



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Fourteenth day of July, 2025

1. The House met at 10.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.
3. MEMBERS PRESENT
 - (a) The Hon. Jese Saukuru and Hon. Kalaveti Ravu were absent.
 - (b) The Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Shalen Kumar and Hon. Sachida Nand conveyed their apologies to the Hon. Speaker for being unable to attend the sitting of Parliament.
 - (c) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) during the sitting of Parliament –

Hon. Pio Tikoduadua, Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad and Hon. Ketan Lal.
4. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

The Hon. Inosi Turaga Kuridrani took the Oath for Members of Parliament and the Oath of Allegiance.

The Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that the Hon. Inosi Kuridrani would deliver his maiden speech on Wednesday morning, 16 July 2025.
5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Friday, 27 June 2025 as previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members, those in the public gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet. The Hon. Speaker also acknowledged the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Ambassador Zhou Jian and Director Jason.

The Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that the following back-to-office reports are available in the Library for perusal and reference –

- (a) the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC), which was held at Sydney, Australia;
- (b) the Official Visit to the Parliament of Victoria, in Melbourne, Australia; and
- (c) the Official Study Visit to China which covered Shanghai, Shaanxi and Beijing.

The Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that the secretariat had received the written response from the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Civil Service and Public Enterprises, and Information, to Written Question 48/2025 asked by the Hon. Premila Kumar – the response had been conveyed to the Hon. Premila Kumar and a copy uploaded on the Parliament's website.

Hon. Speaker further reminded the Honourable Members that they must inform the Speaker's Office in advance should they be unable to attend any sitting of the House. Such notice allows for appropriate recordkeeping and is a matter of parliamentary courtesy and respect for the proceedings.

7. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad moved a motion pursuant to Standing Order 51 –

- (a) That the Fiji National Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill 2025 be considered by Parliament without delay;
- (b) That the Bill must pass through one stage at a single sitting of Parliament;
- (c) That the Bill must not be referred to a standing committee or other committee of Parliament; and
- (d) That the Bill must be debated and voted upon by Parliament on Friday, 18 July 2025, but that 1 hour be given to debate the Bill, with the right of reply given to the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister as the Member moving the motion.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Votes Cast –

Yes	–	35
No	–	11
Abstain	–	1

Motion agreed to.

8. SECOND READING OF THE 2025–2026 APPROPRIATION BILL 2025 (BILL NO. 10 OF 2025)

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad moved that a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of four billion, two hundred fifty three million, thirty thousand, five hundred and sixty two dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2026, be read a second time.

The motion was seconded.

The following Members contributed to the debate –

Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Hon. Parveen Bala, Hon. Alitia Bainivalu, Hon. Hem Chand, Hon. Alikī Bia, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Semi Koroilavesau, Hon. Sakiasi Ditoka, Hon. Ratu Isikeli Tuiwailevu, Hon. Viliame Gavoka, Hon. Tomasi Tunabuna, Hon. Esrom Immanuel, Hon. Ketan Lal, Hon. Manoa Kamikamica, Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure, Hon. Sashi Kiran, Hon. Iliesa Vanawalu and Hon. Naisa Tuinaceva.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Tuesday, 15 July 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 7.37 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

14th July, 2025.