



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Thursday, Sixteenth day of February,
2023

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. Josaia Bainimarama.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Lynda Tabuya moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Wednesday, 15 February 2023, 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 those in the gallery and all those watching the live broadcast and the live-streaming of the proceedings from home, offices and electronic devices.

Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that he had allowed the motion for the Sitting Calendar to be moved later in the day.

6. RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE MOTION BY THE HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER

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

Debate ensued.

[Speakers: Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad, Hon. Ioane Naivalurua, Hon. Charan Singh, Hon. Faiyaz Koya, Hon. Alipate Tuicolo, Hon. Vijay Nath, Hon. Viliame Naupoto, Hon. Ratu Josaia Niudamu, Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna, Hon. Viam Pillay, Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Hon. Isikeli Tuiwailevu, Hon. Rinesh Sharma, Hon. Penioni Ravunawa, Hon. Pio Tikoduadua, Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure.]

7. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Lynda Tabuya moved that Parliament adopts the sitting calendar for the year 2023.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

8. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FINANCE, STRATEGIC PLANNING, NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad moved a motion for the purposes of section 145(1) of the Constitution and pursuant to Standing Order 131, that Parliament approves –

- (a) that the Government guarantee for the Fiji Development Bank (**Bank**) borrowings for the 12-month period from 1 March 2023 to 28 February 2024 (**Guarantee Period**); through the issuance of short and long-term Bonds, promissory notes, any Reserve Bank of Fiji financing facility and other short-term borrowings;
- (b) that the Government guarantee for a sum of FJ\$150 million for the Guarantee Period; and
- (c) that the Bank pay a guarantee fee of 0.075% on the cumulative utilised guarantee credit.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Friday, 17 February 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 9.12 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

16th February, 2023.