



# PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

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## MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Second Day of September, 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. Parveen Bala, Hon. Adi Litia Qionibaravi, Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua, Hon. Mikaele Leawere and Hon. Peceli Vosanibola.

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, 1 September 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.

6. QUESTIONS

- 165/2022 Hon. George Vegnathan asked the Minister for Defence, National Security and Policing, Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management – Can the Minister update Parliament on the implementation of the Palermo Convention on Human Trafficking.
- 168/2022 Hon. Pio Tikoduadua asked the Minister for Health and Medical Services – As announced by the Hon. Attorney-General on Thursday, 24 March 2022, can the Minister inform Parliament why heart surgeries at the Aspen managed Lautoka Hospital have not commenced.
- 169/2022 Hon. Vijay Nath asked the Minister for Fisheries – Given the vast ocean space and the need to address IUU, can the Minister inform Parliament on the arrangements carried out by Fiji to ensure that Fiji waters are efficiently patrolled.
- 170/2022 Hon. Anare Jale asked the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation – Can the Minister update Parliament on the measures taken by the Ministry to gauge how poverty is being addressed nationwide.
- 171/2022 Hon. Veena Bhatnagar asked the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on what steps have been taken by the Fiji Meteorological Services to improve the prediction of storm surges and other extreme weather events that cause coastal inundation in Fiji.
- 172/2022 Hon. Simione Rasova asked the Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts, and Local Government – Can the Minister update Parliament on the re-construction and rehabilitation of major secondary schools in Kadavu.
- 173/2022 Hon. Viam Pillay asked the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Ministry's plans for the Integrated Human Resources Development Programme (IHRDP) which was allocated \$500,000 in the 2022-2023 National Budget.
- 174/2022 Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau to ask the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the framework for monitoring of inter-island shipping vessels in terms of passenger and cargo loading.

175/2022 Hon. Alexander O'Connor asked the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation – With the Ministry's additional budget for the establishment of the Department of Children, can the Minister inform Parliament on the role and functions of the said Department and the plans in place to progress its establishment.

### **Written Question**

176/2022 Hon. Inosi Kuridrani asked the Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment – Can the Minister update Parliament on the number of farmers that have benefitted from the work of the Committee on Better Utilisation of Land (CBUL), for the past 3 years and how this has improved agriculture production.

The Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that Oral Question 174/2022 was withdrawn by Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau. The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were given by the respective Ministers. The response to the Written Question would be tabled at a later sitting date as permitted under Standing Order 45(3).

## **7. END OF WEEK STATEMENTS**

- (a) Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau delivered his End of Week Statement and the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum subsequently responded.
- (b) Hon. Sachida Nand delivered his End of Week Statement and the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum subsequently responded.
- (c) Hon. Alvick Maharaj delivered his End of Week Statement and the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development the Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum subsequently responded.

The Hon. Speaker advised Honourable Members that the End of Week Statement by the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad was withdrawn.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved that Parliament adjourned *sine die*.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

The Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions during the sitting week and then adjourned Parliament *sine die*.

Parliament adjourned at 12.28 p.m.

**Speaker of Parliament**

**Secretary-General to Parliament**

2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022.