



## ***AFTER THE INTERVENTION OF HRCSL...***

### ***INMATE SET FREE AFTER 12YEARS IN DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL.***

Dauda Kiwo an inmate at the Kenema Correctional Centre that spent 12 years on remand without trial on allegations of conspiracy, larceny and burglary was released after the intervention of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone.

Kiwo's issue came to light when the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) conducted a monitoring activity at the Kenema Correctional Centre on May 27th, 2019 and in other regions.

His matter was among several other grim prison conditions highlighted to the Director of Public Prosecution during an engagement on Wednesday June 5, 2019.

The DPP rightly assured the Commissioners of the HRCSL that during his visit to Kenema, steps would be taken to study the detainee's file and also study the other files of those without indictments. Dauda's file was reviewed and was brought before a court where he was acquitted and discharged.

During the HRCSL's monitoring, it was found out at the Correctional Centre in Kenema that he was arrested towards the end of 2007 and charged before a Magistrate Court. He said he appeared four times before a magistrate before his matter was committed to the high court. Since then, he said he has spent over 11 years awaiting trial before a high court judge and he has been moved from Kenema to Pademba road correctional centre and brought back to Kenema.

The DPP also revealed to the HRCSL that he had made proposals for the recruitment of 25 State Counsels which would help in dealing with matters and thus prevent over crowding in prisons.

The Chief Justice who was also engaged on the issues of lack of court sittings in some areas, revealed of a circuit court that will be held next week in Moyamba, Sefadu and Portloko.