

FRIDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 2014

The Parliament resumed at 1.10 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair and read the Prayer.

PRESENT

All honourable Members were present, except the honourable Prime Minister for *iTaukei* Affairs and Sugar, the honourable Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister of Finance, Public Enterprises, Public Service and Communications; and the honourable A. Sudhakar.

MOTION TO ADJOURN PARLIAMENT

HON. LEADER OF GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT.- Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your leave, I beg to move:

That Parliament be adjourned to 11 o'clock on Monday, 8th December, 2014.

HON. CDR. S.T. KOROILAVESAU. - Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to second the motion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Does any Member oppose the motion, to adjourn the Parliament to Monday, 8th December, 2014?

HON. RATU. N.T. LALABALAVU.- Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise not so much to oppose the motion as read by the honourable Leader of Government in Parliament, but rather to raise a point of order, in relation to Standing Order 46.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. – We will disperse for a while, to let me consult the Secretary General.

HON. LEADER OF GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT. - Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I may rise to very briefly comment on the issue. I simply have no objection to the Standing Orders raised by the honourable Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, but if it is the honourable Member's intention that the leave of Parliament should be made, we stand ready to actually ask to make that application to Parliament for leave to be granted, to move a motion to adjourn the Parliament to Monday, 8th December, 2014.

HON. RATU. N.T. LALABALAVU. - Not really, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise under Standing Order 46 and that is, I also wish to move an urgent motion with the leave of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. – Honourable Members, this motion was agreed to by the two parties prior to this sitting, so we can adjourn Parliament, as moved.

We shall move a vote on this motion.

HON. RATU. N.T. LALABALAVU.- Let me clarify where I am coming from, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The honourable Leader of Government in Parliament is moving a motion of adjournment. I am also trying to exercise my rights regarding Standing Order 46, by moving a motion as well with the leave of the Parliament. If that could be accommodated before the adjournment motion, I would be so happy, Sir.

HON. LEADER OF GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT.- Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I may just add some light to this. I know that you have made reference to the agreement that Members of both sides have agreed to adjourn Parliament to Monday, 8th December and that is the reason why I stood up to move that Parliament be adjourned to Monday 8th December, 2014.

Obviously, the honourable Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu is raising a point of order under Standing Order 46, which the honourable Member rightfully raised, given the minimal time to seek for adjournment. So if it is fine with you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and if it answers the concerns of the honourable Member, may I now move to seek for the leave of Parliament to seek an adjournment to Monday 8th December, 2014, within the provisions of what is allowable within Standing Orders 46.

HON. ROKO. T.T.S. DRAUNIDALO. - Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. There is a little bit of confusion here. I do not think that the honourable Member rather *na Turaga na Tui Cakau* is talking about the adjournment motion. I think the honourable Member is raising the point of order, to get the leave of Parliament, to move another urgent motion. I am relating to the adjournment which we will agree to after this urgent motion is dealt with. If it is lost on the floor, we will abide by it, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

HON. LEADER OF GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT.- Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise and make a statement whereby I am in a position (I am sure in terms of where the other side stands) because we tried to reach consensus in certain places in this case, in particular, we had agreed to just come and adjourn Parliament.

During my discussions, I had agreed under the same provision of Standing Order 4, by which of the provision of the Standing Order, to seek leave so that the Standing Orders be set aside to allow us to hear the questions and the motions that are before Parliament today because it is the Members' day. We reached an agreement that I move a motion for Parliament to be suspended in view of what we had agreed to. However, it would appear that this has changed a little bit by honourable Members on the other side. Therefore, I beg to seek your indulgence and clarification in terms of what is the position with regards to the adjournment of Parliament, or shall we proceed to set aside Standing Orders, to allow for other matters to proceed. And what does that make of the other matters that are on the agenda for the day.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Honourable Members, we will suspend sitting for five minutes and I will make my ruling when we return.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Ruling - Motion to Adjourn Parliament

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Honourable Members, my apologies for the delay but I want to make sure that we get things right. This is my ruling: we have a motion before Parliament to adjourn. We must first deal with this motion before Parliament can take any other action. So if

Parliament wishes to debate any other issues, it must first defeat the motion to adjourn Parliament. Therefore, we will now vote on the motion before us, which is the motion to adjourn. Does anyone wishes to oppose the motion?

HON. RO T.T.S. DRAUNIDALO.- Can we speak to our opposition on that motion? There is an hour allowed for debate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Honourable Members, that was my ruling and we will now vote on the motion. We had both agreed, the Opposition Whip and the two teams from Government, to adjourn Parliament to Monday, 8th December.

HON. RO T.T.S. DRAUNIDALO.- Mr. Deputy Speaker, Standing Orders 35(2) says and I quote:

“One hour is allowed for debate on the motion in which three members” (I will not read out the rest, Mr. Deputy Speaker).

Perhaps, Madam Secretary-General could bring it to your attention.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Honourable Members, we will now vote on the motion, as that was my earlier ruling and it has also been agreed to by the Opposition Whip and the two teams from Government to adjourn Parliament to Monday.

Question put.

Votes cast:

Ayes	-	34
No	-	03
Absent	-	13

Motion agreed to.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.- Honourable Members, I will now adjourn Parliament to 11.00 am on Monday, 8th December, 2014.

The Parliament adjourned at 1.35 p.m.