

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Twenty-seventh Day of July, 2020

- 1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
- 2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.
- 3. <u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>

All Honourable Members were present.

4. <u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u>

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Friday, 17 July 2020 as previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members to the sitting and all those watching the live broadcast and the live streaming of the proceedings.

Hon. Speaker also extended an invitation to all Honourable Members to join him at refreshments break for the hand-over ceremony of the ICT Equipment by the UNDP Fiji Parliament Support Project to the Fijian Parliament. Hon. Speaker reiterated the Parliament's gratitude and appreciation for the continued support rendered by the UNDP Fiji Parliament Support Project in the area of ICT. The support has enabled the Parliament's Standing Committees to continue with their work, meetings and consultations on Bills, reports and treaties virtually.

6. <u>SUSPENSION MOTION</u>

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved under Standing Order 6, that so much of Standing Orders 23, 34 and 46 be suspended to allow for the following during the sitting period beginning Monday, 27 July and ending Friday, 31 July 2020 –

- (a) exempting the Shadow Minister for Economy from the ordinary speaking time limitations during his response to the National Budget Address;
- (b) exempting the Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy from the ordinary speaking time limitations during his right of reply;
- (c) Parliament to sit beyond ordinary sitting times;
- (d) limiting the refreshment, lunch and dinner breaks to be determined by the Speaker so as not to unduly interrupt the business of the House; and
- (e) in the event that the business for any given day is concluded earlier than anticipated, for business to be brought forward from the following sitting day.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

7. <u>CONSIDERATION OF BILLS</u>

Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that there were no Bills for consideration.

8. <u>SECOND READING OF THE 2020–2021 APPROPRIATION BILL 2020 (BILL NO. 13 OF 2020)</u>

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved that a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of three billion, two hundred and eleven million, nineteen thousand, one hundred and twenty one dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2021 (Bill No. 13 of 2020), be read a second time.

Motion seconded.

The following Members contributed to the debate –

Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Hon. Josaia Bainimarama, Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca, Hon. Selai Adimaitoga, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Rosy Akbar, Hon. Viliame Gavoka, Hon. Parveen Bala, Hon. Anare Jale, Hon. Veena Bhatnagar, Hon. Ro Teimumu Kepa, Hon. Dr Salik Govind, Hon. Inosi Kuridrani, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu, Hon. Semi Koroilavesau, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, Hon. Faiyaz Koya, Hon. Mikaele Leawere, Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Ratu Suliano Matanitobua and Hon. Alvick Maharaj.

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned the Parliament until Tuesday, 28 July 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 8.52 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

27th July, 2020.