



# PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

---

## MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Tuesday, Twenty-first Day of September,  
2021

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.

2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.

3. MEMBERS PRESENT

All Honourable Members were present.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Monday, 20 September 2021 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 of Parliament and all those watching the live broadcast and the live-streaming of the proceedings.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the Committee's review on the annual review of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport report for 2015, January – July 2016, and 2016-2017.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(b) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Vijay Nath tabled the Committee's Consolidated Review Report of the Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit 2019 and 2020 Annual Reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(c) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the annual review of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation report for 2017-2018.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(d) Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Alexander O'Connor tabled the Consolidated Review Report on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Annual (MFA) Reports 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(e) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the Committee's Report on the annual review of the Ministry of Youth and Sports report for 2018-2019.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(f) Standing Committee on Public Accounts

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Alvick Maharaj tabled the Committee's review of the Performance Audit on the Management of the Environment Impact Assessment

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

7. MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker advised that there were no Ministerial Statements.

8. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PARLIAMENT ON THE REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS BILL 2018 (BILL NO. 34 OF 2018)

Parliament resolved into the Committee of the Whole Parliament on a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of a register of sex offenders, the registration and reporting obligations of sex offenders and for related matters (Bill No. 34 of 2018).

Hon. Speaker vacated the Speaker's Chair and convened the Committee of the Whole Parliament.

Part 1

Proposed amendment by Hon. Lynda Tabuya.

Proposed amendment defeated.

Proposed amendment by Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu.

Proposed amendment defeated.

Question put on Part 1.

Part 1 agreed to unanimously.

Part 2, Division 1

Proposed amendment by Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Proposed amendment defeated.

Question put on Part 2, Division 1.

Part 2, Division 1 agreed to unanimously.

Part 2, Division 2

Question put on Part 2, Division 2.

Part 2, Division 2 agreed to unanimously.

Part 2, Division 3

Question put on Part 2, Division 3.

Part 2, Division 3 agreed to unanimously.

Part 2, Division 4

Question put on Part 2, Division 4.

Part 2, Division 4 agreed to unanimously.

Part 2, Division 5

Question put on Part 2, Division 5.

Part 2, Division 5 agreed to unanimously.

Part 3

Question put on Part 3.

Part 3 agreed to unanimously.

Part 4

Question put on Part 4.

Part 4 agreed to unanimously.

The Committee of the Whole Parliament agreed to a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of a register of sex offenders, registration and reporting obligations of sex offenders, the registration and reporting obligations of sex offenders and for related matters (Bill No. 34 of 2018) without amendments.

9. THIRD READING – REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS BILL 2018 (BILL NO. 34 OF 2018)

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved that pursuant to Standing Order 88 that the Registration of Sex Offenders Bill 2018 (Bill No. 34 of 2018) be read a third time and do pass.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

A Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of a register of sex offenders, the registration and reporting obligations of sex offenders and for related matters (Bill No. 34 of 2018, enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

10. QUESTIONS

200/2021 Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad asked the Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry, Foreign Affairs and Forestry – Can the Prime Minister inform Parliament how many leases has TLTB renewed in Seaqaqa in the past two years.

- 201/2021 Hon. Sanjay Kirpal asked the Minister for Defence, National Security and Policing, Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management – Can the Minister inform Parliament what the Fiji Police Force is doing to ensure that issues of mental health and stress within the Force are addressed effectively.
- 202/2021 Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the \$360 unemployment assistance on Government finance.
- 203/2021 Hon. George Vegnathan asked the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister inform Parliament of the recently held Pacific – African, Caribbean and Pacific (PACP) and the Forum Trade Ministers Meeting (FTMM) and how the region is working together to drive regional economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 204/2021 Hon. Simione Rasova asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the distribution of the \$20 data allocation to Year 13 students Fiji wide.
- 205/2021 Hon. Selai Adimaitoga asked the Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment – Can the Minister update Parliament on the progress with regards to providing horses for transportation and farm power for remote communities.
- 206/2021 Hon. Mikaele Leawere asked the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on the current status of electricity supply to rural areas that are not connected to the main grid.
- 207/2021 Hon. Alvick Maharaj asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the first and second rounds of the \$360 unemployment benefit assistance.

### **Written Questions**

- 208/2021 Hon. Pio Tikoduadua asked the Minister for Defence, National Security and Policing, Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the number of cases for police investigations into alleged criminal acts, by type and nature of crime from 2018 to date.

209/2021 Hon. Anare Jale asked the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on –

- (a) how many citizens have been connected to the central sewerage system by Division annually from 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021; and
- (b) how many citizens will be connected to the central sewerage system by the end of the 2021-2022 financial year.

The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were given by the respective Ministers. The responses to the Written Questions would be tabled at a later sitting date as permitted under Standing Order 45(3).

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Wednesday, 22 September 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 4.15 p.m.

**Speaker of Parliament**

**Secretary-General to Parliament**

21<sup>st</sup> September, 2021.