



# PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

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## MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Twenty-ninth Day of May, 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 the Government and NFP Honourable Members were present except for the Hon. Rosy Akbar and Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa.

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 Thursday, 28 May 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 informed Honourable Members on the grave concerns surrounding the live streaming of the Parliament sittings through the Facebook platform and that this has now been terminated indefinitely. Viewers are encouraged to access the live sessions by visiting <http://www.parliamentlive.gov.fj> or through the Parliament Channel through the Walesi platform.

6. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND CERTAIN DOCUMENTS

The Water Authority of Fiji 2016 Annual Report was tabled in Parliament and referred by the Hon. Speaker to the Standing Committee on Natural Resources for their deliberation.

7. QUESTIONS

- 85/2020 Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua to ask the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications – Can the Minister inform Parliament when will teachers receive their Annual Performance Assessment pay rises that has been overdue for more than two years.
- 86/2020 Hon. Vijay Nath to ask the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister explain to Parliament what is the purpose of the Business Survey that the Ministry has conducted in partnership with International Finance Corporation.
- 87/2020 Hon. Veena Bhatnagar to ask the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister explain to Parliament how will the Ministry ensure that the stated amendments to the town planning laws will be modern and current.
- 88/2020 Hon. Selai Adimaitoga to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment – Can the Minister update Parliament on the coastal protection seawall projects.
- 89/2020 Hon. Joseph Nand to ask the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications – Can the Minister inform Parliament what has been the impact of COVID-19 on Government Revenue.

**Written Questions**

- 90/2020 Hon. Pio Tikoduadua to ask the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament of the progress of the Lautoka Botanical Gardens/Aquatic Centre project and specifically –
- (a) what was the original time-frame and budget for the project when it was first decided upon;
  - (b) what are the reasons for delay in delivery; and
  - (c) what is the current time-frame and budget for delivery of the project.

Responses to the 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 respective Minister, as permitted under Standing Order 45(3).

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved that Parliament stands adjourned until the next sitting date as would be determined in due course.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members their participation and contributions during the sitting week.

Hon. Speaker declared Parliament adjourned until the next sitting date as would be determined in due course.

Parliament adjourned at 10.52 a.m.

**Speaker of Parliament**

**Secretary-General to Parliament**

29<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.