



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Twenty-first Day of February,
2020

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 except for Hon. Josaia Bainimarama, Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua and Hon. Pio Tikoduadua.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minister for Fisheries the Hon. Semi Koroilavesau, moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Thursday, 20 February 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 and members of the public seated in the gallery and those watching the live broadcast of the proceedings on television and the internet.

6. QUESTIONS

45/2020 Hon. George Vegnathan to ask the Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Local Government, Housing and Community Development – It has been raised over and over again that Fiji's Ease of Doing Business ranking has been going down, can the

Minister inform Parliament on what is being done to improve this process.

- 46/2020 Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua to ask the Minister for Education Heritage and Arts – Can the Minister inform Parliament when teachers will receive their Annual Performance Assessment pay rises that has been overdue for more than two years.
- 47/2020 Hon. Alipate Nagata to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment – Can the Minister provide an update to Parliament on plans to dredge and desilt waterways filled with silt that is contributing to flooding in lower plains.
- 48/2020 Hon. Ratu Suliano Matanitobua to ask the Minister of Employment, Productivity, Industrial Relations, Youth and Sports – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the criteria and processes in the appointment of members of the Fiji Youth Council.
- 49/2020 Hon. Joseph Nand to ask the Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Local Government, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister brief Parliament on how the Master Planning of Greater Suva, Nadi and Lautoka will minimise the need to rezone.
- 50/2020 Hon. Simione Rasova to ask the Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Local Government, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the guideline(s) for Municipal Councils in monitoring contractual agreements.
- 51/2020 Hon. Sanjay Kirpal to ask the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications – Can the Minister provide Parliament an update on the Nadi River Flood Alleviation Project.

Written Question

- 52/2020 Hon. Ratu Suliano Matanitobua to ask the Minister for Infrastructure, Disaster Management and Meteorological Services – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the –
- (a) details of all rural electrification projects carried out in the Central Division in 2018/2019 fiscal year;
 - (b) total value of all the rural electrification projects carried in in the Central Division in 2018/2019 fiscal year;
 - (c) details of all the rural electrification projects suspended for the Central Division in 2018/2019 fiscal year; and
 - (d) details of all the rural electrification projects being planned for the Central Division for the year 2019/2020 fiscal year.

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

Oral Question 46/2020 had lapsed pursuant to Standing Order 45(6).

7. END OF WEEK STATEMENTS

- (a) The Hon. Viam Pillay delivered his End of Week Statement and the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources the Hon. Ashneel Sudhakar subsequently responded.
- (b) The End of Week Statement by the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad had lapsed as the Member was not present in Parliament.
- (c) The Hon. Alvick Maharaj delivered his End of Week Statement and the Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment the Hon. Dr Mahendra Reddy subsequently responded.
- (d) The Hon. Lynda Tabuya delivered her End of Week Statement and the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation the Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa subsequently responded.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Minister for Fisheries the Hon. Semi Koroilavesau moved that Parliament stands adjourned until Monday, 16 March 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions during the course of the sitting week, and adjourned Parliament until Monday, 16 March 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 12.19 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

21st February, 2020.