



# PARLIAMENT NEWSLETTER

2022 Parliament Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 4 : October - December

## January

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## February

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## March

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**KEYS** ● PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ● PARLIAMENT SITTING

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## SPEAKER TO WORK CLOSELY WITH STAFF IN THE RUNNING OF PARLIAMENT



First briefing for the Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu after his appointment as the new Speaker in December, 2022.

The newly-appointed Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu met with the Secretary-General to Parliament Mrs Jeanette Emberson and senior staff on December 29th, 2022.

In his welcoming address, Hon. Ratu Naiqama thanked the staff for their hard work and perseverance over the years, especially in the past few weeks leading up to the first sitting of Parliament on December 24th, 2022.

He emphasised that to effectively carry out his role as Speaker, he needs to be an active member of the team.

"I can only actively play my role here if I'm a part of it. The experience I've had in the short time I've been in Parliament is quite interesting. I want to be close to you as much as possible to hear straight from you."

He stressed that the Members of Parliament need to understand the Standing Orders, as well as the secretariat.

"I would like us to be upfront, especially with the approval of the review of our Standing Orders. I want the Parliamentarians to know what the Standing Orders are, its impact and effect as well as the relative Standing Orders that we usually observe from the House of Commons."

"As secretariat, the Standing Orders needs to be on our fingertips. As the legislative arm of Government, we need to keep our fingers on the pulse. So when things come up, we address it straight away. I'm relying on you, from the one who does the lowest job to the Secretary-General, each and every one of you is important to us in achieving our tasks."

"Let us continue to work as a team as you've shown in the past. I'm only here to provide you with policies. The day-to-day operations rests with the Secretary-General."

The Hon. Speaker also mentioned that he will be working closely with the Deputy Speaker in the running of Parliament.

The Managers and senior staff of the various Units provided a brief for the Hon. Speaker on their respective functional roles.

After the briefing, the Hon. Speaker took time to visit the new office space at Level 3.

Hon. Ratu Naiqama is no stranger to Parliament, having been the Leader of the Opposition from December 2020, and a member of the Public Accounts Committee during the last term of Parliament. He had also served previously in the Fijian Parliament from 1999 to 2000 and 2001 to 2006.

# SWEARING-IN OF SPEAKER AND MPs



The newly elected Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu being escorted by Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad and Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau after his election as the Speaker of Parliament.

The newly-elected 55 Members of the Fijian Parliament took their oath of affirmation on December 24th, 2022 after the issuance of the Proclamation from the President of the Republic of Fiji,

His Excellency Ratu Wiliame Katonivere. The Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, Deputy Speaker, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua and Prime Minister, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka were

elected through secret ballots while the Opposition Leader Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama was nominated from the Opposition Members.



The Prime Minister, the Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka taking his oath on December 24th, 2022.



The Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Josaia Bainimarama taking his oath on December 24th, 2022.



The Deputy Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua taking her oath on December 24th, 2022.



Voting of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Prime Minister were done through secret ballots on December 24th, 2022.



# PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT WELCOMES THE NEWLY ELECTED SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER



The newly elected Speaker of the Fijian Parliament Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu.

The Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu and the Deputy Speaker Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua were accorded the 'iTaukei' traditional welcoming ceremony on December 30th, 2022.

The Hon. Speaker thanked the staff for their services and reminded everyone to be clear in the roles that they carry out.

"I ask that you continue with the great work that you've been doing and to be clear in our roles and how best we can conduct the meeting of the august House."

"Not only to help the Government of the day, but importantly, to let the people know, at the earliest time possible, of what transpires in the House during every meeting, including Standing Committees," Hon. Ratu Naiqama said.

The Hon. Deputy Speaker also echoed the

same sentiments in thanking the staff for the work carried out during the time they were both in the Opposition.

"Thank you for the services you've accorded to us, whether it was in Parliament or in Standing Committees. I know that my job is not going to be easy, as I'm also the Assistant Minister for two portfolios, but I look forward to the challenge."

"I look forward to work with you in upholding democracy, the dignity of Parliament and upholding the honor that we owe the people of Fiji."

"I promise to do my best to be the champion of fairness on the floor of Parliament, to be the champion of the backbenchers and to be the champion of you, the staff who are the machinery of this institution," Hon. Qereqeretabua added.



Parliament staff, Jale Vuanicau, performing the 'Ai qaloqalovi' during the traditional welcoming ceremony for the Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu.



The Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Hon. Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu and Deputy Speaker, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua during the welcoming ceremony.



The Fijian Parliament staff took a group photo with the newly elected Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Parliament on December 30th, 2022.

# ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

EXTRAORDINARY

3199



## GOVERNMENT OF FIJI GAZETTE

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE FIJI GOVERNMENT

Vol. 23

MONDAY, 19th DECEMBER 2022

No. 149

[1630]

### ELECTORAL ACT 2014

#### GENERAL ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT 2022

#### NAMES OF CANDIDATES ELECTED AS MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

In accordance with section 106(1)(b) of the Electoral Act 2014, the Electoral Commission hereby declares that the following candidates have been elected as members of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Akbar, Rosy Sofia	Qereqeretabua, Lenora Salusalu
Bainimarama, Josaia Voreqe	Rabuka, Sitiveni Ligamamada
Bainivalu, Alitia Vakatai Bavou Cirikiyasawa	Radrodro, Aseri Masivou
Bala, Parveen Kumar	Ravu, Kalaveti Vodo
Bia, Alik	Rayalu, Vatimi Tidara Tuinasakea Kaunitawake
Bulitavu, Mosese Drecala	Reddy, Mahendra
Chand, Hem	Saukuru, Jese
Ditoka, Sakiasi Raisevu	Sayed-Khaiyum, Aiyaz
Gavoka, Viliame Rogoibulu	Seruiratu, Inia Batikoto
Immanuel, Esrom Yosef	Sharma, Rinesh Rajesh
Kamikamica, Manoa Seru Nakausabaria	Singh, Agni Deo
Kiran, Sashi	Singh, Charan Jeath
Kirpal, Sanjay Salend	Tabuya, Lynda Diseru
Koroilavesau, Semi Tuleca	Tikoduadua, Pio
Koya, Faiyaz Siddiq	Tubuna, Sakiusa
Kumar, Premila Devi	Tuinaceva, Naisa Tatau
Kumar, Shalen	Tuisawau, Ro Filipe Qaraniqio
Lal, Ketan Kirit	Tuiwailevu, Isikeli
Lalabalavu, Ratu Atonio Rabici	Tunabuna, Tomasi Niuvotu
Maharaj, Alvick Avhikrit	Turaga, Siromi Dokonivalu
Naivalurua, Ioane	Usamate, Jone
Nalumisa, Maciu Katamotu	Vakalalabure, RT Rakuita Solesole Sauramaeva
Nand, Joseph Nitya	Vanawalu, Ilesa Sovui
Nath, Vijay	Vasu, Ifereimi
Naupoto, Viliame	Vocea, Jovesa Rokuta
Niudamu, Ratu Josaia Bulavakarua	Vosarogo, Filimoni Wainiqolo Rasokisoki
Pillay, Viam	Waqainabete, Ifereimi
Prasad, Biman Chand	

Dated this 19th day of December 2022.

M. NAND  
Chairperson of the Electoral Commission



# DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

EXTRAORDINARY

2887



## GOVERNMENT OF FIJI GAZETTE

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Vol. 23

SUNDAY, 30th OCTOBER 2022

No. 128

[1454]



CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

PROCLAMATION

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

IN accordance with section 58(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji, and acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, I hereby dissolve Parliament with effect from Sunday, the 30th day of October 2022.

Given under my hand at Suva this 30th day of October 2022.

W. M. KATONIVERE  
President of the Republic of Fiji

# PROCLAMATION

EXTRAORDINARY

3209



## GOVERNMENT OF FIJI GAZETTE

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE FIJI GOVERNMENT

Vol. 23

FRIDAY, 23rd DECEMBER 2022

No. 151

[1652]

CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI  
(Section 67(1))

PROCLAMATION SUMMONING THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

IN exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 67(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji, I hereby summon the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji to meet on Saturday the 24th day of December 2022 at Parliament Chambers, Government Buildings, Suva at 9.30 am.

Given under my hand at Suva this 23rd day of December 2022.

RATU WILIAME MAIVALILI KATONIVERE  
President of the Republic of Fiji



# PARLIAMENT JOINS CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN



*The Secretary to Parliament, Mrs Jeanette Emberson with the Chinese Embassy Head of Mission and Political Counselor Mr Wang Xuguang during the handing over of the cleaning equipment on November 9th, 2022.*

The Secretary-General to Parliament, Mrs Jeanette Emberson and some staff from the Fiji Parliament gave up their wellness afternoon to be part of the Clean-up Campaign in Wailea Settlement Zone 3 on November

9th, 2022. The staff were part of the National Clean-up Campaign organised by the Office of Commissioner Central and included other Government Ministries and Departments. The Chinese Embassy Head of Mission and Political

Counselor Mr Wang Xuguang was also present at the venue to hand over cleaning equipment that was helpful during the clean-up exercise.





# FIJIAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION AT THE 145TH IPU ASSEMBLY VISIT GENOCIDE MEMORIAL



*The Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, His Excellency the Honourable Ratu Epeli Nailatikau during the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting in Kigali, Rwanda for the 145th Assembly.*

The Fijian Parliament Delegation to the 145th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly and Related Meetings in Kigali, Rwanda visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial on October 10th, 2022. It was a special Fiji Day appointment for the delegation.

Led by the Speaker of the Fijian Parliament, Honourable Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, the delegation was hosted by the Hon. Dr Frank Habineza, Member of the Rwandan Chamber of Deputies (Lower House) and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs. Deputy Speaker Hon. Veena Bhatnagar and Hon. Mikaele Leawere are the two Members of Parliament that are part of the delegation.

At the end of a full guided tour of the Memorial, the Speaker laid a wreath on the grave of the Rwandan Genocide victims. The Kigali Genocide Memorial is the final resting place for more than 250,000 victims of the Genocide. One of the goals of the Memorial is to educate people about genocide and to prevent future mass atrocities and genocides in Rwanda and around the world. It also provides a documentation centre to record evidence of the genocide, the testimonies of genocide survivors and the profiles of genocide victims. The Memorial also provides support for survivors, in particular orphans and widows.

Meanwhile, apart from the pre-conference

meetings that began on October 8th, the 145th IPU Assembly plenary commenced on October 11th, at the Kigali Convention Center (KCC). The theme of this year's Assembly is Gender equality and gender-sensitive Parliaments as drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world.

Over a thousand delegates from the 178-member Parliaments of the IPU are gathering in Kigali, Rwanda for the annual assembly. The IPU Assembly provides an

opportunity for the global community of national Parliaments to come together to strengthen Parliamentary efforts to drive change and address global issues.

During the 145th IPU Assembly and related meetings, Parliamentarians debated and deliberated their views with the goal of reaching agreements and consensus on legal frameworks, policies and actions encompassing the theme.



*Speaker, Hon. Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, Deputy Speaker Hon. Veena Bhatnagar and member of the Standing Committee of Social Affairs, Hon. Mikaele Leawere lays a wreath on one of the graves on October 10th, 2022.*

# INTER-PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS AND PROTOCOL: OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022

## Overseas Conferences

No	CONFERENCE	DELEGATION	DATE	VENUE
01	8th Parliamentary Speakers Summit (P20)	1. H.E Ratu Epeli Nailatikau 2. Mrs Jeanette Emberson 3. Mr Josua Namoce	6 – 7 October	Jakarta, Indonesia
02	145th Assembly of the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) and Related Meetings	1. H.E Ratu Epeli Nailatikau 2. Hon. Veena Bhatnagar 3. Hon. Mikaele Leawere 4. Mrs Jeanette Emberson 5. Mr Josua Namoce	11 – 15 October	Kigali, Rwanda

## Protocol Facilitation

No	PROTOCOL FACILITATION	VENUE	DATE
01	Induction of Elected Members of Parliament	Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva	22 December
02	Swearing-in of all Members of Parliament	Parliament Chamber, Suva	24 December
03	Briefing by Executive Management and Managers to the new Speaker of Parliament – Hon. Ratu Naiqama Tawake Lalabalavu	Parliament of Fiji, Suva	29 December

## Courtesy Call

No	COURTESY CALL	COUNTRY	DATE
01	Courtesy call from the Non-Resident High Commissioner of Singapore to Fiji, H.E Mrs Mary Seet-Chen to the Speaker of Parliament, H.E Hon. Ratu Epeli Nailatikau.	Singapore	27 October

# STANDING COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022

No	STANDING COMMITTEES	NUMBER OF MEETINGS
01	STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	12
02	STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE	7
03	STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS	8

No	STANDING COMMITTEES	NUMBER OF MEETINGS
04	STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES	7
05	STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS	15
06	STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS	10

# SCHOOL TOURS



Nasamila District School at the Parliament Chamber in November, 2022.



Kaba Primary School at the Parliament entrance in November, 2022.