



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Wednesday, Sixth day of April, 2022

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. Adi Litia Qionibaravi, Hon. Salote Radrodro and Hon. Niko Nawaikula.

The Hon. Alvick Maharaj joined the Parliament sitting virtually.

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 Tuesday, 5 April 2022 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, those in the public gallery and those watching the live broadcast of the proceedings.

Hon. Speaker also reminded the Honourable Members of the CWP Fiji Group of their meeting later in the day.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Vijay Nath tabled the Committee's Consolidated Review Report on the Reserve Bank of Fiji 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 annual reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(b) Standing Committee on Public Accounts

The Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Joseph Nand tabled the Committee's Report on the Auditor-General's Follow-up Audit Report for High Risk Ministries and Departments.

The Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

7. MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker informed that there were no Ministerial Statements.

8. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Hon. Speaker informed that there were no Bills for consideration.

9. QUESTIONS

70/2022 Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament of the status of the Nadi flood alleviation project which was the subject of the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) report in 2016.

71/2022 Hon. Alexander O'Connor asked the Minister for Defence, National Security and Policing, Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management – Can the Minister update Parliament on how rural development model initiatives such as the Saemaul Undong benefit rural and maritime communities.

72/2022 Hon. Peceli Vosanibola asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on actions taken

to regularise expired tenancy agreements on properties still occupied by Government agencies.

- 73/2022 Hon. Dr Salik Govind asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the budgetary allocation for electrification projects by Government and in which particular areas.
- 74/2022 Hon. Ratu Jone Seniloli asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Government Rural Housing Scheme.
- 75/2022 Hon. Selai Adimaitoga asked the Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts, and Local Government – Can the Minister update Parliament on the counselling services provided by the National Substance Abuse Advisory Council to students during this pandemic.
- 76/2022 Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on Government's staff retention initiatives/policies for skilled and technical areas in the civil service.
- 77/2022 Hon. Joseph Nand asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament of the latest update pertaining to the first home owners grant.

Written Questions

- 78/2022 Hon. Pio Tikoduadua asked the Minister for Health and Medical Services – Can the Minister detail the number of deaths caused by myocarditis from April 2021 to February 2022, by –
- (a) age, gender and Division; and
 - (b) COVID-19 vaccination status.
- 79/2022 Hon. Peceli Vosanibola asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Micro Small and Medium Entities Concessional Loans since 2018, in particular –
- (a) the total number of applications; and
 - (b) the total number of successful recipients.

The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were provided by the respective Ministers. The response to the Written Questions would be tabled at a later sitting date as permitted under Standing Order 45(3).

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Thursday, 7 April 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 12.39 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

6th April, 2022.