



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Thirtieth Day of July, 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 Thursday, 29 July 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.

Hon. Speaker addressed and clarified the following issues –

- (a) the misinformation circulated on social media with respect to the debate on the Budget Amendment Bills;
- (b) recent issues surrounding virtual connections and the cause of the interferences/disruptions; and

- (c) virtual Parliament sitting Etiquette/Guide that had been provided to all Honourable Members.

Hon. Lynda Tabuya raised a Point of Order to which the Hon. Speaker ruled on.

6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- (a) The Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications, pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Friday, 16 July 2021, moved that the following consequential Bills be debated, voted upon and be passed –

1. Customs (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
2. Customs Tariff (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
3. Value Added Tax (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
4. Environment and Climate Adaptation Levy (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
5. Gambling Turnover Tax (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
6. Fiji National Provident Fund (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
7. Employment Relations (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
8. Tertiary Scholarship and Loans (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
9. State Lands (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
10. iTaukei Land Trust (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
11. Biosecurity (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
12. Fruit Export and Marketing (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
13. Medicinal Products (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
14. International Financial Organisations (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
15. Tax Administration (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021; and
16. Income Tax (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to.

The following Bills –

1. A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Act 1986 (Bill No. 8 of 2021);
2. A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1986 (Bill No. 9 of 2021);
3. A Bill for an Act to amend the Value Added Tax Act 1991 (Bill No. 10 of 2021);
4. A Bill for an Act to amend the Environment and Climate Adaptation Levy Act 2015 (Bill No. 11 of 2021);

5. A Bill for an Act to amend the Gambling Turnover Tax Act 1991 (Bill No. 12 of 2021);
6. A Bill for an Act to amend the Fiji National Provident Fund Act 2011 (Bill No. 13 of 2021);
7. A Bill for an Act to amend the Employment Relations Act 2007 (Bill No. 14 of 2021);
8. A Bill for an Act to amend the Tertiary Scholarship and Loans Act 2014 (Bill No. 15 of 2021);
9. A Bill for an Act to amend the State Lands Act 1945 (Bill No. 16 of 2021);
10. A Bill for an Act to amend the iTaukei Land Trust Act 1940 (Bill No. 17 of 2021);
11. A Bill for an Act to amend the Biosecurity Act 2008 (Bill No. 18 of 2021);
12. A Bill for an Act to amend the Fruit Export and Marketing Act 1906 (Bill No. 19 of 2021);
13. A Bill for an Act to amend the Medicinal Products Act 2011 (Bill No. 20 of 2021);
14. A Bill for an Act to amend the International Financial Organisations Act 1971 (Bill No. 21 of 2021);
15. A Bill for an Act to amend the Tax Administration Act 2009 (Bill No. 22 of 2021); and
16. A Bill for an Act to amend the Income Tax Act 2015 (Bill No. 23 of 2021),

enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

- (b) The Hon. Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications moved a motion pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Wednesday, 28 July 2021, that the following Bills be debated, voted upon and be passed –

1. Reserve Bank of Fiji (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
2. Fair Reporting of Credit (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
3. Maritime Transport (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
4. Offshore Fisheries Management (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021;
5. Land Transport (Budget Amendment) Bill 2021; and
6. Financial Management (Amendment) Bill 2021.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to.

The following Bills –

1. A Bill for an Act to amend the Reserve Bank of Fiji Act 1983 (Bill No. 24 of 2021);
2. A Bill for an Act to amend the Fair Reporting of Credit Act 2016 (Bill No. 25 of 2021);
3. A Bill for an Act to amend the Maritime Transport Act 2013 (Bill No. 26 of 2021);
4. A Bill for an Act to amend the Offshore Fisheries Management Act 2012 (Bill No. 27 of 2021);
5. A Bill for an Act to amend the Land Transport Act 1998 (Bill No. 28 of 2021); and
6. A Bill for an Act to amend the Financial Management Act 2004 (Bill No. 29 of 2021),

enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

7. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND CERTAIN DOCUMENTS

The 2018–2019 Ministry of Fisheries Annual Report was tabled in Parliament and pursuant to Standing Order 38(2), the Hon. Speaker referred the report to the Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, moved that Parliament adjourns until Monday, 16 August 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions to the week's sitting and the passing of the 2021–2022 National Budget.

Hon. Speaker reiterated the need to strictly adhere to all COVID-safe measures and protocols in place nationwide and the need to protect home and work bubbles. Hon. Speakers also urged all Fijians who are yet to be vaccinated to get vaccinated for the sake of all Fijians and that of their loved ones, friends, and their community.

Hon. Speaker adjourned Parliament until Monday, 16 August 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 7.06 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

30th July, 2021.