



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Thursday, Twenty-eighth Day of July,
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. Rosy Akbar, Hon. Salote Radrodro and Hon. Adi Litia Qionibaravi.

Virtual Attendance: Hon. Parveen Bala and Hon. Rohit Sharma.

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, 27 July 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, those in the public gallery and those watching the live broadcast of the proceedings. Hon. Speaker also welcomed the Years 1 and 3 Law students from the Fiji National University.

6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that there were no Bills for consideration.

7. RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY ON THE 2022–2023 APPROPRIATION BILL 2022 (BILL NO. 27 OF 2022)

Parliament resumed the Committee of Supply of a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of three billion, three hundred twenty million, two thousand, one hundred eighty four dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2023 (Bill No. 27 of 2022).

Hon. Speaker vacated the Speaker's Chair and convened the Committee of Supply as Mr Chair.

Members debated and voted on the following –

Head 31 – Ministry of Fisheries

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Simone Rasova.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Simone Rasova.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Simone Rasova.

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 31.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 31 agreed to.

Head 32 – Ministry of Forestry

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

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

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

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 the 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

Question put on Head 37.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 37 agreed to.

Head 40 – Ministry of Infrastructure and Meteorological Services

Question put on Head 40.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 40 agreed to.

Head 41 – Water Authority of Fiji

Question put on Head 41.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 41 agreed to.

Head 42 – Ministry of Waterways and Environment

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua.

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

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 43.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Head 43 agreed to.

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 the Hon. Pio Tikoduadua.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Pio Tikoduadua.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Hon. Speaker called for the vote by acclamation.

Amendment defeated.

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua.

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 were standing appropriations or 'below the line' appropriations. He further stated that neither Head is voted upon because they must be paid and were 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 2022–2023 Appropriation Bill 2022 (Bill No. 27 of 2022) as required by Standing Order 101.

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

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

Schedule 1

Question put.

Schedule 1 agreed to unanimously.

Schedule 2

Question put.

Schedule 2 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 1

Question put.

Clause 1 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 2

Question put.

Clause 2 agreed to unanimously.

Clause 3

Question put.

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 2022–2023 APPROPRIATION BILL 2022 (BILL NO. 27 OF 2022)

The Committee of Supply agreed to the 2022–2023 Appropriation Bill 2022 (Bill No. 27 of 2022) without amendment.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved that the 2022–2023 Appropriation Bill 2022 (Bill No. 27 of 2022) be read a third time and be passed.

Question put.

Votes cast –

Yes	–	27*
No	–	16
Not Voted	–	7

Motion agreed to.

[*Includes the 2 votes from the two Virtual Attendees]

A Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of three billion, three hundred twenty million, two thousand, one hundred eighty four dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2023 (Bill No. 27 of 2022), enacted by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji.

Hon. Speaker informed that Parliament had passed the 2022–2023 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, Communications, Housing and Community Development on the successful passing of the 2022-2023 National Budget.

9. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR ECONOMY

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum moved a motion for the purpose of section 145 of the Fijian Constitution and pursuant to Standing Order 131 that Parliament approve –

- (a) that the Government guarantee the Fiji Sugar Corporation Limited ('FSC') domestic borrowings from 1 August 2022 to 31 May 2028 (Guarantee Period) for a guarantee limit of \$75 million; and
- (b) that FSC be exempted from paying the guarantee fee.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned the Parliament until Friday, 29 July 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 5.12 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

28th July, 2022.