



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Friday, Third Day of February, 2023

1. The House met at 10.00 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. Semi Koroilavesau.

4. 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 advised all Honourable Members that the sitting was a special event in the Parliamentary calendar as it marked the official Opening of a new Term of Parliament and which would be officiated by His Excellency Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, President of the Republic of Fiji. The Hon. Speaker also thanked his predecessor H.E Ratu Epeli Nailatikau for his service as Speaker of Parliament.

Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members of the decision of the Business Committee with respect to the use of the *Vosa Vakaviti* and *Hindi* languages in Parliament as well as the prayer in Parliament.

Hon. Speaker also advised all Honourable Members that it was customary for the Honourable Members of the Judiciary to join Parliament to hear the address of His Excellency the President. He called upon the Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Lynda Tabuya to invite the Judges into the Parliament Chambers.

5. ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI RATU WILIAME KATONIVERE

Hon. Speaker and the Leader of the Government in Parliament escorted His Excellency the President of the Republic of Fiji Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, to the Parliament Chambers.

His Excellency the President addressed Parliament.

At the conclusion of His Excellency's Address, the Hon. Speaker and the Leader of the Government in Parliament escorted His Excellency out of the Parliament Chambers.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Lynda Tabuya moved that Parliament stands adjourned until Monday, 13 February 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that the 2023 Parliament Session had been opened by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Fiji. He thanked all Honourable Members present as well as those seated in the public gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet.

Hon. Speaker reminded Honourable Members that when Parliament next meets, Parliament would proceed with the Administration of Oath followed by a Motion to thank His Excellency for His most gracious speech. All Honourable Members would be invited to speak in accordance with the batting order provided.

Hon. Speaker adjourned Parliament until Monday, 13 February 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 11.08 a.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

3rd February, 2023.