major roads. So, we know their capacity and we know that they are going to deliver. However, I want to say on behalf of the people of Tonko, the people of Kambia District and the people of Karene District, we will forever remain proud of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party [SLPP] government and we will forever remain proud of His Excellency Rtd Brigadier Julius Maada Bio for the injustices he is trying to clear for some of us who are coming from the East and the North.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, 95 years ago in the country's history, we have had powerful politicians from Kambia and Karene Districts, but they never thought or considered the construction of that road. I admired the Minister when he was talking about NaCSA and thank God, the Commissioner is here. Mr Commissioner, we have the Luma which is very close to Kambia. Of course, immediately after the Tomparie Bridge, there is a Luma. I am sure since we now have the bridge and you are considering the road; let us use the existing Luma markets as areas for the new markets. Why? This is because our people have used to those areas and if we used these same areas, it would benefit us a lot. We have a lot of respect for the Commissioner of NaCSA and we know that the road in question is very strategic. I thank the Minister for this Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, despite the Minister's connection with Kambia District, I want to assure you that we are proud of you because you have made lots of positive changes in the strategic developments of this government. However, I want you to know that Parliament wants to work. This means our oversight is always very strong and I can assure you that in December 2020, we worked under the Economic Development Planning Committee with the current Director General and the Deputy Director General of the SLRA. We did the Rogbere Bridge, the Magbang Bridge, the Liberia highway from Bo Road and the Moyamba Road. It was a huge project for five to six years, but it yielded lots of dividends for the country, the government and for this

Parliament. Today, those projects have been completed and we are using the facilities. We want to see Parliament's intervention in some of these projects, like the full involvement of Members of Parliament from Karene District. I just want to inform this House that three weeks ago, I was at the Tomparie Bridge. I went there to see what was going on and I want to assure this House that under the capable leadership of SLRA. Mr Speaker, the Tomparie Bridge is a magic.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, five to six years ago, during the rainy season, when the ferry and the smaller boats were not working, it would have been better for you to visit Tomparie and see the challenges. These are the reasons we call President Bio the 'history maker.' He is a President that believes in the progress of this country; he believes that connectivity should not only be seen in the South/East. This is because if you see what is happening in other districts in the North, you would trust the government of President Bio. Once more, I thank the Minister, the Director General and Deputy Director General of NaCSA. I also thank the Sixth Parliament for this history making and God bless you, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you Honourable Musa Fofanah. I now call on Honourable Abdul Karim Bangura before we round off.

**HON. ABDUL K. BANGURA:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the importance of the Tomparie Road cannot be overemphasised. This is the fulfillment of the promise His Excellency the President made to us during the 2018 campaign. When he used that route to Tambakha, he made a statement. He said: **"Whenever somebody left Tambakha to State House, I will not give him food, but the first thing I will give him is medicine."** He said this because of the condition of the road; and today, we are here to ratify an Agreement for the construction of that road. On behalf of the people of Karene District, especially the people of Tambakha Chiefdom, I want to thank Mr President for fulfilling his promise.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, one of the important reasons for creating districts is clearly seen in Karene District today. That is why those who are against the redistricting and the creation of new districts should go back and see what is happening today in the Karene District. Karene District was created out of the thirteen [13] most deprived chiefdoms in Bombali and Port Loko Districts. It was because of that creation that most chiefdoms benefited. This is why I want to state that the intention of the President to create other districts should not be opposed or trivialised by anyone because of the benefits we have derived in Karene District.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in addition to the road Agreement we are about to approve today, we have the Tomparie Bridge, which is under construction. We also have the Kabala Ferry, which is to be constructed and we have one hundred bedrooms

hospital, which is under construction at Batkanu. So, this tells you that when you have a district, the development of that district will be smooth and easy. The construction of this road will create access to one of the largest forest reserves in this country, which is the Outamba-Kilimi. This will also improve the tourism sector in this country. We have one of the largest forest reserves and one of the largest Bolilands in the North/West of this country. So, the construction of this road will improve the agenda of His Excellency, which is the Feed Salone project.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we had a brother and a colleague who is no longer with us and that person was the late Honourable Ernest Dura Koroma. If he was here today, he would have boasted of being the biggest beneficiary of this contract. So, on behalf of the people of Karene District, I want to send my deepest condolences to the bereaved family. He is not here with us today, but let him be rest assured that the Agreement for the construction of the road he was yearning for will be ratified today; and I am sure after two years, that road will be in good shape. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much Honourable Member. I call on the Leader of the Opposition to make his contribution.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, before I make my intervention, I want to inform this House that the documents before us are not too controversial and we on this side are not opposed to ratify these documents. If you go through the Order Paper, you would notice that we have different Agreements, such as the Financing Agreement, Loan Agreement, Framework Agreement and the Agency Agreement. For the edification of the public, some people may wonder why we only have two items for those four Agreements. For instance, we have the construction of the Kambia/Tomparie/Kamakwie Road and the development of livestock. There are only two objectives, two items and two goals we intend to achieve, but we have multiple Agreements before us.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Financing Agreement is usually the stage when you intend to achieve a particular project. It means you cannot fund it for yourself; you need external assistance, maybe through loan. Financing Agreement gives you the opportunity to tell the person what you want. For instance, if you want to construct the Kamakwie Road, but I need ten million Dollars, the best way to do so is to enter into an Agreement. We will agree that if you provide ten million Dollars, this is what I will pay in return. I am sure once you enter into that Agreement, you cannot breach it. In other words, *S.O 2 dem see promise nar det*. We have agreed that you will give me ten million Dollars and then once we are done with that, we now go to the loan Agreement. I will give you ten million Dollars, but on certain conditions. Those terms and conditions will be put in writing as to the manner of disbursements, repayment, penalties for

breaches, interest rate, etc. The terms and conditions will be reduced into a written contract and a formal contract; and that contract, by the laws of Sierra Leone, must be ratified by Parliament. Additionally, once the Sierra Leone government has secured the contract, the onus now lies on us to manage that loan Agreement in order to ensure that we do not breach the contract and we are able to pay on time, including the interest rate, otherwise we will incur penalties. So, by the prudent management of the said loan, there is need for framework Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the framework Agreement now comes after the loan Agreement. It gives you the opportunity to enter into supply contracts. For instance, if the government of Sierra Leone is now the buyer and allows itself through the Ministry of Finance to enter into contract with suppliers, such as suppliers of trucks, cement or crude oil, governments is allowed to go into that Agreement with the suppliers, not even one supplier. You can enter into an Agreement with three, four or five suppliers, and you are at liberty to choose the best from those suppliers based on quality, timeliness and price. These will enable the Minister of Finance to ensure that they get the best in the implementation process. This will also prevent overspending and poor quality works. The framework Agreement will now allow you to even agree on the price before the stipulated timeframe. Let us say if the supplier is supposed to supply the Sierra Leone Government crude oil within the next six months, but at that time, the Sierra Leone Government agreed that they would pay certain amounts and six months later, you could not change the price, you would be asked to pay based on the current market price. You cannot change it at all; you cannot disadvantage me. Even though you will not supply the goods to me now, but we will also do the same Agreement with other suppliers and select the best. This will give the Government of Sierra Leone better advantage with regard the supply of goods and services. This is one of the essential elements of framework Agreement. It is cheaper because it allows you to select a cheaper option having considered two or more suppliers. I want to commend the Minister of Finance for taking this move. I am sure after the ratification of this Agreement today, we are bound to follow the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we also have the Agency Agreement. Agency Agreement allows the Minister of Finance, as the principal, to choose any experts, firms or group of individuals to perform a specific role and to decide on the payment mode. For instance, the Minister can decide to pay in bulk or pay in bit. After the work has been done, you can either repay them in bulk or in tranches. It is like hiring a solicitor, wherein the Minister of Finance will be the principal and the solicitor or the legal consultant is the agent. By doing so, you will be guided to minimise mistakes and to ensure that you do not breach the Agreement. This is the rationale, Mr Speaker.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, for the Kamakwie Road, we are talking about one hundred and five kilometers road. However, I want to inform this House that this Agreement is not new. It has started way back in 2015. The request was sent since 2015 and then it was approved in 2017. However, in 2017 and 2018, government changed; and in 2019, the project was canceled. Thankfully, it has been renegotiated and revitalised by this government. Thank you, Mr Minister, for bringing back to life a project that was very much alive in 2015 and was approved in 2017, but it was brutally murdered in 2019. I do not know where the Minister gets that power to give life to a dead soul. This is because you have proven to us that you can raise the dead. Thank you for that, Mr Minister.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am impressed with the technological innovation they will introduce, even though I am yet to see it. However, I know that there is an innovation and it has never happened before in this country. I am talking about a particular technology called Probase Technology. The area of Probase Technology is something I cannot comprehend, even though I have read about it. However, I am impressed because the Probase Technology, based on my layman understanding, is a soil stabilisation method, meant for constructing durable roads by looking for certain type of soils. In doing so, the engineers will not sleep; they will not rest; they will not eat or drink, until that soil they are looking for is found. They know the type of soil they are looking for and they will even go from bush to bush to look for that soil. When the soil is finally found, they have trucks that will transport that soil, even if the distance is fifty kilometers, they will be forced to go to the place and extract the type of soil they need and overlay it on the road.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Probase Technology tells me that if this project is approved, there will be need for soil modification. The current soil composition in that particular place can be modified by this technology, even though it is expensive. Any type of soil located in any place, whether it is rocky, muddy, swampy or whatsoever, it can be modified by this technology. There are certain chemicals that can be used to improve the soil. Mr Speaker, most of the potholes I see around, particularly between Masiaka and Makeni Road, are found mainly around swampy areas. When the road goes across swampy areas, those are the areas that develop potholes more than other areas because of humidity or the swampy nature of the soil. Most of the maintenance and repair of potholes happen in swampy areas. However, this new technology will help to address this problem.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the people of Kambia District are blessed and I would like to join my colleague from Kambia to state here that the soul of the late Honourable Ernest Dura Koroma will rest today and I wish he is alive to see this dead

zone coming back to life, positively affecting his own area. The late Honourable Ernest Dura Koroma is not a loser. His dream has come true and through the Ministry of Finance, this road will be well constructed with a new, cheaper and durable technology, although we are yet to see that happen.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am disturbed and confused. I heard something from the Minister of Finance. I wanted to comment based on what is written down, but I will make comment on what I heard from him. The Minister said that the project documents called for ancillary works and social infrastructure; i.e., infrastructure to promote education, health, markets, storage, boreholes, feeder roads, etc. This project was designed by the SLRA; and as I told you before, this is not a new document. It had been designed way back, including all the ancillary works by the SLRA. Even though it will be difficult for you to convince me, but you need to convince me, Mr Minister. You need to convince me why you think the SLRA is not in the best position to do the ancillary works? They designed everything, including the cost, quality, size, location, etc. Why do you think they are not in better position to implement the project? You need to convince me on this, Mr Minister.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, let me come to the area of livestock. Livestock is included in various components of the Agreement: the Financing Agreement, Loan Framework and the Agency. All of them are gearing to one goal, which is minimising mistakes, especially those relating to breach of the loan Agreement. This is because breaching a loan Agreement has huge penalties. When we talk about livestock in this country, the national headquarters is at Musaia, in Koinadugu District. So, when I heard from the Minister that this Agreement intends to rehabilitate Musaia, I cannot wait to see that happen.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, during the Fourth Parliament, which is about ten years ago, we went on oversight at Musaia. I saw over ten buildings; and for you to see those buildings, you have to climb on a tree to increase your height because of the tall grass. You have to climb a tree and stretch your neck in order to enable you to see one building. I am not exaggerating anything here. By doing so, you will see a well-constructed building with aluminum zinc. Those zincs are anti-rust. They are colonial buildings and we met two staff there who are just receiving salaries to enable them survive. Having done due diligence, we interviewed one of the staff and we also read some literature. We found out that Sierra Leone used to export cheese. I asked myself, who has bewitched this country? In fact, there was a brand new machine, although it is not functioning, but it was a brand new machine. Since there are no activities, the machine is there doing nothing because it is not functioning. I do not know if the

machine was meant to produce cheese or something else, but it was a brand new machine stationed there.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I also saw three cows, two goats and one sheep. This is the national headquarter of Sierra Leone livestock. Mr Minister, I believe in you that you can resurrect a dead soul. Musaia is dead and it has been dead for a very long time. Can you revive it? We will support you and give you the opportunity by ratifying this document. If you revive it, this House will summon you to come and tell us your plans for the livestock at Musaia. We need livestock production in this country. If you checked the population of Sierra Leone, you would agree with me that the Muslim population is about **70%**. Even through the Muslims do not eat pork, but considering their population, pig meat is still not affordable. One of my colleagues, Honourable Fofanah from Kono stated that livestock production is part of the Feed Salone Project. This is true because we need animal protein, plant protein or fish protein. We need a combination of proteins, not just from one source. Even though plant protein is better, but we need to resuscitate Musaia.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Minister has proven to us now that Musaia remains the national headquarters, but the development must spread throughout the country or in every chiefdom. Mr Speaker, you would agree with me that every Chiefdom needs to have livestock facilities. In Koinadugu District, for instance, majority of us are livestock farmers. I will advise you never to ask for a price of a three year old bull, otherwise you will collapse when they tell you the price. This is because it is more than twenty thousand Leones now. However, I cannot wait to support this Agreement because I want the cows to be affordable; I want the goats to be affordable and I want the sheep to be affordable. I also want to use this opportunity to commend my brother. I think it was stated in President Bio's 2019 manifesto that for a political figure like Minister, Member of Parliament, Mayor, Councilor, etc. one of the guarantees to get his support and for you to remain in office is that you must have a farm. I want to inform this House that the Honourable Speaker is a farmer and that is why he cannot wait to be a retired Speaker right now. By the time he retires as Speaker, he has nothing to worry about because he is well prepared to retire and sit at his coconut farm to enjoy his life.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Daniel B. Koroma, tell them that I will be wealthier as a retired man.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Certainly, because you are a strategic farmer. When I did some research on coconut products, I found out that the leaf, shell, fiber, trunk are very useful, talk less of the coconut kernel that produces oil. Mr Speaker, even if the

coconut dies, you can use the trunk because it is useful. It is a strategic product and that is what my brother, Honourable Keikura Vandy has done.

**THE SPEAKER:** I have no intention of selling my coconut products here. So, do not be bothered about it.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, we on this side are more than willing to support this Agreement for the development of livestock or for the restoration of livestock in this country. We are willing to give you our support through oversight activities. Nonetheless, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that there is a Livestock Department at the Ministry of Agriculture and that department is in comatose. If I could take the words of Honourable Tamba Kellie, he said that the Livestock Department at the Ministry of Agriculture is currently in coma. The workers are just there to receive salaries because they have no activities to do. Through the Speaker, I want the Minister to know that if this Agreement is ratified, please involve the Livestock Department at the Ministry of Agriculture. Please make them useful once again. Let me tell you that there is a pending Bill that has been there since the Fourth Parliament, but as we speak, it has not come before us for enactment. They have engaged us many times, but they have not brought it here for enactment. I am sure until that Bill is enacted into law, it has no governing law; they are still operating under the colonial law in the Livestock Department. Mr Minister, please do not forget the Livestock Department at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, these are the words of my Leader, Honourable Abdul Kargbo. He was here an hour ago, so he assigned this responsibility to me with a caution that in implementing this project, let us be Sierra Leoneans, especially in the case of livestock. This is because the road project has already been specified. We are in full support of this Agreement. Although there was **31%** reduction in the price from the first contact that was canceled, but maybe what we have now was done with a reason. It is important to establish livestock in every part of this country. I think this is limited only to animals, but you are the master of your laws. Therefore, even if the intention of the financier is for cow, goat, sheep, pig and even grasscutter, I know it will not be a crime if you can extend it to other areas, like poultry. Mr Speaker, I am a rabbit and a grasscutter farmer. I will shock you the day you visit my farm at Sumbuya. I am also a snail farmer, but that one is for exportation.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I cannot wait to retire because once I do that, I have somewhere to go and involve myself in mass production that will enable me to export my produce to France. So, on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition, my word to the Minister of Finance is to guide us in deciding which areas livestock investment

should benefit. These are the words of my Leader to this House, to the Minister of Finance and to the people of this country.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to urge this Honourable House that the intention of the Minister is to ensure that the Feed Salone project succeeds and once it succeeds, Sierra Leone will definitely succeed and all of us will be happy. Cow meat, pork and other meats will be affordable and the road network will be improved. It was part of our agenda and the APC considered it as one of the 'ring roads' When this is completed, we will take it from Kamakwie to Kabala; from Kabala to Krubola; from Krubola to Kono; from Kono to Kailahun; and from Kailahun to Kenema. That is what we call the ring road. Certainly, we will complete it. I wish you well and I urge this House to speedily ratify this Agreement for the good of this country. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** I call on the Leader of Government Business for his contribution.

**HON. EMERSON S. LAMINA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I am acting on behalf of the Leader of Government Business. The Agreement before this House is not controversial as was already stated by my colleague. He is a very good researcher, but unfortunately, most of the time his research is limited. He did say that this very road came before this House in 2014, but the contract was cancelled and died naturally. You actually did not do a thorough research as to why it was aborted. If you looked at the 2017 Audit Report, it was very clear that most of those road contracts were actually awarded through MoUs and this can be very dangerous because at the end of the day, they can be challenged when they are brought before Parliament. That is why Section 40[4[D] makes the President the fountain of honour and a symbol of unity. The Minister, on behalf of the President, can sign any contract without prejudice. So, government in and government out, the contract is still binding.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when we were debating the Motion of thanks to the President, my colleague did say that the former administration increased **100%** salaries to Members of Parliament. I said that was fine, but he failed to mention that this current government has also increased our salaries to at least **300%**. Your research has to be fair and sincere. He also said that the West African Power Pool Agreement was brought to this House in 2014, but it was ratified in 2019, which gave it access to twenty-four hours electricity in major districts.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to look at the Agreement that is laid before us today, especially the one between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Islamic Development Bank [ISDB]. I have never seen a Minister that is so strategic like the current Minister of Finance. Mr Speaker, three pillars of government are postulating, promoting and cascading the Five Big Changers, especially in the area of the Feed

Salone, youth employment and infrastructural development. Mr Speaker, three pillars of government have been sandwiched in one Agreement; and at the end of the day, you would see the advantages of this Agreement as it creates less burden.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the speech made by His Excellency Dr Julius Maada Bio, he said on Page 4, Paragraphs 21 and 22 that the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road will be constructed. Today, we are here to start the implementation of that project. He did say that the Feed Salone project will be implemented. In Paragraph 21, he stated that three hundred thousand farmers have already gone through the biometric exercise, which tells you that they have automatic jobs in 2026. Mr Speaker, I am in the mining sector and that sector has the potential to give three hundred thousand jobs. I am only scared because the statistics or the data are not well taken care of, but the Office of the Chief Minister can click the button to get the result. So, if the President predicted that in his speech, I want to believe at the end of his tenure, he would provide five hundred thousand jobs. The mining sector has the potential to provide three hundred thousand jobs and agriculture also has the potential to also provide three hundred thousand jobs.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, when I looked at the Agreement under review, I noticed that there are four things in it; they are, the Loan Agreement, the Agency Agreement, the Framework Agreement and the Technical Assistance. The Agreement provides twenty-five years payment period, seven years grace period and four years project implementation. This is good and I commend the Minister for it. For the purpose of disclosure, there is civil works under this project and it reads: **“Consultancy services, design and supervision capacity building and support to project design and management unit, startup workshop, technology, financial audits, land acquisition and contingency emergency.”** Mr Speaker, this is the description of this project that is under consideration. I must confess that the project has some anti-corruption regulatory elements and other elements in the Procurement Act, whether it is ICB or NCB. In some cases, RfQs will be used because the procurement law says if the amount is less than five hundred Leones, you do not have to go through rigorous procurement procedures and that can be captured in the RfQs.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my colleagues have already said a lot about this project and for the purpose of disclosure, we notice that forty-two million Euro will be spent on Agency planning. For instance, it has to be within forty-two million Euro, but if it exceeds, then the borrower jeopardises his own interest. Article 2[1] states that procurement processes will be done in the bank and Article 6 states that the Minister will be included in all financial issues. He should communicate directly to Saudi Arabia or their counterparts in Senegal. The Minister will be the agent with regard giving out

information. I did say that the Minister of Finance is very strategic. I have never seen the potential quality that has been established in the mining sector before, but with the ratification of the Mines and Minerals Development Management Corporation Act, which brings lots of things under the government, wherein the government can hire miners to mine on its behalf and such benefits have been established under the Leadership of President Bio. You will surprise to see what November 2026 is going to bring; you will see trains carrying minerals and the government will get **35%**, instead of the **1%** established in the Mines and Minerals Act. This shows the strength and potentials in the Minister of Finance. If this happens within ten years, I can beat my chest and proudly say we will rise to become one of the middle-income countries in West Africa. Thank you very much, Mr Minister for a job well-done.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we noticed also in this particular Agreement that the Minister will be in charge of the counterpart funding and one of the signatories to the Agreement. In this Agreement, electronic signature is recommended. I want us to give a moment of silence to the late Honourable Ernest Dura Koroma. In the last Finance Bill, nobody has ever presented the interest of the Tomparie Road more than the late Honourable Ernest Dura Koroma. I pray his soul rest in peace. Today, he is no more, but his words still echo. Mr Minister, I admire you and it is important for us to know that you will be the head with regard to the Financing Agreement. It is very clear in Article 3 that the SLRA and the Ministry of Works will be at the forefront. NaCSA has done a great Job as far as social protection is concerned. They have already signed the document and they should not be left behind in the implementation of this particular project. Mr Minister, I know you took note of that because in your introduction, you recognised the role of NaCSA even before the implementation of this particular project. For the purpose of this Agreement, the Minister highlighted some of the social and economic benefits of the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie. He said it would strengthen agricultural productivity and reduces the cost of income, especially for those residing along the corridors of that road.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we also see the dreams of the founding fathers of ECOWAS. Tomorrow, in Abuja, we will be celebrating the fifty years anniversary of ECOWAS. Fifty years ago, the dreams of the founding fathers of ECOWAS have been resuscitated by creating connectivity of member states within the ECOWAS countries. Mr Minister, the implementation of this road is one of the fulfillments of the dreams of our founding fathers of ECOWAS. In Abuja, we will be celebrating our founding fathers for the work they have done. The export and import of trade between Sierra Leone and Guinea is a great achievement and it will be nice if it is extended to other areas because it will be a completion of the ring road. Thank you very much, Mr Minister.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the implementation of this Agreement will increase agricultural or livestock production in Sierra Leone, including small scale manufacturing industries. I want to caution you, Mr Minister that in the process of financing this particular project, I want you to note the method used to obtain the loans and such loans should seek the interest of the people. I want you to lower the borrowing cost, enhance the supervision method and work in compliance with international safeguards as well as procurement standards. Mr Speaker, there are lots of expectations from us when it comes to project like this one. Section 93[2&3] gives us the power to conduct oversight and it will interest you to know that Section 107[2] gives us the power to summon the Minister to come and explain to us how he has actually implemented certain policies. Unfortunately, the Ministers do not have the power to summon Members of Parliament for questioning.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this Agreement helps to realise that Guinea and Sierra Leone share many things in common. With the construction of this road, it would create a lot of benefits. The people of Karene and Kambia are blessed. My colleague spoke about the importance of introducing new districts. This will be a big eye-opener to the people of Karene and Kambia districts.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, another Agreement that comes to mind is the Livestock Agreement. We realised that in this Agreement between the government of Sierra Leone and the Islamic Development Bank, there is a loan Agreement or project description which talks about the purpose of disclosure by 2030. I think the last disbursements will be received by the Government of Sierra Leone. This project will also happen for seven years and there is seven years grace period. This means we will not pay until after seven years. This brings to the memory of the late President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah. Mr Speaker, the records from the Ministry of Finance showed that in 2007, which was a grace period, Sierra Leone paid 2/3 of its debts. The records are there in the Ministry of Finance. I am not saying Sierra Leone paid everything, but more than 2/3 of Sierra Leone's debts, both domestic and international debts were paid. President Ernest Bai Koroma came and enjoyed the benefit of free debts. The other day, I looked at my colleagues on the other side of the aisles and I said to myself that Members of the APC are spoilt children. However, I am sure with the strategic energy of this Minister, most of our domestic and even international debts will be paid.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the project also talks about the drafting and description of this Agreement. The description states that at least sixty-two thousand, two hundred and fifty households are going to benefit from this Agreement. That is not a small number. Again, for the purpose of disclosure, we see livestock production, value addition, capacity building, access to finance, project management and coordination,

financing audits and contingency emergency plan will be part and parcel of this project. Mr Minister, inasmuch as you are implementing this project, you should also take note of judicial responsibility; *S.O 2, no kuku jumuku*. This is because after six months, auditors will come and ask what you have done so far. Members of Parliament can also play their role to ensure compliance.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Agency Agreement, Framework Agreement and Technical Assistance will be part and parcel of this project. The Loan Agreement will actually entail all these opportunities that are being mentioned, which costs about one hundred and seven million Euro. This amount is not small, but it requires the government of Sierra Leone to at least pay nine million Euro or more. This means the grant is not given for nothing because you have to show that you are committed and responsible. Mr Minister, I have the records from the Poultry Farmers' Association. I have looked at their statistics and it is very staring. As far as livestock production is concerned, Kono leads in the East; in the North, Koinadugu is at the top; in the South, Moyamba occupies the first position; and in the North/West, Kambia is at the top.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in Nigeria, they have the capacity to export at least **60%** of their livestock products. I am talking about milk and cheese in other parts of the country. What are we doing? I think this Parliament needs to look for those regulations that will bring an end to the long conflict between cattle rearers and our farmers. This is because the cows move from one place to another; they burn the fat, but it is the fat that produces more milk, as I was told by my Biology teacher. So, we need to look for that regulation to end the long standing conflict between our cattle rearers and crop farmers. We will control our cattle in order to produce more milk and we will also have the capacity to export those products.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, livestock provide essential protein products, such as eggs, meat, milk and they also contributes to the development of the Feed Salone. According to the Poultry Farmers' Association, **72%** of the poultry products we used to import has dropped. This tells you that the local content policy is at play. We give credit to Honourable Christopher Keikura Vandy. Mr Speaker, in a day or week, one thousand eggs is produced in his poultry farm. The rapid importation of eggs and chicken has reduced by **72%**. Mr Speaker, within five years, we have produced more farmers and this is a statistics we should commend our local farmers for. I said earlier that livestock provides essential proteins for us and the livestock project will play a great role in improving the operations of Feed Salone, upgrade the food system in Sierra Leone, and expand veterinaries and disease surveillance services. All these are unique benefits of the project and if all these benefits manifest, we shall surely conquer and for the fact

that the government has already done three hundred thousand biometric for potential farmers and we will achieve this goal.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it is not all the time we should be going after white-collar jobs. If you are a leader of agriculture, go to the farm, implement it and become a technocrat in your own area. Interestingly, **40%** of this funding will go to the women and youths. This tells us that the Minister is implementing this project with gender equity. This project will also reduce the rapid youths' dropout. Today, most of the youths are lazy and they seek solace in riding Okada; but by the time this funds are made available, most of the youths will go back to the farms and become powerful agriculturists. This will aid the Feed Salone project.

Me Speaker, Honourable Members, I admired the Minister for recognising NaCSA as a strong partner in this project. If you looked at the hornbook of NaCSA, you would realise that it has a tie with the Islamic Development Bank [ISDB] and they have an MoU as far as social protection agencies are concerned, whether it is a community market or schools, they take the lead. This is a huge document they have signed and they are being recognised by the very providers of the funds. We have also seen the integration in respect of what this project will do. Mr Minister, this Parliament wants to commend you highly for using your wisdom to compile such an important project, especially in the area where you are supposed to use more, but you used less. You are an effective and efficient leader. You have done big achievements with small resources at your disposal. You did it in Sambaia Bendugu and very soon, Sierra Leone will begin to benefit from that achievement. Again, you have done it by bringing Financing Agency, Financing Framework, Financing Agreement, etc. so that we can pay less within twenty-five years. This is a huge benefit for this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my humble appeal has to do with the Kambia-Tomparie-Kamakwie Road. I also want similar project to be implemented in Kono District. This is to ensure that the dreams of the founding fathers of ECOWAS are fulfilled. That road is approximately seventy-eight kilometers. When I talk about Kono, everybody thought of mineralisation, but by the time that road is completed, the thought of minerals will be something of the past because Kono will become an international trade centre. The road in Kono has the potential to reach Mali, Ivory Coast and other outland towns in Guinea, like Kissidougou. This will ensure that the Feed Salone project is fulfilled. To my estimation, no head of state has constructed roads and bridges more than President Maada Bio. We commend him for that and I want to thank the Speaker for giving me this opportunity.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mr Minister, I want you to be extremely brief in you response.

**MR SHEKU AHMED FANTAMADI BANGURA [Minister of Finance]:** Thank you, Mr Speaker and Honourable Members for the passionate debates on the two projects. I have taken note and the Commissioner of NaCSA and the Director General of SLRA are here and they have listened to the debates. They have appealed for us to look into our toll policy and I know there is a work going on in that respect. The government will have one to be implemented in 2026. I heard the advice on the quality of contractor. I think the Director General of SLRA has taken note of that as well. We at the Ministry of Finance are very deliberate in deploying the services of entities that have been authorised to do the job. So, these Agreements are structured to make sure that they do their work and I know that SLRA and Ministry of Works and Public Assets are providing leadership in ensuring that they do the right thing.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we will source the funds and we manage the prepayment of those loans. We will ensure that those resources are utilised according to the advice from the Honourable Chairman of the Finance Committee in Parliament, by ensuring effective utilisation of the resources. So, it is definite that you cannot get the Ministry of Finance outside the implementation of this project. This is why we are working in sync with those entities in order to make sure that these projects are delivered on time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I heard the appeal for parliamentary oversight and this is very critical because even the contractors who are given these jobs, they have the responsibility to come and answer questions when certain things are not happening. However, the oversight will ensure that you keep an eye on how these projects are being implemented. I think it is important for all hands to be on deck in delivering these projects. These are innovative funding schemes. Even though the moneys are not yet available, we however have partners who will be mobilising resources from the international partners. It takes time to close the transaction, but we are in sync with them. I have been in discussion with many banks who shared time-sheets with us on how to fund those roads, even the one to Gbangatoke, the one at Manowa Junction to Tongo and the one from Bumpeh to Kono. We are in discussion with banks and those companies we identified to work with us have a different framework. So, let us be patient as we are trying to mobilise resources and bring these projects to fruition. However, with the little we have in our budget, some of them will come here for government own appropriation to have some contributions to the budget and once we have that, it will allow us to get started.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, development is a very slow process and the process of mobilising resources is very tough in modern times. So, we are asking for a little bit of your understanding. I heard the appeal on all what we are trying to do, even in

agriculture. For clarity around NaCSA and in the discussion with the Islamic Development Bank [ISDB], it is very clear that they wanted the SLRA to focus on the engineering and the road aspect. NaCSA is very good when it comes to the social impact assessment in the country. So, they will work with SLRA to deliver on those social related infrastructures and they have the authorisation to do so. We are having them to do part of the project to deliver boreholes in small communities, markets and the like, which are very important to be considered on road corridors. During our discussions, we got all of them on the table.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the entire Agency Agreement, there is a line that talks about ancillary infrastructure. NaCSA is chosen as an effective entity to work with SLRA to deliver on that mandate. That is the whole rationale for this project. I heard someone talked about pigs. This Islamic Development Bank is an Islamic institution that does not deal in pig related business. So, I just want to make it very clear in this Parliament that the Islamic Development Bank will be funding beef, poultry and molten. These are all regiments that may be relevant as long as they are contributing to protein and they are regular stuffs that are not forbidden by religion. I just wanted to underscore that point here.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, these concerns are noted and I want to conclude by moving that be it resolved that this Honourable House hereby ratify these two Agreements which were laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much, Mr Minister. Honourable Members the question is, that this Honourable House hereby ratifies these two agreements, which were laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]  
[Government Motion by the Minister of Finance has been ratified].*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*[The House rose at 2:30 p.m., and was adjourned to Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 10:00 a.m.]*