



# PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

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## MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Thursday, Thirtieth 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. MEMBERS PRESENT

All Honourable Members were present except for the Hon. Niko Nawaikula.

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 Wednesday, 29 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 of Parliament and all those watching the live broadcast and the live streaming of the proceedings.

Hon. Speaker advised all Honourable Members that the following Standing Committees would table their reports at a later sitting of Parliament –

- (a) Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence on the three treaties referred in the May sitting of Parliament; and

- (b) Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights on the Cybercrime Bill 2020.

Hon. Speaker also informed Honourable Members that the Secretariat had received the following –

- (1) written response from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Consolidated Report on the Review of the Ministry of Sugar Industry's 2012 to 2016 Annual Report which would be conveyed to the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs;
- (2) response to Written Question 64 of 2020 by the Hon. Minister Osea Naiqamu, which had been conveyed to the Hon. Jese Saukuru; and
- (3) response to Written Question 90 of 2020 by the Hon. Minister Premila Kumar, which had been conveyed to the Hon. Pio Tikoduadua.

## 6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Hon. Speaker advised all Honourable Members that Parliament would consider the item after the conclusion of the Committee of Supply process.

## 7. RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY ON THE 2020–2021 APPROPRIATION BILL 2020 (BILL NO. 13 OF 2020)

Parliament resolved into Committee of Supply and resumed debate on the Heads in the Budget Estimates.

Members debated and voted on the following –

### Head 23 – Ministry of Housing and Community Development

Amendment in the name of Hon. Lynda Tabuya.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Amendment withdrawn.

Question put on Head 23.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 23 agreed to unanimously.

Head 24 – Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

Amendment in the name of Hon. Salote Radrodro.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of Hon. Salote Radrodro.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of Hon. Salote Radrodro.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of Hon. Salote Radrodro.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of Hon. Salote Radrodro.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 24.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 24 agreed to.

#### Head 25 – Ministry of Youth and Sports

Question put on Head 25.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 25 agreed to.

#### Head 26 – Higher Education Institutions

Question put on Head 26.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 26 agreed to.

#### Head 30 – Ministry of Agriculture

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Inosi Kuridrani.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Inosi Kuridrani.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Inosi Kuridrani.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Inosi Kuridrani.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 30.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 30 agreed to.

#### Head 31 – Ministry of Fisheries

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 31.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 31 agreed to.

## Head 32 – Ministry of Forests

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 32.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 32 agreed to.

### Head 33 – Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Mitieli Bulanauca.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 33.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 33 agreed to.

### Head 34 – Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport

Question put on Head 34.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 34 agreed to.

### Head 35 – Ministry of Sugar Industry

Amendment in the name of Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 35.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.



Head 35 agreed to.

Head 37 – Ministry of Local Government

Amendment in the name of Hon. Lynda Tabuya.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Amendment withdrawn.

Amendment in the name of Hon. Ro Teimumu Kepa.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 37.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 37 agreed to.

Head 40 – Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport

Question put on Head 40.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 40 agreed to unanimously.

Head 41 – Water Authority of Fiji

Question put on Head 41.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 41 agreed to unanimously.

Head 42 – Ministry of Waterways and Environment

Amendment in the name of Hon. Ro Teimumu Kepa.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 42.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 42 agreed to.

Head 43 – Fiji Roads Authority

Question put on Head 43.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 43 agreed to unanimously.

Head 49 – Peacekeeping Missions

Question put on Head 49.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 49 agreed to.

Head 50 – Miscellaneous Services

Amendment in the name of Hon. Lynda Tabuya.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 50.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 50 agreed to.

Mr Chair reiterated that Heads 51 and 52 are standing appropriations, sometimes called 'below the line' appropriations. He further stated that neither Head is voted upon because they must be paid and are therefore already catered for.

Mr Chair informed the Honourable Members, that they had completed the Estimates and that they would now move to considering the Schedules and Clauses of the 2020–2021 Appropriation Bill 2020 (Bill No. 13 of 2020) as required by Standing Order 101.

Mr Chair further advised Honourable Members that since the Estimates had not been amended, Standing Order 101 prevents any amendments being moved and made at that stage.

Standing Order 101 clause (3) also prevents any debate on the questions.

#### Schedule 1

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Schedule 1 agreed to unanimously.

#### Schedule 2

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Schedule 2 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 1

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Clause 1 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 2

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Clause 2 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 3

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Clause 3 agreed to unanimously.

Mr Chair informed the Honourable Members that the Committee of Supply had concluded and resumed the Speaker's Chair.

8. THIRD READING OF THE 2020–2021 APPROPRIATION BILL 2020 (BILL NO. 13 OF 2020)

The Committee of Supply agreed to the 2020–2021 Appropriation Bill 2020 (Bill No. 13 of 2020) without amendment.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved the third reading of 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 2020 (Bill No. 13 of 2020).

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Motion agreed to.

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 2020 (Bill No. 13 of 2020), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

Hon. Speaker informed that Parliament had passed the 2020–2021 National Budget and thanked all Members for their contributions to the significant and integral process. Hon. Speaker also congratulated the Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications on the successful passing of the 2020-2021 National Budget.

9. MOTION BY THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR ECONOMY, CIVIL SERVICE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion pursuant to Standing Order 51 that –

- (a) the Fiji Competition and Consumer Commission (Budget Amendment) Bill 2020 be considered by Parliament without delay;
- (b) the Bill must pass through one stage at a single sitting of Parliament;
- (c) the Bill must not be referred to a standing committee or other committee of Parliament;
- (d) the Bill must be debated and voted upon by Parliament immediately after the vote on the consequential Bills for the 2020–2021 Budget tabled on 17 July 2020 and the Bills tabled on 29 July 2020; and
- (e) that the time for the debate for the Bill be limited to ensure that the Bill is debated and voted upon during this sitting of Parliament.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

(In giving his right of right of reply, the Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy informed that four amendment Bills were being circulated to Honourable Members.)

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned the Parliament until Friday, 31 July 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 5.33 p.m.

**Speaker of Parliament**

**Secretary-General to Parliament**

30<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.