



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Thursday, Second day of December,
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 except for the Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Adi Litia Qionibaravi, Hon. Ratu Suliano Matanitobua and Hon. Sanjay Kirpal.

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, 1 December 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. He also welcomed all those watching the live broadcast and the live-streaming of the proceedings from home, offices and electronic gadgets.

He also thanked Honourable Members for standing in solidarity with victims and survivors of violence and calling for a world without rape and gender based violence.

Hon. Speaker also acknowledged the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Diabetes Fiji and the Fijian Elections Office for their respective involvement in all the notable activities undertaken in Parliament during this sitting week.

6. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND CERTAIN DOCUMENTS

The following reports were tabled and referred accordingly –

(a) Standing Committee on Natural Resources

- (i) 2017 to 2019 Ministry of Forestry annual reports; and
- (ii) 2016 to 2018 Ministry of Agriculture annual reports.

(b) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

- (i) Fiji Revenue and Customs Service – 01 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 Annual Report;
- (ii) 2015 to 2017 Annual Reports for the Fiji Meat Industry Board;
- (iii) Reserve Bank of Fiji – August 2020 to July 2021 Report;
- (iv) Reserve Bank of Fiji Insurance Annual Report 2020; and
- (v) Fiji Development Bank 2020 Annual Report.

(c) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

- (i) Fiji National Provident Fund Annual Report 2021;
- (ii) 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports for the Fiji Ports Corporation Limited; and
- (iii) Fiji National Sports Commission August 2019 to July 2020 Annual Report.

(d) Standing Committee on Public Accounts

- (i) Auditor-General reports to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts –
 - (A) 2019 to 2020 Audit Report on Statutory Authorities, Independent Body and Commissions;
 - (B) 2019 to 2020 Audit Report on Municipal Councils;
 - (C) Performance Audit on the Licensing and Monitoring of River Gravel and Sand Extractions;
 - (D) Performance Audit on the Monitoring of Implementation of the Sugarcane Development and Farmers Assistance Programme; and
 - (E) Remaining 2019 Audit Report on General Administration, Social Services, Economic Services and Infrastructure Services Sectors.

(e) Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights

- (i) 2016 to 2019 Annual Reports for the Ministry of Civil Service.

- (f) The Hon. Speaker advised that the First Quarter Appropriation Statement – Actual Expenditure from 1 August 2021 – 31 October 2021 was for the Honourable Members information only and would not be referred to any Standing Committee.

7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that there were no committee reports for presentation.

8. RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE MOTION BY THE HON. PRIME MINISTER

Parliament resumed debate on the motion that the Parliament thanks his Excellency the President for his most gracious speech.

Debates ensued.

[Speakers: Hon. Peceli Vosanibola, Hon. Jone Usamate, Hon. Tanya Waqanika, Hon. Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete, Hon. Faiyaz Koya and Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.]

9. FIJI INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS BILL 2021 (BILL NO. 35 OF 2021)

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Friday, 22 October 2021, that the Fiji Institute of Chartered Accountants Bill 2021 be debated, voted upon and be passed.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

A Bill for an Act to continue the Fiji Institute of Accountants as the Fiji Institute of Chartered Accountants, provide for the registration of Chartered Accountants, regulation of the practice of accountancy and for related matters (Bill No. 35 of 2021), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

10. SUSPENSION MOTION BY THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, moved under Standing Order 6 that so much of Standing Order 23 be suspended to

allow the House to sit beyond 4.30 p.m. to complete the remaining items on the Order Paper.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

11. CUSTOMS TARIFF (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 2021 (BILL NO. 36 OF 2021)

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Monday, 29 November 2021, that the Customs Tariff (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill 2021 be debated, voted upon and be passed.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1986 (Bill No. 36 of 2021), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

12. HOTELS AND GUEST HOUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 (BILL NO. 37 OF 2021)

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Monday, 29 November 2021, that the Hotels and Guest Houses (Amendment) Bill 2021 be debated, voted upon and be passed.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

A Bill for an Act to amend the Hotels and Guest Houses Act 1973 (Bill No. 37 of 2021), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

13. MEDICINAL PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 2021 (BILL NO. 38 OF 2021)

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion pursuant to the resolution of Parliament on Monday, 29 November 2021, that the Medicinal Products (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2021 be debated, voted upon and be passed.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to.

A Bill for an Act to amend the Medicinal Products Act 2011 (Bill No. 38 of 2021), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Friday, 3 December 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 6.08 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

2nd December, 2021.